

**Inter-Faith Harmony Through 1Malaysia Spirit, Says Dr Koh  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 2 (Bernama) -- The 1Malaysia spirit and adherence to the true teachings of the great religions form the solid basis for inter-faith harmony in Malaysia and elsewhere, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

Dr Koh, who is also Gerakan president, today conveyed his best wishes to all Malaysians in conjunction with the United Nations World Inter-faith Harmony Week which is celebrated in the first week of February.

The event was first celebrated last year.

Dr Koh also said that Malaysians from the three major faiths and cultures have special reasons to commemorate during this inter-faith harmony week.

"Malaysia is particularly blessed because the first week of February this year coincides with three major religious and cultural celebrations, namely the birthday of Prophet Muhammad or Maulidur Rasul on Feb 5, Chop Goh Meh (15th day of Chinese New Year) on Feb 6 and Thaipusam for Hindus on Feb 7," he said in a statement Thursday.

Dr Koh said Malaysians should take the opportunity to condemn, combat and contain the extremists within society, by emphasising and reaffirming the principles of moderation and inclusiveness in line with 1Malaysia, as advocated by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

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