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Court fixes June 5 to hear Anwar's appeal

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The Court of Appeal has fixed June 5 to hear Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's appeal against the High Court's decision rejecting the defence application to call Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as its witness.

Parties were informed of the date yesterday, said Anwar's lawyer Sankaran Nair when he was contacted today.

Anwar and his adopted brother Sukma Darmawan Sasmitaat Madja are on trial for sodomising former driver Azizan Abu Bakar in 1993.

The case was postponed pending the disposal of the appeal against judge Datuk Arifin Jaka's April 21 ruling that Dr Mahathir's intended evidence would be irrelevant.

The defence filed its grounds of appeal yesterday, giving 11 reasons why the appeal should be allowed, including one which stated that the judge was wrong in setting aside the subpoena issued on Dr Mahathir when he (the PM) had not applied to set it aside.

(END)