

**MH370 Chinese families plan sit-in at MAS office**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
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Family members of several Chinese passengers on board missing flight MH370 arrived in Kuala Lumpur early today threatening a sit-in protest at the Malaysia Airlines office, rejecting the declaration that the aircraft with 239 passengers and crew members was lost in an accident.

The 15 family members also expressed hope in meeting with Malaysia Airlines CEO Ahmad Jauhari Yahya and the Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) to get some answers on their rationale in declaring that the disappearance of the Boeing jetliner was due to an accident.

Wearing red and white T-shirts with the words "Pray for MH370", the group also carried placards with messages like "MH370 cry for truth. Today it's us, tomorrow it could be you" and "MH370: Who can tell us what happened? Please help us! Come back MH370".

They are also prepared to spend Chinese New Year in Malaysia unless their demands were met.

"We will try to meet with the management of MAS," said Kelly Wen, the wife of Chinese passenger Li who was on board the ill-fated flight.

"We want to know why MH370 was declared lost in an accident and on what basis was that decision made," she said at the arrival hall of the Kuala Lumpur International Airport early today.

The families, she said, also wanted an update on the investigations into MH370's disappearance as well as the Immarsat data which was used to determine that the aircraft ended its flight in the southern end of the Indian Ocean.

It is understood more Chinese family members will arrive later today to join the sit-in protest.

There are also plans to meet with Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak if they failed to meet or get satisfactory answers from MAS and DCA.

Retiree Wen Wan Cheng denounced the declaration, saying that it was "illogical".

"Despite investigations into the disappearance of the plane, we have yet to see any concrete results. We hope the authorities can probe into the missing plane again," he said.

Wen, 63, whose son Yung Sheng was on board the ill-fated flight, also blamed the

Chinese government, which he claimed was not being transparent and supportive of the next-of-kin.

After more than 10 months, Malaysia had declared that flight MH370 was lost in an accident, killing all 239 passengers and crew members on board.

The declaration was made in accordance with the Standards of Annexes 12 and 13 to the Chicago Convention, taking into account the circumstances and the available data.

Annexe 13 states that the definition of the term "accident" includes "the aircraft is missing". It also states that "an aircraft is considered to be missing when the official search has been terminated and the wreckage had not been located".

Annexe 13 states that search and rescue operations shall continue until all survivors are delivered to a place of safety or until all reasonable hope of rescuing survivors has passed.

MH370 disappeared less than an hour after departing from Kuala Lumpur to Beijing on March 8 last year. Most of with 239 people on board were Chinese nationals.

The initial search and rescue operations covered the South China Sea, Malacca Straits, Andaman Sea and southern Indian Ocean, involving 65 aircraft and 95 vessels and experts from 25 countries.

On April 28 last year, the search and rescue phase transitioned to a underwater search and recovery phase led by the Joint Agency Coordination Centre (JACC) and the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB).

No wreckage of the plane has been detected yet despite ongoing search at the southern end of the Indian Ocean, where the flight is believed to have ended. – February 12, 2015.

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