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'Uphold sanctity of the Quran'

Najib: Muslims must reject extremism and follow the right path

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Prime Minister has called on Muslims to always strive to uphold the sanctity of the Quran and its teachings by rejecting all forms of abuse and attempts to link Islam with terrorism and extremism.

Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said it was unfortunate that the holiness of this year's Ramadan month had been tarnished by incidents of killing and terrorism involving Muslims and made in the name of Islam.

"This is certainly against the teachings of the Quran which is based on the principles of mercy, humanity and justice.

"If these things are allowed, certainly the image of this noble Quran will be affected and covered with negative perception," he said in his post on his blog at najibrazak.com in conjunction with the 1438H Nuzul al-Quran which falls today.

Through various policies and principles, including the Malaysian Syariah Index and the concept of *wasatiyyah* (moderation), as well as various incentives covering the main aspects of human lives, Najib said he hoped Islam could shed associations with negative issues.

"Our country does not only emphasise material development. Instead, human capital development is also a priority and the actual yardstick behind economic and social progress.

"These are a manifestation of our understanding of the teachings of



Spreading goodwill: Najib distributing 'bubur lambuk' to the public after praying at Masjid Jamek Kampung Baru. Looking on is Second Finance Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani (left). — Bernama

the Quran, which promotes a balance between the world and the hereafter," he wrote.

Najib said Malaysia, as a progressive Muslim country, always strives to carry out the teachings of the Quran so that they could be appreciated and understood by Muslims in the country.

Citing the recent 59th international-level Quran recital assembly, the Prime Minister said it was proof of Malaysia's maturity and capability in assimilating the teachings of the Quran.

Yesterday, the Prime Minister gave away *bubur lambuk* to the public in the compound of Masjid Jamek

Kampung Baru here. Fifty huge pots were used to cook the *bubur lambuk* and more than 9,000 packets of the porridge were distributed.

This was the 11th year that Najib and wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor gave away their personal contribution of *bubur lambuk* to the public. — Bernama