

Supporters disappointed with opposition split, says PKR Youth

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PKR Youth chief Nik Nazmi says failure to address differences between Pakatan Harapan parties gives impression opposition not ready to govern.

SHAH ALAM: The majority of those who backed Pakatan Rakyat (PR), the opposition coalition in the last general election (GE13), are ruing the current split in the opposition, PKR Youth claimed today.

PR, which was formed in 2008 by PAS, PKR and DAP, was declared dead in 2015 following the fallout between PAS and DAP over hudud.

DAP and PKR have since gone on to form Pakatan Harapan, with PAS splinter party Amanah.

PKR Youth chief Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad said voters who had pinned their hopes on Pakatan are “disappointed, angry and dissatisfied” with the various troubles that are plaguing the opposition.

“This is a huge tragedy when one takes into account the potential we had. Our mentality has prevented us from managing the differences and subsequently, has given the impression we are not prepared to run the country,” he said when speaking at the PKR Youth congress here today.

Despite the formation of Pakatan Harapan, the opposition has not presented itself as a viable alternative to the ruling Barisan Nasional, with disagreements over who should be the next prime minister and allegations of differing camps in the component parties.

Just recently, PAS decided to sever ties with PKR, ending a relationship which dates back to 1999, on the grounds that PKR had breached the terms of its political cooperation with the Islamist party.

Both parties, had until now, remained allies despite the fallout between PAS and DAP as well as Amanah.

Despite this, PAS has allowed its three exco members in the PKR-led Selangor government to remain, claiming they are there at the pleasure of the Sultan of Selangor.

Nik Nazmi however, urged PKR Youth to put the recent troubles in the opposition behind them and instead learn from it in order to move forward.

“We don’t have much time, we need to focus,” he said, possibly alluding to the next general election (GE14).

Later, at a press conference, Nik Nazmi revealed that the youth did not propose any motion to discuss PAS’ decision to cut ties with the party.

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