

Hard for PM, wife to let go of daughter

MalaysiaKini.com

Mar 29, 2015

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Street protests and political pressure for the prime minister's resignation fail to take the shine off PM's only daughter Nooryana Najwa's second wedding reception today.

For PM Najib Abdul Razak, the hard part of the past few days was letting go of his little girl.

"Today is very meaningful for my wife and I as parents because letting go of our daughter is a very hard thing.

"But the fact is, Gina has to sail the ocean of life with her chosen partner, Danny," he said in his speech at the reception in Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC).

Nooryana Najwa's marriage to Khazakh national Daniyar Kessikbayez was solemnised at the PM's official residence last week while the VIP reception took place at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) last night.

Guests at the high security KLCC reception - which took place hours after protesters took to the street to ask for Najib to step down - were asked not to post photos of the event online to keep the night "intimate".

The PWTC reception today is mostly for Umno and BN members.

There will be another reception in Najib's constituency of Pekan.

Kazakhstan and Kelantan

In his speech, Najib said he never thought his daughter will marry someone from so far away.

"Before, marrying a Kelantanese was already like marrying a foreigner but in today's world without borders, she chose Danny from Kazakhstan," he said.

His new son-in-law, he said, is not someone to be sniffed at.

Kessibayev once won a boxing championship, he said, "so anyone who tries to challenge him has to think twice".

The grinning newlyweds left the hall hand-in-hand amidst photographers and guests who flocked them for a picture.

They were dressed in baby blue and gold songket, with Kessikbayev doning a tanjak, sampin and keris traditionally used by Malay grooms.

Nooryana Najwa was in a flowing french lace kebaya and veil and held a bouquet of pink roses.

Her father, who was dressed in matching peach outfits with his wife Rosmah Mansor, described their daughter as gentle yet determined to achieve her goals.

"If she wants something, no one can change her mind. Even I can't change her mind," he said.

He also thanked all who contributed to the wedding including several menteri besar who contributed traditional delicacies from their respective states.

Najib then left the wedding to rush to the Sepang Formula 1 Grand Prix for the prize-giving ceremony.

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