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PM: Never allow politics to supersede Islam

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JOHOR BARU: Islam has always been, and will always be above politics, under any circumstance.

This concept, if practised consistently by Muslims, could avoid any disunity and discord among the community, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

"There should not be any politicising of Islam because we prioritise Islam above politics, and never allow politics to supersede Islam.

"If this is done, then many problems involving disunity or weaknesses that can be exploited by our enemies could be avoided," he said at a Tadarus Quran (complete recital of the Quran) and breaking of fast at Masjid Tan Sri Ainuddin Wahid in Skudai here yesterday evening.

Najib said the government had administered the country based on the teachings of Islam and the concept of syariah.

"That is why we have to protect Islam, the faith of its followers, its teachings, Islamic law and infrastructure. That is our responsibility, in addition to ensuring the peace, security and property of the nation."

He said protecting the religion's teachings also meant that the government had to prioritise education and develop the economy.

"That is why many nations look up to Malaysia as a model state. The

new Egyptian president is one leader who has made our country his model nation."

Najib also wanted Muslims to be known as a successful people and not be associated with poverty or negative aspects.

"We want Muslims to be courageous and virtuous and not have Muslims who are weak.

"We do not want Islam to be associated with poverty."

Present were Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman, Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein and other state executive council members.

Later, Najib and the dignitaries performed the *maghrib*, *isyak* and *terawih* prayers, and joined a 3,000-strong congregation for breaking of fast.