

I'll be the first to oppose unity gov't, says Mahfuz
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PAS wants an end to accusations that it will betray Pakatan Rakyat and form a unity government with Umno.

This comes after DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang alluded that Pakatan could die in two weeks if those wanting a unity government win in the PAS party elections, while his son and DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang's heart is with Umno.

PAS Information chief Mahfuz Omar said such allegations are baseless and have been refuted over and over by the party, including by the Syura Council whose members are accused of colluding with Umno.

"I guarantee that no one in PAS wants to bring the party into BN and if there is, I will be the first person to block such efforts.

"I urge all parties within Pakatan to be open and optimistic in defending our cooperation. Stop the negativity and pessimism because it will make matters worse.

"Umno-BN is facing a credibility crisis, so Pakatan should strengthen the coalition," Mahfuz said in a statement.

Decision to push for hudud a democratic right

He added that the PAS-led Kelantan government's decision to push for hudud is the democratic right of the government, which has been in power in the state since 1990.

It has nothing to do with cooperation with Umno, he said, and Umno or DAP can choose to reject PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang's Private Member's Bill to amend the Syariah Courts Act to pave the way for hudud.

"PAS will adhere to Parliament's decision, even if the House rejects the Bill," Mahfuz said.

The attacks by the Lim duo (photo) prompted PAS vice-president Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man to urge DAP to stop firing salvos at PAS and Hadi.

PKR secretary-general Rafizi Ramli also urged DAP to wait for the outcome of the PAS leadership elections on June 4 before commenting.