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PM, DPM convey condolences

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday extended his condolences to the family of the late Tun Abdul Rahman Yaakub.

In a Facebook posting, Najib said Rahman's passing was a great loss to the nation.

"Rahman had contributed a lot to the growth and development of Sarawak," Najib wrote.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin also extended his condolences.

"Rahman's contribution to the growth of the nation will be fondly remembered," he said.

A former Sarawak chief minister, Rahman died yesterday at Normah Medical Centre in Kuching. He was 87.

He had held two ministerial posts at the federal level.

While serving as the education minister in 1969, he boldly changed the language of instruction in schools and higher education institutions in the country from English to Bahasa Malaysia.

He was a key figure in many important moments in the state's and country's history.