

**Muhyiddin: Hasan Ali sacking shows Umno more 'considerate' than PAS**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
**January 10 , 2012**  
**By Clara Chooi**

PUTRAJAYA, Jan 10 — PAS's sacking of Datuk Dr Hasan Ali shows Umno is more "considerate" of its members than the Islamist party, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today.

The Umno deputy president said unlike PAS, renegades in Umno could not be as easily expelled or subjected to disciplinary action without first being offered room to defend his or herself.

"In Umno, we have a democratic system that is based on Islam. If a party member does something, whether he holds a post or is just a member, he cannot be so easily expelled like that... meaning, if such a case exists, we first send him a show-cause letter, give him a timeframe to explain himself and then our disciplinary board decides," Muhyiddin (picture) told a press conference at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre here.

He said the sacking showed a clear difference between PAS and Umno's disciplinary systems whereby the former's leadership holds "absolute power" when punishing renegades in the party.

"That is what happened to Hasan Ali. That's their system.

"We can differentiate from here how much more considerate Umno is compared to other parties," he said.

The PAS central working committee sacked Hasan as a party member yesterday for breaching party discipline after he urged supporters to avoid yesterday's rally in support of 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.

Hasan yesterday blamed Anwar for his sacking from PAS.

The Selangor lawmaker admitted it was likely due to his remarks about the opposition that got him the boot from the Islamist party, which is part of the state's ruling Pakatan Rakyat (PR) pact.

Asked to comment on Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi's invitation to Hasan to join the ruling party, Muhyiddin said the latter was free to make his own decision.

"He is an experienced leader, he is smart and he knows how to evaluate for himself... he knows how to judge which political organisation is for him.

"But as we know, Umno always keeps its doors open to those who are interested and who are confident in our struggle," he said.

An English daily quoted Zahid today as saying that Umno's doors were open to accept Hasan.

The Malaysian Insider

Copyright © 2012 The Malaysian Insider

Source: <http://www.themalaysianinsider.com/malaysia/article/muhyiddin-hasan-ali-sacking-shows-umno-more-considerate-than-pas/>