

**Boycotting Parliament Sitting Pointless - Academicians  
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 10 (Bernama) -- Parti Keadilan Rakyat's (PKR) plan to boycott Parliament sitting which starts on June 24, is deemed by some academicians as pointless and against parliamentary principles.

Universiti Sains Malaysia's (USM) School of Social Sciences deputy dean, Assoc Prof Dr Sivamurugan Pandian said the proposal was absurd as the elected parliamentarians should attend the sitting to fulfil their responsibilities.

"The PKR members of Parliament (MP) should realise that they were elected by the people, so how would they be able to voice the people's problems and concerns if they are absent from Parliament?"

Sivamurugan was commenting on a statement by PKR vice-president Tian Chua that the party would be boycotting Parliament sitting as some of their demands were not met, including for all members of the Election Commission to resign because of dissatisfaction over the handling of the 13th general election and the results.

"If PKR's plan becomes a reality, it will have a big impact on the party as the other two partners, DAP and PAS, in the opposition pact have stated that they would attend the sitting.

"If this happens, it will give the impression that the allies don't have the same stance and PKR should realise that DAP has more seats than the other two in the opposition bloc," he said.

Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) Politics and International Studies lecturer Md Shukri Shuib said the rejection by PKR's allies proved weakness in the opposition pact and showed that PKR was a pest to the parliamentary system.

"In PKR, there is no political maturity because they seem not to understand that Parliament is part of the democratic system that should be adhered to or else the country would fail.

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) senior lecturer Dr Jeniri Amir said if PKR wanted to prove that they were championing the people's rights and voice, they should attend the sitting.

"There is nothing to achieve by fighting against (the democratic system), while the people will start questioning the party's action as it is like denying the rights of the voters who had elected them to Parliament," he said.

Political analyst Prof Dr Hoo Ke Ping said if PKR stubbornly refused to take their oath as MPs, their action tantamounted to nullifying the electoral process in Malaysia which had been in practice for 60 years.

"Therefore, they are not qualified to intervene in national affairs. They prefer to shout on the streets through protest rallies than using the proper channel," he added.

Malaysian Council of Former Elected Representatives (Mubarak) president Tan Sri Abdul Aziz

Rahman said PKR's intention was disappointing as they were elected through the electoral process that was fair and recognised throughout the world, and yet they claimed it to be fraudulent.

"They are willing to do anything to justify the means and attract world attention to the 13th general election, the outcome of which had already been decided by the voters," he said.

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