

## **Don't follow Anwar blindly, says Mukhriz**

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KAJANG: Kedah Menteri Besar Mukhriz Mahathir cautioned the young from following PKR supremo Anwar Ibrahim blindly in the Himpunan Reformasi 2.0 assemblies throughout the nation.

“They who are closest to him have left him, so how can the young people today be so confident of him?”

“He is calling the young people to hit the streets, demonstrate and break the law,” said Mukhriz in reference to a long list of people ranging from academic Chandra Muzaffar to Senator Ezam Noor who were with PKR but have since left the party.

He said this during a ceramah session last night called Kajang: A Final Leap held in Sungai Kantan. The polling district has 2,500 voters. There were about 100 people among the audience.

“They are going against the spirit of democracy and are inciting the young to demonstrate in the name of Himpunan Reformasi 2.0 which they claim are carried out to defend the rights of the people,” added the son of Malaysia’s fourth prime minister.

The Himpunan Reformasi 2.0 rally was held on Friday to show solidarity to Anwar and DAP national chairman Karpal Singh who were seen as victims of selective persecution, and to shore up support for PKR candidate Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail in the Kajang by-election to be held today.

The theme for the assembly was ‘Return justice and end tyranny’. Similar assemblies are in the pipeline throughout the nation and the final rally would be held in Kuala Lumpur. Close to 10,000 people attended the rally on Friday.

Mukhriz also claimed Wan Azizah, who is the PKR president, did not keep her promise that was made during the 12th general election in 2008. At that time she was defending the Permatang Pauh parliament seat.

“She promised that women would get six months maternity leave but when she won she gave the excuse that the leave can only be given if Pakatan Rakyat took over the federal government,” he said.

He also said that the federal government would provide assistance to the BN candidate – MCA vice-president Chew Mei Fun – if the people of Kajang voted her.

Chew and Azizah are in a straight fight for the Kajang state constituency.

The Kajang state seat fell vacant following the resignation of incumbent assemblymen Lee Chin

Cheh of PKR on Jan 27.

The state seat comprises 39,728 registered voters. At the last general election in May, 2013, the seat saw a voter turnout of 87.9% with 541 spoilt votes. It has 48% Malay voters, Chinese 41%, Indian 10% and others 1%.

The by-election will not have a bearing on who runs the state as Pakatan Rakyat has 44 seats in the 56-seat Selangor state assembly. The remainder 12 seats are held by BN.

At the end of his talk, a woman clad in headscarf, baju kurung and covered with PKR flag walked passed the crowd, trying to act like PKR candidate Dr Wan Azizah.

Meanwhile in another ceramah session nearby, Selangor Menteri Besar Khalid Ibrahim told FMT that he was confident of PKR's victory.

"I am very pleased with the reception of Kajang voters. They have the patience and maturity and I am confident of a win," said Khalid who is also the Kajang election machinery director for PKR.

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