

Badrul Amin: Witnesses back claim against khalwat
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Selangor MB's office communications director Badrul Amin Baharom has said he has witnesses to refute allegations that he had committed 'khalwat' or close proximity while at a hotel in Balok, Kuantan.

"I was not alone with the woman. Her daughter and several other people were there with me," Badrul Amin (left) told Malaysiakini today when contacted.

However, he did not reveal the identities of the witnesses.

The PKR Sabak Bernam chief maintained his innocence against allegations that he has been arrested for khalwat.

He added will take action against Pahang Islamic Religious Department (Jaip) deputy director Mohd Ghazali Abdul Aziz and the media who had made the allegations.

Meanwhile Harakahdaily today reported a Jaip source saying that the case against Badrul Amin is "not strong".

According to the source, Jaip officers arrived at the hotel room approximately 4.30am and did not find Badrul Amin alone with the girl.

The report said they had upon arrival found the room door open with several people surrounding the PKR leader, and denied pro-Umno bloggers' claims that the accused had been discovered dressed only in a towel.

Statement given

Bername reported that Badrul Amin gave a statement in connection with the khalwat case at Pahang Islamic Department (Jaip) office in Kuantan today.

He arrived at Jaip office at about 2.40pm and was accompanied by wife, Zumrah Husni, and three lawyers, Muhammad Sazali Abdul Aziz, Ahmad Nizam Hamid and Mohd Irfan Abdullah.

The woman reported arrested with Badrulamin arrived at about 3.10pm dressed in a baju kurung and yellow tudung.

Both spent about three hours at Jaip office.

According to media reports, Badrul Amin was arrested for khalwat with somebody's wife at about 3am in a hotel room in Balok on Saturday.

Badrul Amin however denied that he was arrested for khalwat and claimed that it was planned to humiliate him.

He also claimed that he was beaten up by a group of some 20 men.

Jaip deputy director Datuk Mohd Ghazali Abd Aziz said Badrul Amin was summoned to make a statement in connection with a khalwat case.

"It is normal procedure. The case is investigated under Section 145 of Administration of Pahang Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Enactment 1982," he said.

Kuantan district police chief ACP Mohd Jasmani Yusof when contacted said police have yet to receive a report on the assault of Badrul Amin.

Meanwhile, Badrul Amin said he is willing to resign if it can help save PKR adding the incident involved only himself and has nothing to do with the party.

"Although I have not been found guilty, I am thinking of taking a break from politics," he told reporters after giving a statement to Jaip.

He also accepts Selangor PKR's proposal that he take leave from office for one month to settle the case so that the party is not implicated.

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