

Nazri's Tanda Putera views sting MCA and DAP, they hit back
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The controversial film Tanda Putera is a sheer waste of funds on a project that distorts history, DAP secretary-general Lim Guan Eng said.

"The movie is pure rubbish and depicts a really sorry attempt to change history to serve the agenda of a select few," he said.

Lim said the movie was used as a tool to "malign and demonise" the entire Chinese community.

"Some scenes were also outright lies and this was admitted by the director herself. Framing up an entire community which had suffered the most during the May 13 riot and for an offence it did not commit is ultimate indignity," he told The Malaysian Insider today.

He was responding to the comments of Tourism and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz, who said that a few Chinese were responsible for the incident and that the government-funded Tanda Putera was a well-researched movie.

"Is spending an estimated RM4.8 million simply to document and propagate lies which could worsen racial relations a well-researched movie?" Lim questioned.

The film is a joint effort of Persona Pictures, the National Film Development Corporation Malaysia (Finas) and Multimedia Development Corporation (MdeC).

Lim expressed concern that the younger generations of Chinese might feel guilty for a wrongdoing they had never committed.

"So, since the director claims that the movie is her 'creative licence', does that bestow her with the licence to also lie? This is downright outrageous," Lim said.

Lim said Tanda Putera would go down in movie history as "a dangerous fiction created to cause racial disharmony, to demonise a community and a symbol of disrespect to those who lost their lives in the riot".

He said if movies like Tanda Putra were allowed, in future more films that contained lies would be produced.

Meanwhile, MCA Youth chief Datuk Wee Ka Siong said Nazri's statement was insensitive and unfair.

"Being entitled to your views does not mean stating irresponsible things at the expense of other races," Wee said, expressing disappointment that Nazri chose to narrow down the cause of the incident.

"There are many factors that actually caused the riot and one of it is economic inequality," he said.

Wee said that whoever triggered the violence in 1969 and those who keep harping about it

were equally bad.

He said that although Nazri mentioned that "only a few individuals" from the community were to be blamed for the violence, he was already making a stand that the Chinese were the key perpetrators of the incident.

"At that time, there was a huge disparity among the races with some acting as agent provocateurs," he said.

Wee said that one should take a look at the bigger picture and not rush to blame other races. – September 1, 2013.

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