

# PM: Defend Malay rights but don't deny rights of other races

**MERSING:** Unity in Malaysia will be guaranteed if the rights of the Malay and Muslim majority are defended without denying the rights of Malaysians of other races, said Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

The prime minister said this was the basis of national unity that had been upheld all along.

“If we want to guarantee unity the rights of this country’s majority — Malays and Muslims — must be defended.

“But this country also has to guarantee the rights of all other citizens — the Chinese, Indians, Orang Asli, Dayak and Kadazan,” he said at the “Meet Anwar” session as part of the 27th Johor Scouts General Assembly (PA-PJ27) here yesterday.

On the role and responsibility of young people as Malaysia’s future leaders and heirs, he said they must be given the widest possible space, training and opportunities to develop discipline and hone their skills.

“If the young people are fully trained and disciplined, our future will be more assured.

On the Asean chairmanship, Anwar said Malaysia was focused on the agenda of peace, digital connectivity and regional energy that could strengthen ties between the member countries.

He also welcomed proposals to hold an Asean scouts gathering as a platform to strengthen youth collaboration in the region.

The scouts movement, he added, would always be relevant as it fostered core human values like compassion.

“It (scouting) was relevant 100 years ago, it will be relevant in the next 100 years, unless humans lose their humanity.

“Organisations that foster humanitarian values will continue to remain relevant.

“Only thing is, of course, the skills (of scouts) those days did not include digital or AI. Now, we need those skills,” **Bernama**