

Dr M: Saiful has right to appeal sodomy verdict
MalaysiaKini.com
January 17,2012

Labelling Anwar Ibrahim as the “appeal champion” in Malaysia’s judicial history, former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad has questioned why the complainant in the recent sodomy case is not being accorded the same right.

chedet mahathir blog 210508“When Anwar was found not guilty for lack of corroborating evidence, the right of his accuser to appeal is being questioned,” Dr Mahathir wrote in his blog today.

“Is it so that, in this land, an opposition leader has special rights, that justice only occurs when he is found not guilty?”

“Is it so that, in this country, the powerless victim has no rights to justice so that he cannot even appeal his case to a higher court?”

Mahathir was commenting on opposition figures who have chided Anwar’s former aide Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan and his family for asking the attorney-general to appeal Anwar’s acquittal on Jan 9.

azlanAnwar himself had submitted many applications during the trial, Mahathir noted, including attempts to get the judge to recuse himself.

“If he (Anwar) had been found guilty, believe me, he would have appealed to the Appeals Court.

“If the Appeals Court upholds the High Court’s decision, then Anwar would have appealed to the Federal Court.

“And if the Federal Court does not overturn the verdict, he would have brought it to a Special Court.”

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