

'Pro-Umno village chief shut down ceramah'
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A PKR youth leader said they were forced to hold off their ceramah in Negri Sembilan last month after the local village head leading a group of armed men allegedly showed up to threaten a "bloodbath".

Rembau PKR division leader Badrul Hisham Shaharin, who leads a ceramah tonight in Pekan Kuala Sawah in the Rantau state seat in Rembau, said they had originally planned the event for February 6.

He alleged that at that time, in the midst of preparations on the evening of the ceramah, the Kampung Kuala Sawah village chief arrived at the venue at 6pm with a group of men armed with parang.

"When trouble broke out at the location, that is just 300m from the Kuala Sawah police station, several policemen showed up. After speaking with the village chief the attackers, the police left," claimed Badrul Hisham in his blog.

"The incident was not just an armed attack but a racist one as well, as the Umno-appointed village chief insulted and swore at some Indians on duty, and even threatened a 'bloodbath'," he added.

Fearing for the safety of locals who were keen on attending the ceramah, said Badrul Hisham, they decided to postpone the ceramah.

'Police indifferent'

The youth leader said they have since lodged a police report on the incident and regretted that no action has been taken, alleging that the police have turned a blind eye because the village head was installed by the ruling government.

Badrul Hisham also reported that PKR Rembau committee member Selvam, living in the vicinity has received threats through SMS allegedly circulated by the village head.

The SMS circulating "since last night" allegedly called for Umno members to gather at Selvam's house to "destroy" the opposition's programme in the "menteri besar's territory".

"Furthermore we received a call from the police 'advising' us to cancel our programme to avoid trouble."

"PKR is extremely disappointed with the police's attitude, that is clearly reluctant to ensure peace and sides with Umno's gangsterism.

"There is no more democracy in this country, that is increasingly falling under the law of the jungle," he said.

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