

# When Chef Wan met Uncle Roger

Comedian gets roasted by celebrity chef, serving up a feast of laughter

**PETALING JAYA:** Having roasted Western celebrity chefs over how they cooked fried rice, Uncle Roger found himself on the receiving end of some schooling by fellow Malaysian Datuk Redzuawan Ismail, better known as Chef Wan.

Uncle Roger, the alter ego of London-based Malaysian standup Nigel Ng, was put on the spot when he was challenged to prepare Lamb Shank Kerutup at Chef Wan's restaurant in Kuala Lumpur.

Speaking in "manglish" as befitting Uncle Roger's persona, the duo served up a "comic sensation" in a video posted on Ng's Facebook page yesterday.

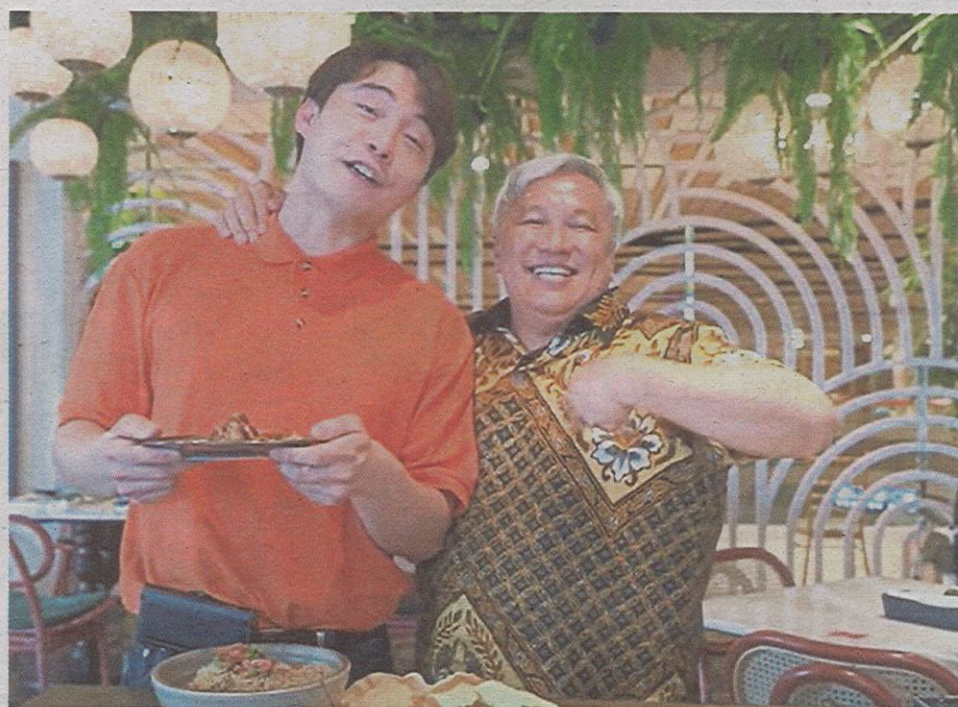
Although Ng started off on good footing by identifying aromatics like pandan, cinnamon and star anise, he could not identify cardamom and cloves, prompting Chef Wan to retort:

"All don't know. How to cook like that, don't know."

"Your hand must be very fast, just like your mouth."

When the comedian mistook galangal for ginger, the chef needed him: "Galangal and ginger, you don't know? How you want to be a chef?"

In his defence, Ng, who has a podcast on Asian culture called *Rice to Meet You*, said he was not trying to



**A 'fuiyoh' feast:** Ng, also known as Uncle Roger, and Chef Wan trying the lamb shank kerutup.

be a chef but just a comedian before failing to identify lemongrass.

"Everything smell like ginger to Uncle Roger," quipped Ng, whose scathing review of the egg fried rice video by BBC Food presenter Hersha Patel first earned him mil-

lions of views and fans on social media.

In the video entitled *Uncle Roger Disgusted By This Egg Fried Rice*, Ng expressed mock horror as Patel drained the cooked rice with a colander and then rinsed this with

running tap water, using his famous "Haiyaa!" (to express disappointment).

"I see (for) Uncle Roger, everything tastes like fried rice, fried rice, fried rice," said Chef Wan before Ng again failed to identify

fennel, calling it "Chinese medicine".

When Ng asked why there were so many steps to cooking the dish as there were "only three steps" to egg fried rice, Chef Wan said: "Hurry up, because when you are talking, see all burning. Mind here, okay."

Declaring that a great chef "does not measure the ingredients but just throws these into the cooking", Chef Wan said: "We boil all our lamb and you just throw inside, like that. See that, very easy."

Asked where his MSG (monosodium glutamate) - Uncle Roger's confessedly "favourite ingredient" - was, Chef Wan said that was not Chinese cooking.

"Everything is a pinch of this, a pinch of that. That's professional cooking. This not like fried rice."

"See, it is more difficult to do Malay food than your fried rice," he said, warning Ng not to get his sweat into the food.

During the tasting session, which came after three hours of cooking, Ng managed to get a dig at Chef Wan, remarking: "This is the only good thing you have in your restaurant."

Asked by Chef Wan why there were daily queues then at his restaurant, he said: "Uncle Roger come here, I just walk in. No queue at all."

