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Decision on bid to strike out RM100m suit fixed for April 28

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - The High Court today fixed April 28 to decide on an application by Sun Media Corporation Sdn Bhd to strike out a RM100 million libel suit filed against the company by Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Senior Assistant Registrar K. Rajeswari fixed the date in chambers.

The suit against the Sun Media Corporation filed by Anwar on Jan 26, 1999, was for publishing an article headlined "Anwar's behaviour despicable: PM", based on a Press conference given by the then Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in The Sun newspaper on Sept 23, 1998.

In its statement of defence, Sun Media cited qualified privilege in admittedly publishing the words Anwar found contentious.

Sun Media said it was the legal, moral and social duty of the defendant to publish the Prime Minister's words.