

President Trump Might Deport Thousands of Indonesian Chinese Migrants



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Thousands of Indonesian Chinese migrants (WNI), who arrived in the US due to the 1998 Indonesian racial turmoil, have peacefully lived there for almost 20 years.

The present US President Donald Trump's administration has, however, issued an executive order (signed by President Trump on January) causing those WNI in the US feel threatened to be deported.

[President Trump's new immigration orders deal with almost all illegal immigrants in the US. The US immigration agents would now be able to deport almost all undocumented immigrants anywhere in the United States. The numbers of US immigration agents have also been increased.]

Last August, one of the WNI families (Meldy and Eva Lumangkun), the Lumangkuns, for example, happened to go to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Manchester, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire state, to meet the requirement to make a report on where they live. The ICR officers said that they would only provide them a two month visa and that was it. They told the families to leave the country within those two months.

"It is impossible for us to return to Indonesia. We are very worried about our children," Meldy was quoted as saying by Reuters on Monday (16 October).

There are more than 60 WNI living in New Hampshire State. Like the Lumangkuns, they have lived in the state for almost 20 years.

According to the spokesperson ICE, Shawn Neudauer, he is only doing his job, exercising President Trump's new immigration orders.

The Lumangkuns are only some of those 2,000 Indonesian Chinese leaving for the US known as the 1998 Indonesian exodus. They all came to the US with their tourist visa. As many of them have decided not to extend their visa, they may be considered, therefore, as having illegally lived in the country.

According to one of the US Senators, Jeanne Shaheen, during President Obama's administration, they were granted with amnesty with an obligation to report to their address to ICR regularly. However, the policy has been changed by President Trump.

Mentioning that most WNI have lived in New Hampshire and New Jersey, the Senator said that they had filed a judicial review in Boston court.

Source: k/jppn.erasmuslim/berita/trump-usir-ribuan-wni-yang-kabur-saat-kerusuhan-1998.htm#.WeWfJmiCzIU,
"Trump Usir Ribuan WNI Yang Kabur Saat Kerusuhan 1998 (Trump might deport thousands of Indonesian Chinese migrants who had moved to the country due to 1998 Indonesian racial turmoil)", in Indonesian, 17 Oct 17.