

Lessons in unity and success

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Foreign leaders want to learn from Malaysia

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PUTRAJAYA: Foreigners hold Malaysia in high regard in areas of racial unity, religious tolerance and economic success.

"They want to emulate and learn from us," said Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Heads of states, government leaders and officials as well as businessmen conveyed this to him during meetings and discussions he had had with them, the Prime Minister said.

Abdullah said that he told them: "What we have achieved today had not come without problems and

hard work."

"They want to send their government leaders, officials and students here to learn from Malaysia's experience," he told officials of the Prime Minister's Department at its monthly gathering at Dataran Perdana here yesterday.

"They want to send their students to our universities besides wanting to study our policies and how we execute them," added the Prime Minister, who had just returned after visiting Yemen and Syria.

He said countries like these two nations also hoped to improve bilateral ties with Malaysia in construction and information and communication technology.



Friendly guest: Abdullah welcoming head of the Judiciary Power of the Islamic Republic of Iran Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi at his office in Putrajaya yesterday. — Bernama

As such, he added, Malaysia should not be *indah khabar dari rupa* (a Malay idiom which means reputation exceeds fact).

He said that government officers must discharge their duties and responsibilities well and effectively at all times.

Abdullah also called on government agencies to act promptly on complaints against Malaysian companies overseas.

He reminded contractors taking up overseas jobs to provide the quality of their products and service.