

Fear of Anwar now spreads to his alma mater
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YOURSAY If Universiti Malaya is a place of higher learning, let all speak.

Students: Anwar talk on despite UM action

Lone_Star: What is wrong with his Majesty's Opposition leader speaking at his alma mater? As many as possible of the Universiti Malaya (UM) alumni should attend this event. It can only burnish the image of UM.

Stopping the event and taking action against Universiti Malaya Students' Association (PMUM) president Fahmi Zainol will only tarnish its image.

Fact Not Fiction: It is good for students to hear from both sides. Surely the government has ample opportunity to organise talks to refute Anwar's claims.

Quigonbond: How is Anwar coming to give a speech bad for UM reputation as a place of higher learning?

No one is saying Anwar is the gospel truth. But if UM is a place of learning and thinking, then anyone can come and give a speech and let it be assessed by UM's thinking students.

This week, Anwar can come give a speech, and be grilled. Next week, Minister of Sports and Youth Khairy Jamaluddin or someone eloquent from Umno can come give a speech and be grilled.

It's fair and square. Indeed, the UM administration is a sham.

Mushiro: From a top university in the 60s and 70s, UM has fallen to a level where it is not even ranked. And this is due to the dictates of Umno. It looks like Umno is bent on destroying UM.

Odysseus: UM should be proud of producing an opposition leader in the Parliament.

An opposition leader should be respected, just like a government leader. Please do not treat members of the opposition as if they are enemies of the state.

By reacting in such manner, UM officers are showing they are incapable of running the premier university independently. No wonder, their global ranking is so low.

It is reflective of their mentality and leadership of the university.

Axolotl: That's the spirit, Fahmi! You're definitely part of the solution. Shame on you, student affairs deputy vice-chancellor Rohana Yusof. You and your repugnant ilk are the problem.

Anwar: What right has UM to ban me?

Spirit of Malaya: Calling all UM graduates, both new and old. Please rise up to the occasion and post your comments everywhere on the Internet.

Let's tell Umno-BN that UM belongs to all Malaysians and we are disgusted at the way UM is managed. It's in the dumps because of the incompetent fools and it's not going to get any worse by allowing Anwar to speak.

Thana55: Yet another show of Umno incompetence and inferiority complex.

Ima Realist: And what right does Anwar have to demand to speak in UM? He's free to speak publicly... in any stadium or field in Pakatan Rakyat-controlled Selangor and Penang.

Speaking Sense: Such a ban would have been unthinkable when I was in UM (or MU then) during the 1960s. Other countries progress but Malaysia has regressed under Umno. Shame on the vice-chancellor.

Multi Racial: UM is an institution of learning and as such, should be neutral in politics. What is wrong with the student body inviting Anwar to speak? It is up to the students to decide.

Likewise, they can invite foreign politicians, politicians who favour the government, or politicians who do not side either party.

This is part of learning and the university should not intervene. The more they do that, the more suspicious Malaysians - particularly the students - will be.

Unless there is something the government did wrong, I do not see why the university is so scared of allowing the students to listen to the opposition. I am sure the students will not blindly believe what the speakers told them.

We need to move on. Otherwise, we may have First World infrastructure but we are still stuck with Third World mentality. A lot of thanks to the incumbent government for being so narrow-minded and fearful of opposition leaders.

Real Truth: Anwar is a Malaysian and a bona-fide citizen of this country and he has every right to give a speech to the student body that invited him.

Blocking him is akin to denying a citizen his rights. If UM insists that Anwar can't be allowed in, then all others should be denied that privilege.

Apa Nama: As usual, Anwar-phobia.

Hmmmmmmmm: I understand that our university rankings are outside of 2,000 in the world. Here is why.

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