

14 MAY 2004
Court-Anwar
ANWAR'S SODOMY APPEAL CONTINUES ON WEDNESDAY

PUTRAJAYA, May 14 (Bernama) -- The Federal Court will continue to hear the appeals by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and his adopted brother, Sukma Darmawan Sasmitaat Madja, against conviction and sentence in the sodomy case on Wednesday.

Federal Court judge Datuk Abdul Hamid Mohamed, who sat with justice Datin Paduka Rahmah Hussain and Court of Appeal judge Tengku Datuk Baharuddin Shah Tengku Mahmud, fixed the date after counsel Gobind Singh Deo, who appeared for Sukma Darmawan, completed his submission.

On Wednesday, the prosecution team led by Attorney-General Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail will reply to the defence and present their submission.

Anwar and Sukma Darmawan are appealing against their convictions and sentences passed by the High Court on Aug 8, 2000.

Anwar was sentenced to nine years' jail and Sukma Darmawan, six years and four strokes of the rotan.

They were found guilty of sodomising Azizan Abu Bakar, former driver of Anwar's wife, at Sukma Darmawan's apartment in Tivoli Villa, Bangsar, here, at 7.45pm between January and March 1993.

On Jan 21, the Court of Appeal rejected Anwar and Sukma Darmawan Sasmitaat Madja's application to review its decision on April 18 last year to turn down their appeals against conviction and sentence after they were found guilty in the sodomy case.

On the same day, the Court of Appeal rejected their application for bail and a stay of execution pending appeal to the Federal Court.

Anwar is currently serving the sentence for sodomy after he completed his six-year jail term for four counts of corruption.

He was sacked on Sept 2, 1998, by the then Prime Minister, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who described him as "morally unfit" to hold the position of deputy prime minister.

-- BERNAMA

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