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Peace, security of nation top priority: PM *The Sun - 17/9/2015*

KOTA KINABALU: Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak yesterday said the peace and security of the nation is the government's top priority.

As such, the prime minister said, the government will do its best to ensure peace and security, as well as racial harmony, are well preserved.

"We have seen blood on the streets. We have seen burning shops, but I will never allow that to happen in Malaysia. The peace and security of the nation is my government's top priority," he said.

Najib stressed this in his keynote address at the National Integration Seminar jointly organised by the National Unity and Integration Department and Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (Asli) here.

Najib said Malaysia's continual efforts to promote national unity has been recognised internationally, included by the Nobel Prize-winning economist Joseph Stiglitz, who once wrote that Malaysia "has much to teach the world, both about economics, and about how

to construct a vibrant multiracial, multi-ethnic, multicultural society".

He said Malaysia had consistently conducted elections since 1963, and even critics agreed that these elections had always been fiercely contested.

He added there were cases where ministers lost their seats and the state governments changed hands, but the Barisan Nasional (BN) government had listened to the people when they had spoken.

"What is not right, though, is to undermine our democracy by spreading lies - despite our best efforts to engage in a civil manner, we cannot discuss and debate when the truth is hidden by a cloud of false allegations. It is not right when people try to stir up hatred against the government.

"It is not right to organise rallies dominated by one race, with the expressed aim of toppling the government. As we have seen, this then leads to rallies by other races," he said. - Bernama



Najib with Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman and other state leaders at the seminar in Kota Kinabalu.