

PKR: Sodomy II appeal 'pure malice'

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The attorney general's appeal against Anwar Ibrahim's acquittal in the Sodomy II case is malicious and "legally insupportable", said PKR.

"I refer to the appeal against the acquittal of Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim in the Sodomy II case which came up on September 7 at the Court of Appeal.

"The appeal is legally insupportable and an act of pure political malice by Prime Minister Najib Razak and Umno-BN," said PKR vice president N Surendran in a statement today.

Surendran charged that AG Abdul Gani Patail was "pursuing this baseless appeal purely for the benefit of his political masters Umno-BN".

"The entire Sodomy II case was a vicious and criminal fabrication orchestrated by Umno-BN, with the collaboration of the top police leadership.

"This has been rightly condemned throughout the world by nations, organisations and prominent individuals," added.

Anwar was acquitted of sodomising his former aide Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan at the Desa Damansara condominium between 2.30pm and 4pm on June 26, 2008. The High Court in Kuala Lumpur made the ruling on Jan 9.

Trial judge Justice Mohamad Zabidin Mohd Diah found it unsafe to convict Anwar following questions brought on the integrity of the sample retrieved from Saiful.

The prosecution filed an appeal against Anwar's acquittal on Jan 20.

Najib 'tyrannical'

Surendran further blasted Najib for his "unscrupulous, amoral and tyrannical nature".

"Whilst pretending to engage in democratic politics, Najib disgracefully and criminally continues the Umno-BN tradition of persecuting and jailing political opponents instead of engaging in civilised political debate," he said.

Calling the PM's said democratisation a pretense, he alleges that Najib "continues to influence and pervert the legal process in an attempt to imprison" Anwar.

"We call upon Najib, Umno-BN and the attorney general to immediately withdraw the Sodomy II appeal and cease forever the criminal conduct of manipulating the legal system against the opposition," said the human rights lawyer.

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