

= Murphy Pakiam =

Tan Sri Datuk Murphy Nicholas Xavier Pakiam (born 6 December 1938) is the third metropolitan archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kuala Lumpur , Malaysia .

Pakiam was born in Tapah , Perak and was ordained into the priesthood on 10 May 1964 . He was appointed metropolitan archbishop of Kuala Lumpur on 24 May 2003 , and was installed five days later . Pakiam is the former president of the Catholic Bishops ' Conference of Malaysia , Singapore and Brunei ; and the publisher of the Catholic weekly newspaper , The Herald .

In 2007 , Pakiam filed for a judicial review after The Herald was ordered to stop using the Arabic word " Allah " in its publication by the Malaysian government . In 2009 , the High Court overturned the government 's ban of the word . In 2010 , he accepted the public apology of Al @-@ Islam magazine , which had sent two reporters to a Catholic church the year before , where they desecrated the Eucharist .

= = Background = =

Pakiam was born in Tapah , Perak , on the feast day of the popular saint of children , St. Nicholas . Educated at the Sultan Yusuf School in Batu Gajah , he entered the minor seminary in 1955 and started his priestly formation at the College General in Penang three years later . Pakiam was ordained a priest on 10 May 1964 , and served as assistant priest at the Church of St. Louis , Taiping . The following year , he was posted to the Church of St. Francis Xavier in Penang and became the Parish Priest of the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes , Silibin , Ipoh from 1970 ? 72 .

Pakiam completed his studies for a Masters in Moral Theology (Ethics) at the Lateran University in Rome in 1974 , and upon his return to Malaysia , became a lecturer at Penang 's College General . In 1978 , he was appointed Rector of the College General and served two terms . In 1989 , he received his Masters in Guidance and Counselling from the De La Salle University , Manila , Philippines . He then served as Parish Priest of the Church of the Nativity in Butterworth from 1989 ? 95 .

He was appointed as the auxiliary bishop of Kuala Lumpur and titular bishop of Chunavia on 1 April 1995 , and ordained titular bishop of Chunavia , Epirus Nova , known as an Episcopal Ordination , on 4 October 1995 at the College General in Penang .

On 24 May 2003 , Pakiam succeeded Anthony Soter Fernandez , who resigned due to poor health , as metropolitan archbishop of Kuala Lumpur . His installation took place five days later , on 29 May 2003 . His principal consecrator was Archbishop Anthony Fernandez and principal co @-@ consecrators were Bishop James Chan Soon Cheong and Bishop Anthony Selvanayagam . He was the president of the Catholic Bishops ' Conference of Malaysia , Singapore and Brunei .

On 13 December 2013 , the Pope accepted the resignation of Archbishop Pakiam upon his 75th birthday . In practice , the Bishop of Rome may decide to immediately accept the resignation letter , or keep the bishop in service until a successor is chosen . The Pope decided to accept Archbishop Pakiam 's resignation as soon as he received it even though his successor , Archbishop Julian Leow Beng Kim , was only appointed on 3 July 2014 .

= = Coat of arms = =

Hat & Tassels : Symbols of an Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church. Cross on yellow background : Symbol of Jesus , the Light of the world. Blue wavy lines : Symbol of the Holy Spirit , the river of Living Waters. Chalice & Host : The Sacraments of the Church. Bible : The Word of God. The letter ' M ' : Mary , Mother of the Church , representing all the saints. Keys : Symbol of the Apostolic authority in the Church. Green background : Symbolises the new life obtained through the Mercy and Peace of God .

= = Allah judicial review = =

By virtue of his position as archbishop of Kuala Lumpur , Pakiam is the publisher of The Herald , a weekly Catholic newspaper . In 2007 , The Herald and Pakiam , as its publisher , filed for a judicial review after it was ordered to stop using the Arabic word " Allah " in its publication by the Malaysian Ministry of Home Affairs . Malaysia 's home minister has the power to impose prohibition as a condition under the Printing Presses and Publication Act of 1984 . In the case of The Herald , Home Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar prohibited the usage of the word " Allah " on the grounds of national security and to avoid misunderstanding and confusion among Muslims .

On 31 December 2009 , the High Court overturned the government ban on the use of the word " Allah " by The Herald . Justice Lau Bee Lan quashed the Home Minister 's prohibition against The Herald to use the word " Allah " , declaring the order as " illegal , null and void " . She declared that under Article 3 (1) of the Federal Constitution , applicant Archbishop Tan Sri Pakiam had the constitutional right to use " Allah " in The Herald in the exercise of his right that religions other than Islam might be practised in peace and harmony in the country .

= = Al @-@ Islam magazine = =

In 2009 , two Muslim reporters from Al @-@ Islam , a small Malaysian magazine , participated in a Catholic Mass and received Holy Communion , which they then spat out and photographed . The resulting photo was then published in their May 2009 edition . The magazine , which is owned by Utusan Karya , part of the Utusan Malaysia Group , sent its reporters including one Muhd Ridwan Abdul Jalil , to two churches in the Klang Valley , as part of a special investigative report . The act of desecration occurred at St Anthony 's Church in Jalan Robertson , Kuala Lumpur .

Pakiam , the Catholic Lawyers Society , as well as numerous editorials in the media , criticised the Attorney @-@ General for its failure to take any action on the desecration .

Nine months later , in March 2010 , Al @-@ Islam published an apology to the Roman Catholic Church and Christians for the article . The public apology was posted on the website of its publisher . Pakiam accepted the apology and said that no further legal action would be taken against the magazine or its publishers .

= = Honours = =

In 2005 , the King of Malaysia , the Yang di @-@ Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin , made Pakiam a Member of the Order for Important Services or " Panglima Jasa Negara " (PJN) , which carries the title " Datuk " . In 2008 , the Yang di @-@ Pertuan Agong Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin made him Commander of the Order of Loyalty to the Crown of Malaysia , or Panglima Setia Mahkota (PSM) , which allows the recipients to use the title " Tan Sri " . This title is the second most senior federal title in Malaysia , and there may only be up to a maximum of 250 living PSM holders at any time .