

Two-month jail sentence sparks outrage

Former Inspector-General of Police Rahim Noor was this month sentenced to two months imprisonment and fined RM 2000 for assaulting former deputy premier Anwar Ibrahim, sparking widespread outrage and criticism. Rahim, who beat a blindfolded and handcuffed Anwar unconscious while in police detention, also had his charge reduced from causing grievous hurt to just causing hurt.

"The sentence is an outrage," said an UMNO politician who refused to be named. "Rahim performed a valuable service to our Prime Minister by beating the crap out of that trouble-making dissident. He should have been given a medal and a fistful of huge government contracts. But how do we repay his loyalty? By sentencing and fining him! What is this country coming to?!"

A senior police officer who refused to be named described the sentence as an immoral travesty of justice. "If the Inspector-General of Police himself is punished for beating a blindfolded and handcuffed detainee in the inner sanctum of Police

Headquarters, what about us ordinary police officers? Are we to be unfairly punished simply because we get our kicks beating people up in lock-ups? How can we be expected to beat up dissidents and political opponents with the threat of legal action hanging over us? How can we bludgeon demonstrators in the streets? It will be the end of law and order as we know it."

The officer added that the sentence would severely dent the effectiveness and morale of the police force. "We enjoy beating people to a pulp. We love the sight of bloody faces, gaping eye wounds, the crunch of a fractured skull. The Rahim sentence may send the wrong message that this is no longer acceptable behaviour."

In an unrelated development, dozens of demonstrators were sentenced to at least one year's imprisonment and fines of not less than RM10,000 for getting in the way of riot policemen's fists and boots in pro-Anwar demonstrations in Kuala Lumpur last year.



Anwar: This is not 'grievous hurt'



Demonstrator: This is not 'grievous hurt' either



UMNO introduces new party salute

In its efforts to strengthen the party, foster Malay unity and promote Islamic values, UMNO this month introduced a new party salute consisting of an open palm repeatedly striking a closed fist. The new salute was unveiled to thousands of stunned on-lookers by Pahang Chief Minister Adnan Yakob at the nomination centre for the Sanggang by-election.

UMNO Pahang senior official Datuk K Bhutto said that the salute – popularly referred to as the 'Adnan Hand-Job' – was

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Anwar charged with causing grievous hurt

In a surprise counter-suit, prosecutors in the Rahim Noor assault case are planning to charge former deputy premier Anwar Ibrahim with causing grievous hurt to the former Inspector-General of Police. Anwar is accused of assaulting the former Inspector General of Police in Bukit Aman Police headquarters while he was in police custody. "Anwar had viciously attacked the former IGP by punching him on the fist with his head, slapping his hands with his cheek and crushing his knee with his groin," said a prosecutor who refused to be named.

An appeal to reduce the charges from grievous hurt to just hurt was turned down. "The injuries suffered by Rahim were clearly grievous," the prosecutor said. "A medical

examination of Rahim on the night of the attack had revealed numerous bruises on his knuckles and the back of his hand. He very nearly sprained his wrist and could have temporarily lost the use of his fist – an essential tool in every policeman's profession."

The prosecutor denied that the charges are frivolous and cynical. "The charges are all absolutely true. Have we ever lied to you before about beatings in Bukit Aman Police Headquarters? Of course, the Opposition will say that Rahim was safe and sound all the while, and that he beat himself up! They are the liars."

"Decent Malaysians cannot tolerate such violence," the prosecutor. "Anwar is not above the law – he is not the Prime Minister."



Rahim: Could have lost use of his fists

Anwar is also being charged for causing grievous hurt to UMNO credibility. He gladly pleaded guilty to this charge.

A symbol of the UMNO struggle

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selected after Adnan had tested various salutes and greetings with crowds to gauge the response. "He tried the classic middle-finger up, he tried the popular red thumb squeezed between the forefinger and middle-finger, he even tried to moon the crowd that day at Sanggang. . Fortunately, nearby UMNO supporters restrained him and he could only manage to wriggle his arse."

He said that the Adnan Hand-Job will now replace the current salute UMNO members greet each other with – the upraised arm of the Nazi salute.

"This new salute is a potent, defining symbol of the UMNO struggle," Bhutto added, with tears of pride

running down his cheeks. "It clearly and proudly conveys the UMNO message: 'I am an UMNO man ... I can do anything I like and get away with it ... so F*** YOU!'"

