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Najib: A good leader must show sincerity

KUALA LUMPUR: Sincerity is the core element of leadership, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak here last night.

He said it was the first and foremost element which was a prerequisite in differentiating between an ordinary and a transformational leader.

Without any doubt, Najib added, the degree of sincerity from a leader would determine the effectiveness of any leadership.

"Thus, without sincerity, you will not be able to inspire people to be what they can do, stand a few inches taller and to realise their optimum potential.

"There is a Malay saying to the effect that 'what comes through the eyes will be perceived by the eyes, what is uttered through the lips will be perceived by the ears but what comes from the heart will be empathised by the soul'," he added.

The prime minister said this at a function where he was conferred the Malaysian Institute of Management (MIM) honorary fellowship award last night for his resolve, commitment and implementation of the Government Transformation Programme and Performance Management.

He was classified as a "truly new age chief executive officer" who understood international marketing and brand dynamics.

Also present were Najib's wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, MIM president Tun Hanif Omar and MIM chairman Datuk Mohamed Iqbal Rawther.

Najib also said the classical di-



Datuk Seri Najib Razak, flanked by Malaysian Institute of Management president Tun Hanif Omar (left) and MIM chairman Mohamed Iqbal Rawther, looking at the MIM honorary fellowship award. — NST picture by Effendy Rashid

chotomy between politics and management was no longer possible.

Political behaviour aside, he said, the purpose of politics, like management, was also to get things done.

"This is today's political reality. Not only in Malaysia, but in every democracy which cares for the peo-

ple, this approach is becoming a truism. Hence the tagline of 1 Malaysia is 'People first, Performance now'."

Najib also believed that transformation leadership was the apex of all types of leadership. He said the responsibility for such a transformation lay not with the government alone.

"A performing public sector is necessary and a prerequisite condition for a highly performing private sector. This may sound like a cliché, but we need the involvement of the private sector, too, to create wealth (for the people)."

Najib said the New Economic Mod-

el, introduced recently to replace the New Economic Policy, brought into focus not only Vision 2020 but very precise and strategic thinking to create a high-income nation.

Najib also launched MIM Talent Management and Transformation Leadership Centre.