## Vaccine protection scheme must be transparent

By CLARISSA CHUNG  
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**PETALING JAYA:** The special protection scheme for Covid-19 vaccine side effects must clearly set out key details such as eligibility criteria and the timeframe for greater transparency, say legal experts.

Lawyer Charlaïne Chin, who specialises in medico-legal cases, said the eligibility criteria should include whether this would be open to all people under the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme or only for a selected portion.

"There should also be clear guidelines on the side effects and the severity that are covered under the scheme. This is to ensure that the same yardstick is applicable across the board," she said.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin had said that details of the plan would be announced tomorrow.

Health experts have been giving reassurances that it is rare for indi-

**"The scheme should also be easily accessible to all to ensure that nobody misses out."**

Charlaïne Chin

viduals to suffer from severe side effects.

Citing the example of Singapore's Vaccine Injury Financial Assistance Programme for Covid-19, Chin said individuals eligible for the scheme were those who had a side effect that was "potentially life-threatening or fatal and had required in-patient hospitalisation, or had caused persistent incapacity or disability".

"The scheme should also be easily accessible to all to ensure that those

who live in rural areas, the illiterate, and those who may not have access to mainstream or social media do not miss out.

"Thought also ought to be given to the timeframe for making an application under the scheme," she said, adding the issues she had brought up were not exhaustive.

Another lawyer, Hazeeg Fadzli, called on the government to define what would constitute "serious side effects" that might arise from receiving the Covid-19 vaccine.

"For instance, would the term only cover side effects that are life-threatening or would it also include those resulting in incapacitation that reduces a person's quality of life?" he said.

The amount of compensation, said Hazeeg, should also be discussed as to whether this would be the same across the board or vary on a case-to-case basis.

"If it's the latter, perhaps a tribunal or committee should be formed to evaluate each and every application to ensure a fair amount of compensation is awarded."

"Subsequently, if the application is approved and compensation is awarded, would these individuals be barred from claiming any further compensation from the courts?" he said.

The limitation period to claim such compensation, he added, must also be deliberated.

Malaysian Society of Allergy and Immunology president Prof Dr Baharudin Abdullah said most vaccine-associated adverse reactions were not life-threatening.

"As with other vaccines, there will always be susceptible individuals who are allergic to the active ingredients following the administration, but the numbers are small."

"One of the considerations in undertaking any treatment is by profiling the 'risk versus benefit' comparison. When the benefit outweighs the risk, the treatment is justifiable," he said.

For the special protection scheme, he said, as everyone must be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity, its coverage must be extended to non-Malaysians as well.

## 'RM10,000 for all MCO categories'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The RM10,000 compound under the Emergency (Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases) (Amendment) Ordinance 2021 applies to all categories of the movement control order, says Senior Minister (Security) Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

This means those in MCO, conditional MCO and recovery MCO areas could be issued a compound of RM10,000 if they violated the SOP.

"But (the public) should understand, the police action (issuing the compound) is based on the Emergency Ordinance and it is for the safety of the public," he said at the groundbreaking ceremony for the One Member One House project at Satria Residensi, Sungai Besi.

He reiterated that the police did not have the power to reduce the amount of the compound. Those who received it could appeal to the district health office. — Bernama

## 'Community leaders, influencers can help drive vaccinations'

**PETALING JAYA:** Community and business leaders, or even social media influencers, have a role to play in encouraging Malaysians to register for the Covid-19 vaccine, says the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA).

Its president Datuk Dr Subramaniam Muniandy said the MMA was concerned over the slow pace at which Malaysians were registering for the vaccine, adding that this could result in the country not meeting its target of inoculating 80% of the population in time.

"At the rate we are going, we may not reach the target of vaccinating 80% of the population, even by the

first quarter of 2022.

"We should aim to complete inoculating the population as early as possible and by this year," he said in a statement yesterday.

Leaders of religious groups, business communities and professional associations, as well as village heads and even social influencers, said Dr Subramaniam, had a role to play in increasing registrations for the vaccine.

They should do their part to encourage their communities or networks to register early, he added.

Dr Subramaniam said while there was some hesitation, there was sufficient evidence to show

that the vaccines were safe.

"Before any vaccine is approved for use in the country, it has to go through stringent checks by our National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency, with the highest priority given to efficacy and safety."

"Only with the NPRA's approval can the vaccines be brought in for use," he said, adding that any side effect from the vaccine was known to be mild while the serious ones were rare.

He also encouraged older people and those with comorbidities to register now as vaccinations for these groups were expected to begin in April under the second

phase of the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme.

Dr Subramaniam also reassured those with allergies to any of the components in the vaccine that there might be other safer vaccine options.

The world, he added, had waited for over a year for a solution to the pandemic and he urged the public to register as quickly as possible as getting vaccinated would also protect the unvaccinated.

"The benefits far outweigh the risks. Therefore, people should not hesitate to register and get their loved ones registered as well," he said.

He said the sooner the population

was inoculated, the sooner the country could recover from the impact of the pandemic as businesses would be able to operate confidently without disruptions.

"Several countries are also in talks about allowing international travel for vaccinated travellers. Those who need to travel or enjoy travelling should get themselves ready now by registering for the jab," he said.

The Special Committee on Ensuring Access to Covid-19 Vaccine Supply reported that as of yesterday, 5,355,970 people or 22% of those eligible for the vaccine had registered for it.