

Headline **PAS Youth ready to back Jais**
Date **06 Aug 2011**
MediaTitle **The Star**
Section **Nation**
Journalist **N/A**
Frequency **Daily**
Circ / Read **304,904 / 1,026,812**

Language **English**
Page No **6**
Article Size **171 cm²**
Color **Black/white**
ADValue **3,104**
PRValue **9,312**



PAS Youth ready to back Jais

Selangor religious department's action must be justified, says Khairul

PETALING JAYA: PAS Youth secretary Khairul Faizi Ahmad Kamil said he would support the Selangor Islamic Religious Department (Jais) if its raid on a church was justified.

However, he said Jais must provide evidence to justify its suspicion of attempts to convert Muslims.

"If Jais has accurate information, it should reveal it to the public to avoid aggravating the situation," Khairul said when asked to comment on Jais' raid on a thanksgiving dinner at the Damansara Utama Methodist Church in Petaling Jaya on Wednesday.

He said the movement would only make its official stand after scrutinising reports from Jais, the police and Selangor executive councillor Datuk Dr Hasan Ali.

"If Jais cannot publicly reveal its findings in view of religious sensitivity, we will meet the officials personally," he said, adding that the movement viewed apostasy seriously.

The Bar Council, meanwhile, said there was no law prohibiting Muslims from entering a church and being part of a Christian event even if there were prayers and singing.

Its president Lim Chee Wee said civil authorities must not allow Jais to disrespect the fundamental rights of Malaysians to gather and associate freely.

The Association for the Promotion of Human Rights (Proham) has also criticised Jais over the raid.

Its deputy chairman Prof Datuk Hamdan Adnan said the raid, which was carried out based on an unverified complaint, had caused anxiety to the guests at the social function and the Christian community.

The Malaysian AIDS Council commented there was no justification for the raid as the dinner was to raise funds for people with HIV.

"In matters that could potentially compromise the integrity of Islam, the authorities should take precautionary steps and seek cooperation from the parties involved to avoid inter-racial or religious conflicts," its president Tan Sri Mohd Zaman Khan said in a statement yesterday.