

**Prudence Helped Make Tan Sri Mohamed Noah Successful Entrepreneur - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 20 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said his late grandfather Tan Sri Mohamed Noah Omar's prudence helped make him a successful entrepreneur.

He said the same attitude had also enabled his grandfather to set up the Noah Foundation, which had contributed to the well-being of many.

Citing his life with Mohamed Noah, Najib said his grandfather used to remind him not to throw away the bottles of beverage consumed at picnics as they could be collected and sold for money.

"Perhaps, prudence also brought sustenance. That is probably why he was a successful entrepreneur and could establish the Noah Foundation.

"From there, we and many others received many donations and thanks to the donations, we also had the opportunity to pursue our studies," he said in his speech at a dinner held in honour of Tan Sri Mohamed Noah Omar at the Putra World Trade Centre, here, Wednesday night.

Also present were his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein, and former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Tun Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali.

The event was also attended by members of Mohamed Noah family, including his daughter, Tun Rahah, who is Najib's mother, and Tun Suhaila, who is Hishammuddin's mother.

Mohamed Noah, who was born on Aug 13, 1897, was among the founding members of Umno which opposed the Malayan Union during the British colonial rule and restored the sovereignty of the Malay Rulers.

In 1951, he was elected permanent chairman of the Umno General Assembly and held the post until the end of 1959.

Mohamed Noah was appointed Speaker of the Dewan Rakyat from Sept 1, 1959 to Feb 29, 1964 before being appointed as President of the Senate from Feb 24, 1969 to July 28, 1970.

He died in 1990 at the age of 97.

At the function, Najib thanked the Noah Foundation for organising the event that allowed people to remember a prominent leader who had contributed much to the life of the Malays and Malaysians as a whole.

The prime minister also recalled a funny incident about his late grandfather who liked to play golf and always went out early in the morning to make a tee-off.

"We thought he was embarrassed with his game that he liked to start early. One day, somebody went to the golf course and caught him teeing off from the ladies tee.

"So, he stopped, rolled down the car window and said: 'Tan Sri, that is the ladies tee'. And Tan Sri responded: 'I know, but this is my second shot.'" he said, followed by a burst of laughter from the audience.

Najib said Mohamed Noah also had a strong memory.

"One story that he told us repeatedly was about an incident in Beirut, Lebanon, until people started calling him Haji Mohamed Noah Beirut. But what happened over there, I cannot tell lah," he joked.

At the function, Najib also read a special poem in honour of his late grandfather before launching a coffee table book entitled 'Tan Sri Mohamed Noah Omar: A Tribute'.

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