



มูลนิธิศูนย์ทนายความมุสลิม
MUSLIM ATTORNEY CENTRE FOUNDATION

For immediate release on 24 April 2011

News Release

Post-Mortem Inquest on the Death of Mr. Sulaiman Naesa Death under official custody, body found hanging in the holding cell at the Reconciliation Promotion Center, Ingkhayudh Boriharn Army Camp

On Monday 25 April, at 9.00 am, the Provincial Court of Pattani shall commence the inquest trial on the death of Mr. Sulaiman Naesa in the Black Case no. Sor 14/2553 filed by the Pattani Public Prosecutor as required by Section 150 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The provision requires that the Court hears and orders as to whom the deceased is, the place, time, cause and circumstances of such a death, and if the death was caused by an act of any person since Mr. Sulaiman Naesa died while being held in custody by officials who claimed to have performed their official duties.

Nearly one year past, doubts still remain at large in society as to the cause of Mr. Sulaiman Naesa's death. He was then held in custody at the Reconciliation Promotion Center, Ingkhayudh Boriharn Army Camp, Tambon Nongchik, Borthong District, Pattani. Mr. Jaowae Naesa, father of the deceased, has lodged a complaint since he was not convinced that his son took his own life. He asked for permission from the Court to have his attorneys examine the prosecution witnesses and ask for bringing in his own witnesses for examination. He has been receiving assistance so from the Cross-Cultural Foundation (CrCF) and Foundation of the Muslim Attorney Centre (MAC) and the latter shall represent him in the Court.

On 22 May 2010, Mr. Sulaiman Naesa was arrested in his own residence by the combined forces of police and military invoking the 1914 Martial Law Act. He was then held in custody invoking the Emergency Decree on Government Administration in States of Emergency B.E. 2548 (2005) at the Reconciliation Promotion Center, Ingkhayudh Boriharn Army Camp for eight days. His relatives were denied access to him on several occasions during his being held in custody. Though, they were allowed to visit him on certain days, they could not get very close to Mr. Sulaiman. On 29 May 2010, one day prior to his death, his relatives observed during the visit among other things several abnormal conditions shown by Mr. Sulaiman including his being so exhausted, feeble, being unable to walk by himself, and tottered. Then on 30 May 2010, Mr. Sulaiman was found dead in his cell with his neck hung to the window grille. According to the Center's officials, Mr. Sulaiman took his own life by hanging himself. But his relatives were not convinced that he committed a suicide. His relatives and the petitioners simply hope that this post-mortem inquest shall help to shed light on the real cause of his death.

Update on the post-mortem inquest of Mr. Sulaiman Naesa on 25 April 2011

In the Black Case no. 14/2553 at the Provincial Court of Pattani, on 25 April 2011, the Court commenced the inquest hearing of the case in which Mr. Jaowae Naesa, father of the deceased, Mr. Sulaiman Naesa, asked to become a petitioner. No witness examination took place on the 25 April 2011 hearing. After the inquiries by the Court, the two parties mutually concurred that the deceased died during the official custody. The conflicting argument is whether the deceased took his own life or was killed. The petitioner (public prosecutor) asked to have 13 witnesses examined, and the deceased's relatives asked for having 11 witnesses examined. The first five hearings have been scheduled by the Court on 17 and 19 August and 20, 21 and 27 September 2011 and more hearings shall be later on fixed if needed.

For more information, please contact;

Mr. Anukul Awareputae, Chairperson of MAC Pattani, phone 081-8987408
Mr. Preeda Nakphew, MAC's Attorney, phone 089-6222474