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# Dyana Sofya against hudud bill

SHAHRUM SAYUTHI  
AND AUDREY DERMAWAN

## TOEING PARTY LINE: DAP candidate says she will vote against bill in Parliament

**D**AP candidate Dyana Sofya Mohd Daud says she will not vote for the implementation of hudud in Parliament if she were to be elected.

"As explained by my fellow MPs (DAP members of parliament), Zairil Khir Johari and Datuk Mohd Ariff Sabri Abdul Aziz, we are with the party's stand and we will vote against hudud," she said in an interview, which has been posted on a pro-opposition news portal.

Zairil is DAP Bukit Bendera MP while Datuk Mohd Ariff Sabri is the party's Raub MP.

DAP's ally, Pas, is planning to table two private members' bills in Parliament, which would pave the way for the implementation of hudud, which is the syariah criminal law, in Kelantan.

"Whenever I go out and meet people and get asked that kind of question (on hudud), like I said just now, I am with the party's stand and the party says we will not vote for hudud," said Dyana Sofya.

She, however, insisted that she was not personally against hudud.

"I am not against hudud, per say. I am against the implementation of hudud in this situation right now, when we are practising selective persecution and also because we are in a multi-cultural, multireligion, multifith country."

Asked on whether her move to wear a headscarf while attending ceramah in largely Malay areas in Changkat Jong on Saturday night was an attempt to assert her identity as a Muslim and addressing the hudud issue, Dyana Sofya stressed that her campaign would focus on other issues, such as judicial reform, reform of the authorities and eradication of corruption.

Dyana Sofya will face Barisan Nasional's Datuk Mah Siew Keong in the Teluk Intan by-election, which will be held on May 31.

The Teluk Intan seat fell vacant following the death of incumbent MP Seah Leong Peng from DAP on May 1.

The Election Commission has fixed today as nomination day and May 27 for early voting.

In **Alor Star**, Wanita Umno chief Datuk Seri Shahrizat Jalil said DAP was misleading voters by denying that Dyana Sofya was being used by the party.

Shahrizat said DAP was desperate to defend the seat by fielding Dyana Sofya, who was raised in an Umno family, but later joined DAP.

"DAP can deny their candidate is a mere puppet, but the people surely know their intention."

Responding to Shahrizat's comments, Dyana Sofya issued a statement yesterday, stating she was "tickled" that his candidacy had ruffled the feathers of Wanita Umno and Puteri Umno.

However, analysts said DAP's decision to name Dyana Sofya as its candidate was merely an attempt by the party to appear multi-racial, and attract young Malay voters.

Political analyst Prof Dr Hoo Ke Ping said DAP's plan to field a Malay candidate for the Teluk Intan by-election was their way to win Malay votes on their own.

Hoo said DAP could no longer rely solely on its ally, Pas, to get Malay votes.

"Perhaps they now see that it is likely for Pas to cooperate with Umno on certain matters, such as hudud, thus, they (DAP) must win on their own accord."

He added that DAP had been trying for years to win more Malay votes and saw this as an opportunity to do so.

Universiti Utara Malaysia's Md Shukri Shuib said it was a bold move for DAP to take the risk and name Dyana Sofya as its candidate.

The politics and international studies lecturer said it was odd for DAP to decide on a Malay candidate in the by-election. **Additional reporting by Hana Naz Harun, Sylvia Looi and Zahratulhaya Mat Arif**



The Leaning Tower of Teluk Intan at night. The Teluk Intan by-election will be held on May 31. Bernama pic