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'Dr M ordered ISA arrests, not my dad'

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PUTRAJAYA: The son of the late Tan Sri Megat Junid Megat Ayub is disappointed over claims that his father was responsible for the arrest of people under the Internal Security Act (ISA).

Datuk Megat Fairouz Junaidi, 51, said even if his father had approved the arrests, it was solely under the instruction of then prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.



**Datuk Megat
Fairouz
Junaidi**

"I knew my father well. He was a staunch supporter of Dr Mahathir and he had only followed orders from the latter," he said yesterday.

He said there was a blog claiming that Dr Mahathir said Megat Junid was responsible for the numerous arrests under ISA during his tenure as deputy home minister.

In the blog last week, Dr Mahathir who was then the prime minister and home minister, said Megat Junid held full authority to sign orders to detain people under ISA.

"It was not logical as my father was only a deputy home minister. He couldn't have approved without his boss' knowledge and orders."

Megat Fairouz said such a statement by a renowned statesman was uncalled for.

"My father had a great deal of respect and love for Dr Mahathir.

"If the claims were true, it is a great disappointment, not only to me, but to my whole family," said the eldest son of Megat Junid.

Megat Junid died in 2008.