

Chronology of Major Political Developments In 2015

Bernama

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KUALA LUMPUR (Bernama) -- The following are major political developments in Malaysia during 2015:

FEBRUARY:

Feb 10 - Opposition head and PKR de facto chief Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim fails in his appeal against the decision of the Court of Appeal which overturned the High Court judgement and sentenced him to five years' jail for sodomising his former assistant Mohd Saiful on June 26, 2008.

Feb 12 - PAS loses an influential leader when former Kelantan Menteri Besar and PAS Spiritual Leader Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, who was afflicted with prostate cancer dies at his residence in Pulau Melaka, Kelantan.

APRIL:

April 1 - Opposition head Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim loses eligibility as Permatang Pauh MP after the Royal Pardons Board turns down his petition on the five-year jail sentence.

April 4 - Rompin MP Datuk Seri Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis is killed in a helicopter crash in Semenyih, Selangor, resulting in a vacancy in the Rompin parliamentary constituency.

April 8 - Election Commission fixes by-election for Permatang Pauh on May 7.

April 10 - Election Commission sets by-election for Rompin on May 5.

MAY:

May 5 - Former Pahang deputy menteri besar Datuk Hasan Arifin of Barisan Nasional wins Rompin parliamentary seat after defeating PAS candidate Nazri Ahmad with a majority of 8,895 votes. The seat fell vacant following the death of incumbent Datuk Seri Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis.

May 7 - PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail wins the Permatang Pauh parliamentary seat after beating Barisan Nasional candidate Suhaimi Sabudin with a 8,841 vote majority.

JUNE:

June 4 - Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang retains post as PAS president for 2015-2017 term after defeating challenger, former PAS vice-president Ahmad Awang in the PAS party

election while Mohamad Sabu fails to defend deputy president's post after losing to Datuk Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man.

June 5 - PAS' 61st Muktamar receives the Dewan Ulama motion to sever ties with DAP but maintains relationship with PKR and Pakatan Rakyat.

June 17 - Following PAS' decision to cut political ties with DAP, opposition head and PKR president Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail announces Pakatan Rakyat is no longer functioning.

June 25 - The Registrar of Societies receives a letter on the cancellation of membership of former MIC president Datuk Seri G. Palanivel and announces Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam as acting president while awaiting the MIC Supreme Council Election in November.

JULY:

July 28 - Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin is dropped as deputy prime minister and education minister in a Cabinet reshuffle announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak. Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi is announced as the new deputy prime minister.

Also dropped from the cabinet are Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal as rural and regional development minister and Datuk Seri G. Palanivel as natural resources and environment minister, after his membership in MIC is cancelled.

SEPTEMBER:

Sept 16 - Mohamad Sabu and several former PAS leaders rename Parti Pekerja-Pekerja Malaysia as Parti Amanah Negara (AMANAH) and following that, their membership in PAS is automatically cancelled, according to the party's constitution.

Sept 16 - Sarawak Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem hints the 11th Sarawak state election may be held in early 2016 after taking into consideration several factors, including the date of tabling the federal and state budgets, as well as the monsoon season at year-end.

Sept 22 - DAP, PKR and AMANAH form Pakatan Harapan and former UMNO member, Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah is made chief secretary of the coalition's secretariat.

NOVEMBER:

Nov 6 - MIC Supreme Council election results see Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam officially taking over the party president's post while Perak State Legislative Assembly Speaker Datuk Seri S. K. Devamany is elected deputy president.

DECEMBER:

Dec 10 - UMNO president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, in his policy speech at the UMNO General Assembly, extends 'olive branch' to PAS to cooperate with the party to build and develop a country, according to Islamic law.

Dec 12 - UMNO president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak expresses readiness to cooperate with quarters opposing him within UMNO to strengthen the party. The message is delivered when he winds-up the debate at the end of the UMNO General Assembly.

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