

'Gov't no moral standing for Karpal sedition charge'

MalaysiaKini.com

Feb 23, 2014

The government should have the moral high ground first before charging DAP chairperson Karpal Singh for sedition.

Citing the federal constitution's provisions for equality before the law, constitutional expert Abdul Aziz Bari pointed out that former prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed had made even more provocative and 'seditious' statements during the constitutional crises of 1983 and 1993.

"(Therefore) the Umno-BN government should have the moral ground before they gave the green light to the Attorney-General's Chambers to proceed with the charges against Karpal.

"It is difficult to say that the (sedition charge against) Karpal was purely legal and nothing political.

"Karpal has every right to be treated equally just like Mahathir and his Umno colleagues," Aziz Bari told *Malaysiakini* yesterday, citing Article 8 of the federal constitution.

Lawyer and Bukit Gelugor MP Karpal was convicted under the Sedition Act at the Kuala Lumpur High Court last Friday for commenting on the Perak sultan's authorising the removal of Pakatan Rakyat Perak Menteri Besar Mohd Nizar Jamaluddin.

He allegedly said this during a press conference at his law firm on Feb 6, 2009.

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Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/255165>