

25 OCT 1999

Court-Mirzan

MIRZAN'S DEFAMATION SUIT AGAINST CHINA PRESS SETTLED

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 25 (Bernama) -- The defamation suit brought by Konsortium Perkapalan Bhd group executive chairman Mirzan Mahathir against a Chinese newspaper, China Press Bhd and its editor-in-chief Poon Chau Huay has been settled in the High Court.

The settlement was recorded before Justice Datin Paduka Rahmah Hussain in open court today after counsel for both parties read out a statement pertaining to the settlement.

According to the statement read out by Mirzan's counsel Datuk V. K. Lingam, the legal action had now been settled upon terms that Mirzan received the agreed damages and all the legal costs from the defendants.

However, the sum was not stated.

He said the defendants have also to make an unqualified retraction and apology by their counsel and that an undertaking be given to Mirzan that they would not repeat or publish the similar alleged defamatory words concerning him in any manner whatsoever.

"With that vindication, once Your Ladyship has heard from my learned friend in the terms which had been agreed, the plaintiff is content," he said.

Mirzan, the eldest son of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, sued China Press and its editor-in-chief claiming RM200 million for re-publishing an Asian Wall Street Journal (AWSJ) article about his business activities which were allegedly defamatory.

The alleged defamatory articles which appeared in the various newspapers on Jan 5 this year were translated versions of an article which was published on the front and fourth pages of the Jan 4 issue of the AWSJ.

-- BERNAMA

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