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PM: Let younger ones decide how to fulfil Vision 2020

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PETALING JAYA: The Prime Minister included a personal narrative in his call for the younger generation to be given the space to decide how to fulfil Vision 2020, by talking about his daughter.

In an audio speech posted on his website yesterday, Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak spoke about "letting his daughter go" when she got married.

"As a parent, it is hard for me to let go of my daughter even though she is now an adult.

"But when the time comes, I will still have to let her go, with a heavy heart, so she can lead her life independently," Najib said in the address.

His daughter Nooryana Najwa, 27, married Kazakh Daniyar Kessikbayev, also 27, recently.

Vision 2020, said Najib, was mooted by former leaders for the well-being of the future generation, who should be given the platform to realise this mission.

"The younger generation are able to overcome obstacles because they are now more mature and resilient," he said.

While urging them to respect the advice and views of the elders, Najib also reminded the elders to consider how times had changed.

"Sometimes the elders are unhappy with how much the young people have changed

since their time, and whether the decision is wrong or right. Ultimately, it all boils down to the individual.

"It is normal for elders to be protective of young people. But when the time comes to let go of them, then let them go," he said.

Vision 2020, aimed at making Malaysia a developed nation by that year, was mooted by former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in 1991.

But at the World Bloggers and Social Media Summit on Thursday, Dr Mahathir was quoted as saying: "By 2020, I think we will have the per capita income, but we will not be a developed country."