

## **'Mastermind' behind AmBank founder's murder released**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

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The alleged mastermind behind the murder of AmBank founder Hussain Najadi has been released because there was 'insufficient evidence' to charge him.

Kuala Lumpur CID chief Zainuddin Ahmad confirmed that Lim Yuen Soo was released after eight days of detention.

"There was insufficient evidence (to charge him), so we released him," he told Malaysiakini.

Zainuddin said Lim was released after police conducted a thorough investigation and after the matter was referred to the Attorney-General's Chambers.

Although Lim is no longer in detention, Zainuddin confirmed that he was still in the country.

Lim was detained as he returned to the country from China, early last month.

Kuala Lumpur police chief Tajuddin Md Isa said Lim was arrested on Oct 15 and the investigation paper was handed over to the Attorney-General's Chambers on Oct 20.

The Attorney-General's Chambers decided not to prosecute due to insufficient evidence and Lim was released on the same day, he told Sin Chew Daily.

The case is now closed, Tajuddin reportedly said.

### **Not acceptable by any standards**

Hussain's son, Pascal Najadi, condemned the release and said it was not acceptable.

"It's a big shock and not acceptable by any international standards.

"How can the assassin be freed? We protest his release at the strongest level," said Pascal, who is currently in Moscow, Russia.

He said that this smells of "state-sponsored cover-up".

"Serious questions about the defunct justice in Malaysia now must needed to be asked."

Lim had purportedly ordered Hussain's killing in 2013.

The businessman had allegedly paid Kong Swee Kwan RM20,000 to gun down Hussain on July 29, 2013 near Jalan Ceylon in Kuala Lumpur.

Kong was arrested in September 2013 and sentenced to death a year later, but Lim remained elusive despite police announcing in October 2013 that it was seeking Interpol's help to track down the mastermind.

Lim had fled to Australia merely three days after the murder.

Pascal said the family will seek assistance from Australia to extradite Lim.

"We will seek assistance from our Australian counterparts for his extradition. Lim is a close friend and employer of the gunman who was charged in court last week with murdering Hussain." he went on record.

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Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/318154>