

CIVIL SOCIETY



JOINT STATEMENT

Pendirian Organisasi Masyarakat Madani:

Hentikan Ancaman dan Keganasan terhadap Aktivisme Sosial dan Politik

2 Mac 2012

Kami, organisasi masyarakat madani yang tersenarai di bawah, menyatakan kegusaran kami di

atas serangan terhadap beberapa majlis yang sah dan demokratik dianjurkan oleh gerakan sosial dan parti politik. Tindakan biadab di majlis seperti Himpunan Hijau 2.0 di Pulau Pinang, forum-forum ABU (Asal Bukan UMNO), ceramah YB Nurul Izzah di Gambang, Pahang dan serangan terhadap kereta YB Anwar Ibrahim di Sembrong, Johor di antara lain membayangkan perkembangan yang berbahaya dalam masyarakat kita.

Kami amat khuatir dengan perkembangan ini dan kami percaya ini adalah keganasan terancang berlatar belakangkan Pilihan Raya Umum ke-13 yang akan datang. Ia adalah petanda buruk suasana politik ugutan dan kekerasan untuk menyekat kebebasan pertukaran ide, wacana dan kepelbagaian pilihan politik.

Kegagalan pihak berkuasa untuk bertindak dengan pantas dan tegas akan menggalakkan pelakunya untuk meningkatkan gangsterisme, menjadikannya lebih kerap dan berleluasa hingga boleh menjadikannya tidak terkawal. Ini boleh memudaratkan asas amalan demokrasi seperti yang termaktub di dalam Perlembagaan Persekutuan dan Rukun Negara. Kerosakan pada mata masyarakat dunia tidak terhitung.

Kami menyeru YAB Perdana Menteri DS Najib Tun Razak untuk bertindak segera menamatkan

serangan-serangan anasir yang tidak bertanggungjawab ini serta mengambil tindakan terhadap pihak polis yang telah berlepas tangan dari menjalankan tanggungjawab menjaga keselamatan awam. Menteri Dalam Negeri juga sepatutnya dikenakan tindakan kerana gagal bertindak terhadap tindakan liar pihak ketiga di dalam majlis perhimpunan yang aman.

YAB PM perlu mengarahkan penyiasatan yang mendalam dan teliti terhadap siri keganasan ini, apatah lagi jika ianya mungkin didalangi oleh anasir yang tidak bertanggungjawab dalam kalangan pengamal politik kita. Sebagai permulaan, pegawai polis yang gagal mengawal keselamatan orang awam yang berhimpun di Penang Esplanade digantung tugas sehingga siasatan penuh dan saksama dijalankan.

YAB PM harus menginsafi bahawa akhirnya ini adalah tanggungjawab beliau. Jika keganasan politik dibiarkan berleluasa dengan wewenang dan polis berlepas tangan maka YAB PM akan ditanggapi terbabit atau merestui tindakan ugutan dan keganasan.

Kami sekali lagi menyeru ditubuhkan segera IPCMC yang telah dicadangkan oleh Suruhanjaya Di-Raja tentang PDRM pada tahun 2005. Kecekapan dan profesionalisme polis kini diragui. Rakyat semakin hilang kepercayaan kepada pasukan polis kita. YAB Perdana Menteri harus menubuhkan IPCMC sebelum Pilihan Raya Umum ke-13 untuk menzahirkan keikhlasan dalam menjaga hak rakyat, dan untuk membenters dari putiknya, keganasan politik yang boleh mengancam landasan kerukunan negara.

Kami mengucapkan syabas kepada pihak berkuasa kerana memudahcarakan perhimpunan aman Himpunan Hijau 2.0 di Kuantan, Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Kuching, Kota Kinabalu dan Tawau.

Kami menegaskan sokongan tidak berbelah bagi kepada hak rakyat untuk berhimpun secara aman. Kami menyeru kerajaan untuk berpegang teguh kepada Perlembagaan dan menghormati hak rakyat untuk menganjurkan Himpunan Hijau 3.0 dan perhimpunan lain di masa depan. Adalah menjadi tanggungjawab kerajaan untuk menyediakan ruang demokratik bagi rakyat berhimpun secara aman dan menjaga mereka dari ancaman dan keganasan sepanjang masa.

Civil Society Organisations Say:

Stop Intimidation and Violence against Social and Political Activism

2 March, 2012

We, the undersigned civil society organizations, express our grave concern over the series of attacks on legitimate and democratic events organized by social movements and opposition parties. These acts of hooliganism at events such as the Penang Himpunan Hijau 2.0 rally, ABU (Anything but UMNO) forums, Nurul Izzah's ceramah at Gambang, Pahang, and the attack on Anwar Ibrahim's car in Sembrong, Johor among others; are indicative of a dangerous trend in our society.

We are alarmed by this worrisome trend as we strongly believe that this is "contrived violence"

in the context of upcoming 13th General Election. It is symptomatic of an unhealthy ambience of civil and political intimidation and violence to suppress what should otherwise be a free and democratic flow of ideas, discourses and political options.

The unwillingness of the authorities to act promptly and decisively will only encourage the perpetrators to step up their gangsterism, which makes it more rampant, widespread and spin out of control. This will potentially undermine the very basis of our democratic way of life as enshrined in the Federal Constitution and the Rukunegara. The damage in the eyes of the global community of nations would be incalculable!

