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'FREE FROM TERROR ATTACKS'

# PM: BE LOYAL TO STAY PEACEFUL

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Govt, security forces' preemptive actions ensure country's safety

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**M**ALAYSIA remains at peace, thanks to the preemptive actions taken by the country's security forces, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday.

Najib cited the recent terror attacks in countries such as the United Kingdom and Indonesia, and expressed fears that they would take place on home soil.

"We see on television... In Manchester, Jakarta, Marawi... (but) *Alhamdulillah* (it does not happen in) Kuala Lumpur and other cities in the country.

"I am always afraid something would happen (to us)," he said at Wanita Umno's Jalinan Ramadan 2017 event with uniformed agencies at Putra World Trade Centre here yesterday.

The preemptive actions taken by the government and security forces, he said, were the reason why the country was at peace.

He said this was why the country was ranked among the top 30 most peaceful countries, according to the 2017 Global



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak and his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, at Wanita Umno's Jalinan Ramadan 2017 event with uniformed agencies at Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With them are Umno secretary-general Datuk Seri Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor, Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein, Wanita Umno chief Tan Sri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil, Armed Forces Chief General Tan Sri Raja Mohamed Affandi Raja Mohamed Noor and Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar. PIC BY ASYRAF HAMZAH

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"We are able to go to the mosque, *surau* in peace... our leaders go to pray in the mosque and *surau*, and we all feel safe. There is no sense of danger.

"The only thing is that so many people ask us for selfies," he said in jest.

Najib, who is also Umno president, called on members of the country's security forces to uphold the concept of *wala'* (loyalty) to maintain the country's peace and stability.

Citing the Badar and Uhud wars that occurred during the time of Prophet Muhammad, he said the country could draw many lessons from the events and apply them today.

He said the Muslim soldiers were victorious during the Badar war because they had listened to the Prophet's instructions, despite fasting and being outnumbered.

"They lost the Uhud war because they disobeyed the Prophet's orders in a bid to reap

the spoils of war.

"Loyalty was the one principle that made the difference."

Najib recalled a moment during the Lahad Datu intrusion in 2013, when one member of the security forces leaked information to the enemy and caused the deaths of 10 of his comrades.

This, he said, was one reason why loyalty was important.

"If we remain loyal, nothing is impossible for us to achieve."

Najib later presented Hari Raya gifts, including cookies and

*kain pelikat*, to representatives from 13 agencies, including the Fire and Rescue Department, Road Transport Department, Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency and Immigration Department.

As the country faced geopolitical and security risks, Najib said, the sacrifices made by the security forces could not be repaid with material gifts.

"It is impossible for us to repay you for your sacrifices... there is no value attached to these gifts but we present them to you sincerely."

Present were Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein, Wanita Umno chief Tan Sri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil, Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak, Armed Forces Chief General Tan Sri Raja Mohamed Affandi Raja Mohamed Noor and Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Khalid Abu Bakar.

Shahrizat expressed thanks to the family members of those who served to protect the country's safety.

"Thank you for sacrificing your time and effort, and for putting the nation first by allowing your spouses to serve the country."

She said yesterday's event was inspired by the Association of Wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers (Bakti) and its president Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, who had consistently looked after the welfare of those in the uniformed services.