

Police arrest 13 for Black 505 flashmob
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 15 - Police have arrested 13 Black 505 flashmob participants today, including a 10-year-old boy while they were demonstrating outside the Sogo shopping mall in the capital city.

Black 505 rallies have been held across the country three days after the May 5 general elections by those supporting Pakatan Rakyat (PR), which have complained of irregularities in the polls. The next major rally is next Saturday, two days before the new parliament convenes.

Dang Wangi OCPD ACP Zainuddin Ahmad said those arrested included Solidariti Anak Muda Malaysia's (SAMM) Edy Noor Reduan.

The remaining participants of the flashmob said they intend to gather at Dang Wangi police station "in solidarity" with their friends who were arrested by the police, The Star news portal reported today.

The flashmob, which is one of two meant to serve as a curtain raiser to the main rally on June 22, saw a small group of people gathering in front of Sogo Saturday afternoon.

The police were seen in discussion with participants, urging them to disperse. But the participants responded saying it was their right to gather peacefully.

The flashmob was organised by the same people behind the main rally which organisers intend to hold at Padang Merbok on June 22.

SAMM chief Badrul Hisham Shaharin said earlier this week that the activities were aimed at ensuring the biggest mobilisation of people for the Black 505 rally to protest the results of the 13th general election.

He said the first flash mob would be held along Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman near the Sogo shopping mall at 2pm today while the next one would be held at Jalan Tun Perak at 6pm on Wednesday.

"The first flash mob is a curtain raiser towards the main event on June 22, and we expect it to last until about 5pm.

"We will also have a final countdown (to the Black 505 rally) at the Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall on June 21," he said yesterday.

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