

LITTLE HERO

Hearing-impaired Indonesian hailed as hero in Lombok quake by Malaysians



GPM CEO Ahmad Fahmi Mohd Samsudin (in blue vest) seen here with Taufik (in yellow shirt) at a hospital in Indonesia. (GPM pic)

Plans are afoot to make the deaf-and-mute Indonesian boy who helped save the lives of a group of Malaysians during the recent Lombok earthquake, an adopted child of Malaysia.

Malaysia's Global Peace Mission (GPM) said they will send a full report to Deputy Prime Minister Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail of the role and quick-thinking action of 12-year-old Taufik in helping the Malaysian tourists at a waterfall when the 5.8 magnitude earthquake jolted the island on March 17, 2019.

"The role of this boy in saving a large group of people is immense and we must honour him for his courage, which in turn will be an inspiration to others," said GPM's CEO Ahmad Fahmi Mohd Samsudin today.

"When GPM hailed him the 'little hero', many parties came forward to help. "News of Taufik's heroic deeds has received wide coverage in both countries. "In Indonesia, a special fund has been set up for him. We (in Malaysia) should also look into his medical needs," said Fahmi.

Last Friday (March 31, 2019), Lokman met Taufik at the Nusa Tenggara Barat district's general hospital to conduct a final assessment of his hearing disability.

Taufik was given a special hearing aid that he can use for the next six months after which he will undergo surgery for a hearing implant.

It was earlier reported that Taufik helped rescue Malaysians trapped at the Tiu Kelep Waterfall in Senaru, Lombok, when the earthquake hit.

The earthquake also triggered a landslide in which two Malaysians died. –**Malaysian National News Agency (BERNAMA), Kuala Lumpur, March 31, 2019**
