

KING: UPHOLD RUKUN NEGARA AT ALL TIMES

NST- 1/9/2020 pg. 2

They form the formula for people of various races and faiths to live in peace and harmony

KUALA LUMPUR

THIS year's National Day celebration will definitely be etched in the minds of Malaysians as it marks the first time such an event was held under the new normal of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Restrictions on public gatherings, however, did little to dampen the spirits of Malaysians, who chose to express their patriotism on social media.

Using the hashtags #Malaysi-

pledge was recited on National Day.

He said instead, the soul and spirit of the Rukun Negara should be appreciated and practised in all aspects of daily life.

"The five principles of Rukun Negara form the formula of how the people of various races, religions, cultures and languages can overcome differences and diversity to live in peace and harmony.

"The Rukun Negara also demands a nation-state that is formed on the strength of religious beliefs, and the people are required to be loyal to the king, who is the umbrella and symbol of the country's sovereignty."

The principles, he said, should serve as a guide and be practised by all quarters, including the country's leaders, the government and all Malaysians.

Al-Sultan Abdullah reminded everyone to respect and defend all things that matter, including privileges and rights that had been agreed upon and enshrined in the Federal Constitution.

The king congratulated the government for its efforts to strengthen the economy, as well as to safeguard the welfare of the people affected by the pandemic. He also thanked the people for their resilience and spirit in facing the setback.

In **Negri Sembilan**, Yang Dipertuan Besar Negri Sembilan Tuanku Muhriz Tuanku Munawir and Tunku Ampuan Besar Negri

aPrihatin and #MomenNegaraku, the people shared pictures of flying the Jalur Gemilang and expressed hope that Malaysia would continue to prosper.

For the first time, Dataran Pahlawan Negara in Putrajaya was chosen as the venue of the National Day celebration, themed "Malaysia Prihatin" (Malaysia Cares). The event was limited to dignitaries, members of security forces and related personnel to ensure the ceremony was run in accordance with the standard operating procedure to curb the spread of Covid-19.

Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunku Hajah

Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah, who graced the event, were greeted by Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and his wife Puan Sri Noorainee Abdul Rahman.



After singing the national anthem *Negaraku*, their majesties left for the multipurpose hall of Dataran Pahlawan

Negara where the king delivered the royal address in conjunction with National Day.

The king, in his address, said the Rukun Negara, instituted 50 years ago as the basis of national unity and formation of the country, was not merely to be upheld symbolically each time the

Sembilan Tuanku Aishah Rohani Tengku Besar Mahmud graced the state-level National Day celebration at the Seremban Municipal Council field.

Present were their two sons, Tunku Besar Seri Menanti Tunku Ali Redhauddin and Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin.

It was attended by 250 people consisting of state executive councillors, representatives of government agencies as well as frontline representatives.

In **Pahang**, Regent of Pahang Tengku Hassan Ibrahim Alam Shah Al-Sultan Abdullah attended the state-level National Day celebration at the Sukpa Indoor Stadium in Indera Mahkota. Present were Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail and state administration leaders.

In **Melaka**, Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Mohd Ali Rustam and his wife Toh Puan Asmah Abdul Rahman, as well as Chief Minister Datuk Seri Sulaiman Md Ali and his wife Datin Seri Munira M. Yusop were present at the state-level celebration at Dataran Seri Negeri, Ayer Keroh.

The ceremony began with a prayer recital by Melaka Mufti Datuk Abdul Halim Tawil, followed by the singing of the national anthem and the raising of the Jalur Gemilang by members of the Third Regiment of the Royal Military Police Corps, Terendak Camp.

In **Terengganu**, Menteri Besar

Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Samsuri Mokhtar was present to witness the maritime sail-past of the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency's *KM Pekan*, *KM Bagan Datuk*, *KM Tok Bali*, *KM Gemia*, *KM Begahak*, as well as *Pengalang 16*, *Pengalang 45* and *Guard 16* boats as they traversed the estuary of Sungai Terengganu and crossed the drawbridge.

In **Sabah**, the state-level National Day celebration, which took place at the Sabah International Convention Centre, was attended by Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Juhar Mahiruddin and his wife Toh Puan Norlidah R.M. Jasni, as well as caretaker Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal and his wife Datin Seri Shuryani Shuaib.

The celebration, attended by 250 guests, was enlivened by cultural dance performances, choir presentations and poetry recitals.

In **Sarawak**, Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Abdul Taib Mahmud flagged off the 2.5km Unity Walk during the state-level National Day celebration.

People of various races and cultural backgrounds were attired in traditional costumes.

Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg, state ministers, heads of government departments and community leaders joined in the walk that passed through the Simanggany city centre, the waterfront Dewan Suarah.