

Nurul Izzah's new challenge to Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR - Lembah Pantai MP Nurul Izzah Anwar has challenged Umno president Najib Abdul Razak to put his words into action within 30 days - stressing on a free and fair election, repeal of anti-democratic laws and freedom of the press.

"Let these three benchmarks be a test of whether the Umno president has the moral leadership that he has expounded in his speech, and the courage and fair play of Hang Tuah.

"Or would he choose to follow in the delusional steps of a Mat Jenin who by the way according to legend fell off the proverbial coconut tree when he extended his arms to illustrate how big a palace (maybe which was renovated at a cost of RM65 million) he dreamed of living in with his imaginary beautiful princess," she said in a press statement Monday.

Nurul Izzah, who was commenting on the Prime Minister's speech at the Umno general assembly last week, said Monday that Najib should repeal all anti-democratic laws based on his statement that Malay rights were "tightly locked" and enshrined in the Federal Constitution.

"Therefore, in Parliament, he must repeal all anti-democratic laws such as the ISA (Internal Security Act), UUCA (Universities and University Colleges Act) and PPA (Printing Presses and Publications Act), which are no longer needed to protect those rights," she said.

The daughter of opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim also said if Malay special rights were protected by the Council of Rulers, as Najib has stressed in his speech, they would still be upheld if Putrajaya fell to Pakatan Rakyat's hand.

Najib should also take measures to ensure that elections are carried out in a free and fair manner since Malays are capable to "compete with the best", Nurul Izzah said.

She also added that Najib should be consistent with his call to Malays to face a "competition of the minds" by ensuring freedom of the press in order to create an informed society.

"Wouldn't this nurture the people's mind and soul to face the modern era?" the Lembah Pantai MP asked.

Last month, Nurul Izzah had invited Najib to an open debate related to press freedom and election reforms suggesting that the discussion be focused on a 'political contract' instead of 'social contract'.

The 'political contract' referred to one that is built on a free and fair election supported by a functioning fourth estate (free media).

The eloquent Lembah Pantai MP had also challenged Perkasa Ibrahim Ali to a public debate on the issue of Malay rights, but she was dismissed by the pro-Malay rights group leader as a "small fry."

Source : <http://www.malaysianmirror.com/media-buzz-detail/6-nation/50151>