

Khalid has betrayed Selangor voters, says DAP lawmaker
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Tan Sri Abdul Khalid Ibrahim has betrayed the voters of Selangor, a DAP lawmaker said today, challenging the embattled menteri besar to face the state assembly in a vote of confidence instead of "playing a dirty game of backdoor deals".

Klang MP Charles Santiago, who called Khalid "crafty, egoistic and lacking in principles", said that the mess in Selangor – Malaysia's richest state – was entirely Khalid's doing.

"His image and reputation are in tatters – shredded to bits by his arrogance and betrayal of a party and coalition that made him a menteri besar in the first place," he said in a statement today.

Lashing out at the MB, Santiago said that if Khalid had even an ounce of conscience, he would have given up his position after being told to do so by his party, PKR.

"The rakyat voted for a Pakatan Rakyat government at the last general election and PKR together with Pakatan Rakyat appointed Khalid to head Selangor. So when the party wants him to go, he should have thrown in the towel.

"But in his haste to continue spewing stupidity, Khalid has made several mistakes," Santiago added.

Khalid, the MP said, had firstly lied to the sultan and the people of Selangor about commanding the majority support of the assemblymen in order to continue as MB even after his expulsion.

"However, the very next day, he sacks six exco members from PKR and DAP, saying they were working against the interests of the state government," Santiago said.

"So clearly, he misrepresented himself to the sultan."

PKR sacked Khalid on Saturday for defying the party's orders to step down and make way for party president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

Following that, Khalid then sacked five executive councillors from PKR and DAP, as well as ordering them to vacate their offices in the state secretariat building within two weeks.

Santiago also criticised Khalid for reportedly saying that a Pakatan government could not exist as PR was yet to be registered a coalition.

"Does this mean Khalid was an illegal MB in Selangor over the last six years? And how legitimate is his position now?"

"Unfortunately for Malaysians, and especially the people of Selangor, Khalid has found allies in the equally cunning Islamist party PAS and Umno."

Hitting out at PAS, which has yet to make an official stand on whether it would support Khalid or remain with Pakatan, Santiago reminded the Islamist party that PR has helped it win more seats in the last two general elections.

"Some PAS leaders have hinted their readiness to work with Umno. Others have been caught red-handed through leaked chats, which reveal not just discussions about collaborating with Umno but also racist rants.

"And PAS still insists on its pre-planned meeting on Sunday to discuss whether they would work with Khalid or stick with Pakatan Rakyat. With all the mess happening in Selangor, PAS' behaviour is suspect," he added.

In previous reports, PAS has said that it would not bring forward its central committee meeting on Sunday to discuss PKR's proposal to replace Khalid with Dr

Wan Azizah.

Tonight, PAS's political bureau will meet to discuss their political observations, which will be presented to the committee on Sunday.

The PAS Shura Council last week decided to support Khalid to remain as menteri besar.

PAS exco members also turned up for the weekly exco meeting yesterday despite requests from PKR and DAP to stay away as a sign of solidarity with their sacked colleagues.

Calling the situation "grave", Santiago said Khalid, who seemed to enjoy the backing of the palace and Umno along with PAS's approval, would stoop lower to hang on to power.

"Khalid has not clearly said he would not appoint Umno members to the state exco. And PAS's chest-thumping pledge to quit if Khalid does so must be taken with a pinch of salt.

"So, PAS needs to stop pussyfooting. It needs to make a decision as to whether it wants to stay with Pakatan Rakyat. We, the rakyat, need to know where PAS' loyalty lies." - August 14, 2014.

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