

**Political observers tout Anwar's second daughter as Permatang Pauh candidate – Bernama  
The Malaysian Insider  
Feb 11, 2015**

Although the vacancy for Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's Permatang Pauh parliamentary seat has not been announced yet, some political observers see Nurul Nuha, the opposition leader's second-eldest daughter, coming to the fore to continue the family's political legacy.

Nurul Nuha, 31, a housewife with a degree in arts and visual technology from George Mason University, United States, was given an "early assignment" to lead the 'March to Freedom' – a campaign to secure her father's freedom from a sodomy conviction.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) geostrategist Prof Dr Azmi Hassan said that Nurul Nuha's involvement in the campaign was seen as an effort to make her a candidate for the seat.

Azmi said that if Nurul Nuha was selected as the candidate, it would indicate that the family wanted to continue to dominate the party and continue the practice of nepotism in the party.

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia's Faculty of Social Science and Humanities lecturer Prof Dr Mohd Fuad Mat Jali believed that if Nurul Nuha was nominated for the seat, it would clearly show nepotism within PKR.

He also explained that if Nurul Nuha was nominated, it was because Permatang Pauh is PKR's stronghold.

"The issue of sympathy may also be used to ensure Nurul Nuha's victory, as previously used by Anwar's wife Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail when competing for the seat before," he said.

Earlier today, at a press conference held at the family's residence today, Anwar's eldest daughter and PKR vice-president Nurul Izzah introduced her sister to the media.

"The focus (now) is to set up the secretariat (for the campaign) and we will be engaging several personalities in this regard and to ensure that Nurul Nuha becomes its face," said Nurul Izzah.

She, however, refused to answer questions on whether the campaign was aimed to put Nurul Nuha as the next-in-line for the parliamentary seat.

Yesterday, the Federal Court upheld Anwar's conviction for sodomising his former aide Mohd Saiful Bukhari Azlan, and handed him a five-year jail term.

With the jail sentence, Anwar now stands to lose his Permatang Pauh parliamentary seat as the law bars anyone fined over RM2,000 or imprisoned more than one year from serving as a lawmaker, unless a pardon is granted.

Election Commission chairman Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof said the commission would only announce the vacancy for the Permatang Pauh seat after receiving notification from the Dewan Rakyat Speaker.

Aside from Nurul Izzah and Nurul Nuha, Anwar has four other children namely Mohd Ihsan, Nurul Ilham, Nurul Iman and Nurul Hana.

Anwar first contested the Permatang Pauh parliamentary seat in the 1982 general election.

He retained the seat in the following general elections until he was jailed six years' on April 14, 1999.

The seat was then contested and won by his wife, Dr Wan Azizah in the general election on November 10, 1999.

Dr Wan Azizah continued to defend the seat until her resignation on July 31, 2008 to make way for Anwar to contest the seat in a by-election in August 2008.

Anwar won the seat by beating Datuk Arif Shah Omar Shah (BN) with a majority of 15,671 votes. He retained the seat in the last general election held in May 2013. – Bernama, February 11, 2015.

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