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Continue consensus, says PM

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BY ROSLINA MOHAMAD
roslina@thestar.com.my

'Practice has proven effective in ensuring success'

KUANTAN: The spirit of consensus, as practised by the country's leaders over the past 50 years, must be continued through the new generation, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

The Prime Minister said the practice had been tested and proven effective in ensuring peace, progress and success.

The country, he added, would continue to enjoy harmony and

prosperity if everyone worked diligently and sincerely to achieve this.

"This is the style adopted from the very beginning, since the days of the Alliance (the tripartite coalition of Umno, the MCA and the MIC) and continued by the present (multi-party) Barisan Nasional.

"This is the way we have ruled the country for 50 years and we should be grateful that everyone has been

able to enjoy the benefits," Abdullah told members of the Barisan backbenchers' club at the dinner here last night.

The Prime Minister said he shared his knowledge and information about the country's progress with delegates of the 8th Langkawi International Dialogue, who were keen to learn a thing or two about the country's success.

He added that many of the dele-

gates of the participating countries were impressed with Malaysia's success stories.

"We are moving ahead of them but we are also eager to share our knowledge," Abdullah said.

He advised government servants, especially the heads of departments, to work with the *wakil rakyat* to ensure that development projects were completed on time.

Regarding the backbenchers'

club, he said it was an essential entity because the members are the frontliners who will see to it that development is making inroads into every nook and corner of the country.

In his welcoming speech, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob said every leader has his own idea and vision on how to take the country to the next level.

Abdullah, he said, had done Malaysia proud by introducing the Islam Hadhari concept of administration.