

## **No debate for PAS-DAP divorce stirs ire**

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**By Zikri Kamarulzaman**

Delegates at the 61st PAS muktamar today protested the party's decision to approve without debate the ulama wing's motion to cut ties with DAP.

Muhammad Faiz Fadzil, the son of late former PAS president Fadzil Noor said if the party was brave enough to make such a decision, then they should allow delegates to debate the matter.

“If we are brave enough to cut ties with DAP, then let the delegates debate it.

“We want to get a divorce, but want to stay in the same house. We don't want to be with DAP, but want to be with Pakatan.

"This is a tempang (limp) coalition," he said in protest during this morning's session, despite permanent chairperson Husin Ismail asking him to pipe down.

Faiz (above) said this after PAS' motions committee chief Mahfuz Omar announced the Ulama wing's motion had been approved without debate due to its sensitivity.

“I did not decide on this motion alone or with the motions committee. Because it is a sensitive issue, I brought it to the leadership's attention.

“And with the spiritual leader (Harun Din) and the president (Abdul Hadi Awang), the motion was accepted without debate,” he said, adding that it was now up to the central leadership and the syura council to decide on the matter.

When asked by Faiz what he meant by sensitive, Mahfuz said for example the decision may have repercussions on the Pakatan governments in Penang and Selangor, but did not elaborate.

### **'Discuss here, not Facebook'**

Faiz was not the only dissenting delegate on the matter. After Mahfuz's clarification on the motion's sensitivity, a delegate from Kota Raja, Norhalim Sirome, also stood up and demanded for a debate.

“We are the delegates, we have a right. We always say that we will discuss things in the muktamar. This is where we discuss things, not on WhatsApp or Facebook!” the delegate said.

“This matter can't be debated in 20 to 30 minutes and decided on by two or three people,” he added, echoing Selangor delegate Shafie Ngah's call for a special muktamar to discuss

the matter.

The Kota Raja delegate said the tahaluf siyasi (cooperation) with DAP and PKR had greatly benefited PAS, especially in Selangor where they have been able to do good things for mosques and the Muslim community.

As such, he warned the party's leadership not to take the matter lightly.

“To the leadership, don't take this lightly! Remember oh ulamas, Allah may be accepting, but his acceptance must come with intelligence,” he warned.

The ulama council's motion is one of three motions that have been approved without debate.

The only motions to be debated are about Rohingyas and human trafficking, to set up a committee to monitor the performance of PAS' lawmakers, and a motion to condemn the death sentences for former Egyptian president Mohamad Morsi and Islamic cleric Yusuf al-Qardhawi.

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