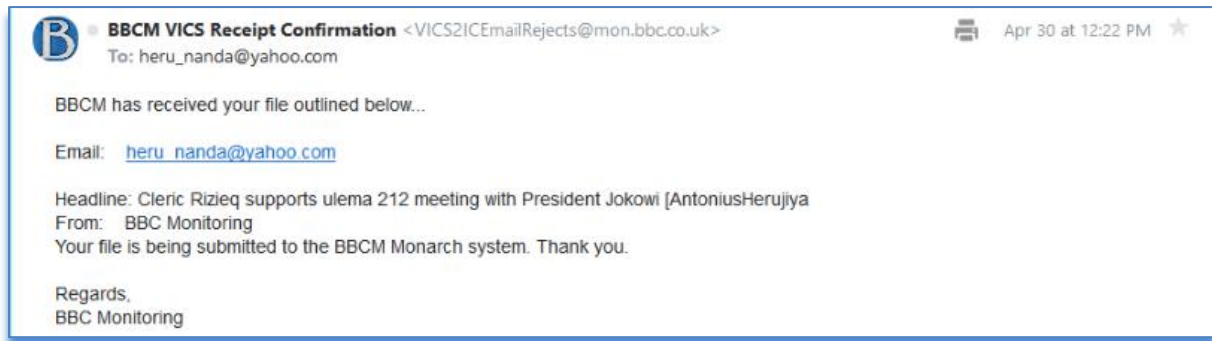


Cleric Rizieq Supports Ulema 212 Meeting with President Jokowi



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH34_260418]

The grand Indonesian Imam Habib Rizieq Syihab of FPI [the Defenders of Islam Front], who is still in Saudi Arabia [reportedly on the pretext of performing the [Haji](#)], has said some reasons for supporting ulema of Alumni 212 [represented by their Team 11] to meet President Joko “Jokowi” Widodo.

[It was reported earlier that the ulema were angry for the publication of the close meeting taking place at Bogor Presidential Palace on Sunday (22 April)].

According to cleric Rizieq, the meeting deals with the solution to the so-called criminalization against ulema and activists of 212 movement.

[Presidium Alumni 212 or a union of Islamic hardliners groups was formed after the December 2, 2016 mass protest against former Jakarta Governor Basuki “Ahok” Tjahaja Purnama. They also called the people attending the one-day “alumni”.]

In his written message dated on Thursday (26 April), he points out at least seven reasons for him to support the meeting.

To appreciate any dialogue as part of da’wah [Islamic missionary work] to solve any problems.

To implement “Amar Ma’ruf Nahi Munkar” or “forbidding what is evil” right in front of the President especially in dealing with criminalization policy.

To tell and inform the President about the true information [on the policy].

To believe that President Jokowi had received inappropriate reports [on 212 ulema]

To support the belief that President is the only one being able to stop such a policy.

To believe that it is nothing wrong for ulema and people to meet with the President.

To ensure that the publication of the close meeting will not disturb the fighting spirit of Indonesian Muslims [in establishing Sharia in the country].

Source: Adhila, [suara-islam/2018/04/26/habib-rizieq-restui-ulema-212-temui-presiden/](#), “Habib Rizieq Restui Ulama 212 Temui Presiden (Habib Rizieq supports ulema 212 meeting with President Jokowi)”, in Indonesian, 26 April 18.

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