

'Reformasi' activists unhappy with call to Suqiu

STAR 23.12.2000

PETALING JAYA: A group of *reformasi* activists has protested against eight pro-*reformasi* websites which called on Suqiu to withdraw portions of its 17-point appeal which allegedly question Malay special rights.

In a joint statement posted yesterday on the *Mahafiraun* website, the activists, including Hishamuddin Rais, Abdul Malek Hussin, Sharifuddin Budin and Lokman Adam, said the call did not represent the *reformasi* spirit.

"We hereby declare that the thinking behind that statement is against the spirit and stand which have been fought for by the leaders of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's *reformasi* movement and *reformasi* activists," it said.

The activists said they supported Suqiu's appeal on the whole as it was a reflection of the *reformasi* movement's struggle to unite the people of different races on noble principles and not on "expediency politics" or the interests of those with power and wealth.

On Thursday, eight pro-*reformasi* websites had called on Suqiu to withdraw its appeals.

The calls were posted on these websites: Laman Reformasi, Pemantau, Komentari, Jiwa Merdeka, Reformasi Rakyat, Reform-Black14, Maha-kejam and Anti-Zalim on Thursday.

The notice said that Suqiu, the Malaysian Chinese Organisations' Election Appeals Committee, had failed to observe the Malay community's sensitivity by questioning the special rights of Malays.