

Nurul Izzah auctions guitar for PKR division
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Lembah Pantai parliamentarian Nurul Izzah Anwar showed off her musical skills to raise funds for her party division, before putting to auction a guitar she received 13 years ago from her father, PKR de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim.

"I received the guitar for my 8 'A's in SPM. It is one the very few gifts I received from my father.

"He seldom gave us things, other than shampoo bottles from the hotels he stayed at," said the 30-year-old politician to laughter from about 500 who attended the fundraising dinner in Bangsar, Kuala Lumpur last night.

The Alvarez acoustic guitar garnered RM12,000 from a bidder who preferred to remain anonymous.

Prior to parting with her treasured guitar, Nurul Izzah entertained the audience by strumming a number from her favourite band Radiohead.

She also gave heartfelt thanks to her constituents for allowing her to serve Lembah Pantai over the past three years.

DAP Petaling Jaya Utara parliamentarian Tony Pua told the crowd that the guitar will be worth much more than RM13,000 in the future, because "if Anwar is not able to do so, Nurul Izzah has 30 years to become your prime minister."

Other items auctioned off included a caricature by political cartoonist Zunar, depicting a large woman riding on the shoulders of a smaller man, with the caption 'The Exorcism of Emily Rose-mah', that bagged RM2,000.

RPK's cap raises RM1,000

Another gentleman, who also declined to be named, parted with RM1,000 for a cap belonging to controversial blogger Raja Petra Kamaruddin.

Raja Petra also 'addressed' the audience from the UK through live Internet streaming, telling Pakatan Rakyat that the "third force" is the rakyat that the coalition is not listening to enough.

Proving to be a bit of a downer, he answered a question from PKR Sabah's Christina Liew by saying, "Pakatan Sabah is in a mess, in particular PKR. You should stop biting each other if you want to stop Barisan. I expect a lot of three or even four-cornered fights in Sabah."

Also giving his frank views was veteran activist Hishamuddin Rais, who got the mostly upper-middle class audience both in stitches and hot under the collar by remarking that coming for dinner was probably the most the "now awoken" middle class would do for political change in the country.

PAS Kuala Selangor parliamentarian Dzulkefly Ahmad also spoke off the cuff on the topic of '24 hours after Pakatan Rakyat wins the 13th general election', to the delight of the audience.

But when the audience gave a resounding 'yes' to whether Pakatan should put several former BN ministers under the Internal Security Act , Dzulkefly said, "We are democrats, and two wrongs don't make a right. Pakatan will repeal the ISA in the first 24 hours after we come in power."

Earlier, PKR president Dr Wan Azizah Ismail kicked off the night with a glowing review of her daughter.

"I wasn't happy about Nurul Izzah standing for election in 2008 but when I heard her campaign speech, I thought 'I would vote for this young lady' - and not just because I am her mother," she quipped.

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