

Hisham: Punish Tian Chua to stop such acts

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KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth is concerned that if Tian Chua's act of doctoring a photograph that implicated the Deputy Prime Minister is not stopped, more people will go overboard in their actions in the name of "freedom and democracy."

Its chief, Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, said if the authorities did not reprimand the Parti Keadilan Rakyat (PKR) information chief, this would mean his deed had been legitimised.

"Such a deed will then be accepted as a culture and practice in the country," he said on the doctored photograph posted in Tian Chua's blog that depicted Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, political analyst Abdul Razak Baginda and a look-alike of Altantuya Shaariibuu at the same table.

Abdul Razak is one of three people accused in the murder of Altantuya, a Mongolian translator.

"The day might come when they use transparency and freedom as an excuse to insult the Prophet Muhammad, just as what has happened in the West.

"This is how it starts so we need to curb it. I am not equating the Prophet to our leaders but

if the act is not stopped, it will become a norm," he said in reference to caricatures of Prophet Muhammad carried by a Danish newspaper that led to an worldwide protests by Muslims.

Speaking at the opening of the Gombak Umno Youth divisional meeting yesterday, he said that Tian Chua's action and that of PKR advisor Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who defended him, showed their true character.

Umno Youth deputy chief Khairy Jamaluddin said the act by Tian Chua was to distract attention from the party's weaknesses.

"His refusal to apologise, although it is slanderous, shows that he is rude and arrogant. Stupid people don't know how to say sorry because they do not understand the meaning.

"We will show them in the next general election. We will bury PKR and make sure there is no place for Tian Chua or other PKR leaders," he said at the Bukit Bintang Umno Youth divisional meeting yesterday.

Meanwhile, Tian Chua insisted there was nothing for him to say sorry for.

"No one has told me exactly what I have done wrong. If the authorities think I have committed a crime, they should investigate me," he said.