

12 JAN 2000

Court-Mirzan

MIRZAN'S DEFAMATION SUITS AGAINST CHINESE DAILIES SETTLED

KUALA LUMPUR, 13 Jan (Bernama) -- The defamation suits brought by Konsortium Perkapalan Bhd group executive chairman Mirzan Mahathir against two Chinese newspapers were settled in the High Court today.

The settlement statement was read out by the lawyers for the two parties and recorded by Justice R.K. Nathan.

Mirzan sued Sin Chew Jit Poh's publisher Pemandangan Sinar Sdn Bhd, group editor-in-chief Liew Chen Chuan and news editor Lim You Soon over an article about him published in the Jan 5, 1999 issue of the daily.

He also sued Guang Ming daily's publisher Guang-Ming Ribao Sdn Bhd, group editor-in-chief Liew Chen Chuan and editor-in-chief Yong Yoew Knoon over an article in that paper on the same day.

Counsel for the defendants, Datuk R.R Sethu, said in the settlement statement that the defendants accepted that their publications had injured Mirzan's personal and business reputation.

They unreservedly apologise to Mirzan and had paid substantial damages (amount undisclosed) to him, said Sethu.

Counsel said the defendants had undertaken to publish the statement on the front pages of Sin Chew Jit Poh and Guang Ming Daily with Mirzan's photograph.

They had also given an undertaking to Mirzan that they would not repeat or publish the defamatory article or any words to the similar effect.

Lawyers Datuk V.K. Lingam and R. Thayalan appeared for Mirzan.

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