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'I will not apologise'

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Muhyiddin stands firm there is no war between him and Najib

UMNO deputy president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin remains stoic in his stand that there was no war or fight between him and Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

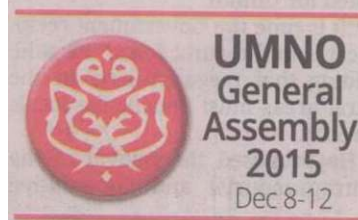
Referring to the party president's gesture in extending his hand in reconciliation, he acknowledged that Najib's offer was "good".

However, he said, it remained to be seen how Najib intends to resolve issues raised by the delegates.

"It is not a question of a war as it is not a fight.

"It is a question of principle with regard to the party's struggle," he said when approached after the closing of the party general assembly yesterday.

Asked if he would accept Najib's gesture, Muhyiddin repeated that it



was nothing personal.

"And I have said earlier that I will not apologise. But it is good that the president has a big heart," he said.

Muhyiddin said it was now up to Najib to act on the issues raised by him.

"These are not my problems but that of the rakyat; and to regain their confidence. I believe he will do what he has promised," he said.

Earlier, he told reporters that he

would not apologise for all his remarks, saying he had not done anything wrong.

He said his statement at a rally on Monday had not gone against Umno's principles.

There was no "reasonable reason" for him to apologise, stressing that these statements were "not personal in nature", he said.

"All the statements I made only touched on party matters involving its leadership and principles that have been repeated many times.

"We will always voice out what we think is right," he said.

At another press conference, vice-president Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal said there was no need for him to apologise or reconcile with Najib.

"Datuk Seri Najib is my friend. He is like a brother to me. What is the problem here?" he said.

"Why should I apologise? What did I do wrong? All I did was to point out issues that are of public and Umno members' concern."

Shafie said the party must be strengthened so that the public would continue to have confidence in Umno.

"Bear in mind that it is not just the 3,000 delegates who will determine that we will continue to form the Government. We need to win over the 12 million voters out there," he said.

While it was the party's prerogative to take disciplinary action against him, Shafie insisted that he did not commit any wrongdoing.