

Newspaper	MALAYSIAN RESERVE
Date	7 OCTOBER 2016

# Najib: Fair leadership can change perception of Islam

by P PREM KUMAR

FAIR and transparent governance by Muslim leaders worldwide could change the negative perception of Islam, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Razak.

He said good governance creates trust among the people and the escalation of trust created would enable greater opportunity for Muslims to combat prejudice against Islam.

"One of the major challenges we must confront is the barbaric and violent acts of terrorists and extremists claiming to act in the name of Islam.

"These have, unfortunately, skewed the perception of our



(From left) European Secretariat/WMLF secretary general Dr Husna Ahmad, Asli chairman Tan Sri Dr Michael Yeoh, Asyraf and WMLF chairman Datuk Seri Mohamed Iqbal Rawther at the 3rd World Muslim Leadership Forum in Sunway

religion," said Najib in his keynote address at the World Muslim Leadership Forum (WMLF) 2016 yesterday.

His speech was read by

Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki.

Najib also said the negative perception of Islam and its

cultural values are also magnified by the media to the public.

The premier said it is up to Muslims to not only counter these stereotypes but to face the threats posed by these extremist and terror groups by being, becoming and preparing wise leaders with great integrity.

"Fear is a terrible, crippling emotion that is instilled in order to control people. Let us in turn stop its spread and stand against such actions in solidarity and strength," said Najib.

He added that there is a duty to create leaders who could set examples that could be followed by people of all

creeds and races.

Najib said great leaders not only achieve personal success and greatness in their own chosen endeavours, but also carry others along with them or use their own platform to lift others up.

Najib also wanted the two-day forum organised by the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (Asli) to discuss the halal industry and Islamic finance as well as ways to create wider collaborations with other nations.

The forum, which is co-organised by Asli and Global One Foundation of UK, is aimed at promoting dialogue between the Muslim and non-Muslim nations.

Malaysian Reserve - 7/10/2016