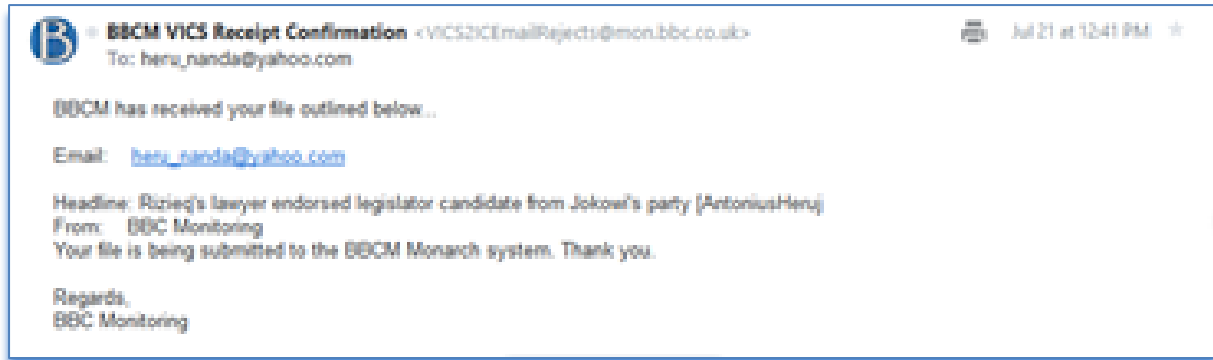


# Rizieq's Lawyer Endorsed Legislator Candidate from Jokowi's Party



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH10\_180718]

Kapitra Ampera, the activist of the 212 Alumni Brotherhood, who is also the lawyer of FPI's Great Imam Habib Rizieq Syihab, has made a comment on his being appointed as one of the hopefuls from the ruling party PDI-P [the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle] in the 2019 legislative election.

According to the secretary general of PDI-P Hasto Kristiyanto, the Islamic activist and lawyer is among the hopefuls in the 2019 legislative election.

Mentioning that the PDI-P endorsed Kapitra for the West Sumatra electoral region, Hasto said that his Party had received suggestions to improve its communication in West Sumatra province. He also said that the West Sumatrans had demanded Kapitra to be one of their representatives in DPR [the House of Representatives].

Recruiting a figure from the very province was, thus, the only option to take. Hasto further said that the figure would act as a bridge between West Sumatrans and the PDI-P.

The province of West Sumatra is known as a stronghold region of Muhammadiyah [the second-largest Islamic community organization in the country]. Jokowi's political rival, Prabowo Subianto, had scored a landslide victory in the province with almost 77 per cent of the vote during the 2014 presidential election.

In the meantime, Kapitra denied Tuesday (on 17 July) that he had earlier met with the secretary general of PDI-P Hasto Kristiyanto. He was, indeed, surprised to hear this when journalists confirmed that he was endorsed by the Party to be among the hopefuls in the 2019 legislative election.

He decided, thus, to immediately write to Rizieq Shihab, his client and a radical ulema who is known as one of Jokowi's toughest critics, asking for his response or rather permit. He explained, however, that he had not got the ulema's reply yet.

Without saying that he accepted the endorsement, he clarified that he needed consulting with many different ulema and would, soon, hold a press conference.

Kapitra Ampera denied that the endorsement (as one of PDI-P's legislator candidates) had got to do with SP3 or the dropping of the porn case against Rizieq Shihab. He said that the investigators had yet to find the owner of the now-defunct website carrying Rizieq's steamy WhatsApp conversations with a female follower (including the uploading of some nude pictures). There was no such a transaction.

[Having successfully led followers staging a rally in Jakarta on Feb. 21, 2017 (also known as the 212 movement), urging the government to resolve the blasphemy case of then-Jakarta governor Basuki "Ahok" Tjahaja Purnama and to detain him, firebrand cleric Rizieq has since become a strong political figure in the country. Most opposition leaders had come to meet him in Saudi Arabia dealing with the forthcoming elections.]

Kapitra also said that it had nothing to do with the 212 movement. It was about law enforcement. There should not be anything wrong with me including that of the so-called political party opposition. Besides most PDI-P legislators were Muslims (more than 70 percent).

He was strongly against those saying that by becoming one of the hopefuls from PDI-P in the 2019 legislative election he would automatically become an infidel and hypocritical person who was banned to enter into any mosques.

Source: [Ameera, arrahmah/2018/07/18/diberitakan-nyaleg-dari-pdip-pengacara-habib-rizieq-demi-allah-seumur-hidup-saya-enggak-pernah-ketemu-hasto/](#), "Diberitakan Nyaleg Dari PDIP, Pengacara Habib Rizieq: Demi Allah, Seumur Hidup Saya Enggak Pernah Ketemu Hasto (Habib Rizieq's lawyer, *Kapitra Ampera denied to have met with secretary general of PDI-P Hasto Kristiyanto*)", in *Indonesian*, 18 July 18.

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