

**Pak Samad: Agong is expecting our petition**  
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National laureate A Samad Said claimed that the Agong has agreed to receive the petition from Bersih 2.0 delegation today, but the police had stopped them.

He said during the audience with the Agong this Tuesday, His Majesty had allowed them to submit the memorandum on electoral reform today.

"He said 'can'. That is why I followed (the delegation) to submit the petition," Samad (right) told the media during a press conference in Kuala Lumpur today.

"I had decided to write a letter to the Agong later to inform him that the Agong's readiness to receive the petition was not properly handled by the police...

"It is not my fault but the police's," explained the septuagenarian.

He slammed the violence used by police during the rally, describing it as the fiercest brutality he has ever seen.

"I noticed the shooting of tear gas was random and rough. I saw women falling and chaos. I have never seen this before.

"Although I had been through the attack of tear gas before, this was the cruellest gas," he said.

(Samad had joined the March 2009 mass gathering to protest the government's policy on the teaching of Science and Mathematics in English or PPSMI.)

However, Samad complimented the crowd for their ethnic diversity.

"I have never seen before all the races from all walks of life, at almost every place. So I consider not just Malays, not just Chinese, but all Malaysians (had joined the rally)," he added.

According to Bersih 2.0 steering committee member K Arumugam, who was present at the press conference, Samad had marched 8km today with the crowd.

He claimed that Samad had lost his shoes during the havoc and was forced to walk on bare feet until someone gave him a simple pair of slippers which he wore until the end of the rally.