

ABU to 'peacefully' stop foreigners from voting

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The 'Asalkan Bukan Umno' (Anything But Umno) movement has acknowledged plans to stop foreigners in possession of Malaysian identity cards (ICs) from voting, but stressed this will be done "peacefully".

This comes after flyers the movement has been distributing, 'warning' foreigners to refrain from voting, as well as a video uploaded on YouTube on Wednesday.

"The 'Warning' flyers have one purpose, to stop foreigners from voting in the 13th general election, or face the wrath of the people," ABU volunteer Jason Sanjeev Ganesan said at a press conference this morning.

"Our warning is not to be taken lightly. The Team Tahan (ABU Halang Asign Ngundi) have been arranged all over the country to defend the sanctity of the election process."

However, ABU president Haris Ibrahim stressed that the move should not be perceived as hateful or xenophobic as ABU only wanted to "ensure the rakyat's right is not violated by any party".

"ABU does not intend to act violently towards anyone. Ours is a peaceful initiative," he said.

'Ready to die'

Haris said foreigners who have been given ICs in exchange for votes are no different than the Lahad Datu intruders, as the foreigners were "armed" with ICs to "violate" the rights of Malaysians.

"Are the actions of the security forces in Lahad Datu xenophobic?" he asked.

According to the movement, its Tahan squad has been distributing the flyers to foreigners over the past two months, as a warning for them not to turn up to vote on polling day.

The flyers, with the heading "Warning", are printed in various languages including Indonesian, Burmese, Urdu and Bengali, the language of Bangladesh, and have been distributed throughout the country.

Meanwhile, the video (right) uploaded on the video-sharing site recently, features Haris himself urging foreigners to take ABU's warning seriously or be "dealt" with.

"To foreigners who have been given MyKad, please hear this. ABU has issued warnings to stay away from our polling stations on PRU 13 (GE13) day. Please take this warning seriously.

"On polling day, ABU squads will be patrolling all polling stations. And they will deal with all

foreigners who are intent on defying this warning," he says in the video.

200-day ultimatum for Pakatan

In the seven-minute video laced with warnings to various parties, Haris tells Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak that ABU "will go to all lengths and at all costs" to prevent cheating on polling day, even stating they are "ready to die".

Even Pakatan Rakyat is not spared. Haris says in the video that ABU is giving the opposition coalition 200 days, should it form the new government, to deliver on its various promises to implement changes.

"If you (Pakatan) do not deliver the reforms within the 200 days we now give you, please understand you will then see the rakyat on the streets."

Haris further advised non-BN candidates who "betray the vote given to them" by succumbing to offers from Umno and BN to "take what you will and leave the country".

"If you do not leave, trust me, we will hunt you down and ensure that in the shortest possible time, a by-election will be held to fill up the vacancy that would have been caused," he said.

However, he did not detail what will be done to the such candidates, once caught.