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Malays showing right spirit, says Najib

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak is confident that the Malays will continue to be respected in the eyes of the world.

He expressed this confidence based on the spirit demonstrated by those, especially youths, who had joined him in the Malay Solidarity Gathering at Bukit Jalil on Saturday.

However, he said the Malays should not be complacent and must continue to move ahead and be self-sufficient.

"We must redouble efforts to train the Malays to become a knowledgeable race and strengthen their economy.

"We must champion the cause of Islam; defend the institution of monarchy and the special privileges of the Malays, uphold the *Maqasid Syariah* by adopting the attitude of moderation; uphold noble values and protect the family institution," he said in a Twitter posting yesterday.

Najib added that these mandates should be used as *wadah* (guidance) and *masalah* (actions that produce goodness) that should be strived for and used to develop the Malay race.

"I am confident that if we maintain the unity and work towards de-

veloping the country, there is nothing that we cannot achieve together."

In another posting, Najib said the government would continue its efforts to strengthen national defence to ensure that national security and peace as well as the sovereignty of the nation were protected.

"Today (Sunday) is the 82nd anniversary of the Malaysian army. I call on all Malaysians to say thank you for the sacrifices made by the soldiers and their families and to pray that the armed forces continue to be gallant, resilient and strong."