

Umno Youth stages protest against 'Israeli agent' PKR
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Leven Woon

A group of Umno Youth members today held a noisy pro-Palestine rally outside the PKR headquarters in Petaling Jaya, condemning its de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim's support for Israel's security.

They chanted anti-PKR slogans and criticised Anwar's recent statement in Wall Street Journal that supported a two-state solution for the Israel-Palestine issue.

About 100 Umno Youth members converged at the PKR headquarters about 4pm, after a heavy downpour.

They held up flags of Umno, BN and Palestine and carried banners that read, among others, 'Anwar, you have Palestinian blood on your hands' and 'PKR + Anwar = keldai Israel'.

Accompanied by a delegation of four, Umno Youth secretary Megat Firdouz Megat Junid then tried to submit a memorandum to PKR.

However, the office was closed, for the PKR headquarters personnel had begun their journey to Kuantan for the party retreat that begins tomorrow.

They then approached two PKR Subang Jaya municipal councillors, Michael Tamilarason and Keshvinder Singh, who were at the gate to the office, but the two refused to accept their memorandum.

Megat Firdouz finally placed the memorandum on the gate and left.

Umno Youth in the memorandum calls Anwar a "fork-tongued leader" for recognising the Israeli regime in an interview with the Wall Street Journal (WSJ), despite proclaiming himself to be a fighter for the Islamic struggle.

"We are upset by his statement that is equal to supporting the killing of Palestinians and the cruel regime of Zionists.

Repent, Anwar told

"Now, the entire PKR has become an Israel agent," Megat Firdouz said, urging Anwar to "repent in the soonest possible time".

Anwar has come under fire from within and outside the Pakatan Rakyat coalition parties for telling WSJ that he supports "all efforts to protect the security of the state of Israel".

However, he claimed that the Umno-owned media slandered him by omitting a key part of the interview where he said, "it remains contingent on Israel to respect the aspirations of the Palestinians".

Asked about this today, Megat Firdouz said Anwar only twisted his words after the issue was exposed.

"Now, he is playing with words. We only saw the words that 'he supports Israel by all efforts' in the report," he said.

On the issue of Israeli ships being allowed to dock at Malaysian ports, Megat Firdouz said the Customs Act allowing this was relaxed by Anwar when he was deputy prime minister and finance minister.

"If they really want to cut off trade ties with Israel, they should ask the Penang government to shut down

Intel and the Selangor government to shut down Motorola (both of which trade with Israelis)," he said.

The crowd dispersed peacefully after 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, PKR Youth information chief Rozan Azen Mat Rasip, who arrived at the scene later, said he was puzzled on the motive behind the Umno members' protest.

"I don't know why they chose today to come, for we have said that our office is closed today," Rozan said.

He added that it was up to the PKR secretary-general to respond to the memorandum.

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