

**"Be Grateful That You Can Fast In Ramadan Unhindered", Says DPM
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KUALA LUMPUR -- Muslims in Malaysia should be grateful for being able to fast during Ramadan in a climate of peace and harmony, and without any obstacle, said Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin.

"Indeed the peace we have been enjoying has enabled us to perform our religious obligations impeccably," he said in a statement last night in conjunction with the arrival of Ramadan today.

Muhyiddin said in this context, peace was a prerequisite to complete observance of a Muslim's religious obligations, and that peace was incomparable to other situations in the religious sense.

He said it was therefore incumbent upon Muslims to protect peace in the country by not committing acts that could threaten that peace.

For that, he said, Muslims should take the opportunity in the month of Ramadan to strengthen unity among them, which was the foundation for peace that had been built in this country since a long time ago.

Muhyiddin urged Muslims to fill the holy month with religious activities as enjoined by Allah such as individually reciting the Quran, taking turns to recite verses of the Quran in a group, giving praises to Prophet Muhammad, giving alms to the poor, performing after-midnight "sunat" prayers, and spending time in prayers at the mosques.

He said Muslims must also help one another in doing good deeds.

"Hopefully, this Ramadan will open the door to forgiveness and blessings for us all. Hopefully too, all our religious observance will be accepted by Allah and give us multiple divine rewards.

"I pray that we will be able to complete our fasting and that this Ramadan will make us Muslims who are always grateful for the good things and blessings from Allah."

Muhyiddin also advised Muslims to spend prudently and avoid wastage throughout Ramadan.

"In fact, Ramadan is the best time for us to train ourselves to spend wisely which is enjoined by our religion," he said.

Muhyiddin and his family wished Muslims in Malaysia a good month of fasting.

(Bernama)

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