

# Terror suspect's death to be probed

**Bambang Muryanto**

THE JAKARTA POST/YOGYAKARTA

Amid reports of physical abuse, the Muhammadiyah central committee (PP) and the National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas HAM) will investigate the death of terror suspect Siyono of Klaten, Central Java, during his arrest by the National Police's Densus 88 counterterrorism unit earlier this month.

"We will arrange for an autopsy for Siyono's body to determine whether a human rights violation led to his death," Komnas HAM member Siane Indriani told *The Jakarta Post* at the Muhammadiyah office on Tuesday.

Siane accompanied Siyono's wife, Suratmi, who filed a report over her husband's death and requested legal assistance from the Muhammadiyah PP, which was represented by one of its heads, Busyro Muqodas, and Iwan Satriawan, deputy head of the justice and human rights council.

"We will be assisted by five forensics experts from Yogyakarta Mu-

hammadiyah University (UMY) for the autopsy," said Siane.

Siyono, from Brengkungan village, Klaten regency, was arrested by Densus 88 members on March 8. He was allegedly killed on March 10 during an arrest by Densus 88, and buried on March 13.

The National Police said Siyono, who police claim was the commander of Neo Jamaah Islamiyah, died after an encounter with an Densus 88 member who asked where he was hiding his weapons.

Busyro said that he regretted the actions of Densus 88 that led to Siyono's death, adding that he did not believe that the pint-sized Siyono dared to resist arrest.

"Even if he resisted arrest, he could be overpowered and there was no need to kill him. We regret that the methods commonly used during the New Order are still being used," said Busyro.

He also called on President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo and his Cabinet ministers to be transparent and form an independent team to evaluate the

- » Muhammadiyah, Komnas HAM, police to investigate Siyono's death
- » Family receives cash, believed to be given by police
- » Siyono said to be commander of Neo Jamaah Islamiyah

National Counterterrorism Agency (BNPT) and Densus 88.

"Siyono's death concerns humanity and has nothing to do with a particular religion," he said.

During the meeting, Suratmi, who came with her three children, also entrusted two bundles of neatly packed cash, believed to be given by the police, to Busyro.

She said that the bundles of cash further convinced her that her husband's death was unnatural. The money was given by two women who were not in uniform, named

Ayu and Lastri, who met her when she was picking up her husband's body in Jakarta.

"They said a bundle of the money was for funeral expenses and the other for my children. However, the cash provision has instead further caused anxiety," she said.

After giving the money, a woman, who claimed to be Ayu, also repeatedly asked her to accept her husband's death and not take legal measures, Suratmi said.

Following her husband's death, she claimed that she was approached by officers, believed to be Densus 88 members, at her home in Klaten. They arrived in a black car.

Separately, National Police chief Gen. Badrodin Haiti has also ordered the force's Internal Affairs Division (Propam) to investigate Siyono's death.

He said there might have been violations but declined to comment further, saying that he would wait for Propam to conclude its investigation into Siyono's death.