

**Build This Nation Together In 1Malaysia Spirit: Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 5 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today reminded Malaysians on the importance of building the country together in the spirit of 1Malaysia and avoid engaging in activities which could destroy the nation.

"It is important for us to build this nation. To build a house for example, it takes floor by floor, to recover and learn by mistakes. We need to look forward, to reconcile...that's the concept which Malaysians need to be reminded of," he said.

Addressing the Buddhist community at Buddhist Maha Vihara temple in Brickfields here in conjunction with the Wesak Day today, Najib stressed the importance of people to not only tolerate one another but "to migrate to a level of total acceptance" and to celebrate the diversity.

He said whatever faith one may follow, it was vital to find the goodness of the religion because positive attitudes and good teachings could form good values for the nation.

"When we talk about good values, it has to be practised and assimilated at different levels," he said, adding that he believed that Malaysia would have a bright future as the people had been contributing for its development.

Najib said a survey by the Global Peace Index last year which revealed that Malaysia was the 19th safest and peaceful out of 153 countries, showed how successful Malaysia could be despite being a diverse nation.

"You can see how rich we are with various ethnic groups and religions," he said, thanking the people for working towards the country's peace and prosperity.

Also presents were Health Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai, Federal Territory and Urban Well-Being Minister Datuk Raja Nong Chik Raja Zainal Abidin and Malaysian Buddhist Chief High Priest Datuk K.Dhammaratana Thera.

Earlier, Liow, who is also MCA deputy president said all Malaysian must regard themselves as one big family and uphold the spirit of goodwill and respect for one another.

He said tolerance, understanding, patience and compassion were the basic requirements to ensure unity and peace in the country.

"Malaysian must heed this clarion call in spirit of 1Malaysia with goodwill, understanding and respect as the basis for a progressive and united nation," he said.

Liow said the theme for the 50th Wesak Day "Patriotism and Religious Harmony for a United Malaysia" highlighted the desire of all Malaysians, regardless of race or religion.

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