

Kelana Jaya and Subang PAS leaders move to Harapan Baru
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By FMT Reporters

Divisional president, deputy and other branch officials to move to breakway group of dissidents

SHAH ALAM: Eighteen officials of Kelana Jaya PAS led by its president, Izham Hashim, resigned from the party today to join the newly formed Gerakan Harapan Baru or New Hope Movement of dissident PAS liberals.

Subang PAS deputy president Roslan Abu Bakar also announced his resignation along with three other PAS women's wing committee members in the division.

Kelana Jaya's Izham said two-thirds of Kelana Jaya PAS committee members were involved in the resignation, including deputy president Omar Ahmad, vice-president Muzammil Hafiz and seven branch leaders.

Izham said it was now left to the party's central leadership to take over the administration of the division, Bernama reported.

"The resignation involving 87 leaders in the Kelana Jaya division in all is timely in our quest to embrace the aspirations of all Malaysians and in making Islam more inclusive, progressive and universal across races, religions and cultures," he told a press conference here, Sunday.

Before this, several PAS leaders from the Shah Alam, Kota Raja, Klang and Kapar divisions had also tendered their resignation, according to Bernama.

The split in PAS came after differences between the DAP and PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang culminated in the defeat of "progressive" leaders at the hands of the ulama faction at party elections earlier this year.

The "progressive" faction, led by Mohamed Sabu of Penang, a close friend of DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang, set up Gerakan Harapan Baru as a prelude to the formation of a new political party, Amanah Rakyat, to be launched on Merdeka Day.

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