

Now BN Youth calls for 'racist' school head to be punished
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KUALA LUMPUR khairy-student- Barisan Nasional Youth has joined the call for Johor school principal Siti Inshah Mansor to be punished if claims that she made racist remarks were proven true.

There have been 17 police reports lodged against the SMK Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra school head who reportedly made derogatory remarks during the school assembly to launch its National Day celebrations last Thursday.

In a press statement Thursday, Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin said the government should not take "this matter lightly".

"If it is true that it happened, she should be charged with a severe punishment under Section 504 of the Penal Code or the like as our multi-racial country cannot accept this at all," said Khairy.

The Education Director-General Alimuddin Mohd Dom reportedly dismissed her remarks as "a mere misunderstanding" which has been resolved.

The parents now say it has not been resolved and described Alimuddin's statement as a "cover-up".

Meanwhile, police are currently investigating the case under Section 504 of the Penal Code for provocation which carries a maximum jail term of two years, a fine or both.

Siti Inshah was alleged to have likened Indian students wearing prayer threads to dogs and ordered dissatisfied ethnic Chinese and Indian students to "return to China or India".

"Did she (Siti Inshah) not consider the students' feelings, especially the Chinese and Indians, by making comments that appear to insult and chase them out of the country while they were singing "Negaraku, tanah tumpahnya darahku?" asked Khairy who is Rembau MP.

Since her alleged remarks, there have been a chorus of condemnation and disgust in her behaviour.

DAP parliamentary leader Lim Kit Siang has demanded that she be sacked immediately while MIC central working committee member S. Murugessan wanted the government to mete out the "heaviest punishment".

In his statement, Khairy said: "Her remarks... are very disgusting and shows her ignorance in citizenship issues and religious rituals in this country. If it is true that it happened, then a severe punishment must be meted out as a lesson and a strong signal that any actions which are not in line with the 1 Malaysia concept, which fosters national unity, must be handled and acted upon accordingly."

He said this incident which involved a school head, coupled with another earlier incident which involved the prime minister's special officer, showed that racial tension was a growing systemic problem in the country.

Nasir Safar, the prime minister's former special officer, allegedly said in February this year

at a 1 Malaysia event that the "Indians came to Malaysia as beggars and Chinese, especially women, came to sell their bodies".

He was later asked to resign as the prime minister's aide. No further action was taken against him.

Another civil servant accused of making racial slurs was a schoolteacher who purportedly made racist remarks but was let off with just a transfer.

Schoolteacher Rusita Abu Hassan who taught in SMK Telok Panglima Garang in Banting had in 2008 allegedly used derogatory remarks on a certain ethnic group in order to "test their level of patience".

She was later transferred from the school but the punishment was viewed as more of a promotion for she was given a post in a smart school located near to her home.

Parents have claimed that Siti Inshah has also made racist remarks in her previous school SMK Kelapa Sawit, where she called Indians Nigerians.

A student alleged that Siti Inshah gave an example of owning a Proton Saga where a Chinese and Indian are passengers in the car and cannot claim any right to the car, likening it to Malaysia where non-Malay students are mere passengers.

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