

Be wary of 'Islam-distorting' Umno, warns PAS
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KUALA LUMPUR – PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang has warned Malaysians to be wary of Umno because it has been distorting the teachings of Islam to play up to racial sentiments for its political survival.

In a statement to Harakahdaily on Tuesday, Hadi said Malaysians can trust PAS as an alternative to Umno to ensure fair governance.

“We urge Muslim community to give their trust to PAS to lead them, and the non-Muslim community to not regard the bad examples shown by UMNO as part of Islam,” he said.

Hadi said PAS's rule in several states since the 1970s had been consistent with Islamic principles.

On the current confusion about Islam, Hadi accused Umno as the main culprit, saying it never ceased to abuse race and religion as weapons to garner support.

“They have mixed up narrow racial sentiments and wrongly portrayed as Islamic,” said Hadi, adding that Umno-controlled media had been giving publicity to racist statements giving the public the impression that racial harmony in the country had hit its lowest point.

“I advise the media using religion to stop their acts as they are confusing the Muslims due to their failure to go back to the Qur'an and Sunnah which have guided Muslims for centuries,” he was quoted as saying by Harakahdaily.

Hadi also urged Muslims not to swallow information they received about Islamic teachings through such media.

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