

Rosmah: I'm not involved in Altantuya murder
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By Ram Anand

Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's wife Rosmah Mansor has denied being involved in the murder of Mongolian translator Altantuya Shaariibuu, as alleged by blogger Raja Petra Kamaruddin.

In her biography that was released today, Rosmah says she was attending a breaking of fast session with the Islamic Orphans Welfare Association in Kuala Lumpur on Oct 19, 2006, the day Altantuya was killed.

"I was at the Tabung Haji building from evening till midnight.

"There were many eyewitnesses there," she says on page 140 of the book.

"I will run even if a lizard falls in front of me. I am also afraid of the dark. What more me climbing a hill at the place of murder?" Rosmah says in the book.

She also states that she was "questioned" for six hours in Bukit Aman as a result of the "slander" against her.

'RM24 million ring was for Maira Nazarbayev'

Rosmah also claimed that the RM24 million ring that she allegedly owns, was not hers to begin with.

"I am willing to swear that the ring is not in my hands. The ring came into the country through the customs to be seen by Maira Nazarbayev who at that time was at my home for the preparation for her son and my daughter's engagement.

"She (Maira) is a regular customer to Jewelry Jacob & Co," she said.

She claimed that after being seen by Maira, the ring was then returned out of Malaysia via a Singaporean port on April 20, 2011, and returned to headquarters of Jacob & Co in New York on May 13, 2012.

Rosmah went on to defend her alleged extravagant lifestyle, claiming that as a leader's wife, she is invited to many countries and subsequently is given many token gifts by those who receive her.

"Normally they give me watches, rings, cosmetics, and so on. Some of them are expensive and are specially ordered. When someone gives us something, it is not nice for us to reject it," she said.

"I wouldn't want to go around telling everyone that this person gave me a watch, that person gave me a bag and so on. That's like showing off."

"And, when I'm given, I wear these things. Why am I to do, keep it in a safe when the things that are given to me are given with sincerity and are beautiful and appropriate to use? It's a waste if it's frozen in a safe box," she further added.

Nothing wrong with FLOM title

Rosmah also insisted that she doesn't see anything wrong with the title of First Lady of Malaysia (FLOM)- something that has been disputed by the opposition in the past.

"First Lady is in the context of husbands being given the responsibility and chosen by the people to govern the country.

"I don't think this is something that should be disputed," she added.

She said that if the Queen in Malaysia is called as the First Lady, it would represent a "downgrade to her majesty's status".

"I think many people understand (the title).

"Maybe there are just a few who always dispute it and try to make it an issue," she said.

The 'First Lady' controversy was first raised back in 2011 after it was realised that the Prime Minister's Office website had listed a 'FLOM' division' along with contact details of several aides.

This directory listing was taken down after a ruckus was raised by netizens, who argued that the First Lady is rightfully the Raja Permaisuri Agong.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Nazri Aziz has previously said that the FLOM title, while being "unofficial", is still "legitimate".

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