

Embrace filial piety, PM tells Malaysians
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PORT KLANG: Malaysians should embrace the Chinese value "xiao shun", or filial piety, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said it was a very important virtue, as no one could achieve success without the support of their parents.

"Without my parents, I would not have become the Prime Minister.

"Not everyone who is the son of a Prime Minister can become a Prime Minister one day in the open democracy that we practise," he told thousands gathered at a Parents Day appreciation dinner here Friday.

He reminded the crowd that it was their parents' contributions and sacrifices in raising them which led them to become successful people today.

"The Chinese have a very good value called 'xiao shun'. It means filial piety. You have to be filial to your parents.

"In Islam, there is a saying that heaven lies under the feet of the mother. There is also similar beliefs amongst the Indian community," he said.

He recounted his meeting with an elderly man in Sandakan recently, who was neglected by his son after the ownership of the house was transferred to the younger man.

Najib said the retired taxi driver asked if he could still get welfare aid, which was stopped after the Welfare Department found out he had a grown-up son.

"He told me he spent his savings renovating his house and passed it to his son. But the son's wife 'cucuk' (influenced) him to kick him out.

"He refused to move out and is now staying in a small room, but his son does not give him one sen," he said.

Najib said he was saddened to hear the story, and would grant aid to the man as it was a genuine case.

"I do not want to sit with Datuks. I want to sit with the rakyat (people) so I know what is happening on the ground," he said.

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