

Mara okays child porn convict to resume studies in Malaysia, says report
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The Malaysian student in London convicted for possession of child pornography will be allowed to resume his studies in any Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) institute once he returns home, mStar reported today.

Majlis Amanah Rakyat (Mara) council member, Nazir Hussin Akhtar Hussin told the Bahasa Malaysia news portal that Imperial College student Nur Fitri Azmeer Nordin, 23, should be given a "second chance" to rebuild his character.

He said Nur Fitri, who was jailed after police found more than 30,000 indecent images and videos of children being abused, was a "smart student" and could be an asset to the country.

"In unofficial discussions, council members and the Mara chairman have agreed to give him a second chance after he serves his sentence.

"We will support him in any way possible to help him rebuild his character and one way is to give him a chance to study in any Mara institution," he was quoted as saying.

Nazir added that Mara would also provide second chances to other students like Nur Fitri.

"Any individual who repents for a mistake should be given a second chance after being punished especially among gifted students who can become national assets," Nordin was quoted as saying.

Nordin also justified their decision by claiming that prison officials had reported that Nur Fitri showed good conduct.

"He is a smart student and it would be a waste not to help someone who can be an asset to the country," he said.

Mara's decision comes a day after the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development said it will consider whether to appeal to the Southwark Crown court in London to reduce the sentence imposed on Nur Fitri.

International Business Times reported that Nur Fitri was arrested during a raid at his home in Queensborough Terrace near Hyde Park on November 20 last year.

He was caught in possession of child pornography comprising 601 images and videos classified as category A, which is abuse involving penetrative sexual activity with children, as well as hundreds listed under categories B and C.

The report said that upon searching his electronic devices, the police found in excess

of 30,000 indecent images and videos of children being sexually abused.

Mara, who were reported to have sent Nur Fitri to London to further his studies last year, terminated the study loan upon his conviction on April 30. – May 5, 2015.

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