

I have been detained and investigated under the Section 4 (1) (c) of the Sedition Act 1948, and Section 504 of the Penal Code (which deals with intentional insult with intent to provoke a breach of the peace). This is my 10th time being investigated under the Sedition Act 1948, of which there have already been 9 charges made against me and is pending trial in court.

On 25 Nov 2016, 2.44pm, a group of men believed to be connected to the party belong to the incumbent UMNO of which PM Najib is the President, came and made a ruckus at my public exhibition at KOMTAR Penag which was just launched by the Penang Chief Minister at 12pm. 30 policemen and 10 members from the Federal Reserve Unit (FRU) had to be called in to control the situation. The altercations that ensued forced me to cancel the exhibition which was supposed to be running for 3 days.

On 26 Nov 2016 at 6pm, I was called by the police to give a statement to assist on the investigation over a police report made by the thugs the day before. It was there that I was informed that I will be detained, remanded and investigated. Remand order will only be known tomorrow on 27 Nov 2016.

Attached are some news links for your reference:

1. Group storms Zunar's exhibition in Komtar, kicks down cartoons
(<https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/364181#ixzz4R7VMNvHS>)

About 30 people disrupted an exhibition featuring the works of political cartoonist Zulkifli Anwar Ulhaque, better known as Zunar, at the Komtar building in Penang this afternoon.

The group was led by Penang Umno Youth chief Rafizal Abdul Rahim and Gabungan Perwakilan Melayu Pulau Pinang chief Rizuad Mohd Azudin.

After arriving at the venue around 3pm, the group hurled obscenities at Zunar, and demanded that he remove the cartoons which were deemed insulting to Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

Though the group gave Zunar a 30-minute time frame to remove his work, they however grew impatient and began to kick the drawings, which were affixed to stands.

Zunar's manager Azura Aziz said two artworks were damaged in the incident.

"They kicked down the works depicting Anwar Ibrahim. They swung boxes, threatening to throw them at us.

"They told Zunar to remove his cartoon books and threatened to burn them," she added.

Some 30 police personnel, including members of the light strike force, were present during the incident but could not contain the group.

Zunar launched his cartoon exhibition at noon, and the event was officially opened by Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng.

To launch book on Sunday

The group left at 3.45pm to lodge a police report, while Azura said she will also lodge a report because the group threatened to disrupt Zunar's other programmes in Penang.

On Sunday, Zunar will launch his book Wasabi at Wisma Yeap Chor Ee in Pengkalan Weld at 6pm.

His cartoon exhibition was supposed to go on from today until Dec 2 and move to Speakers Square at the Esplanade on Dec 3.

Zunar planned to bring his cartoons to the street for more exposure as he wanted to simplify the issues surrounding the much sought-after 'Malaysian Official 1' (MO1).

Najib has been confirmed by one of his cabinet ministers to be the elusive MO1 cited in the US civil suit against three individuals alleged to have been involved in money laundering of 1MDB funds.

He has denied being involved in the civil suit and attorney-general Mohamed Apandi Ali had cleared him of any wrongdoing related to mismanagement of funds in 1MDB and the RM2.6 billion donation in Najib's private bank accounts.

Meanwhile, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Abdul Rahman Dahlan criticised the chief minister for officiating the exhibition.

"Guan Eng launched an 'art' exhibit which basically defaming PM. Evidently you can't get rid of 'longkang' behaviour even one becomes a CM," he tweeted.

2. Rowdy group lodges report after thrashing Zunar event
(<https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/364206#ixzz4R7VesOPf>)

The Umno members and supporters who disrupted a cartoon exhibition by cartoonist Zulfiklee Anwar Ulhaque (Zunar) in Komtar today have lodged a police report against him and the Penang government.

State Penang Umno chief Rafizal Abdul Rahim said the group lodged a police report at the Northeast District police headquarters on Jalan Pattani at 4.19pm.

If the exhibition continues, Rafizal said, he and his group would use force to make Zunar end his programme in Penang.

