

**Strained Relationship between UMNO and PAS Improving - PM Najib
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PUTRAJAYA, Nov 28 (Bernama) -- The relationship between UMNO and PAS that has been strained is now improving, including at the grassroots level, said UMNO president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said this was because PAS was now more open and committed in the struggles on issues particularly those involving the interests of the people and the future of the country.

"Similarly with UMNO, the party is also maintaining a similar stand on numerous issues involving the people and the future of the country.

"There are instances where we have similar opinions but we have yet to reach a situation as in 1974 where we had a coalition government and so on," he said at a special interview program in conjunction with the 2016 UMNO General Assembly.

He pointed out that UMNO and PAS were struggling through their respective party platforms.

"We move as a group in our respective party. There are instances where we have differences in opinion, there are times where we have different stands but there are also instances where we can have a common stand," he said.

PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang had earlier pointed out that the party had the right to forge cooperation with anyone or any political party including UMNO.

Abdul Hadi said the cooperation with UMNO was more focused on matters pertaining to the upholding of Islamic teachings in the interests of Muslims in the country and this cooperation was not based on political interests.

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