

Chua: Rekindle the Spirit of 1957 to take us forward
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KUALA LUMPUR - MCA President Dr Chua Soi Lek has urged Malaysians to remember and reflect on the unity of purpose that brought them together as a nation 53 years ago.

In a statement to mark Merdeka Day on Tuesday (Aug 31), the MCA leader said the party "strongly supports" Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's 1Malaysia concept and pledged to work closely with the PM to achieve it.

"We hope all Malaysians will rally around the PM by practising moderation and tolerance," said Chua.

"Current and future generations of Malaysians must not let our forefathers down and must therefore reject all forms of racial and religious extremism that can threaten our peace and prosperity."

He said the Merdeka generation of political and community leaders, together with the people, had fought for Independence and they did it with the common goal of building a prosperous, democratic, tolerant, multi-racial and multi-cultural nation.

He noted that the challenges of today and tomorrow are even more daunting in view of recent voices of extremism that have marred the political landscape.

Despite this, he said the MCA will continue to speak out against these voices of extremism. "We will speak out on behalf of all Malaysians who aspire for tolerance, harmony and economic well-being."

On the economy, Chua said the MCA will be at the forefront of pushing for the economic reforms needed for the country to become a high income economy.

"I call upon all Malaysians to re-ignite the Spirit of 1957 to take us forward as a nation and to achieve the goal of Satu Malaysia," Chua urged in his statement. - MM

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