

Musa's dropped lawsuit proves 1998 conspiracy real, says Anwar
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 16 — Former Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Musa Hassan's decision to drop his defamation suit against Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim proves there was a government plot to fabricate evidence over the 1998 Sodomy I charges, the opposition leader said today.

Musa had earlier this morning told the High Court he was withdrawing his suit and had agreed to settle his case out of court, saying he had been there was a "misunderstanding" over his role in the 1998 "black eye" incident where Anwar had been beaten up by the then-IGP Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Noor while in the police lock-up, which left him with bruises, in the run-up to the former deputy prime minister's high-profile first sodomy trial.

"I am thankful and satisfied by the withdrawal of the suit," Anwar said.

The head of the Pakatan Rakyat (PR) opposition pact said he could now put the court case behind him and focus on preparing for the 13th general election due soon.

"But the question that now arises is that this proves there was a conspiracy and a fabrication of evidence in my prosecution in 1998," the PKR leader told reporters outside the courtroom.

He said he would not take any legal action against Musa as the ex-policeman had shown "some sort of respect and understanding to move on".

But Anwar wants a tribunal to be set up to probe Attorney-General Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail's role in the 1998 case.

"Now there must be a tribunal to investigate Abdul Gani's role because he has yet to escape from the accusations directly.

"So now we focus on A-G," Anwar said.

Musa, who served as IGP for four years from 2006 to 2010, had sued Anwar for defamation four years ago, three weeks after the Permatang Pauh MP lodged a report against him in 2008.

In his police report, the PKR leader accused Musa and Abdul Gani of conspiring to cover up the 1998 physical assault against him by Abdul Rahim, which left Anwar with a black eye.

Musa was at that time Bukit Aman's assistant criminal investigation chief while Abdul Gani was the lead prosecutor in Anwar's 1998 sodomy trial.

The former deputy prime minister also alleged that the duo tampered with a medical report and made up false evidence that he had sodomised several people while in the government, for which he was tried and convicted in 1999.

Anwar spent six years in jail before the judgment was later overturned.

The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) had opened up investigations into both Musa and Abdul Gani in 2008 following Anwar's filing of a police complaint against the senior policeman and the government lawyer.

Former Federal Court judge Datuk Abdul Kadir Sulaiman led a three-man panel into the inquiry against the two men and held the dissenting vote in a majority ruling that cleared Musa and Abdul Gani of power abuse.

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