

**Apologise For White Ang Pow, Perkasa Told
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 30 (Bernama) -- Perkasa was today asked to apologise for insulting the Chinese community by giving out 'ang pow' in white envelopes, which are reserved for funerals in Chinese custom, at it's first Chinese New Year open house yesterday.

Gerakan vice-president Datuk Mah Siew Keong said giving 'ang pow' in white envelopes during Chinese New Year, which is meant to be a prosperous and joyful festival, showed that Perkasa chief Ibrahim Ali was "greatly insensitive and insincere".

"Being a member of parliament and (having been) in politics for so many years, Ibrahim is still so ignorant of the culture of other races, which is why he has kept making a lot of statements without thinking," he said in a statement today.

Perkasa deputy president Datuk Abdul Rahman Bakar said that due to the large turnout for the open house at the Sultan Sulaiman Club in Kampung Baru, here yesterday, it had run out of red "ang pow" and had to give out white packets instead.

In a related development, MCA Youth secretary-general Chai Kim Sen said Perkasa's action was disrespectful against Chinese culture and its custom.

He said Ibrahim should act in the people's interests and understand the multicultural society and the taboos and prohibitions of each ethnicity and religion.

"It is unacceptable to merely profess ignorance as an excuse," he added in a statement.

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