

**Works By Cartoonists, Animators Must Not Violate Morals And Ethics - Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 24 (Bernama) - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak says cartoonists and animators who have influence in determining the stability, unity and prosperity of this country must produce works that do not violate morals and ethics.

"Cartoonists and animators must be more sensitive with the culture and customs of a courteous Malaysian society," he said when opening the 1Malaysia cartoon and animation exhibition titled "Anda, PM dan Kartunis" at Pasar Seni, here Sunday.

He said that every work or product must also be based and blended with good local values which could reach international level without restricting the creativity and innovation.

"Works that are provocative and inciteful which can lead to disunity and discord must be avoided," he said adding cartoonists and animators in this country are mature enough to judge for the common good.

Najib hopes they would go global just like the Upin dan Ipin animated series that were shown on Disney Channel Asia making it Malaysia's cultural ambassador.

"Cartoon and animation works are an appropriate vehicle as they are clean, colour blind, unique and universal and reflect Malaysia's pluralistic identity.

"Cartoonists and animators have an important role in development and progress. Humour in the jokes must insert messages on solidarity, cooperation, tolerance and togetherness to uphold the 1Malaysia philosophy."

They should be able to translate and communicate all government policies in a light and relaxed way easily understood by society.

Najib fully supports the establishment of 'Yayasan Pegiat Kartun 1Malaysia' to develop and strengthen unity among cartoonists and animators in the country.

He also presented RM10,000 each to four veteran cartoonists in recognition of their services. They are Lat (Datuk Mohammad Nor Khalid), Zainal Buang Hussein, Reggie Lee and Jaafar Taib.

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