

**Utusan Malaysia apologises to Kit Siang and Guan Eng over Tanda Putera report
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BY EILEEN NG**

Umno-owned Malay daily Utusan Malaysia today published an apology to DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang and secretary-general Lim Guan Eng over its September 9 report on the controversial Tanda Putera film.

In a three-paragraph apology printed on the top panel on page 14, the newspaper apologised to Kit Siang and his son Guan Eng over the "unintentional mistake".

The daily had carried a report titled "Cuba sembunyi kebiadaban DAP" (Try to hide DAP's rudeness) where it was alleged that Guan Eng, who is the Penang Chief Minister, had attempted to block the screening of the movie in cinemas in the state to allegedly hide the rude action of a DAP leader.

The DAP leader was identified in the report as Kit Siang, who it said had allegedly urinated in front of the then Selangor menteri besar's residence during the riots in May 13, 1969.

Lim had repeatedly stated he was not in Kuala Lumpur during the riots.

"Utusan Malaysia fully withdraw its erroneous report and sincerely apologises to Lim Guan Eng and Lim Kit Siang for the unintentional error and for any hardship or shame that it might have caused them as a result of the mistake," it said.

Yesterday, DAP chairman Karpal Singh said the party accepted the daily's apology but this would be the last time they will tolerate such behaviour.

"We accepted their apology but Utusan cannot go on lying. We will give them this opportunity to turn over a new leaf," he told a press conference at Parliament lobby.

Directed by Datuk Shuhaimi Baba, Tanda Putera ran into controversy even before it was screened in the cinemas.

It was criticised for controversial scenes during the May 13 racial riots in 1969. It was released last month and bombed at the box office. – September 27, 2013.

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