

Hew eats humble pie again over 'enjo-kosai' remark

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DAP national election publicity bureau chief Hew Kuan Yau today once again apologised for likening journalists to enjo-kosai, a Japanese term for "compensated dating" in a Facebook comment.

In his second apology through a media statement today, Hew said he "never intended" to embarrass or hurt his "many friends of the media" through a comment he made on Facebook on Feb 6.

"I would like to publicly tender my sincere apologies for the analogy that I drew, which offended many upright and honest media practitioners," he said.

Hew (right) had first eaten humble pie over the matter on his personal Facebook site earlier this week.

In his statement today, the popular orator also blamed his "enemy" for the "distorted interpretations" of his statement.

He was lambasted, mostly by the MCA, for a comment he made on the social networking site on Feb 6, where he condemned some reporters for acting as "hired pens on behalf of local BN leaders".

Hew, an academician and a popular orator in the Chinese anti-BN ceramah circuit, referred to these journalists as enjo-kosai.

The term refers to a practice that originated in Japan, where older men give money and/or luxury gifts to attractive women for their companionship, but not necessarily for sexual favours.

Hew said his intention was to question media freedom in Malaysia and offered to work with the National Union of Journalists to push for this.

Meanwhile, in a separate press statement, DAP disciplinary committee chief Tan Kok Wai said the party will not take action against Hew as he has already apologised for the "analogy".

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