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Karpal using Anwar's sodomy trial to gain political mileage

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I READ with great regret the statement made by DAP vice-chairman Karpal Singh in court on Friday during the sodomy trial of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim. It is definitely an act of "kurang ajar".

To accuse the Prime Minister of "practically telling the judge you can go to hell" and that Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad "is not afraid of anything including God" is most unbecoming of a very rich senior lawyer and politician, who has personally benefited immensely in a stable and economically prosperous Malaysia. The Prime Minister indeed never made such comments or any statement implying the same.

Karpal is an unethical lawyer. He is using the courts as a platform to promote his political agenda and propaganda, knowing very well that statements made in court will not attract legal suits. He is using Anwar's sodomy trial to gain political mileage.

Karpal is a very rich lawyer owning many bungalows and buildings in Malaysia and elsewhere, including Thailand from where his wife hails.

I would like to remind Karpal that his wealth is made possible only because of a prosperous Malaysia and the able leadership of the Prime Minister.

In accusing the Prime Minister of "not being afraid of God", Karpal is in actual fact stating that the Prime Minister is an apostate. This is a serious accusation against a Muslim by a non-Muslim. Karpal is, therefore, extremely atrocious and grossly irresponsible. Karpal is "kurang ajar".

I am told that Karpal hardly serves the people in his constituency. Obviously he cannot dedicate any time for the constituency because he is only interested in his legal profession. On the other hand, he deceives the public by portraying himself as a perfect man of the people.

Karpal is merely making use of Anwar politically to increase his popularity and in the process getting richer and well-known. He is obviously paid a hefty fee to "represent" Anwar. Karpal's statement is made solely for his own political gain.

Karpal is able to practise his political and legal antics in Malaysia because of Dr Mahathir's tolerant and democratic style of Government.

Karpal has successfully manipulated the Malaysian political and legal system to become very rich and famous and yet he portrays an image of a poor opposition politician championing the cause of the "weak and downtrodden and alleged victims of injustice and conspiracies".

Karpal could not have achieved his current rich and famous status in a Government that was less tolerant and egalitarian.

Another of Karpal's desperate political antics is the claim of arsenic poisoning of Anwar.

This untrue and unfounded allegation resulted in demonstrations and riots causing damage to innocent people's properties. Furthermore, the allegation was ingeniously timed to coincide with the Commonwealth Law Conference and the Apec Summit to boost his political fame at the expense of the country's image.

This is the kind of irresponsible politician we have in Malaysia who would risk stability and peace in the country for his own political benefit.

I urge the Attorney-General to study Karpal's antics over the arsenic poisoning claim and consider charging him for his despicable actions. The Bar Council also should act against this lawyer.

