

## **'Sabahans, Sarawakians not afraid of arrest'**

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Sabahans and Sarawakians will not be cowed by the threats of arrest and the fight for their rights will go on even with his arrest, Star Sabah chairperson Jeffrey Kitingan said today.

"I do not intend to prepare anything and I will just pray. Any arrest will be good for the struggle for Sabah and Sarawak.

"It will get stronger and eventually lead to the separation of the Borneo states," Jeffrey declared in response to threats of arrest against alleged secessionists.

In a strongly worded statement, he said: "Before carrying out any arrest, the federal leaders need to understand that Sabah and Sarawak agreed to the formation of Malaysia. Sabahans and Sarawakians are clamouring for the restoration of their rights, which are well documented.

"If the basis for the formation of Malaysia is not honoured, Sabah and Sarawak have the legal right not to continue with Malaysia. In such a scenario, the de-merger or dissolution of Malaysia would be the last and forced option for Sabah and Sarawak."

The Bingkor assemblyperson said such a move would not be treasonous. It would be treason only if Malaya or the peninsular government refused to honour the agreement for the formation of Malaysia.

**'Arrest those involved in Project IC'**

"If the federal government and the inspector-general of police (IGP) wish to carry out arrests, the first people they should arrest for treason should be those that were involved in Project IC and the issuance of dubious identity cards and MyKads to foreigners and making them Umno members and Sabahan voters.

"The evidence is all in the RCI hearings.

"The people of Sabah and Sarawak should not be prevented from voicing their grievances. After all, it is their future and the future of Sabah and Sarawak that concerns them," Jeffrey said.

Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin, Home Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, the IGP and the federal government should correct the true facts of history and restore the basis of the formation of Malaysia on Sept 16, 1963.

They should not create misinformation on the rights of Sabah and Sarawak, which formed

Malaysia with the Federation of Malaya, by threatening nationalists who are seeking the restoration of these rights, Jeffrey said.

“The issue of secession does not arise at all. In 1963, Sabah and Sarawak merged with the Federation of Malaya and Singapore to form Malaysia and partly to help solve their problems.

“If we go back in history in 1965, it will be noted that the federal government and the government of Singapore signed the separation agreement even before the matter was tabled for approval in the federal parliament on Aug 9, 1965.

“Wouldn’t it be secessionist and treasonous for the separation agreement to be signed before it was tabled in Parliament?

“Wouldn’t the calls by Umno leaders, religious bigots and Malay extremists to chase out other Malaysians and for them to leave the federation be separatist, seditious and treasonous?” asked Jeffrey.

He said that the real issue at hand now is that the people of Sabah and Sarawak are unhappy and they have every right to voice their unhappiness with their many, many grievances.

“Sabahans and Sarawakians now realise that they have been taken for a ride and cheated by Malaya in the name of the federal government. Malaya has taken over and treated Sabah as a colony.

“The federal leaders should take a drive round Sabah and look at the reality of the situation.”

In 2010, the World Bank reported that Sabah is the poorest State in Malaysia, with 40 percent of the nation’s poor living in Sabah and Labuan. This was re-affirmed by the PM’s Department in 2012.

Sabah's oil taken, population re-engineered

“This is a slap for the federal and Sabah governments. Sabah would have contributed some RM63.3 billion to Petronas and the federal government for 2012-14, while only receiving RM3.34 billion in royalty.

“Apart from being the poorest, its oil and gas resources have been taken away, causing the loss of state revenues, while the population is re-engineered with the unlawful issuance of dubious ICs and MyKads to non-qualified immigrants.

“There is nothing sinister or wrong for Sabah and Sarawak to want their rights in the Malaysia Agreement of 1963, including the 20 Points to be respected and honoured together with the promises and assurances made by the Malayan leaders.

“There is nothing seditious or treasonous in raising these rights and voicing out these grouses. The IGP should know Sabah rights better by just noticing that the head of the police in Sabah is different from the police heads in the other Malayan states.

“The Malayan leaders will be committing the greatest sin against Malaysia as well as against Sabah if they arrest the people to shut our voices.

“The world is watching,” Jeffrey warned.

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