

**No truth to claim that Sirul will testify against Rosmah, says lawyer**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
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Former police commando Sirul Azhar Umar is not going to testify that he was ordered by the prime minister's wife to kill Mongolian translator Altantuya Shaariibuu, his lawyer said.

The Star reported lawyer Hasnal Rezua Merican as saying a WhatsApp message claiming that Sirul would be testifying against Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor in an Australian court next week was a hoax.

"I have checked with Sirul and he has absolutely no knowledge of saying any such thing or speaking with any journalist from the Herald Sun," Hasnal was quoted as saying.

"The message, which is being spread is a hoax, and I believe that it originated in Malaysia and was meant for a local audience."

The message said Australian daily Herald Sun had reported Sirul would testify that it was Rosmah who had ordered him to kill Altantuya for blackmailing Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

It is not known who is behind the message.

Former police commando Sirul Azhar Umar is not going to testify that he was ordered by the prime minister's wife to kill Mongolian translator Altantuya Shaariibuu, his lawyer said.

Hasnal also said that he could not find any such report in the Herald Sun about Sirul's purported plan to testify against Rosmah, adding that his client's Australian lawyers, too, were not able to figure out from where the story originated.

"As far as I know, Sirul does not have any pending court appearance in Australia next week," the lawyer said.

Sirul and Chief Inspector Azilah Hadri were found guilty of Altantuya's murder and had appealed the conviction.

A five-man Federal Court bench led by Chief Justice Tun Arifin Zakaria overturned the Court of Appeal's ruling in 2013 and sentenced the men to be hanged.

Evidence in court revealed that Altantuya was murdered before the body was blown up by C4 explosives on October 18, 2006, in the outskirts of Shah Alam, near the capital city Kuala Lumpur.

Despite the conviction, the motive for the murder was never revealed.

However, Sirul had already left for Australia even before the Federal Court decision in January this year. A warrant was issued against him and Sirul was later detained in Brisbane after Interpol issued a red notice.

He has since been held at the Villawood immigration detention centre in Sydney where he is seeking political asylum.

The Australian authorities are unlikely to extradite Sirul to Malaysia as he faces the death penalty for the murder. – July 9, 2015.

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