

Party may not be invited to Barisan Nasional meeting

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KUCHING: Embattled Party Rakyat Sarawak is likely to be excluded again at the national-level Barisan Nasional meeting today.

PRS secretary-general Wilfred Nissom said party president Datuk Seri Dr James Masing was in contact with the BN headquarters on the matter.

"There appears to be a lot of difficulty in inviting the party to attend the meeting at the moment," he said.

The BN meeting is to be chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi in Putrajaya.

The feuding factions — led by Dr Masing, who is also Sarawak

Land Development Minister, and deputy president Datuk Sng Chee Hua — have their own supreme councils and run party affairs in separate headquarters here.

Sng confirmed that he was not invited to attend the meeting.

State BN leaders expected to attend the meeting include Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mah-

mud, who is Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu president, Deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr George Chan, the president of Sarawak United People's Party, and state Urbanisation and Social Development Minister Datuk Seri William Mawan, the president of Sarawak Progressive Democratic Party. — Bernama