

Altantuya's ghost to 'haunt' Najib in Paris
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Mongolian beauty Altantuya Shaaribuu's spirit is expected to haunt Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak through her statement during his official four-day trip to Paris this week in a bid to shame him.

The statement was to have been originally read out by her father Setev in Mongolia's capital Ulan Batur, but later ill health prevented him from travelling to Paris. According to French Liberation newspaper correspondent Arnaud Dubus, Setev's statement will instead be read out by two opposition Malaysian MPs who are now in Paris.

"I know these two MPs have met with some French journalists but I don't have any details yet about a press conference," he told Malaysiakini in an email.

Dubus, who is also the coordinator for the Bangkok-based Altantuya Foundation, also rejected any notion that Setev's (right) Paris trip was sponsored by the association. "He (Setev) was not invited there by the Altantuya Foundation. From what I understand, there will only be a statement from him during Najib's trip to Paris," he said.

MP denies Paris trip related to Shaariibuu

Najib flew in yesterday for his working visit aimed at forging closer cooperation between the two countries.

The Star had reported that the private jet carrying the Malaysian delegation from Dubai touched down at the Le Bourget Airport at 8.52am (2.52pm Malaysian time). Malaysiakini has learnt that the two opposition leaders involved are Batu MP Tian Chua and Selayang MP William Leong, both from PKR.

Contacted yesterday, Leong however denied that their trip was related to Setev's statement but instead "we are on another business trip".

"I can confirm with you that we are both in Paris but this trip has nothing to do at all with Shaariibuu's statement," said Leong briefly.

Meanwhile, Chua could not be contacted as he did not answer his phone and any of the messages left for him.

Malaysia Today publishes statement

Web portal Malaysia Today has, however, had published the statement yesterday. But, there is nothing new in the statement as it is only a recollection of events that led to the high-profile Altantuya murder case.

This is the full text of the statement as published in Malaysia Today:
"Sunday will mark the start of Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's first official four-day visit to France to discuss bilateral, regional and international issues with top French leaders including President Nicolas Sarkozy and Prime Minister Francois Fillon.

France is one of Malaysia 's key trading partners with bilateral trade in 2008 reaching a total

of RM13.91 billion. Currently, several French companies operate in Malaysia including Lafarge (cement), Technip (infrastructure for gas and oil exploration), Alcatel (telecommunications), Alstom (energy and railway equipment) and Carrefour (retail).

However, what was omitted from the mainstream reports in Malaysia and France is that Najib, since assuming the Premiership in March 2008, is easily the most controversial Prime Minister since political independence in 1957 as he has been linked to two policemen in charge of his protection and according to the statutory declaration of a private investigator, to a murder case.

VIP hijinks in business deal

And we are not talking of any "normal" murder case but the gruesome murder of a beautiful Mongolian woman who was also connected to the purchase of three French submarines worth a billion euros.

How then is Najib linked? Apparently, she was introduced by Najib to Abdul Razak Baginda, a close friend and defense analyst with the think-tank Malaysian Strategic Research Centre, to work for the deal Razak was brokering for the Malaysian government to buy three submarines from France for one billion euros.

According to the same private investigator, the duo quickly became romantically involved.

In October 2006, Altantuya was informed that the commission of 114 million euros was paid into the account of Perimekar, a company Razak controlled. Altantuya then went to Kuala Lumpur to demand her share of the commission, which was to have been US\$500,000.

She went missing on 19 October 2006. In the last letter she wrote before her murder, she said that she had been blackmailing Razak.

The private investigator who linked Najib to Altantuya a few days after reneging on his first statement had also disappeared.

The Malaysian police found fragments of her bone in a forested area in Shah Alam, some 30 km from Kuala Lumpur. Police investigations revealed that she was shot twice before C4 explosives were used on her remains.

Razak and two members of the police force were arrested and charged with her murder. The two murder suspects Azilah Hadri, 30 and Sirul Azhar Umar, 35 are members of the elite 'Unit Tindakan Khas' (the Malaysian Police Special Action Force or counter-terrorism unit) and were both assigned to the office of the then Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak, who was also the Defence Minister.

Both policemen were found guilty and sentenced to death while Razak was acquitted. The Malaysian Attorney General has not appealed on Razak's acquittal and he is now a free man.

The father of Altantuya, Professor Shariibuu Setev who has tried but failed to seek satisfactory justice and accountability in Malaysia will issue a statement in Paris to highlight his daughter's murder and how it is linked to the Malaysian Prime Minister and the billion euro French submarine deal."

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