

# King: Rukun Negara bulwark of unity

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► 'Its five principles a beacon for Malaysians of various races, religions, cultures and languages to live in peace and harmony'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah said the Rukun Negara is not meant to be merely upheld symbolically.

The soul and spirit of the Rukun Negara which is the basis of our national unity and the country's formation, should be appreciated and practised in all aspects of daily life, the King said.

"The five principles of Rukun

Negara form the formula of how the people of various races, religions, cultures and languages can overcome differences to live in peace and harmony.

"The Rukun Negara also demands a nation-state focussed on strong religious beliefs, while the people are required to be loyal to the King who is the umbrella and symbol of the country's sovereignty," the King said during his royal address in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the Rukun Negara and National Day 2020 celebrations at Putrajaya yesterday.

The core principles outlined in the Rukun Negara are universal in nature, reflecting noble values of all nations and religions. The principles should serve as a guide and be practised by all quarters, including the country's leaders, the government and Malaysians, the King said.

He reminded all quarters to respect and defend all things that matter, including privileges and rights that have been agreed upon and enshrined in the Federal Constitution.

"Justice in this country is bound by laws that must be respected and complied with by every citizen, regardless of rank and title."

In celebrating the National Day, themed "Malaysia Prihatin" (Malaysia Cares) this year, Al Sultan Abdullah congratulated the government for efforts made to strengthen the country's economy, as well as to safeguard the welfare of the people affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The King thanked the people for their resilience and determination in facing the situation and urged them to appreciate and safeguard the country's independence and peace.



The King, flanked by the Queen and Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, taking the salute at a guard-of-honour held in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary of the Rukun Negara and National Day 2020 celebrations at Putrajaya yesterday. - **BERNAMAPIX**

"Indeed, peace and harmony in a multiracial society is the backbone of the nation's strength.

"I am confident, if the spirit contained in the Rukun Negara continues to be appreciated and firmly embedded in the soul of every Malaysian, our country will continue

to remain united."

Together with the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunku Hajah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah, the royal couple prayed for Malaysia to be protected and blessed with everlasting peace, harmony and prosperity. - **Bernama**