

Pakatan mourns third year of Perak putsch
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Perak Pakatan Rakyat leaders marked the last day of Chinese New Year celebrations by “mourning” the third anniversary of their ouster as the Perak state government.

perak 3rd anniversary tree 060212The short gathering under a tree at Medan Istana, Ipoh, where they once held the historic state assembly ‘sitting’ on Mar 3, 2009, saw lawmakers from the three parties wearing black. They also held a minute of silence.

After singing the national anthem and several speeches later, Pakatan state assemblypersons released black balloons to symbolise the rise of democracy.

Contacted after the event, former Perak Menteri Besar Nizar Jamaluddin said that the Feb 6 was a blight in Malaysia’s history.

On this day in 2009, Umno’s Zambry Abdul Kadir was appointed the new menteri besar after the palace ruled that Nizar no longer commanded a majority in the Perak legislative assembly.

This was triggered after three Pakatan state lawmakers quit their respective parties and pledged allegiance to BN two days earlier.

Next year, leaders will wear red

“We must remember, that on this day three years ago, BN had robbed the people with the help of the police and the Election Commission.

“The people must be aware of Perak’s history, that the current state government has denied them of their rights. Umno does not respect their rights nor the laws,” said Nizar.

perak 3rd anniversary tree 060212DAP state secretary Nga Kor Ming said the public must remember that despite the court rulings that went in BN’s favour, it was Pakatan that was voted into power in March 2008.

“As Abraham Lincoln once said, the only legitimate government in the world is one of the people, by the people and for the people.

“No one can deny the fact that BN does not have the mandate of the people of Perak,” he said.

Nga notes that despite it being Chap Goh Meh, the last day to mark Chinese New Year, Pakatan leaders were “forced” to wear black, instead of red.

“We have to mourn the death of democracy. Next year we will gather again, but we will wear red once we win back Perak and gather under the same tree,” he said.

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