

Tomorrow is Father's Day, but daddy's still held under ISA

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Despite the abolition of the Internal Security Act (ISA), the last 15 detainees under the colonial era law are yet to be freed, spending Father's Day at Taiping's Kamunting detention centre.

If it is any consolation, four of the detainees were allowed to see their wives yesterday who travelled from Sabah.

According to Gerakan Mansuhkan ISA (GMI) coordinator Ahmad Syukri Che Ab Razab (left), the spouses had asked thrice to call on their husbands thrice as they had travelled all the way from Tawau, Sabah.

However, he said the authorities only allowed them to see their husbands twice, yesterday and this morning at 10.

"The longest they were allowed to see each other was 45 minutes," he told Malaysiakini when contacted.

The authorities had explained that the person-in-charge to grant additional visitation was not present to do so and that the application had to be done earlier, said Ahmad Syukri.

Ahmad Syukri said GMI will still try to lobby for a third visit through its lawyers as Father's Day is tomorrow.

The ISA was officially repealed on June 22 last year and replaced with the Security Offences (Special Measures) Act that limits detention without trial powers.

However, a provision was made to allow the continued detention of existing ISA detainees who are expected to be freed only in January next year.

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