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PUTRAJAYA: Cartoons that depict harmonious Malaysia can help in nation-building, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak told Malaysian cartoonists.

Citing Datuk Mohammad Nor Khalid - better known as "Lat" - as an example, Najib said the legendary cartoonist had always managed to depict Malaysian harmony through his drawings and caricatures.

"Millions of Malaysians including myself always cherish the work of Datuk Lat.

"His cartoons and his characters constantly depict the harmony of our multi-ethnic and multi-religious society.

"On serious issues, he has managed to present it in a humorous manner that it becomes memorable and a conversation point among the public.

"Us politicians particularly are not spared from his sketches," said Najib, at the inaugural Kampung Boy Awards here last night.

Najib reminded local cartoonists of the Charlie Hebdo controversy and advised them to be aware of the sensitivities of all religions.

The awards, named after Lafs famous book and cartoon show *The Kampung Boy*, aimed to recognise the works of local cartoonists.

Jaafar Taib, known for his works in local cartoon magazine *Gila-Gila*, was presented with the Kampung Boy 2015 Premier Award last night.

Reggie Lee, whose sketches appear in *The Star*, received the "Editorial Cartoonist Award".