

Nip narrow racial sentiments in the bud, urges king
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Agong Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin today called on Malaysians to discard feelings of mistrust and forge greater unity among themselves.

He said narrow racial sentiments must be nipped in the bud before they festered in the community.

"Let us together build our beloved nation with love and understanding. We must not destroy the unity and harmony we have forged for short-term gains," he said at the national-level Prophet Muhammad's birthday celebration carrying the theme 1Malaysia, 1Ummah, at the Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin Mosque in Putrajaya.

Also present at the event were Prime Minister Najib Razak and his wife Rosmah Mansor, Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin and his wife Norainee Abdul Rahman, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Jamil Khir Baharom and Islamic Development Department of Malaysia director-general Wan Mohamad Sheikh Abdul Aziz.

Tuanku Mizan said Prophet Muhammad's birthday celebration was most meaningful for all Muslims as it reflected their love for the prophet and enabled them to cherish his history and struggle in upholding Islam.

He said the noble values of Prophet Muhammad served as a guide for leading a good life and could forge unity among all Muslims if everyone was sincere of doing so.

"For example, the prophet set the best example in terms of family leadership. He showed exemplary moral values. These were outstanding, not only in his communication with Allah (God) but also in his relations with the people," he said.

2.4km-long parade

Tuanku Mizan said all Muslims must appreciate the deeds and contributions of Prophet Muhammad through the earnest practice of Islam.

He said that only through the true appreciation and practice of Islam would one derive the best outcome in this world and the hereafter.

In conjunction with Prophet Muhammad's birthday celebration this year, Tuanku Mizan urged Muslims to strive for greater achievement to enable the people and the nation to continue to excel.

A parade and procession were also held in conjunction with the celebration, represented by 114 contingents comprising 10,315 people from the government, statutory bodies, private sector, non-governmental organisations and schools.

The procession over 2.4 kilometres started at Dataran Putra and ended at Qiblat Walk at the Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin Mosque.

- Bernama

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