

**Welcome to DAP, expect attacks, Guan Eng tells Pak Samad**  
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National laureate Datuk A. Samad Said must be prepared to walk through a minefield of accusations to tarnish his image now that he has joined opposition party DAP, its secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said today.

Welcoming the octogenarian novelist and award-winning poet to DAP, Lim said such slanderous attacks were made by the ruling party Umno and Barisan Nasional as they struggled for legitimacy in the eyes of voters.

"As a national laureate and a national figure, Samad will know too well the accusations and mines that he will have to navigate upon joining DAP, especially the slander from Umno-Barisan Nasional which is increasingly losing relevance."

He also praised Samad, better known as Pak Samad, and described him as an example for others to follow, noting his contributions to many fields through his writings.

In recent years, Samad has become an activist, co-chairing electoral reform group Bersih 2.0 for a period, and is now a regular figure at demonstrations and political rallies.

Samad formally joined the DAP yesterday, receiving his membership card at an event in Gua Musang, Kelantan.

"His decision is a clear example to all, that public intellectuals, in whichever field... should make a clear stand at a time our country is faced with a leadership crisis," Lim said. – June 14, 2015.

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