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## Muslims urged to practise moderation

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**PETALING JAYA:** Muslims are urged to practise moderation to ensure the country's continued peace and success.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, in a message delivered in conjunction with Prophet Muhammad's birthday today, said the Prophet was a great role model who practised *wasatiyyah* (moderation) in his life.

"We see the concept of *wasatiyyah* as shown by the Prophet can unite Muslims across the world. This moderation that was practised by the Prophet has given momentum to spur the progress of every race and country in the world," said Najib on his blog.

This year's *Maulidur Rasul* theme is "Wasatiyyah Tonggak Kesatuan Ummah" (moderation is the pillar to unite the people).

Najib believes that the culture of moderation as practised by Malaysia will become the best example to other Islamic nations in handling regional issues.

Najib said he had taken part in a humanitarian visit to Palestine to show the country's support towards the struggle of the Palestinian people and he has offered Malaysia's help to bring the rival groups of Hamas and Fatah closer.

"The fact is that the world recognises Malaysia as an important voice of peace. Thus, we need to maintain our country with a government that is authoritative and respected internationally," he said.

Separately, Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said Muslims could not allow negative elements to tarnish the integrity of the religion.

"This endeavour is certainly not impossible because the Prophet himself had succeeded in guiding the earliest Muslim community to become the best people," he said.