He said the report was lodged against Zunar and the Penang government for allowing an exhibition that is "rude, insulting, slanderous and filled with lies" about Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak.

"We have discussed with Zunar (at Komtar) and forced him to take down all the artwork. We told him not to put them up again until Sunday," Rafizal told reporters outside the police HQ.

"We from state Umno Youth wing will be monitoring the situation to see if he puts up the artworks again," Rafizal warned.

“If he does it again, we will not hesitate to return to the location to demand that he takes down the artworks. We will do it, whether in a nice manner or by force,” Rafizal threatened.

'Artworks an insult to Najib'

Rafizal said most of the artworks were an “insult” to Najib, who is their president and BN chief.

On Penang government allowing the exhibition to take place at Komtar, Rafizal said: “They like it when an outsider has such an exhibition.

“That is why Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng officiated and launched the exhibition at noon.”

Zunar took down his artworks after the attack. Two of the pieces were damaged after being kicked down by the rowdy group.

The Umno members shouted obscenities at Zunar, and words such as “haram jadah” (bastard) were heard during the commotion which started about 3pm on Komtar’s third floor.

Zunar also plans to launch his book, 'Wasabi', in Penang on Sunday, and is supposed to move the Komtar exhibition - which was scheduled to be held in Komtar until Dec 2 - to the Speakers Square at the Esplanade on Dec 3.

The police report was lodged by Umno supporter Mohd Norhiesam Ismail, who is from Simpang Ampat, Penang.

In his report, Norhiesam urged the police to investigate Zunar and the Penang government.

“The artworks are filled with insults, slander and lies about our prime minister.

“We hope that stern action will be taken against the organisers of the exhibition,” Norhiesam added.

Zunar’s artworks on display centred on the issue of the 'Malaysian Official 1' (MO1).

A cabinet minister has confirmed that Najib is the elusive MO1 cited in the US civil suit against three individuals alleged to have been involved in the laundering of 1MDB funds.

Najib has denied any abuse of 1MDB funds, while attorney-general Mohamed Apandi Ali had cleared him of any wrongdoing related to mismanagement of funds in 1MDB and the RM2.6 billion donation in the prime minister’s private bank accounts.

3. Zunar: Umno members hurled four punches at me, pulled my collar
(<https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/364252#ixzz4R7VqfmMK>)

Four punches were hurled at him when he was attacked by a group of Umno members in Komtar yesterday, said political cartoonist Zulkiflee Anwar Ulhaque (Zunar).

“They also pulled my collar, I was physically assaulted, but I kept calm, I did not want to retaliate,” Zunar told Malaysiakini.

“As an award recipient of the Cartoonist for Peace Award presented by former United Nations secretary-general Kofi Anan in Geneva this year, I want peace, not war,” he added.

Zunar said the leader of the group introduced themselves as Umno Youth members. They were led by Penang Umno youth chief Rafizal Abdul Rahim.

He urged Umno national Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin to teach his members to behave, instead of acting violent against their rivals or those who are opposed to their views.

“It is unfortunate, as supporters of the ruling party, they threatened to burn my books,” Zunar said, recalling the burning of subversive books (or those opposed to Nazism), campaign launched by the German Student Union in Germany and Austria in 1930s.

“Other than forcing me to take down all my artworks which were affixed to stands, kicking at them and damaging two pieces, the group also asked me why I did not draw cartoons against the Penang government,” Zunar said.

“I told them they can have their own exhibition about the Penang government if they wanted, but please do not disturb mine,” he added.

Zunar's exhibition of 10 artworks on Komtar's 3rd floor was officiated by Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng at noon before it was disrupted by a group of rowdy members from Penang Umno Youth.

They group of 30 hurled obscenities at Zunar and his two assistants, words like “haram jadah” (bastard) was heard during the commotion which started around 3pm.

They had apparently marched to Komtar from a mosque nearby after Friday prayers and shouted “Allahuakbar” while attacking Zunar.

As a result of the attack, Zunar has cancelled his exhibition in Komtar, which was supposed to go on until Dec 2.

