

## **Muslim NGOs protest UN resolution on LGBT rights**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**March 2, 2012**

**Abdul Rahim Sabri**

Seventy Muslim NGO representatives gathered at the National Mosque in Kuala Lumpur this afternoon to pressure the government to refrain from endorsing a United Nations protocol on gender identity and sexual orientation.

If it does, the group warned, Malaysia would be legitimising casual, pre-marital and unnatural sex and give lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transsexuals (LGBTs) a legal standing, something they said goes against the teachings of Islam, the religion of the country.

The second phase of the initiative was to be discussed at the upcoming March 5 meeting of the UN human rights council in Geneva, of which Malaysia is a member.

Gathering outside the mosque after Friday prayers, the group comprised members of Persatuan-persatuan Pembela Islam (Pembela), right wing Malay NGO Perkasa, Front Bertindak Anti-Murtad and Ikatan Muslimin Malaysia (Isma), which also includes PAS members.

"O, ye stupid and mindless, don't ye trespass Allah's laws. Lesbian and same sex relationships go against Allah's proscriptons.

"Allah is our God... You (meaning those supporting the UN protocol) have returned to the old ways, uncivilised ways of condoning unnatural practices," said Gabungan Bela Hak Islam Pulau Pinang deputy chief Mohd Hafiz Mohd Nordin.

Mohd Hafiz, a former Penang PAS Youth chief, warned the UN not to play God in the matter.

"Our God is Allah! We are not afraid. We shall gladly spill our blood (for this)," he continued to cries of "Allah-u-akbar!" (God is Great!) from the assembled protesters.

The anti-LGBT protest came together with the Department of Islamic Development's (Jakim) issued sermons compulsory to be read at most mosques in the federal capital of Kuala Lumpur.

The sermon was also read prior to Friday prayers at the National Mosque televised live nationwide.

The prepared text distributed to all mosque in the federal territory warned against "unnatural culture" being promoted by "international liberals".

In particular the sermon mentioned the UN protocol on gender identity and sexual orientation, the first phase of which was signed during the world body's human rights council meeting in June ,2011 and the next phase is set to be endorsed by the UN human rights council in the coming next week.

The protest also received red carpet treatment from national news agency Bernama, which issued an alert to editors of the protest earlier today, a practice usually reserved for high-profile or government events.

Copyright © 1999-2012 Mkini Dotcom Sdn. Bhd  
<http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/190874>