

Haim Hilman refuses to prolong polemics over decision to shorten his tenure as UUM VC

By Aizat Sharif - August 1, 2023 @ 8:36am



In a Facebook post titled "Ranjau Sepanjang Jalan" Haim, 50, said he decided not to drag the matter further as he wished to dedicate his full attention to the 15th state election campaign. - Pic courtesy of UUM-

KUBANG PASU: Former Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) vice-chancellor Dr Haim Hilman Abdullah who is standing as Perikatan Nasional candidate for Jitra seat, has declined to prolong polemics over Higher Education Ministry's move to shorten his tenure.

In a Facebook post titled "Ranjau Sepanjang Jalan" Haim, 50, said he decided not to drag the matter further as he wished to dedicate his full attention to the 15th state election campaign.

He acknowledged that there had been relentless personal attacks against him lately but said he was prepared to face the situation before deciding to jump into politics.

"Regarding the issue concerning UUM, I leave it to the people to judge what I have said and what they see and know about UUM.

"I have confidence that thousands of my students, colleagues, family and friends who know me know about my work performance, commitment and determination in developing UUM," he said.

Haim said the success of a reform agenda rolled out by him in empowering the academic, students affairs, research and publication, industrial relations, financial, international students and ranking had yielded encouraging results.

"As such, I pray for my colleagues in UUM to continue with the struggle with honesty and determination to ensure UUM's excellence be further improved in line with the 'Gagah' vision that we have initiated.

"On the Higher Education Ministry letter, I wish to not prolong the polemics with the ministry as I wish to dedicate my full attention to the 15th Kedah state election by helping PN to win all seats it is contesting," he said.

Haim prays he will continue to be persistent and will not back off from the struggle to ensure all children get fair access to education and the Malay community's economy be empowered.

On Saturday, the Higher Education Ministry said Haim's tenure as the UUM vicechancellor was cut short due to his performance.

The ministry, in a statement said Haim's leadership performance report had been submitted to the university's board of directors via a letter dated June 16, 2022.

It said that before the decision was made to shorten Haim's tenure as the UUM vicechancellor, a committee had been formed at the ministerial level to study and assess the said report.

The ministry added that Haim and several UUM senior officers were called up by the ministry on Sept 23 and 29 last year to provide explanation on issues that had been raised to find an amicable solution for the interest of UUM.

The ministry also denied claims that the shortening of <u>Haim's appointment</u> was related to him contesting in Jitra.