

Judicial awakening has begun
MalaysiaKini.com
January 10,2012
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There seems to be a glimmer of hope for the judiciary.

Perhaps it could be the trigger which will set the momentum for a change of federal government for the first time in the history of independent Malaysia, with the acquittal of Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim.

Many see it as a sign that the executive does not meddle with the judiciary after all - but is that what we are supposed to believe?

We could take this good decision as a sign that the judges are fed up with the situation and wish to break free from the clutches of the executive, no more being beholden to the politicians and only being concerned with the administration of justice in accordance with the constitution, which has not got the respect it is supposed to get.

Already the BN politicians are seeing this as a measure taken by Najib to boost his ratings and to show to the world that the BN government never interferes with the judiciary.

But little do they know that it is not about that in the first place.

Why charge him and why waste all that time, judicial time and energy for a drama to hoodwink the people and divert the Opposition's focus on convincing the people to give it a chance to govern Malaysia?

This was the entire and the ultimate diversion which the BN government thought the people would buy so that their squandering can go on unabated.

The judiciary has shown some courage here just like the judge who decided that Nizar Jamaluddin was the rightful Menteri Besar of Perak and the right body to decide on who governs Perak should be the Perak legislature whose head is the Speaker of the House.

That brave judge followed what the constitution which clearly states that the judiciary has no right to hear matters which the legislature conducts within the four walls of the state assembly.

Similarly in Anwar's case, the judge had decided in accordance to the facts and the evidence before him and the right answer was to acquit him.

The rest of the judiciary should take this as a sign of a start to the road to judicial independence which was completely emasculated by the former and the longest serving PM of the country.

The ratings of PM Najib is not going to soar, but shows the people that if one does his job, then one does not need to fear retribution against him.

Here the judge followed the facts before him and from the very beginning of the case, it was nothing but a show of political might to thwart Anwar's attempt to unseat the BN in Putrajaya.

If the case was conducted in accordance to the law and not because it was against Anwar, he should have actually been freed at the end of the prosecution's case as there was no case to call for the defence in the first place.

The road to judicial awakening has begun, the judges of both the Superior and Lower Courts must take this cue and start the reforms by deciding only with the laws of the land and the federal constitution in

mind and in event there is a conflict, the federal constitution shall prevail as it is the supreme law of the land.

Time will now be running short for the other characters in the plot, the former IGP, the current attorney general, the Datuk T trio and all those who had followed the orders of the regime to ensure that Anwar will be not a thorn in the thumb for the BN.

To ensure that we do not allow successive governments in the future to abuse the power entrusted upon them by the people, the judiciary should play the role in being the guardian of the civil liberties of the people as enshrined in the federal constitution.

If the judges are resolved in making this their only quest, we shall be on the right path of reforms which we so badly need.

We can't afford to wait any longer, the change has started and we the people of Malaysia have to make it happen. If it can happen in other parts of the world, it can be done here.

We may not resort to the 'Arab Spring' style uprising but the silent revolt to rid ourselves from years of institutional corruption can happen if we all decide to part take to ensure a regime change takes place and brings about a firm two-coalition pact system which will ensure checks and balances for the benefit of the people.

The judges should not be beholden to the executive anymore, and this should be strictly upheld come what may.

In event Pakatan comes to power, the judges should not relent and be firmly independent as an organ of state that it was before. Have the judges awoken?

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