

Lim sues Muhyiddin over Albukhary tax statement

KUALA LUMPUR: Former finance minister Lim Guan Eng has filed a defamation suit against Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin over the latter's remarks on the revocation of Albukhary Foundation's tax exemption.

Lim, who is Bagan member of parliament (MP), filed the suit via Messr Guok Partnership at the High Court yesterday and named Muhyiddin, who is Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia president and former prime minister, as the sole defendant.

On March 9, Muhyiddin had, in a statement after being investigated by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), alleged that the Pakatan Harapan government had revoked the tax exemption for the foundation.

The Pagoh MP claimed that Lim, during his tenure as the finance minister, was the one responsible for the revocation.

The DAP chairman in his state-

ment of claim said the impugned statement was aimed at achieving cheap publicity and, at the same time, trying to deflect public attention by pushing unjustified and false claims against him.

"The contents were published in the defendant's Facebook account and were viewed by many with-comments by many readers.

"This impugned statement depicted the plaintiff had abused his position and power by instructing the Inland Revenue Board to impose tax and penalties on a welfare foundation, when such foundation is not liable to be taxed.

"The statement also depicted the plaintiff as racist, anti-Malay and anti-Islam by intentionally

targeting Yayasan Albukhary," the statement of claim said.

Lim claimed that Muhyiddin's statement also portrayed him as a vindictive person and had acted in bad faith by abusing his power.

"The publication of all the defamatory statements by the defendant have gravely injured the plaintiff's reputation as a seasoned and respected politician in this country," he said.

The statement of claim alleged that the Finance Ministry on March 23 issued a press release which confirmed that neither

Lim nor its officers had revoked the tax exemption status accorded to Yayasan Albukhary.

Lim said Muhyiddin had acted maliciously when he published the impugned statement to deflect the public attention from the fact that he had been charged with corruption, abuse of power and

money laundering.



Lim Guan Eng



Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin