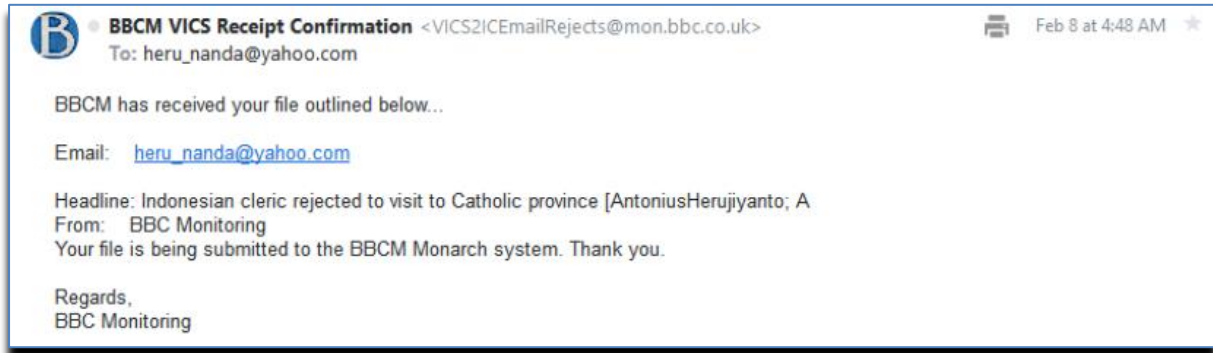


Indonesian Cleric Rejected To Visit to Catholic Province



AH08_040218

The general chairman of the Islamic Parmusi or the Indonesia Muslims Brotherhood, cleric Usamah Hisyam, has been demanded by the police of (Catholic) East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) province to cancel his visit to the province.

The demand was issued on Thursday (1 February), the day when he came to the office of the State Secretary Ministry Jakarta to deliver a protest letter issued by the United API or the Islamic Movement Activists. The letter was addressed to President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo, demanding him to sack and make General Tito Karnavian resign his post as the National Police chief.

Cleric Usamah Hisyam had been informed about the demand from the chairman of Parmusi Chapter Malaka, NTT, cleric Wahidin Maring.

According to cleric Wahidin, he has been summoned by West Malaka sub-district police chief, urging him to inform cleric Usamah to immediately cancel his visit to Malaka Barat scheduled on Friday (2 February).

Mentioning the reason of the demand, cleric Wahidin said that the Catholics in the regency had refused such a visit conducted by the general chairman of the Islamic (extremists) Parmusi.

[Many Indonesians wondered whether or not the refusal had been the spiritual and natural response to the earlier actions conducted by Muslim extremists in Banguntapan, Yogyakarta, prohibiting Catholics there carrying out their various charity initiatives for surrounding villages. The extremists accused Catholics of carrying out "covert operations" to proselytise in Muslim villages. The members of the Front Jihad Islam (FJI), insisted the Catholics to do their charity works in the parish compound, not in residential areas.]

Explaining that there were at least 5,000 Catholics refusing the visit, he said that he had made a call to cleric Usamah Hisyam, telling him about the demand made by the police in NTT.

When asked whether or not the refusal had something to do with the attitude of Parmusi to urge Jokowi to sack General Tito Karnavian, cleric Wahidin said that he had no idea about it.

He said, however, that cleric Usamah had decided to ignore the police's demand. He would fly from Jakarta to NTT together with other 16 important figures of Parmusi.

Source: ASyakira, suara-islam/read/kabar/nasional/24937/Polsek-Malaka-Barat-Minta-Ketum-Parmusi-Batalkan-Kunker-ke-Malaka, "Polsek Malaka Barat Minta Ketum Parmusi Batalkan Kunker ke Malaka (Police in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) province demand cleric Usamah Hisyam of Parmusi cancel his visit)", in Indonesian, 02 Feb18.

Broadcast Date/Time	Headline	Source	Status	Country	Word Count	Creating User	Date/Time Submitted	
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