

Penang Pakatan slammed for excluding PAS
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Rahmah Ghazali

The DAP-led Pakatan government in Penang has come under fire from Penang PAS for not including the Islamic party in the state's decision-making process.
MCPX

pas muktamar 2008 mohd fahmi abd wahabSpeaking at the second day of 54th PAS muktamar in Ipoh, Penang delegate Mohd Fahmi Abdul Wahab said after four months in power, the state government has yet to include them in any discussions.

"To be honest, Penang (state government) has never called us to sit together and to officially discuss where Pakatan in this state is heading," Mohd Fahmi said, adding that before Pakatan even existed, PAS had 16 seats to contest in Penang

"But after our party leaders agreed on less seats based on our mutual understanding, during the previous general election, our seats were reduced to only five.

"Even though (we had sacrificed our seats), we are still searching for the real meaning of 'Pakatan'," lamented Mohd Fahmi.

The Penang delegate used marriage as an analogy to describe the state government's relationship with PAS.

"We feel very lost because after four months, we feel like we have been sleeping outside the house. But if they want to show us their sympathy, asking us to sleep on the couch will do.

"When we are married, our siblings often ask us, 'how come after four months of marriage, you are still not pregnant?"

"How can we, when we are not even allowed to touch each other's hands?" asked Mohd Fahmi, drawing laughter from the audience.

However, the delegate said Penang PAS would support Pakatan de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim during the Permatang Pauh by-election which will take place on Sept 26.

Anwar will contest the parliamentary seat after being officially nominated today.

"We will make sure that Anwar has a huge win on Aug 26," promised Mohd Fahmi.

Disappointment all round

Several other delegates also voiced their disappointment with the Pakatan-led states in Penang and Selangor, which are led by DAP's Lim Guan Eng and PKR's Khalid Ibrahim respectively.

"Penang and Selangor have become a field where PAS is being sidelined. Whatever decisions they make, it will give a very negative impact on us," said Kedah delegate Mussodah Ahmad.

pas muktamar 54th ipoh stadium opening day 150808 12He also called Khalid celupar (out-spoken) for suggesting that Universiti Institut Teknologi Mara (UiTM) be opened to non-Bumiputera students.

"And now the students are campaigning against us in Permatang Pauh, all because of him," said Mussodah.

Terengganu delegate Nor Mohd Hamzah touched a raw nerve when he questioned Anwar's sincerity in taking over the federal government on Sept 16.

"Many people have asked, if we win, who will lead? Even our Prophet Muhammad has never said that he wanted to be a leader," said Nor Mohd, most likely in reference to Anwar's self-proclamation that he was the prime minister-in-waiting.

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