

Anwar: Pas can express views on Quran burning

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday said Pas has the right to express its views on Swedish-Danish far-right politician Rasmus Paludan burning a copy of the Quran in Stockholm, Sweden.

“If Pas wants to do it, it can do it. However, the government has done it (condemning the action) and made it very clear that our stand (against the burning of the Quran) is strong.

“They have the initiative and we support that. I do not think that there is any issue. If there is a problem, we protest, but (please) don’t cause any commotion.”

He said this after the launch of the book titled *Knowledge, Tradition and Civilisation: Essays in Honour of Professor Osman Bakar Osman*.

Anwar, in his speech, reiterated that the government condemned these acts.

He added that this “barbaric” act was to provoke and cause discord among the people.

“For no reason, you provoke the ummah while we are trying to educate and continue the effort (of unity) as there’s also a tendency to incite religious hatred in the name of Islam in our society.

“Malaysia will not tolerate it because we value humanity and we respect the right of people to advance their faith and values.”

Earlier, it was reported that Pas will organise a march in Kuala Lumpur today to protest Paludan’s act. Paludan was permitted to burn the Quran on Saturday outside the Turkish embassy in Stockholm, causing Muslims to erupt in anger.