

DAP produces video to back claims of police violence at Bersih
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By Ida Lim

KUALA LUMPUR, June 6 — The DAP today launched its own video compilation to shore up accusations of police violence against protesters during the April 28 Bersih 3.0 rally for electoral reforms.

The 15-minute video titled "Bersih 3.0: Semangat Bersih Harapan Negara" is intended to "show our side of the story," said DAP national publicity secretary Tony Pua.

"We brought together a compilation of videos to prove that the Bersih 3.0 rally was peaceful and there's no rhyme or reason why police should have acted in such a manner," Pua added.

He said the video shows police "ruthlessly beating up people who were unarmed", during an airing of the recording to reporters today.

The video showed "clear-cut discrepancies" and the "hypocrisy" of the prime minister and the home minister, Pua continued.

Footage of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak saying on the day of rally that he had asked police to "guarantee the safety of Malaysians" and give food and drinks to protesters, was interspersed with scenes of a water cannon being fired and police attacking a protester.

Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein was also shown saying, "I am proud of their (police's)... professionalism" amid the sight of police violence.

Chaos reigned on the streets of Kuala Lumpur for over four hours after 3pm on April 28 when police fired tear gas and water cannons, and chased protesters down the streets of the capital to disperse what had initially started out as a peaceful protest calling for free and fair elections.

The Bar Council has said that its observers found that police brutality at the rally was "magnified" as compared to already-chaotic scenes during a similar gathering for free and fair elections last July 9.

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