

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT.

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SPEECH BY MR. S. PAMASWAMY, PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
(LAW) AT A SPECIAL SCREENING OF THE "DO KALIYAN" ON
SATURDAY, 12TH JANUARY 1969 AT 10 A.M. AT THE GALAXY CINEMA

I am pleased to be able to attend the preview of this film, Do Kaliyan, described by the producers as "a tale of two tender hearts".

Not all people go to the theatre for the same reason. To some, a film should provide entertainment, pure and simple. Some seek a moral in it; others expect to see a portrayal of life in all various moods. Still others want a film to be educational and instructive. In the cinema hall some come to laugh, some want to dampen their hearts, some scream and others want to step out of the hall emotionally-charged.

It is obvious that film-makers cannot provide everything nor satisfy everyone.

Generally speaking films can have such information and education value; they are influential in changing the attitudes and outlook of the people. Film-makers - the intelligent-one at least - use the medium of films to the enrichment of society. Unfortunately such film-producers are a rare breed indeed.

The solution, probably, lies in the attitude of the audience. I am of opinion that people must be educated and trained to develop visual literacy and a more refined standard of appreciation of movies. If efforts are made to cultivate the critical faculty of the people, especially the growing generation, the producers can concentrate more on elements that go to make pictures great and worthwhile rather than to depend on sex and violence. That is one way of making fuller use of a powerful medium like the film.

I hope that everyone will have an enjoyable time.
Thank you.

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