

Wednesday, 20 April 2016, 11:38 AM

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Cabbies must look deep within themselves

20 APRIL 2016 @ 11:01 AM

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WHEN a group of people leaves its fate in the hands of others, it may discover that the world can be a cruel place.

When that same group believes that it can continue to rule with its thuggish behaviour and not expect retaliation, it may realise that it is sadly mistaken.

Initially, I wanted to sit back and watch the developments. But when the fiasco with the taxi drivers became more and more ridiculous, I had to say my piece.

Like many others, I've had my share of stories dealing with taxi drivers.

Who has not experienced taxi drivers who refuse to stop just because it's not convenient for them, or refused to use the meter because it's peak hours, and are far more interested in foreigners?

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So much so that when I decide not to drive and find I am either in Bukit Bintang or the KLCC area, I am resigned to the fate that I may not get home as most taxis want to ferry only foreigners.

Therefore, when an app to hail taxis was introduced, I welcomed this with open arms. Now, at least, I could get a ride home.

But I have reservations about getting into other people's cars, no matter how self-regulated they are.

While I am by no means puny, I have watched too many movies where unmentionable acts can just happen. So I stayed clear from these apps or ridesharing services.

The apps are the source of taxi drivers' consternation. Why? Because they can no longer get their "bonus", especially from foreigners.

Hence, when I read that the areas where they protested were in Bukit Bintang and KLCC, I was not surprised.

In their frenzy to take advantage of commuters, they failed to realise that changes have happened. Now the public has alternatives.

The ridesharing apps did not just happen. The public just got fed-up. The taxi drivers have to look deep within themselves.

What has happened is that their infamy is now known to millions of people.

Their misbehaviour was making visitors to our shores wary of using taxi services.

People know what they are up to and know what to look out for.

And taxi drivers cannot do anything about it.

They can protest all they want but if they continue with their behaviour, I am then forced to jump into a stranger's car.

They want changes?

Change themselves.

They want regulation?

Regulate themselves first.

Rebuild the trust with us, your customers.

This is the 21st century. We now have choices. You decide. Don't blame others.

MEGAT SHAH RIZAL NOOR IKHSAN, Kuala Lumpur

4 reads

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Mueller double puts Bayern in German Cup final (/news/2016/04/140293/mueller-double-puts-bayern-german-cup-final)

MUNICH: Bayern Munich took a step towards winning the treble as Thomas Mueller netted twice in Tuesday's 2-0 semi-final win over Werder Bremen to reach the German Cup final.

Napoli thrashes Bologna 6-0 to make Juve wait (/news/2016/04/140288/napoli-thrashes-bologna-6-0-make-juve-wait)

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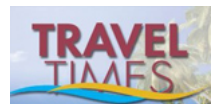
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(http://www.nst.com.my/news/2016/04/140884/nanny-who-beheaded-russian-child-says-it-was-revenge-putins-syria-strikes)



Bernama India correspondent dies
(http://www.nst.com.my/news/2016/04/140884/bernama-india-correspondent-dies)



Penang is not 'Penang' any more
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Louis Vuitton fried chicken owner
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NEW YORK: A small chocolate milk company wanted publicity touting the purported ability of its drink to help high school athletes recover from concussions to coincide with the Will Smith movie "Concussion," according to emails obtained by The Associated Press.

Uber experiments with cash payments services for KL (/news/2016/04/140268/uber-experiments-cash-payments-services-kl)

Bolshoi dreams: tradition reigns at Russian ballet school (/news/2016/04/140175/bolshoi-dreams-tradition-reigns-russian-ballet-school)

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Angaska calls on cooperatives to reach for the skies (/news/2016/04/140331/angaska-calls-cooperatives-reach-skies)

KUALA TERENGGANU: Cooperatives have been called upon to reach for the skies and become mega players to boost the country's economy.

Used branded baby clothes (/news/2016/04/140309/used-branded-baby-clothes)

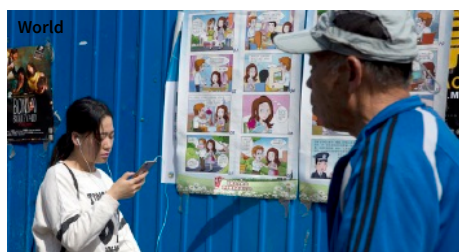
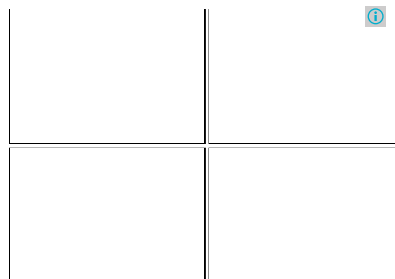
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• To pronounce correctly
• To write reader-centric letters

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China warns of foreign spies with 'Dangerous Love'
 (/news/2016/04/140305/china-warns-foreign-spies-dangerous-love)

BEIJING: China is marking National Security Education Day with a poster warning young female government workers about dating handsome foreigners, who could turn out to have secret agendas.

30 years on, Russia's Chernobyl victims say they have been abandoned
 (/news/2016/04/140301/30-years-russias-chernobyl-victims-say-they-have-been-abandoned)

Utah calls pornography public health crisis
 (/news/2016/04/140297/utah-calls-pornography-public-health-crisis)

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Business



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Mueller stepping down in Sept
 (/news/2016/04/140329/mueller-stepping-down-sept)

KUALA LUMPUR: Christoph Mueller will step down as Malaysia Airlines Bhd (MAB) chief executive officer (CEO) and managing director in September.

RM opens at 3.85 against USD
 (/news/2016/04/140290/rm-opens-385-against-usd)

Msia Airlines CEO Mueller to vacate position in September: Khazanah
 (/news/2016/04/140240/msia-airlines-ceo-mueller-vacate-position-september-khazanah)

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