

Pro-Anwar PAS members will be Haron's headache, says Awang Selamat
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Newly appointed PAS mursyidul am (spiritual leader) Datuk Dr Haron Din will face major obstacles from within, especially from those aligned with jailed opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, said Umno mouthpiece Mingguan Malaysia today.

A column by Awang Selamat, the pseudonym for the Malay daily's collective editorial team, said that except for pro-Anwar members, the rest of the Islamist party appeared to be welcoming of Haron's appointment.

"Many were hoping that Haron can bring reform while helping PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang handle the party's internal crisis," he said.

However, Awang claimed that ripples of discontent were already showing within PAS since Haron's appointment with some leaders questioning his call for Hadi's party presidency to be maintained.

"Will Haron succeed in facing these challenges or will he fail against the large-scale onslaught from pro-Anwar members that was said to have received external funding?" it asked.

The column also asked if there would be a shocking move of PAS leaving Pakatan Rakyat as a result.

"Many still remember that Haron mentioned last year the need to review the tahaluf siyasi or cooperation with DAP and PKR.

"This came after the party received insults, was threatened and pressured by its allies, which has never happened before in the history of the party."

The column also went on to say however that it believes that Haron's firmness in putting Islam's interest first would help him face the difficulties.

"He is not one to be taken lightly. Time will tell."

The PAS Syura Council had unanimously appointed Haron as the spiritual leader, replacing Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat who passed away on February 13.

Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yacob was appointed the deputy mursyidul am, replacing Haron. – March 15, 2015.

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