

06 JAN 2000

Raya-Message (Osu)

STRIVE FOR GREATER PROGRESS- OSU

KOTA KINABALU, Jan 6 (Bernama) -- Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam today urged the people to strive with full determination for the country's continued progress and prosperity.

In his Hari Raya message, he also urged the people of various communities to be tolerant and promote mutual understanding.

"Hari Raya affords an opportunity for the Ummah to strengthen understanding and collaboration among themselves not forgetting the role of our friends from other races who have also contributed to the country's strength," he said.

Osu said the people must heed the call of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that they acquire knowledge and skills which were the ingredients for the country's progress at international level.

Chief Minister Osu said Aidilfitri was a channel for the people of various races to forgive one another, forget past mistakes and strengthen friendship.

"Such efforts should begin at the family from where the harmony and message of Hari Raya beams," he added.

Osu said the culture of holding open house and visiting each other would further strengthen the spirit of the people to live as a family and as a community.

Osu wished the people Selamat Hari Raya.

Penang Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Dr Hilmi Yahaya in his Hari Raya message urged Muslims to enhance their resilience so as to counter all negative social influences particularly among the young in this country.

He urged the people to imbue in their children religious knowledge and encourage them to absorb Islamic values so that they would be able to face the challenges in the future.

The injection of such values should be done at all levels including the Kampung Development and Security Committee level, he said.

"This is very important to ensure that our society can practise the Islamic teachings well," he added.

President of the Parti Keadilan Nasional (Keadilan) Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail urged Muslims to celebrate Hari Ray in moderation and preserve the spirit of goodwill.

Wan Azizah said the dawning of Syawal represented victory for all Muslims.

-- BERNAMA

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