

Khalid denies WhatsApp conversation with PapaGomo
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By Muzliza Mustafa

Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar today denied that he had a WhatsApp conversation with Umno blogger Papagomo, who was detained by police over his involvement in a brawl at Low Yat Plaza 10 days ago.

"It's not true that I WhatsApped with him. Not true. I never messaged the person," he said after the launch of the auxiliary cops at I-City Shah Alam today.

The screen grab of the alleged conversation between Khalid and Papagomo, whose real name is Wan Azri Wan Deris, was posted in the Papagomo Original Facebook page.

Khalid said Wan Azri's lawyer has lodged a police report on the Facebook page where the "conversation" allegedly took place between him and Wan Azri.

"We are investigating who is the culprit," said Khalid.

A WhatsApp conversation circulated in social media alleging that Khalid had purportedly solicited a RM20,000 bribe from Papagomo who was detained by police over his involvement in a brawl at Low Yat Plaza.

Khalid told TheStar Online that investigations have started into the Papagomo Original Facebook page, where the alleged screen grab of the conversation between the blogger and Khalid to "settle the case" was posted.

Wan Azri was one of three people who were arrested under the Sedition Act following the Low Yat incident.

The blogger allegedly posted a picture of an injured Malay robbery victim on his social media, claiming he was a victim of the Low Yat Plaza brawl. Police then arrested him for allegedly fanning racial tensions.

The drama at Low Yat Plaza unfolded on July 11 when two youths visited a handphone outlet to buy a Lenovo S860 smartphone worth RM799.

The salesman who attended to them told police that the youths ran off with the phone as he turned away to get a free gift.

A chase ensued and mobile phone dealers in another shop caught the suspects and assaulted them before handing them over to the plaza's security guards, who called in the police.

One of the suspects was later released and it is believed that he returned to the plaza with his friends and attacked the store where the employees had helped detain the

suspects earlier.

The following day, some 200 people congregated at the plaza, forcing authorities to order businesses at the premises to close early.

Police cordoned off the area, but a crowd gathered again after midnight and fights broke out.

Wan Azri and Bagan Umno division chief Datuk Shaik Hussein Mydin were released a day before Hari Raya by police. Mohd Ali Baharom, better known as Ali Tinju, was charged with sedition over racially charged comments made before the brawl. He claimed trial to the charge. – July 22, 2015.

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