We call upon the Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak to immediately call an end to these shameful mob attacks by reprimanding the police force that has abdicated its responsibility to maintain public order. The Minister of Home Affairs should similarly be brought to task for his inaction in the face of these public display of hooliganism by third parties in otherwise peaceful civil assemblies

Stop threats, stop violence

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The PM must institute thorough investigations into the series of violence, which were allegedly orchestrated by unscrupulous elements within our body politic. For a start, the police officers who failed to protect the people assembled at the Penang Esplanade must be suspended pending a full and fair investigation.

The PM must realise that the buck stops with him. If the political violence continues due to the alleged impunity granted by the police, the PM will be perceived as being complicit in these acts of violence and intimidations.

We also renew our call to immediately establish the Independent Police Complaints and Misconduct Commission (IPCMC) recommended by the Royal Commission on PDRM in 2005. The competency and professionalism of the police force is in serious doubt. People are fast losing faith in our police force. The Prime Minister must therefore put the IPCMC in place before the 13th

general election to show his sincerity in safeguarding our democratic rights, and to nip in the bud, the political violence that potentially threatens the very fabric of our nation.

Stop threats, stop violence

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We nonetheless commend the authorities for facilitating the peaceful assembly of Himpunan Hijau 2.0 at Kuantan, Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Kuching, Kota Kinabalu and Tawau.

We unreservedly support the constitutional right of the People to peaceful assembly. We call upon the government to uphold the Constitution and to respect the democratic rights of the People to organize events such as the proposed Himpunan Hijau 3.0 and any future assemblies. The onus is on the government to provide the democratic space for People to gather peaceably and to protect them from intimidation and violence, at all times.

Endorsed by/ Disokong oleh:

1. Kuala Lumpur & Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (KLSCAH)

2. Aliran

3. **Tamil Foundation**

4. **Pertubuhan Jamaah Islah Malaysia (JIM)**

5. **Negeri Sembilan Chinese Assembly Hall (NSCAH)**

6. **Penang Chinese Town Hall (PGCTH)**

7. **Lim Lian Geok Cultural Development Centre (LLG)**

8. **United Chinese School Alumni Association of Malaysia (UCSAAM)**

9. **Muslim Professionals Forum (MPF)**

10. **Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM)**

11. **Pusat Komunikasi Masyarakat (KOMAS)**

12. **Saya Anak Bangsa Malaysia (SABM)**

13. **Persatuan Masyarakat Selangor dan Wilayah Persekutuan (Permas)**

14. **National Indian Advancement Team (NIAT)**

15. People's Green Coalition (PGC)

16. Anak Muda Sarawak (AMS)

17. All Women's Action Society (AWAM)

18. Centre of Policy Initiative (CPI)

19. Japan Graduates' Association of Malaysia (JAGAM)

20. The Good Governance and Gender Equality Society, Penang (3Gs)

21. Tenaganita

22. Lawyers for Liberty (L4L)

23. Center for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC)

24. Persatuan Sahabat Wanita, Selangor (PSWS)

25. Persatuan Kesedaran Komuniti Selangor (Empower)

26. Persatuan Bekas Murid-Murid Perempuan Cina Sekolah Tinggi Pulau Pinang, Selangor & Kuala Lumpur

27. Community Action Network (CAN)

28. Women's Aid Organisation (WAO)

29. Education and Research Association for Consumers, Malaysia (ERA Consumer)

30. Rainbow Genders Society (RGS)

31. Persatuan Alumni Han Chian Pulau Pinang (PAHC, Pinang)

32. Kill the Bill (KtB)

33. Writer Alliance for Media Independence (WAMI)

34. Pahlawan Volunteers

35. The Micah Mandate

36. Friends in Conversation (FIC)

37. Centre for Independent Journalism (CPI)

38. Negeri Sembilan Chinese School Committees' Council

39. Persatuan Komuniti Prihatin Selangor dan Kuala Lumpur (PRIHATIN)

40. Young Buddhist Association of Malaysia(YBAM)

41. Malacca Chinese Education Progressive Association

42. Malaysians for Beng Hock

43. Save Vui Kong Campaign

44. Council of Temples

45. Semparuthi Iyakkam

46. Academy of Tamil Studies

47. Group of Concerned Citizens

48. Hindu Youth Organization

49. Tamil Bell Club

50. Malaysian Dravidian Movement

51. Persatuan Kwangsi Malaysia

52. The Selangor & Kuala Lumpur Foundry & Engineering Industries Association

53. The Selangor And Kuala Lumpur Teo Chew Association

54. Malaysia Youth and Students Democratic Movement (DEMA)

55. Gerakan Mahasiswa Maju UPM

56. Student Progressive Front USM

57. Student Progressive Front UUM

58. New Era Student Progressive Front

59. New Era College Alumni Association.

60. Solidarity for Civil Rights in China

61. Editorial board of e-journal Horizon

62. Melaka Chinese Assembly Hall

63. Melaka Chinese Assembly Hall Youth Section

64. Persatuan Kwang Tung Melaka (Youth Section)

65. Melaka Seng Cheong Society Youth Section

66. Malacca Pay Fong Schools Alumni Association

67. Malaysia-China Chamber of Commerce

68. Durham Malaysian Scholars

69. Persatuan Alumni PBTUSM Selangor & KL

70. Sisters In Islam (SIS)