

PM: Islam and moderation key to Malaysia's success
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SERDANG: Malaysia is a successful nation because Islam is practised alongside the concept of wasatiyyah or moderation, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

The Prime Minister said the same approach was used by Prophet Muhammad, where while upholding the faith, he had cooperated with non-Muslims and other ethnic groups.

"We have been practising this concept since independence 55 years ago, that is why Malaysia is a progressive nation," he said at a mass gathering with imams and mosque committee members here Thursday.

The Prime Minister said despite criticism, the Government has been consistent in upholding maqasid syariah or the objectives of Islam.

He said the Government was committed to upholding the faith and its teachings, stressing that any forms of threats would be dealt it.

"Anything that is against the religion, including pluralism and homosexuality, will not be tolerated," he stressed.

Najib also reminded imams not to violate the sanctity of mosques, adding as a place of worship, mosques must not be used as a platform to incite hatred and disunite the ummah.

He said the Government's transformation initiatives were in line with Islamic teachings that wanted followers pursue progress and development.

"We have transformed Malaysia from an agriculture-based economy to industrial.

"When we continue with the process of Islah (transform), Malaysia will become the first Muslim nation which will attain the developed and high-income nation status," he said.

The Prime Minister reminded all not to destroy the country's achievements by causing disharmony among the people of various races.

He said while the rakyat was free to voice differing views, it should be done according at the right platform and according to the law, citing the Bersih 2.0 demonstrations in Mecca and Madinah might have resulted in Muslims not being able to perform haj.

"I was anxious and because I have close relations with King Abdullah (of Saudi Arabia), I managed to explain the actual situation," he said.

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