

## **Kuantan youth claims EC let him through to vote twice**

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A 23-year-old youth from Kuantan has claimed that he was allowed to vote twice on polling day after he managed to wash off the indelible ink on his index finger.

After obtaining the second ballot paper, however, Mohd Fadhli Khaharruddin decided not to cast the vote and instead lodged a police report over his successful attempt to breach the voting process.

Sinar Harian reported today that he had cast his vote about 10.30am at Sekolah Kebangsaan Sungai Isap on May 5.

"I went back to the same location about 1.15pm after washing off the ink. The (successful) attempt to vote twice proves that the polling system can still be manipulated although indelible ink was used (to identify those who had already voted)," he said.

"I used bleach and then soap to wash off the indelible ink, which came off easily, and went (to the polling station) again."

He said that he went through the same procedures up to the time he received the second set of ballot papers, but did not mark them.

According to the Sin Chew Daily version of this account, Mohd Fadhli walked out of the classroom with the ballot papers and complained to the police and the Election Commission (EC) officers on duty who then confiscated the ballot papers.

"Initially I wanted to keep the ballot papers to prove that there is a weakness in the election system. I then lodged a police report at 4.15pm," he was quoted as saying.

He said the police have called him twice to record his statement.

NONEMohd Fadhli was speaking at a press conference along with Kuantan MP Fuziah Salleh (left), Tanjung Lumpur assemblyperson Rosli Abdul Jabbar, and PAS Legal and Human Rights Department legal adviser Mohd Aznel Azhar.

Fuziah - who is also a PKR vice-president - said such incidents may have occurred in other places as well.

"It would be better for the EC to hold the general election once more," she reportedly said.

'Sounds like a cartoon show'

EC deputy chief Wan Omar Wan Ahmad however said the claim was illogical and that it sounds like a "cartoon show".

He questioned the silence of all polling agents from different political parties when Mohd Fadhli attempted to vote the second time.

Mohd Fadhli can be arrested as his action has violated the law, he told Sin Chew Daily.

A Pakatan Rakyat polling agent named only as Norhani explained that she realised that Mohd Fadhli had already voted because his name had been cancelled on the electoral roll.

But she had remained silent as other polling agents and the EC officers did not react.

"I was afraid that I heard it wrong," she explained.

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