

**Sorry seems to be the hardest word - but only for Umno**  
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**By NEWS ANALYSIS BY THE MALAYSIAN INSIDER**

"When you realise you have made a mistake, make amends immediately. It's easier to eat crow while it's still warm." - Dan Heist

"An apology is a good way to have the last word." - Unknown.

All Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yasin has to say is sorry. But he will not because it is not in the make up of the Umno politician to own up to a mistake, even one as serious as wrongly accusing non-Muslims of being behind a video which insulted Muslims.

The Vatican's representative to Malaysia must apologise. The DAP politician must apologise. The sex bloggers must apologise. The dog trainer must apologise.

But sorry is not the vocabulary of the Umno politician.

And yet the Umno politician tells lies as easily as we breathe and is a creature with an elastic sense of right and wrong. Worse yet, he believes that the Chinese or Indian or kadazandusun or Buddhist or Hindu or Christian or Sikh all have fewer rights than his party man or those of his religion. So the non-Malay and non-Muslim can be insulted, scolded and treated with utter contempt.

The treatment gets worse during Umno election years, where the rest of the country is expected to suck it in and put up with the nonsense and overflow of drivel.

But the treatment has become worse this year because in the minds of the Umno politician, he was betrayed by the non-Malays, especially the Chinese, at the polls.

So it is time to exact some revenge. And this revenge has come in the form of flippantly dismissing the concerns of non-Malays, of sticking the cudgel in the face of anyone who dares challenge the supremacy of Umno.

In the past few days, we have had Noh Omar defend the SK Seri Pristana headmaster who day-by-day looks to be more like a politician than an educationist; Umno politicians downplay the transgression of a teacher who asked non-Malay teachers to go back to China and India; Shafie Apdal talking about bringing back the Internal Security Act and other Umno politicians speaking rabidly on anything which can get them noticed by their party delegates.

But none of the above come close to the deputy prime minister and deputy Umno president.

His silence after accusing non-Muslims of insulting Islam and creating religious tension is a disgrace and sends a powerful signal right across his party: that it is all right to make baseless, reckless and dangerous statements.

On July 30, Muhyiddin blamed non-Muslims for being behind a video clip depicting a dog undergoing ablution similar to Muslims before prayers.

Since then, dog trainer Maznah Mohd Yusof has been arrested and treated like a dangerous

criminal for making the clip and posting it on YouTube three years ago. She was released today after two days in remand.

Muhyiddin? He has yet to say sorry. - August 2, 2013.

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