



MAJLIS GEREJA-GEREJA MALAYSIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES OF MALAYSIA

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THAT WE MAY BE ONE

One in Christ - Proclaiming Hope, Serving Communities

PRESS STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Council of Churches of Malaysia Denounces Distortion of the Bible, Extends Invitation for Reconciliation Towards a Better Malaysia

Following the crude joke recounted by Sepang UMNO chief Datuk Noorazli Said at the UMNO Annual General Assembly on 12 September 2026, numerous concerned organizations and community leaders have strongly condemned his insensitive remarks. The widespread pushback – including voices from within UMNO itself – is entirely justified. Datuk Noorazli's distorted comments have absolutely no place in our multi-religious and multi-racial society.

The Council of Churches of Malaysia (CCM) joins other Christian bodies, including the Catholic Lawyers' Society of Kuala Lumpur, in denouncing the use of the Holy Bible in any derogatory manner. We firmly condemn any actions that misquote or manipulate Biblical texts, particularly for political mileage at the expense of demeaning other faiths and beliefs.

Such irresponsible handling of our sacred text is an affront to all Bible-believing Christians. For the Christian community, Holy Scripture is revered for the purpose of “teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness” (2 Timothy 3:16).

It is deeply regrettable that Datuk Noorazli's offensive remarks and the subsequent fallout have cast a shadow over our national celebrations for this year's Hari Malaysia. However, this episode serves as a timely reminder that every citizen bears a responsibility to safeguard not only our sovereignty, but also the harmony and good relations among our diverse ethnic and religious communities. The Council echoes the Catholic Lawyers' Society in reaffirming that the Rukun Negara must remain the bedrock of our society and the guiding principles for all Malaysians, especially public figures.

The Council welcomes Datuk Noorazli's subsequent statement expressing his apologies to those who were offended. Like other faith communities, Christians believe that being willing to apologize and to forgive are vital steps toward true reconciliation. We further believe genuine reconciliation can only be achieved when parties are willing to come together, sit at the same table, and offer grace to one another.

With this hope of reconciliation, **the Council of Churches of Malaysia extends a sincere invitation to Datuk Noorazli Said to a dialogue at the CCM Ecumenical Center at his earliest convenience.** The CCM Heads of Churches welcome a fruitful conversation to exchange views on how we can collectively strengthen interfaith relationships in our country. **This invitation is also extended to any elected representatives, community leaders, and faith leaders who believe that peace, mutual respect, and reconciliation are crucial building blocks of a progressive and prosperous Malaysia.**

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Statement by the Council of Churches of Malaysia

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