

PM Mingles With Merdeka Parade Participants, Expresses Appreciation
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 16 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak Friday made an impromptu decision to mingle with participants in the 54th National Day and 48th Malaysia Day celebrations at Dataran Merdeka here.

As the double celebrations officially ended, Najib spontaneously left the VIP stage and walked towards participants on the field.

With the crowd eagerly stopping and shaking hands with him, Najib managed to get to the choir conductor stage, where he delivered an impromptu speech to show his appreciation for the participants involved in the celebrations.

"I'm so excited with your performance," he said, drawing a loud cheer from the crowd and from parade participants on the field.

Present on the stage were his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Information Communication and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim and wife Datin Seri Maznah Rais, Second Finance Minister Datuk Husni Hanadzlah, and Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Koh Tsu Koon.

Najib said that the sense of excitement was tremendous because of the highly spirited performance by the participants. "Our theme for the double celebrations revolves around the young generation, and I can see that these young people are all highly spirited," said the prime minister.

Themed "1Malaysia: Successful Transformation, the People Prosper," the simultaneous celebrations of the National Day and Malaysia Day were indeed dominated by younger people, who were the largest group among the 10,000 participants.

Najib also reminded the younger generation that they were the future leaders of the country.

"InsyaAllah (God willing), Malaysia will continue to succeed because of you," he said, ending the speech with the shouts of "1Malaysia" and "Merdeka," which echoed from all corners of the field.

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