

PAS: No party leaders with Hasan on day of sacking
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By Shazwan Mustafa Kamal

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 11 — PAS today denied that three of its leaders were with Datuk Dr Hasan Ali at his home last Sunday, when he was sacked by the party's central working committee.

PAS information chief Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man said Datuk Dr Haron Din, Ustaz Taib Azamuddin and Datuk Ismail Kamus were not with Hasan at his home when he gave a press conference in response to his sacking from the party.

Tuan Ibrahim blamed the "mainstream media" for reporting that the leaders were present, describing it as "inaccurate" and with "bad motives."

"This was meant to project a bad image of the party leadership and [to] confuse PAS members to distrust the leadership [in a bid] to disrupt the party's preparations for elections," he said in a statement.

He explained that Haron was involved in a Syura Council meeting at the time, and that Taib was in China while Ismail was undergoing medical treatment at an undisclosed location.

"As such, all party members must refer to the party's official organ Harakahdaily and the printed version of Harakah to receive official and verified news and sources," said Tuan Ibrahim.

He acknowledged, however, that former PAS deputy president Nasharudin Mat Isa was with Hasan on the evening of January 8, but said the latter had informed the Syura Council that he would be there.

The PAS central working committee sacked Hasan as a party member on Sunday for breaching party discipline after he urged supporters to avoid today's rally in support of Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as his sodomy trial verdict was handed down.

PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang had prior to that expressed the party's support for the rally.

Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim has said Hasan should willingly relinquish his post as a state executive councillor following the latter's dismissal from PAS

The Selangor administration is due to discuss Hasan's portfolio as executive councillor in charge of Islamic affairs today, after saying his position was contingent on his being a member of a PR party.

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