

'Will BN shut down Petaling Street, too?'

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By Tony Pua

MP SPEAKS After shutting down the uber-popular Jonker Street market, will Umno-BN now shut down the Petaling Street market as well in Kuala Lumpur?

In a shocking move involving political vengeance and retaliation against the non-Malay community, the new Malacca Chief Minister Idris Haron last week announced the closure of the Jonker Street weekend market, which is an extremely popular 13-year-old tourist destination in an area often regarded as the Malacca Chinatown.

NONE According to Kwong Wah Daily, Idris yesterday argued that the decision passed by the Malacca executive council on June 12 to close the night market "follows the intention of the people".

"Now, we see most of the Malacca residents fully supporting DAP over MCA candidates, who have been serving them. Hence, we decided to cancel the night market and we hope they will be happy," the daily quotes Idris as saying.

We had assumed that with the 'political demise' of former Malacca chief minister Mohd Ali Rustam, you can't possibly appoint a chief minister more reckless, arrogant and callous than him. Idris has, however, immediately proven us completely wrong.

First 'physical act'

The move is clearly akin to cutting off one's nose to spite one's face.

NONE Just because Idris (right) anted to demonstrate his political pettiness to inflict damage to the Chinese community, he is willing to sacrifice the interest of the people of Malacca and her economy.

More importantly, it has proven beyond doubt that BN is not a 1Malaysia government as touted by the Prime Minister and Umno president Najib Abdul Razak, but in reality a 1Umno party which only cares about the interest of their own leaders and cronies.

Over the past eight weeks since the general election, Umno leaders and its mouthpiece Utusan Malaysia has gone on a verbal rampage to demonise the

Chinese for BN's poor performance.

But this is the first physical act by Umno to victimise the Chinese community for the latter's perceived support for Pakatan Rakyat.

In fact, we have to assume that this major move to punish the Chinese voters is a directive coming directly from the top of the Umno leadership itself.

And if true, then this will only be the beginning of a series of actions which Umno-led governments will take to discriminate against, sideline, punish as well as humiliate any of the minority races in the country which they deem not to have given support to Umno-BN.

bersih 3 rally 130512 petaling street Perhaps, the new Tourism Minister Mohd Nazri Abdul Aziz will announce a similar move to close down the historic Petaling Street. Or why stop at just closing these "Chinatowns", why not just cancel Christmas or even more impactful, ban Deepavali or Chinese New Year celebrations?

The acts by these Umno governments runs in direct contrasts with the Pakatan-led administrations which goes out of its way to ensure that all their voters, regardless of political affiliation, will enjoy the fruits of our administration.

Najib' silence

When the Selangor government provided free water to individual households or insurance for the elderly, it was granted to all regardless or race, religion or political affiliation.

This is similar in Penang, when it became the first state government to eliminate hardcore poverty in the country, despite the fact that the majority of the beneficiaries are Malays who had then supported BN.

NONE While Pakatan continues to serve all Malaysians regardless of whether they had voted for us, we are witnessing an increasingly vindictive BN where MCA threw its tantrum by shutting down all their service centres, while Umno demonstrated their racist mindset by not only poisoning the minds of the people, but by destroying people's livelihoods.

In the past, we would have ended this statement by making a call to the prime minister to be the voice of moderation and uphold his commitment to his 1Malaysia.

Today, we know that Najib will just remain completely silent to the above act of

closing down Jonker Street as well as other threats to the non-Malay community.

His silence not only proves his tacit approval and involvement in these actions, it also confirms that 1Malaysia is purely a propaganda rhetoric to win votes in a general election.

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