

**Democratic Principles Not Practised By Opposition, Says Najib  
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 12 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the opposition has never practised the democratic principles it claims to champion but instead chose to shift the blame to others.

Najib, who is also Umno president, said the attitude of the opposition which preferred to denigrate Umno and deny the success of the party which has served the people for 66 years, actually showed they had nothing to show for the country.

"They can talk, criticise us in all sorts of ways, they can claim to more open, democratic but it is actually Umno that is more democratic than them.

"Their leaders are not chosen through the democratic process, but picked as de facto leaders. Can't say anything, criticise a little also cannot.

"When a leader of theirs says street demonstrations are not good for the country, better to assemble in a stadium, his senatorship is not renewed. Just a slight difference in views, the party has 'democratic' in its name, where is the democracy? After that, Umno is faulted for everything," he said when addressing Umno members at the party's 66th anniversary celebration here Friday night.

Najib said the blaming Umno phenomenon also involved an incident whereby one of their leaders neglected his own biological mother.

"When their own leader does not care for his own biological mother, Umno is blamed. Umno is really great, so much so we can determine what happens in the bedroom, between the sheets.

"Many more questions are not answered. Asked to defend oneself, dares not swear. Where is the credibility of the leader. Don't blame Umno, we are the party that has fought for the country," he added.

He also said that Umno was not a party greedy for power, instead, was willing to make changes when the need arose, while maintaining its struggle for religion, race and the country.

"Many predicted that our country will not be peaceful, what more successful.

"But to all the cynical predictions, they are all wrong," he added.

Najib said tonight's gathering showed that Umno was a successful party.

"That is why gather here to symbolise the success of the party in bringing changes after changes," he said, thanking past leaders of Umno for the success.

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