



PERDANA LIBRARY
PERDANA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION
NEWSPAPER CLIPPING

Newspaper	News Straits Times
Date	22/2/2012

'Let the people judge Anwar's stance'

KUALA LUMPUR: The people should judge whether or not to accept Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's move not to sue the *Wall Street Journal* pertaining to his statement proclaiming support for Israel's security.

Pas Dewan Ulama vice-chief Datuk Mahfodz Mohamed said the party's syura council could only advise Anwar to either retract his statement or sue the WSJ.

"We can only advise him, but since he will not retract his statement or file a suit against the WSJ, it is up to the people now to judge him."

The outspoken Mahfodz said he was not surprised by Anwar's move.

"I don't feel hurt at all because I know who Anwar Ibrahim is.

"I have known him for a long time.

"Pas has done its job, but some people will never change," said Mahfodz, who is a Pas syura council member, when contacted yesterday.

Last week, Mahfodz said several members of the Pas syura council were not mincing their words in demanding that Anwar retract his statement as they were convinced that those were the very words uttered by Anwar.

Previously, Pas spiritual adviser Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat said that he wanted to meet Anwar to seek a clarification on his statement.

The soft-spoken Mahfodz could not contain his anger, saying it was difficult to change the mindset of those who were adamant despite efforts made to address the issue.

He said Pas had its own principles to uphold and would remain adamant against the Jewish state, and had done its job to advise Anwar regarding the matter.

"Anwar has made a mistake by being too open in his Jewish affairs. He is too open when conducting similar affairs.

"People may have different views, but we (Pas-) will not change our stand (in opposing Israel) as we are not beholden to Anwar."

Anwar, after his meeting with Nik Aziz yesterday, said he had no plans to sue the WSJ.

"Why should I sue the WSJ?"

"They put the word "contingent" in their article," said Anwar when approached by reporters after the meeting, near here.

Anwar also insisted that Nik Aziz understood his stance on Israel.

He, however, acknowledged that Pas' stand was different and stronger than his. "The difference is in the emphasis," he said, adding that he was happy to have met Nik Aziz.