

## **Indian 'Judas' unfazed over kissing Zul**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**April 25, 2013**

**By G Surach, The Malay Mail**

The man who has earned the ire of the Indian community by kissing Zulkifli Noordin on the cheek during nomination day, is unperturbed at being labeled 'Judas' for supporting the controversial Perkasa vice-president.

The Malay Mail caught up with N Devendren (left), who claims to be an MIC member, and has since nomination day earned widespread scorn over social media for his action.

"Life goes on, people especially the Indian community will have their say but in the end I have the right to support whom I choose to as it is my right," said the 32-year-old bachelor businessperson.

Devendren denied claims he took money in exchange for a show of support for Zulkifili, who is standing under the "Friend of BN" ticket, against PAS incumbent Khalid Samad.

"I did not do it for money," he said when met at the BN campaign centre in Section 23 here.

Devendren said he was initially angry with BN for selecting Zulkifli, who disparaged Hindus and referred to Indians with a derogatory term.

Two videos of his actions have since gone viral on the Internet.

"When they announced his candidacy at the Section 9 Umno building, I led 100 of my supporters to the event to protest against the decision. I was so incensed that I would have hit him," he said.

But when Zulkifli (right) came out to meet them, he immediately apologised for his statements.

"He (Zulkifli) clasped his hands and begged forgiveness... It was touching and sincere. I am only human so I accepted it. If Pakatan Rakyat leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim could be forgiven and accepted by the people, why can't Zulkifli be treated the same way?" he asked.

While he admits the peck on Zulkifli's cheek might be perceived as "an extraordinary act of affection", he does not regret it.

When asked whether he was shunned by the Indian community over the matter, Devendren said many people have questioned him but he has been patient in his response towards them.

Claiming to be an MIC party member for over a year, Devendren, who is from Section 7, is unfazed by the critical comments by thousands of netizens angered by the now infamous picture taken by the Malay Mail.

"Today they will remember me as such since it is campaigning period but 15 days after the results, I would be forgotten altogether," he said with a sly smile.

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