In a related development, the Tourism Ministry may consider the 'Adnan Hand Job' as the officially approved way Malaysians greet foreign visitors to the country. A Ministry spokesman who refused to be named said that plans to have Malaysians greet visitors by placing the right hand over



the heart had run into opposition from hotels and state tourism agencies and did not catch on. "We hope millions of Malaysians will now be smacking their fists at tourists and at each other all across the country."

"And the beauty of it is that those bloody foreigners won't even know we're telling them to f*** off! Buahahahahaha!!!" he added with a maniacal cackle.

It was just a few 'friendly' punches, says Rahim aide

An aide to former Inspector General of Police Rahim Noor described the beating of former deputy premier Anwar Ibrahim as "just a few friendly punches".

According to a Royal Commission of Inquiry, Anwar was blindfolded and his hands were handcuffed behind his back when Rahim walked into the detention cell in Police Headquarters and attacked him. He started with a punch above the left eye, which caused Anwar to fall backwards on a cement slab. Dragged up on his feet again, he was punched again on the top right of the head, then on the left, more blows, a karate chop on the side of the neck, then hard strong slaps

repeatedly across his face. Rahim's defence said that Rahim was "remorseful" that he had hit "a friend whom he holds in high regard"

"He was a friend and it was just a few friendly punches," said the aide who refused to be named. "He was only human. I'm sure all of us had at one time or another handcuffed and blindfolded a close friend and beat the living daylights out of him. What's the big deal?"

He added that Rahim even had the compassion to blindfold Anwar during the beating. "He obviously wanted to spare Anwar the pain of seeing the remorse in his face as his



A remorseful Rahim at his trial

fists pounded Anwar's head.'

"I'm sure he's really, really, really sorry," he concluded. "And if you don't believe him, he's going to punch your bloody eyeballs out!"

Melaka to introduce apartheid

A group of UMNO State Assemblymen will introduce a motion to introduce apartheid to Melaka, following the State Government's move this month to blacklist doctors, lawyers, architects, contractors and banks suspected of being supporters of Opposition political parties. UMNO Assemblyman Rustam Himmmler Botha said that a group of South African consultants are being employed by the State to study other ways in which a policy of political segregation can be implemented to separate the governing UMNO population and the non-UMNO population. "We want to ensure that it becomes Melaka's governing policy to promote social, economic, and political inequalities between UMNO supporters and non-UMNO supporters," Botha explained.

The proposed apartheid laws will classify Melaka residents according to three major groups — the 'White' group of UMNO members; the 'Black' group of Opposition supporters; and the 'Coloured' group of people with



The new flag of apartheid melaka

other or no political affiliations. "These laws will determine where members of each group could live, what jobs they could hold, and what type of education they could receive," Botha explained. "We shall also prohibit social contact between groups, authorized segregated public facilities, and denied any representation of non-UMNO people in the State government. People who openly oppose these laws will be considered traitors, rioters and tools

of foreigners out to re-colonise us and be subject to grievous hurt."

Botha stressed that Melaka is a vibrant democracy and will still allow people to belong to Opposition political parties. "However, they will have to be deported to impoverished 'homelands' in the State. We will also set up separate schools, universities, even separate toilets for these Opposition niggers."

Botha said the State will also be consulting with exiled Nazi war criminals to see how it could implement what he called "the Final Solution to the Opposition question". Among some of the moves proposed include forcing Opposition party supporters to wear badges or armbands marked with a yellow star and deporting to them to ghettos in Poland. "We are also investigating new administrative innovations such as death camps for Opposition party members."

Mystery illness strikes Anwar trial

A mystery illness struck the Anwar Ibrahim sodomy trial this month, causing key witnesses to suffer severe psychological problems that prevent them from testifying in court. According to a medical doctor who refused to be named, the medical term for the condition is "Trialtestiphobia" and causes sufferers to experience "an intense, consuming and persistent fear of appearing in court to testify at the Anwar Ibrahim trial"

*Daim and Aziz:
latest victims*



The first to suffer from the strange ailment was Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, who successfully avoided making a court appearance last month. The latest to fall victim to the disease were Finance Minister Daim Zainuddin and Deputy Education Minister Abdul Aziz Shamsuddin, who this month applied to set aside subpoenas served on them to testify at the trial.

"This phobic anxiety causes the victims physiological symptoms such as a rapid, pounding heartbeat, stomach disorders, nausea, diarrhea, frequent urination, choking feelings, flushing of the face, perspiration, tremulousness, and faintness," the doctor explained. "They should avoid strenuous activities such as horse riding."

