

**Najib Addresses Inaugural Global Movement Of Moderates Conference
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today delivered a keynote address at the inaugural International Conference on the Global Movement of Moderates (ICGMM), keeping the momentum going for the call he first made in 2010.

Najib first mooted the idea for the movement in his maiden speech at the 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September 2010 where he urged world leaders to embark on building a "Global Movement of Moderates" from all faiths to reclaim the agenda for peace and pragmatism, and to marginalise the extremists.

He has since been promoting the agenda at both at local and international forums.

The three-day conference here gathers 50 speakers from various fields and 350 delegates from over 70 countries.

Organised by the alumni of the International Islamic University of Malaysia (IIUM), the conference, themed "In Pursuit of an Enduring and Just Peace," seeks to remind of "the cardinal responsibility of respecting the differences, where extremism has used their vociferousness to drown out the dissent of the moderates."

In his forward message in the conference's programme book, Najib said, the time has come for moderates of all countries, of all religions to take back the centre, to reclaim the agenda for peace and pragmatism, and to marginalise the extremists.

He said the ICGMM aims to provide a platform for all to learn from each other and foster understanding in this time of great disarray.

"Indeed history has shown us the greater civilisation had to overcome greater struggles.

"However at this critical juncture of our material progress, although conflicts and clashes persist, the room for dialogue and peaceful co-existence had grown even broader.

"Hence it is imperative that we incorporate a vision of mutual trust based on a mixture of methodical arguments and normative aspirations," he said.

Najib said in strengthening national unity, Malaysia had introduced the 1Malaysia concept that calls for the acceptance of diversity as a source of greater unity and to bring the people together in a just and harmonious relationship.

"We would like to play out part in promoting a truly global understanding, harmony and tolerance," he added.

The prime minister foresees the ICGMM to be "the very genesis of the perpetual peace that

our future generation would once again preserve."

Najib also launched his book, titled "Global Movement of Moderates" and the Global Movement Moderates Foundation.

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