

> NATION-BUILDING

Develop a sense of belonging

NST-10/4/2007

I REFER to "Raja Nazrin: This country belongs to all Malaysians" (NST, April 4).

All citizens, regardless of their race and religion, should rally behind the Raja Muda of Perak Raja Dr Nazrin Shah's call that this country belongs to all.

We have come a long way since independence in building our nation through the comradeship among the ethnic groups.

We fought together for independence and against the communist insurgency, and it was racial unity that brought

us success in these two battles.

Together we toiled to develop our nation from a poor developing nation to a highly developing one, and our bid to achieve Vision 2020 to make our nation a developed state.

All these years, we have lived, worked, played, eaten, celebrated, our festivities and even prayed together. Little did our racial and religious differences divide us. We considered ourselves first as Malaysians, only then as Malays, Chinese or Indians.

This common brotherhood which we had cherished is be-



Unity is a key ingredient in determining the success of our multiracial nation.

ing threatened today.

We are becoming increasingly more divided by race and religion.

There is growing suspicion of one another. Our children are segregated in schools for various reasons.

Raja Nazrin's call is timely.

There is an urgent need to develop a sense of belonging among all citizens by providing their rightful dues as enshrined in the Federal Constitution.

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