He added that sufferers are also unable to confront their fears and avoid the situation or object that causes the fear. They walk around in a daze, mumbling repeatedly "I am in no position to give any relevant or material evidence or personal knowledge of any person or persons planning to end the political career of Anwar Ibrahim."

Malaysia in 2008 Olympics bid

The Sports Ministry is confident that Malaysia's vast experience in handling major international sporting events would make it an ideal venue for the 2008 Olympic Games. This was in response a statement by Prime Minister Mohamad this month said that he hoped Kuala Lumpur will be successful in its bid to host the Games.

A Ministry spokesman who refused to be named said that the experience of the Commonwealth Games in 1998 had given them many innovative ideas. "Among the popular highlights of the Commonwealth Games that year, for example, were the massive street demonstrations that erupted in the

wake of the Anwar arrest. We hope to repeat this unique tourist experience by proposing news sports events for the Olympics such as Shooting (Water Cannon), Street Running, Tear Gas Canister Throwing, Boxing With Riot Policemen and Karate With Blindfolded and Handcuffed Opponents.

The spokesman also said special world record-breaking events were



New Olympic sport: Shooting water cannon

being planned. "For example, we hope to attempt the first-ever parachute landing on the South Pole by having a team jump from the top of the Dataran Merdeka flagpole."



Quote of the month

"We are gentle people ...we took gentle action. But if they continue to break the law, we will be more severe to them ..."
Mahathir Mohamad, March 2, 2000

FRU protest negative police image

In an emotionally charged public protest, brutal, violent Federal Reserve Unit (FRU) officers expressed frustration over the stereotyping in the independent media of riot policemen as brutal, violent psychopaths. Sparked by the recent sentencing of former police chief Rahim Noor for assault, the demonstration by some 500 FRU riot police was violently broken up by another 500 FRU riot police.

"As a brutal, violent riot policeman, I feel hurt by the negative portrayal of my profession in some of the media," Ahmad Terajang, 31, told reporters at the demonstration in Dataran Merdeka. "None of us should have to live with stereotyping and ignorance."



He then began screaming and firing tear gas into a small crowd of civilian by-standers nearby.

"It hurts that in this supposedly enlightened day and age, people still make assumptions about other people," Terajang said, as he slowly twisted the neck of a nearby pensioner. "We should not rely on simple generalizations. Each crazed riot policeman is an individual."

Another demonstrating FRU officer, A Pukulsamy, 29, said that he himself has often been unfairly stereotyped. "Any time I approach a small crowd with fully loaded tear gas guns and batons swinging, people just assume I'm going to harm them," he said. "That really hurts."

"Yes, I sometimes do crack their skulls in the name of law and order," he noted. "But there is so much more to me."



"I walk into a supermarket in full riot gear and people immediately jump to conclusions on the basis of the colour of my helmet and uniform," officer Lim Ban Tai. "We are victims of prejudice, and this can be very hurtful and frustrating," he said weeping from the tear gas.

FRU officers had last week pleaded their case and brought their grievances to human rights group SUARAM. A subsequent peaceful demo organised by SUARAM, "Freedom for the FRU Day", was violently broken up by FRU.

"People forget that we are professionals and take great pride in our work," said Ali Sepak, 32. Ali gained worldwide fame when international news agencies filmed him dragging a sixty-year old woman by the hair along Jalan TAR and beamed the pictures to every cable news channel in the world. "We have brought international recognition to Malaysia. And what do we get? Bad PR."



According to Ali, stereotypes against brutal, violent riot policemen don't work because they don't take into account the vast diversity of professional experience and variety of cultures among them. "There are so many different kinds of brutal, violent riot policemen. Each of us has our own unique reasons and motivations for beating the crap out of people. Some like the brisk exercise. Others like to see the sight of blood. I personally like to hear the gurgle in their throats as I ram my baton down their windpipes."

Pukulsamy also stressed the importance of understanding and celebrating the cultural differences



between brutal, violent riot policemen and non-brutal, non-violent civilians. "All the different peoples of the world have something special to offer each other," he said. "Our diversity is our greatest strength. Let's not make a weakness out of that strength."

To emphasize his point, Pukulsamy fired into a nearby crowd with his automatic rifle, killing nine.

"I'm proud to be a brutal, violent riot policeman, obviously," he said in between loading ammunition. "But I'm a professional first. Eat lead, you Reformasi bastards!" he declared, as he fired another clip into a passing schoolbus.