

**Ultras Malaya unapologetic after disrupting Malaysia-Saudi match, says report**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
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National football supporters who call themselves Ultras Malaya are not apologetic after disrupting the World Cup 2018 Asian qualifier between Malaysia and Saudi Arabia at the Shah Alam Stadium on Tuesday night, The Star reported.

The English language daily said that the group continued to remain defiant despite being censured for their actions by many, including Youth and Sports Minister Khairy Jamaluddin who said the incident had embarrassed the country.

"Sorry players. Sorry Malaysians. Sorry Saudi Arabians. But it had to be done," they posted on their official Twitter account, according to The Star.

Ultras Malaya, which has some 15,000 members nationwide, were said to have thrown flares and fireworks onto the pitch, which brought the match to a halt in the 88th minute.

Saudi Arabia were leading 2-1 at the time. There were also reports of fights breaking out between fans.

Freddie Ben, a senior of the group, said the Ultras Malaya were left with no other choice after exhausting all proper channels to voice their frustrations with the Football Association of Malaysia (FAM).

"Our protests have been going on for three years. We have gone through all the official channels. Why do people question our supporters who are tired of FAM's leadership? Who dares to challenge FAM's leadership?" he was quoted as saying.

He added that he did not understand why the fans were being blamed, saying that the focus should be on improving the sorry state of the national football team.

"We do not care what others think. They keep blaming but they never come down to the stadium to support the national team.

"I challenge them to make the same remarks in front of our supporters," The Star reported him as saying.

However, Freddie said that he had no information on whether members of the group were involved in attacking Saudi Arabian fans.

"If I had seen it, I'll admit that we did it," he was quoted as saying.

He also hit out at Khairy, asking the minister whether he felt embarrassed when Malaysia were beaten 10-0 by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in Dubai on September 3. – September 10, 2015.

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