

## Malaysian leader calls for protection against death threats

Malaysian opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim Monday urged the government to provide him and his family security protection against alleged death threats, which had driven him to seek refuge at the Turkish embassy in the capital Kuala Lumpur.

Anwar, who was forced to battle fresh sodomy allegations over the weekend, said his decision to accept an invitation to stay at the embassy was for 'purely security issues.'

A former aide had lodged a police report Saturday, alleging that the former deputy prime minister-turned-opposition leader had sodomized him.

Anwar's lawyers on Monday filed counter charges saying the aide had lodged a false, malicious and libellous police report.

Anwar claimed the report was a 'desperate attempt' to prevent him from exposing the national police chief Musa Hassan and Attorney General Gani Patail for their alleged role in the 1998 charges of corruption and sodomy against him.

'I believe we are witnessing a repeat of the methods used against me in 1998 when false allegations were made under duress,' Anwar said in a statement.

Shortly after issuing his statement, Anwar fled to the Turkish embassy where he said he will remain until the government assure him and his family of protection.

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