

Inviting foreign interference will damage nation's future: Najib
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KUALA LUMPUR -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak today reminded all quarters especially the opposition to refrain from inviting foreign interference and bringing negative culture from outside as this could be damaging for Malaysia's future.

Lashing out at such action, regarded as embarrassing the nation, Najib said Malaysia's potential should not be damaged with the entry of foreign elements because it had a promising future.

"We already have it good here...why fix something when it is not broken," he said at the "1Malaysia Gathering: For The Future Of The People" event held in conjunction with the 2012 Umno General Assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre, here, today.

Najib said Malaysia was now becoming an example to many nations and in fact, some were jealous of its success and achievements but certain parties in the country were finding fault with the government and making a hue and cry abroad.

"Don't talk about inside the country, the Bangsamoro also looked up to Malaysia (to end the conflict in the southern Philippines; (for) 40 years, more than 100,000 had died," he said.

Malaysia facilitated the peace process between the Bangsamoro and the Philippine government which culminated in a peace accord being signed by the conflicting parties last month.

"Here, people look for fault in us, (whilst) others are worse. In the United States, even the presidential election had problems, voters could not find their names at voting booths, late decisions, but nobody said there was big cheating going on, or the selection of (Barack) Obama for the second term was not valid, none..," he said.

Blasting the opposition who often questioned and disputed the government, Najib said they, however, kept quiet when the opposition wrested five states from the Barisan Nasional (BN) in the last general election in 2008.

"So, don't ask a foreign country to interfere, don't bring shame to our country. We have done the best for Malaysia but he (Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim) went to Australia to seek their interference.

Luckily, Australia did not follow," he said, referring to the action of opposition head who was reported to have sought the help of Australia to ensure the general election was free and fair in Malaysia.

Australia, however, rejected the overture and stressed that it would not influence the way the general election was held in Malaysia.

"He knows we have good relations and their leaders know our (Malaysia's) leaders. But he (Anwar) went here and there to try to instigate (foreign leaders) against us.

"We should not be like that, we have a promising future, so why not think for the future of our children," he stressed.

Aware that the support of the people was no longer only with political parties, Najib said the new reality which was supported by the expansion in information technology demanded that

the government strengthened relations with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and society.

"This is why we recognise NGOs because Barisan Nasional (BN) understands the future of the nation depends on the consensus with NGOs and civil society movements who should be roped in as partners to achieve the aims of transforming the nation," he said.

Stressing that the BN was not a static party, Najib said the government was prepared to make changes to bring greater success to the nation.

"We have proven we need not necessarily change the government to progress but we can bring big changes to the same government," he added. -- Bernama

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