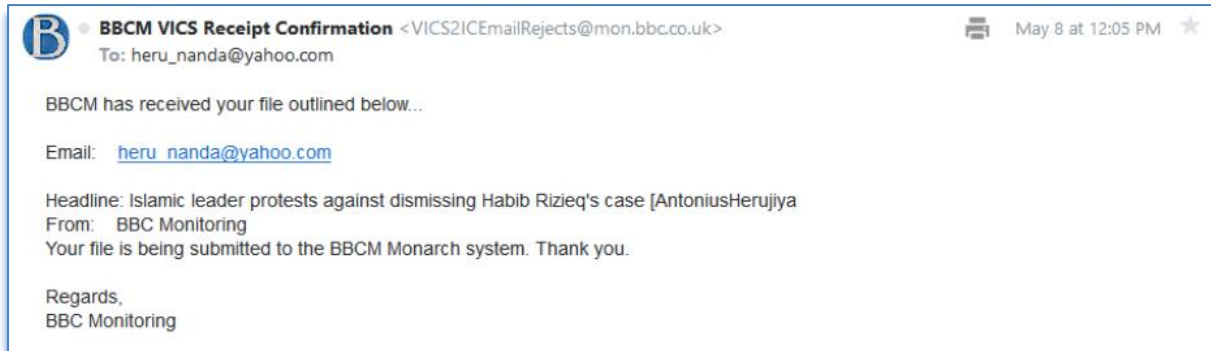


Islamic Leader Protests against Dismissing Habib Rizieq's Case



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH06_050518]

It has been almost for two months that the Indonesian police have issued investigation termination warrant or SP3 on alleged Pancasila defamation case involving the Defenders of Islam Front (FPI) Grand Imam Habib Rizieq Shihab, as suspect in jurisdiction of West Java Provincial Police. However, the people only recently heard about the decision since it was not publically announced.

In a response to such a decision, the chairman of Ansor, the youth wing of NU (the largest Islamic community organization in Indonesia), Yaqut Cholil Qoumas, strongly stated Friday (on 4 May) that he would go to Polri (the National Indonesian Force) West Java, inquiring and demanding them to provide Ansor with reasons for doing so.

[It was two years ago when Habib Rizieq delivered a sermon in West Java, saying that in Soekarno's Pancasila, god was located in the butt, whereas in the Jakarta charter of the Pancasila, god was in the head. Then, watching the video of the sermon in June 2017, Sukmawati, the daughter of Indonesia's first president and founding father Soekarno, decided to file a report to the police. Not only did she find that Rizieq's words were harsh, disrespectful and unacceptable at all, but she also believed that he violated Article 154a of the Criminal Code, which forbids insult against state symbols and is punishable by up to four years in prison.]

According to Yaqut, he wants to make sure that the investigation termination warrant or SP3 on Rizieq's case on Pancasila is not due to the intervention or oppression of outsider institutions [such as Presidium 212 or other powers including President]. Otherwise it would become a bad example and precedent in the current good efforts to enforce laws in the country. If it is the case, he promised that Ansor would take a firm action against it.

He firmly said that he would not accept if President Joko Widodo stopped or dismissed the case. The court should have been the one deciding whether or not the case worth dismissing.

In the meantime, the Director of Bareskrim or the National Police Criminal Investigation Unit West java, Grand Commissioner Umar Surya Fana, said that Police had found lack of evidences in alleged Pancasila defamation case. This is warmly welcome by Rizieq's lawyer, Sugito Atmo Pawiro. He said that the case had been dismissed, it did not meet criminal elements.

Source:

Red/Eramuslim.com, eramuslim.com/berita/nasional/yaqut-gak-rela-kasus-habib-rizieq-distop.htm#.Wu6MFZcxXIU, "Yaqut Gak Rela Kasus Habib Rizieq Distop (Yaqut strongly protests against dismissing Habib Rizieq's case in alleged Pancasila defamation)", in Indonesian, 5 May 18.

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