

PKR not shaken by unflattering UM survey
Malaysianmirror.com
10 December 2010

KUALA LUMPUR - Parti Keadilan Rakyat appeared unshaken by the latest survey conducted by University Malaya which showed that public confidence for the party has eroded after the recently ended party polls.

The party's communications director, Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad, said PKR welcomes all constructive criticisms and feedback and is confident to bring new political culture in the country.

"The party full recognised the risk it would face, should the one-member one-vote election become fractious and long drawn. While it is difficult, it is also a necessary step to ensure high quality of leadership and reducing the risk of money politics," Nik Azmi said in a statement, adding that the risk is worth taking.

"When the concept of a multi-racial party that is truly representative of the population was considered risky in 1999, KEADILAN persevered – that perseverance contributed to the gains made in the 12th General Elections and the subsequent formation of Pakatan Rakyat," he said.

A survey conducted by UM's Democratic Research and Elections Centre showed that a total of 43% respondents said they would not vote for PKR in the next general election while 35% said they would still support the party.

About 41 per cent (1,1,24 respondents) felt that the opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim is no longer relevant to national politics.

Nevertheless, Nik Azmi said the direct election has been vindicated as more capable women and youth leaders have been promoted both at the central and local levels.

"At the end of the day our power comes from the people, and we will do our best to keep changing KEADILAN for the better so that Malaysians have the political party that they deserve," he said.

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