His artworks were supposed to be moved to Speakers Square, at the Esplanade on Dec 3.

However, the incident has not deterred Zunar from continuing his indoor programmes.

He will launch his new cartoon book ‘Wasabi’ at Wisma Yeap Chor Ee at 6pm tomorrow.

“The BN government banned me from travelling, or else, I would be exhibiting my work in Geneva now,” Zunar said.

Zunar said he may have felt a little intimidated when attacked by the group but said “Being afraid will only allow them to carry on with their violence”.

He had invited them to debate with him, but the group was not interested.

Yesterday, Rafizal lodged a police report against Zunar and the Penang government for organising an exhibition which “insulted and lied” about Prime Minister Najib Razak.

Rafizal had warned if the exhibition continues, the group will not hesitate to use force to demand Zunar to end his programme in Penang.

State executive councillor for Islamic affairs Abdul Malik Kassim said if Umno members were afraid of cartoons, it showed they could be at the “end of their existence”.

“It seems Umno members on the outside are different from their assemblymen who behave well even when criticising the state government,” Malik said in a statement.

“I believe Penang Umno leaders would be ashamed of some of their members who behaved like gangsters,” added the PKR Batu Maung assemblyperson.

Malik said Umno members who behaved violently yesterday had only tarnished Najib’s reputation.

He was certain the international media would describe the incident against Zunar yesterday as testimony that Najib was “afraid of his own shadows”.

“In a democratic nation, we should end such disruptive behaviours so that the future generation will be more progressive and matured in their thinking,” he added.

Zunar’s cartoons, deemed offensive by Umno, focussed on 'Malaysian Official 1' (MO1).

Cabinet minister Abdul Rahman Dahlan has confirmed that M01, cited in the US civil suit against three individuals alleged to have been involved in money laundering of 1MDB funds, is Najib.

Najib has denied being involved in the civil suit, while attorney-general Mohamed Apandi Ali had cleared him of any wrongdoing related to mismanagement of funds in 1MDB and the RM2.6 billion donation in the premier's private bank accounts.

4. Cops arrest Zunar after exhibition thrashed, seize cartoons
(<https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/364288#ixzz4R7W1mZd5>)

Political cartoonist Zulkiflee Anwar Ulhaque (Zunar) has been arrested for sedition for holding an exhibition on cartoons that allegedly insulted Prime Minister Najib Razak.

Zunar was also arrested under Section 504 of the Penal Code which deals with intentional insult with intent to provoke a breach of the peace.

He was earlier asked to give a statement at the Northeast Police headquarters in Jalan Pattani.

According to Bayan Baru MP Sim Tze Tzin, police will now confiscate his artworks.

"Police will now go to Komtar together with Zunar to confiscate all his artworks. The location is at Asia Comic Museum Komtar level 3," Sim said.

A check by Malaysiakini at Komtar found plainclothes police officers carting away Zunar's artworks.

Seri Delima assemblyperson RSN Rayer is representing Zunar.

Northeast district police chief ACP Meor Farid Alatrash has confirmed the arrest.

"He will be detained 24 hours to assist in investigation.. if the probe is not complete, we shall seek a remand order tomorrow morning."

This is Zunar's 10th arrest under the Sedition Act. He currently faces nine charges amounting to 43 years' jail, if convicted.

Zunar also faces a travel ban pending his trial.

Yesterday, Zunar's exhibition in Komtar was disrupted by a group of 30 Umno members led by Penang Umno Youth chief Rafizal Abdul Rahim.

They kicked down and damaged two of his artworks.

Zunar claimed four punches were hurled at him and they pulled his collar but he managed to avoid them.

Rafizal warned his members would use force on Zunar should he continue his exhibition which was supposed to be held until Dec 2.

Rafizal alleged Zunar's artwork was an insult to Najib, who is also BN and Umno chief.

5. VIDEO:

Zunar arrested for sedition after exhibition thrashed
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2QE96JIKHA>

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Best,
Fazlina
Mrs.Zunar