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PM meets Syrian families taking refuge in Malaysia

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak took time off from his busy schedule at the Umno general assembly to meet Syrian families taking refuge in the country.

Accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Najib spent about 20 minutes talking to the three families who have fled their war-torn country.

Salam Ali, 17, who arrived in Malaysia with her sister and parents, said she was looking forward to continuing with her studies.

"Malaysia is beautiful," said Salam, adding that she hoped to be as happy here as she was in Syria before the conflict started.

Mohamed Ibrahim, 29, whose family has finally joined him in

Malaysia where he has been working as a hairstylist for four years, said he was happy to have the chance to meet the Prime Minister.

"I am so happy, I don't know what to say. Insya Allah, we will have a good life here," he said, adding that he was thankful for the help of Malaysians in bringing his family to the country.

Mohamed said he was glad that his parents, brother and sister are safe with him now.

His family was the first group of Syrian refugees to touch down at the KL International Airport on Tuesday.

Flying in from Istanbul, the family originally came from Idlib city in Syria.

The move to bring Syrians here was part of Najib's promise to help 3,000 Syrian refugees currently fleeing from conflict in their country.

Also present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and Federal Territories Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor.

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