

Ex-Pas rep criticises Anwar over BBC interview
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KUALA LUMPUR: Former Selangor Pas commissioner Datuk Dr Hasan Ali yesterday criticised opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's for his recent statement that laws banning homosexuality in the country were considered "archaic" and "irrelevant".

He said this was the main reason why he could not work with Anwar.

"This is the reason why I cannot work with him. This is why Malaysians should reject Anwar,

"God forbid if such things are to be legalised here, I foresee difficult times if that happens," he told a press conference at his home here.

He was responding to a question on Anwar's interview with the BBC in Mumbai, India, on the topic.

Anwar had said that archaic Victorian laws no longer had a place in today's world as they may not be appropriate to punish people for personal choices.

Asked to comment on Anwar's remark that the loose opposition coalition should rid itself of money-hungry and power-hungry leaders, Hasan hit back at the opposition leader.

"Who is power crazy? Is it me or Anwar?

Who is the one who gathered people all over the country, including Sabah, to seize Putrajaya on Sept 16 (2008)?

Who is the one who said that he would still be PM even if he was in jail?

"Hasan Ali never said those things. Not me. Who is power crazy? I am sure you can figure it out."

Hasan stressed he was not the kind of person who would succumb to the lure of riches.

"I was a training and corporate consultant. I made a lot of money then. But I gave it all away to join the struggle. Do you know how much I lost when I decided to join Pas for the last 15 years?

"I am clean in this regard. I must say that I am not one to succumb to such temptations. I never did, though maybe some of my colleagues did."

He blamed Anwar's influence on Pas as a reason for the party's weaknesses and failure to defend Islam.

"In this regard I must rate Pas a failure. As some of my friends (have written recently), DAP and PKR are making use of Pas and there is the 'Anwarisation' of the party."

Source: <http://www.nst.com.my/local/general/ex-pas-rep-criticises-anwar-over-bbc-interview-1.33345>