



## LETTERS

- I disagree with Bar Council's decision
- We will march on Sunday
- Ethnic cleansing: Hindraf should get its language right
- No 'final solution' ethnic cleansing but...
- Indian M'sians need an ethnic renaissance
- Umno stirring up racial-religious division
- Action against protesters - why the double standards?
- I never thought of them as minorities

## NEWS

- Hindraf lobby moves from Chennai to London
- Floods force evacuation of 4,585 people
- 'A state conspiracy to lock us up'
- Defiant lawyers to march on Sunday
- Bail denial: Attempted murder accused seek review
- Bersih pushes back Tuesday rally plan
- I gave honest answers in India, says Anwar
- US panel concerned over temple demolitions

## COLUMNS

- What nuclear crisis in Iran?
- Walking out in protest
- Tangani ketidakpuasan kaum India dengan berhati-hati
- Dumno, Scumno and Chumno
- Percubaan mengheret PAS dalam isu Hindraf
- Empathy, not sympathy

## OPINIONS

- Judicial rot: From one nightmare to another?
- Indian Malaysians: A brief history of time
- Iran threat: Bush and another dangerous deceit
- Hindraf: bukan sekadar perjuangan kaum India
- Mala fide rules the day
- Living through an awakening
- Question for Gloria
- Driven to debunk ethnocracy formula

## EDITORIALS

- An incompetent, not-so-nice guy

## RELATED STORIES

- Hindraf rally: Why did

Adjust font size:  +  -

## Of that Indian I am not

Anushka Anastasia Solomon | Dec 4, 07 2:32pm

I read [Helen Ang's bold article](#) and Nathaniel Tan's [Why I will walk this Sunday](#) and thankfully cast my lot with them.

Nathaniel Tan articulated every doubt, fear and reservation I held, as a Malaysian Tamil, about this rally. He is right. Indian Malaysians are treated shamefully by the government. When a community has its back against the wall, as Helen Ang puts it, it reaches out for the megaphone. The Hindraf or Bersih rally may be an ill-conceived and desperate strategy to be heard, but I have learned that imploring justice from the Queen of England is a better strategy than asking the King of Malaysia.

Yale law professor Owen M Fiss, in his 'The Irony of Free Speech' wrote that some voices have to be lowered in order for others to be heard. He asks, "How free is the speech of someone who can't be heard?" Bravo! Malaysian Indians are beginning to rise above the traditional fear, shame, oppression and intimidation inflicted on them by the government.

Here is my poem in celebration of our efforts as Malaysians to overcome the silencing effect of Malaysian "free" speech. My poem denies "Malaysian 'free' speech" its power to intimidate, confound and thwart the aspirations and dynamically-evolving identities of underrepresented and disadvantaged voices, be it that of women or minorities.

## As of 1963 – Of That Indian I am Not

"You are not Indian, anymore!"  
 The silk sari that slid off my shoulder  
 Hissed: and history was suddenly  
 a snake in the grass, dead in pastures  
 that had wintered, eating alive in the  
*padangs* that had not. I am of those  
 green pastures my head walked  
 before my feet ever touched  
 the ground  
 but tell me if I can ever grow  
 where I am not  
 that silk sari that slid off my shoulder  
 hissed: and I reared my angry mane  
 red as my common blood  
 and danced like those dragons, shaking  
 the yellow leaves off  
 the what you now call a family tree  
 in my own private storm  
 and the streets of my Malaysia  
 talk into my head a sense of those snakes  
 who slithered  
 before those who bartered with my fathers  
 sold them an Indian who was not.

Now I watch my sari sway a hundred ways  
 And in the spittle of old women  
 maybe even on the backs of *sirih* trays  
 my eyes, round as the new moon,  
 see the stain  
 on the streets history made  
 red with the Indian I am not.

*The writer is Malaysian born author of 'Please, God, Don't Let Me Write Like A Woman', Finishing Line Press, 2007.*

## CLASSIFIEDS

## EVENTS

- "I love Valley of Hope" Carnival
- FESTIVAL OF RIGHTS 2007
- Celebration of International Human Rights Day 2007
- Amnesty International 24-hour global letter writing marathon
- Merdeka 50 years: LEFT – THEN AND NOW

## CLASSIFIEDS

- Malaysia Auction Properties
- FREE REGISTRATION !!!! WATCH LOCAL TV3 CHANNEL ONLINE NOW...
- House Call Professional Repairs
- Sales Promoter with good PR
- Delectious - \*UNLOCKED\* iPhone @ RM 2,300.00 per unit

[Submit your ads here](#)

## ADVERTISEMENT

30,000 turn up?

- Hear us, these are our grouses
- Take religion out of Hindraf
- The nation operates on two set of laws
- Umno's heydays are numbered
- Hindraf pulls wool over Indians' eyes
- We are tired of begging
- Gov't should provide land for places of worship
- Our November of discontent
- Is there justification in Hindraf rally?
- We have reached our breaking point
- Umno leaders should be charged for sedition too
- Abim tegur Hindraf, tapi tidak perwakilan Umno
- Hindraf had sent many memos 'quietly'
- Nov 25 - the day I opened my eyes
- Who are the idiots - Johari, Samy or us?
- BN leaders' reaction to Hindraf rally ridiculous
- The safety of our children is paramount
- Surat terbuka kepada Perdana Menteri



» [RELATED STORIES](#) » [BLOGGERS COMMENT](#)

**BLOGGERS COMMENT**

- Sharanya Manivannan & Anushka Anastasia Solomon « Aarvidi's Weblog



Ads by Google

- [Indian History](#)
- [Indians Women](#)
- [Indian Malaysian](#)
- [Sioux Tribe](#)
- [Sioux Culture](#)

Get essential PC software with the free [Google Pack](#).

KINIBOOKS

[More](#)

© 2007 Mkini Dotcom Sdn Bhd. All rights reserved. Please read our Terms of Use  
No. 48, Jalan Kemuja, Bangsar Utama 59000 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Tel: 03-2284 3367  
*The Malaysiakini.com is not responsible for the content of external internet sites*