

## **Mahfuz to arrange Mahathir-Sirul phone call**

**MalaysiaKini.com**

**Apr 10, 2015**

**By Hafiz Yatim**

PAS leader Mahfuz Omar reiterated that the planned telephone call between former premier Dr Mahathir Mohamad with convicted murderer Sirul Azhar Umar will go on as planned.

This is despite Sirul being allegedly upset that Mahfuz had brought his mother, Piah Samat, to meet Mahathir on Wednesday, as told by his lawyers Kamarul Hisham Kamaruddin and Hasnal Rezua Merican to mStar portal.

Mahfuz, who is PAS information chief, expressed puzzlement with the lawyers' remark.

The Pokok Sena MP said before meeting Mahathir, both he and Piah had talked to Sirul over the phone.

“Sirul said it is all right if I bring his mother to meet Mahathir. Later, he talked to his mother. I do not know about his lawyers' comments.”

“Despite this, I will try and arrange for Mahathir to talk to Sirul. I will ask Sirul's permission first if he wants to talk,” Mahfuz (left) told Malaysiakini when contacted today.

Mahfuz, however, did not set a time frame when the conversation between Mahathir and Sirul would take place, but emphasised he would see if Sirul wanted to talk to the former premier first.

### **Lawyers claim client upset**

It was reported in mStar that Sirul's lawyers Kamarul Hisham and Hasnal Rezua said their client was upset with Mahfuz for arranging the meeting.

Piah had met Mahathir at his office at the Perdana Leadership Foundation on Wednesday. Three pictures of the meeting were posted in Mahfuz's aide's Facebook page.

Mahathir (right) had last Thursday made stinging criticisms against Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak and repeated the question on everyone's mind as to who ordered the killing of Altantuya Shaariibuu.

The former premier further said at a talk with students last Saturday that when Sirul worked for him, the Special Action Unit commando did not murder anyone.

Mahathir further clarified in a blog posting this week that he is not accusing Najib of the murder but only wanted answers.

Last night, Najib went on national television in a pre-recorded one hour Q&A programme where he reiterated that he did not know the Mongolian.

### **Prepared to send police to Australia**

Yesterday, Mahfuz told a press-conference in Parliament that he is prepared to hold another special meeting with Mahathir where he would let the former premier talk to Sirul.

The Pokok Sena MP also said he was prepared to arrange for the Malaysian police to meet Sirul and find sponsors to finance their trip if the police budget doesn't allow for it.

Mahfuz had brought Piah to meet Sirul last month at the Villawood detention centre in Sydney, where the former commando has been held since January.

Sirul, along with Chief Inspector Azilah Hadri, were found guilty by the Federal Court and sentenced to death for murdering Altantuya in 2006.

The sentence was upheld on Jan 13, however, Sirul was not present as he had gone off to Australia since late last year.

Sirul was however picked up by the Australian authorities on Jan 22, following a red notice issued by Interpol, after a warrant of arrest was issued by the Malaysian Federal Court.