

## Senile

Written by Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah  
Sunday, 01 February 2009 00:00 -

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A band of young men from FT Pemuda and Putera claiming to represent Umno's 2,500 delegates demonstrated last week at PWTC against the MACC and against Umno's Disciplinary Board. They claimed to represent the 2,500 Umno delegates who will converge on PWTC in March.

Let me respect their view by trying to understand precisely what they were saying.

They carried placards saying "Kami Menolak Campurtangan SPRM" and "Jangan Ambil Hak Ahli UMNO." These brave young men of the party called Tengku Rithaudeen senile and the Prime Minister a coward for their roles in the Disciplinary Board and the MACC respectively.

They oppose the MACC because it infringes upon Umno members' rights. On the most generous interpretation they were saying it is the right of Umno and not of the MACC to define what constitutes corrupt and illegal behaviour. One set of laws for society, another for Umno. Alas, even within Umno, no law is to be enforced impartially since the Disciplinary Board is "senile." It has not caught up with today's Umno.

Today's Umno, as one influential blogger puts it, openly embraces corruption as a means to secure power and positions. And it's Umno's right to continue in this way without legal interference.

Knowingly or not, the demonstrators conveyed the assumption that corrupt and illegal behaviour in elections is a basic right of Umno. From there, since we hold that Umno belongs to the Malays and the Malays to Umno, we are a short step from conveying the view that such behaviour is a right of the Malays.

This is a gross insult to the community, and to the Constitutional rights Umno was founded to uphold.

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Let us not be surprised when an embarrassed Malay community says “no thank you, you don’t represent us.”

I commend the young demonstrators for stating their points unambiguously and clearly. They have done us the service of stating clearly what their leaders imply by their behaviour.

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## ***Nyanyuk***

Di PWTC minggu lalu, berdemonstrasilah segerombolan lelaki muda daripada Pemuda dan Putera WP yang mendakwa mewakili 2,500 perwakilan Umno yang akan bersidang di PWTC pada bulan Mac nanti. Tunjuk perasaan mereka adalah terhadap MACC (yakni SPRM) dan Lembaga Disiplin Umno.

Demi menghormati pandangan mereka, saya akan terlebih dahulu cuba memahami apa yang mereka laungkan sebenarnya.

Barisan sepanduk yang mereka julang tertulis “Kami Menolak Campurtangan SPRM” dan “Jangan Ambil Hak Ahli UMNO.” Kalangan pemuda berani daripada Umno ini menyanggah peranan Tengku Rithaudeen yang “nyanyuk” serta Perdana menteri yang “bacul” dalam hal tindakan Lembaga Disiplin dan MACC.

Mereka menentang MACC yang mencabul hak para anggota Umno. Hujah mereka, bukan MACC tetapi hanya Umno yang berhak menentukan apa yang tertakrif sebagai perilaku berbentuk rasuah dan haram. Jadi ada set perundangan berbeza bagi Umno satu lagi bagi masyarakat umum. Sayangnya, dalam Umno pun, sebab Lembaga Disiplin memang nyanyuk, tiada undang-undang yang dikuatkuasakan secara saksama. Namun hakikat itu tidak disedari oleh (anggota) Umno masa kini.

Seperti yang dinyatakan oleh [seorang blogger yang berpengaruh](#) , Umno masa kini secara terbuka mengharuskan cara berunsur rasuah demi pengekaluan kuasa dan jawatan. Maka tiada perundangan yang seharusnya memperkotak-katikkan hak Umno untuk meneruskan jurus dasar 'matlamat menghalalkan cara' mereka itu.

Sama ada mereka sedar atau tidak, para pendemonstrasi itu menyerlahkan pendirian betapa perilaku berbentuk rasuah dan haram dalam pilihan raya adalah hak asasi Umno. Ertinya, lantaran Umno milik orang Melayu dan Melayu kepunyaan Umno, yang diketengahkan ialah pandangan bahawa perilaku sedemikian adalah hak warga Melayu.

Umno diasaskan demi nilai murni menegakkan hak di bawah perlembagaan, jadi apa yang diketengahkan itu, teramat menghina masyarakat Melayu secara umum.

Walhasil usah hairan kelak bila masyarakat Melayu yang terasa aib itu tidak lagi mahu Umno mewakili mereka.

Saya tabik para pendemonstrasi muda yang menegaskan hujah mereka dengan sebegitu jelas. Syukurlah, mereka menyatakan dengan jelas apa para pemimpin mereka sekadar bayangkan menerusi tindak-tanduk dan perilaku mereka.