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# Najib draws analogy between BN and longhouse

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**SIBU:** Malaysia will continue to prosper and progress under the Barisan Nasional government because of the political stability it provides.

In driving home the message, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday said the coalition abided by a principle similar to that of people in Sarawak who live in longhouses.

Najib, who is here on a two-day working visit, said it was because the BN government was formed with strong fundamentals that the country could have political stability.

"Just like longhouse dwellers, the coalition, despite having different component parties, share power and aspirations, and work together."

Najib said this during a visit to the longhouse of singer Andrewson Ngalai Asom, who is also the headman, or *tual rumah*, in Sekuau, Selangau, about 60km from here.

He was accompanied by state Land Development Minister Tan Sri Dr James Masing, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Joseph Entulu Belaun and Tamin assemblyman Datuk Joseph Mauh.

"I have a different opinion of longhouses these days because they are not like those in the past. It looks more like terrace houses now.

"Many longhouses are now built with modern designs, complete with decorative ceilings and fans. The only thing that remains (of old designs) is its length, but that's fine because people (still) live in harmony."

He said this was similar to the transformation process that the country experienced over the years under the BN government, as it progressed towards fulfilling the dream of becoming a successful and developed nation.

Earlier at an event, where Najib

had gathered with senior citizens at the RH Hotel, he said the country's social product comprising highly-qualified human resources was a result of strong government policies.

"There are countries where many highly-educated citizens loiter in the streets because those countries do not have political stability," he said referring to war-torn countries like Libya, Iraq, Tunisia, Egypt, Afghanistan and Lebanon.

"In these countries, radical groups have tried to make drastic changes, but the countries end up in turmoil. The BN government is different because it brings transformations that

are planned with the interests of the people in mind."

He said Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau recently launched a

pilot programme to provide financial aid to the people of Ontario.

"We have been giving BRIM (Malaysia People's Aid) to people in the country in the past four years," Najib said, adding that he would not neglect the people of

Malaysia, including those in Sarawak.

During the two events here, Najib, who is also BN chairman, endorsed the incumbent for the Nangka state seat, Dr Annuar Rapaee, as the par-

ty's candidate for the constituency in the upcoming state polls and newcomer Christopher Gari for the Tamin constituency.

Dr Annuar, a cardiologist, is a member of Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu, while Christopher, an engineer, a member of Parti Rakyat Sarawak.

Joseph, a four-term Tamin assemblyman, had announced his decision to give way to a new candidate.

Najib urged the people to support Chief Minister Tan Sri Adenan Satem to ensure Sarawak BN could win with a stronger mandate.

"My name will not be on the ballot papers but rest assured that I will serve the people of Sarawak. This is my 48th visit to Sarawak and soon, it will be my 50th. I assure you that the Federal Government is committed to helping the state for as long as BN remains in power."

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Datuk Seri Najib Razak