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Tun Razak: Man of the rakyat The Sun - 14/1/2016

KUALA LUMPUR: Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, the second prime minister of Malaysia, grew vegetables to relax, and even did some fowl-rearing.

"He was a keen golfer, but he also loved to grow things, and he had a green thumb. What he planted grew," said a curator of the Tun Razak Memorial here, which used to be Sri Taman, his official residence.

The house is being kept as much as possible in the state it was when the Tun lived there with his family. Even a golf cart that he used is still intact, along with the books in his study.

The two-storey house features a Californian-style design and has a Japanese courtyard. But, for all that, it was not ostentatious.

Razak, who passed away on Jan 14, 1976, did not want a swimming pool built despite the pleading of his five children, said the curator, Mahani Mohammad.

"It was too expensive, and Tun was concerned about what the rakyat would think ... the people were always on his mind," Mahani said.

"Actually if you go through



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak peruses his father's 'Red Books' at the Tun Razak Memorial while on a visit there recently.

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the house you will realise that Tun was a down-to-earth man. He loved his children, but he did not believe in pampering them."

Najib, Johari, Nizam, Nazim and Nazir each had a room with a bed, a wardrobe and a desk. There were no bathrooms attached.

Mahani said the master bedroom showed that Razak, who was PM from 1970 to 1976, was a considerate husband.

There was a side door to the room which he would use if he came home late from work or an official function so as not to disturb his wife, Tun Rahah Mohammad Noah.

Sri Taman is in the Lake Gardens area and the exhibition

halls contain some 1,650 items.

Holding pride of place is the Red Book, which laid down in detail Razak's policy of development.

For his achievements in raising the nation, Razak is known as "Bapa Pembangunan" (Father of Development). - Bernama