

Umno-PAS cooperation a 'handshake with a hidden blade', says PKR assemblyman

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(From left) PKR Kota Anggerik assemblyman Yaakob Sapari and PKR Taman Medan assemblyman Haniza Mohamed Talha warn that Umno's offer to PAS is probably insincere. - Pics taken from dewan.selangor.gov.my

KUALA LUMPUR, A decision on the political cooperation involving the two biggest Malay parties of Umno and PAS needed to be made carefully, said PKR Kota Anggerik assemblyman Yaakob Sapari.

He said the hand extended by Umno through its president Datuk Seri Najib Razak recently would be accompanied by a hidden blade, alluding to bad intentions.

"There needs to be caution, the hand that greeted was extended above the table but under the table lies the knife," Yaakob said when contacted by The Rakyat Post.

He said this when asked to comment in his capacity as Selangor PKR assemblyman on the political cooperation that had been much talked about of late.

However, he explained, he agreed with the concept that was mentioned before by PAS spiritual leader Datuk Nik Aziz Nik Mat on the PAS-Umno relationship.

"If it is as Nik Aziz once said, then I agree. If Umno really wants to be based on Islam, just like PAS, disband both parties and set up a new party.

"Create a party that is based on Islam," he added.

Meanwhile, PKR Taman Medan assemblyman Haniza Mohamed Talha said that the views by Selangor PAS commissioner Datuk Iskandar Samad before this was clear enough.

"Before this, PAS was always bullied and pressured by Umno, but when it is fighting for its life, its wants to extend the hand of friendship.

"It's like there is some tactic," she said.

Haniza said in any case, the top leadership could not make a decision on their own without taking into account the views of the grassroots.

Recently, in Najib's 2015 Umno General Assembly policy speech, he urged members to extend a hand of friendship to PAS.

He also expressed his relief that PAS was no longer in the Opposition pact after being kicked out by DAP from Pakatan Rakyat (PR), which was no more.

Even in the newly formed Opposition coalition, Pakatan Harapan, PAS is not included, but has been replaced with PAS splinter party Parti Amanah Negara.

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