

PAS not stupid, will not link up with weak Umno, says Perkasa
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By Hasbullah Awang Chik

Right wing Malay group Perkasa is confident that PAS will not link up with Umno given the country's current political climate.

Perkasa president Datuk Ibrahim Ali said leaders of the Islamist party were not "stupid" and its veteran leadership, experienced in politics, will not want to hitch its wagon to a weak party.

"Although it is an Islamist party, PAS has old leaders like president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang. He knows how to read the current political situation.

"At a time when Umno and its leaders are facing pressure, don't tell me they (PAS) wants to cooperate? Normally cooperation are with strong parties. PAS is strong and those who work with them must also be strong.

"If one is strong and the other is weak, would the strong one work with the weak?" he said in a press conference in Kuala Lumpur today.

Ibrahim said although the idea to cooperate between the two parties was a good suggestion, it was unrealistic until the next general election.

He added that PAS and Umno had their own agendas to initiate cooperation, on the pretext, it would be for the benefit of the Malay community.

"Both sides are playing politics. PAS is portraying a pro-active stance towards Umno because it wants them to support hudud.

"Umno is stuck with seasonal politics on various issues. They need PAS. Both sides are making statements but they are not heading anywhere.

"There will be no cooperation, at least not until the next general election."

Commenting on the progressive faction that was wiped out from the Islamist party, Ibrahim said the faction would not be able to survive without the party's blessings.

He said only a group with independent strength would be able to manoeuvre in the peculiarities of the country's political arena.

"When you lose a strong party, you will be finished. It is unlikely to survive among the few."

He added that the progressives in PAS should return to the party and seek forgiveness for the party to grow.

"I don't see a bright future for them unless they return to the fold and cooperate." –
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