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Libel suit: Court to hear Anwar's appeal today

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - The Court of Appeal will hear tomorrow an appeal by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim against the striking out of his RM100 million libel suit against Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The court, in mentioning the appeal today, fixed hearing for tomorrow following an application by lawyer M. Manoharan who said Anwar's counsel Karpal Singh had another matter to look into today.

Anwar's suit was struck out by the High Court on Aug 30, last year, as a preliminary issue without going for a full trial.

Judge Datuk R.K. Nathan, who awarded costs to Dr Mahathir, had ruled that Anwar's claim was "obviously unsustainable".

Anwar filed his suit on Jan 25, last year, claiming, among others, that Dr Mahathir had, on Sept 22, 1998, "falsely and maliciously" spoken to reporters accusing him of committing immoral acts.

He said the words were defamatory in their ordinary meaning and in the context they were spoken.

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