ACADEMIC BACKGROUND ISSUE

PM: WE HAVEN'T FOUND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MARZUKI

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Marzuki says he will leave it to Dr M, party leadership to decide on his position

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Penang-level Perhimpunan Perdana Perpaduan 2019 in George Town yesterday. PIC BY DANIAL SAAD

AUDREY DERMAWAN
AND MOHAMED BASYIR
GEORGE TOWN
cnews@nstp.com.my

PARTI Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Bersatu) has yet to find out what transpired in the issue involving its secretary-general, Datuk Marzuki Yahya's educational background, which has come under scrutiny in recent days.

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is also Bersatu chairman, when asked to comment on the matter, said: "We haven't found out what really happened to Marzuki."

He was speaking after attending Perhimpunan Perdana Perpaduan 2019 here yesterday.

Marzuki, who is deputy foreign minister, said he would leave it to Dr Mahathir and the party leadership to decide on his position.

He said it was never his intention to give the impression that he had studied at the prestigious University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom.

"It was never my intention to use my academic qualification to confuse anyone," he said, adding that he had only taken up the degree to gain knowledge.

He said that at the time, he did not expect he would one day be part of the ruling government.

On his academic journey with Cambridge International University (CIU) in the United States, which began in 2002 and ended in 2005, Marzuki said it was a long-distance learning programme.

"I was working as the chief executive officer of my logistics and shipping company in Penang. My intention was to gain knowledge on the logistics and shipping industry. I was hoping that it would help me expand my company."

He shared a copy of his academic transcript from CIU.

The transcript, issued on May 16, 2005, showed that Marzuki was enrolled in the Bachelor of Business Administration majoring in logistics management.

It showed that he graduated with a 3.3 grade point average.

He took nine courses with a total of 45 credits.

He also shared a copy of his certificate from CIU to clarify that he had graduated from the university with the degree.

Marzuki came under fire recently over the status of his academic background as his Wikipedia page stated that he graduated from the University of Cambridge.

He later clarified that it was not the University of Cambridge in the UK, but CIU in the US.

Marzuki said anyone could have edited his Wikipedia page.

"I have never included any information about my education on Wikipedia. I did not direct anyone to do so."

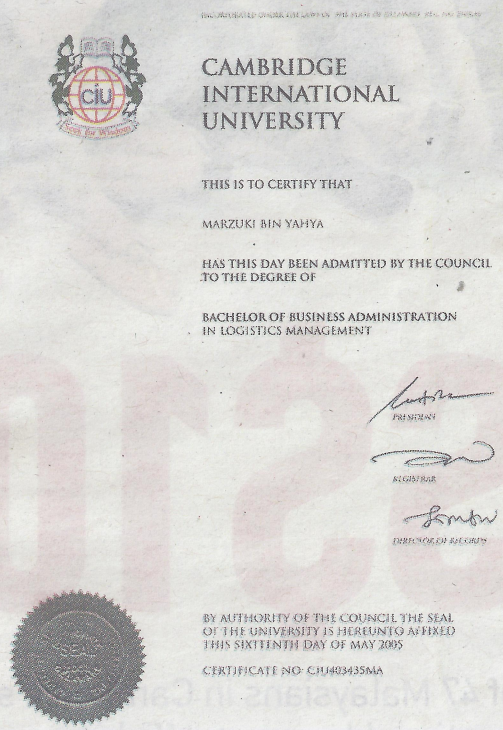
His Wikipedia page has since been edited and it no longer states that he studied at the UK university.

Following the controversy, two police reports have been lodged by political activist Muhsin Abdul Latheef.

At a separate meeting attended by all 13 Bersatu divisions in the state, Penang Bersatu secretary Azahari Aris said members were called to express their support for Marzuki's leadership.

"He (Marzuki) has displayed his leadership capability well, resulting in him being elected to a higher position. We are a political party and not a private company. When someone is interested in joining the party, we do not interview them or ask for information on their educational background.

"Similarly, in Marzuki's case, he has delivered results (in his work) and the people like him. We are here to support his leadership," he said, adding that the issue was possibly raised by detractors.



CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

MARZUKI BIN YAHYA

HAS THIS DAY BEEN ADMITTED BY THE COUNCIL TO THE DEGREE OF

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN LOGISTICS MANAGEMENT

PRESIDENT

REGISTRAR

DIRECTOR OF RECORDS

BY AUTHORITY OF THE COUNCIL THE SEAL OF THE UNIVERSITY IS HEREUNTO AFFIXED THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF MAY 2005

CERTIFICATE NO: CIU403435MA

A copy of Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Marzuki Yahya's certificate of graduation from Cambridge International University in the United States.