

Reopen Altantuya murder to find out motive, says PAS lawmaker
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By Jennifer Gomez

An opposition lawmaker wants police to reopen the Altantuya Shaariibuu murder investigation to determine who ordered the hit on the Mongolian translator.

PAS Pokok Sena MP Datuk Mahfuz Omar who recently visited convicted murderer Sirul Azhar Umar in Australia said the motive for her murder was never established.

"He kept telling me he was ordered. The rest he spoke about is in confidence.

"I am not trying to defend a criminal, but the police must investigate who ordered the hit," Mahfuz said while debating the royal address in Parliament today.

Former Special Action Unit (UTK) personnel Chief Inspector Azilah Hadri and Sirul were sentenced to death earlier this year for the Mongolian's murder but the motive for the murder was never established.

Political analyst Abdul Razak Baginda was acquitted of abetting in her 2006 murder.

Sirul had been absent when the Federal Court in January sentenced him and Azilah for the murder.

It was later discovered that Sirul had fled the country to Australia, where he is currently detained by immigration authorities.

Speaking about his visit to the former police corporal in Australia recently, Mahfuz also said that Sirul has always been a man who has been true to his job and followed instructions.

Mahfuz told members Sirul was also instructed to go to Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's home in 1998 to arrest the then deputy prime minister.

"He entered the house through the front door and his face was splashed in the newspapers then, and he did not have any mask on.

"He had also served on the security team of former prime ministers Tun Dr Mahathir (Mohamad), Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and was also the driver of the car when Yasser Arafat came to visit Malaysia."

He added that as such, Sirul had always been a man who had followed instructions, and that it was the same in the murder of Altantuya.

Mahfuz said that it was shocking for the court to make a finding that motive was not important in the murder.

Mahfuz told Parliament today that when Razak Baginda gave an interview to The

Malaysian Insider after the ruling, he had said that he knew Altantuya and that she had come to Malaysia to blackmail him.

"When the reporter asked what the blackmail was , he said he could not reveal and that it was between him and Altantuya," he said.

So considering that Sirul did not know Altantuya or Razak Baginda before that, Mahfuz asked how could he have planned a murder without a motive.

"If they planned a murder, there must be a motive.

"And the court cannot say the motive is not important." – March 11, 2015.

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