

**Najib urges Malaysians to protect 55 years of unity**  
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PETALING JAYA: Malaysians must protect the unity of the past 55 years that has helped shape the nation into a successful country, said Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

Addressing a massive crowd at the Promises Fulfilled rally in conjunction with Merdeka day at the National Stadium, the prime minister said it was the role of today's generation of leaders and citizens to bring meaning to the country's independence.

"The first generation fought to achieve independence, followed by the next generation of leaders and citizens who fought to fill it.

"Now, we are together with the leaders and rakyat who are fighting to bring meaning to our independence," he said.

Najib said that not all countries who had gained independence were "rich, peaceful and strong".

However, he said that with the support, cooperation and contributions from leaders and citizens since gaining independence 55 years ago, Malaysia was now a successful country.

"A country that is richer, more peaceful and stronger by the day. After 55 years of building our country and setting our direction, we have to remember the base of our independence - unity.

"If we don't protect what we own, we own nothing," he said.

Najib said that Malaysia's harmonious blend of races and inclusive policies had allowed everyone to contribute in the country's successes and face any challenge. Referring to Thursday night's gathering of "Janji Demokrasi" by non-governmental association coalition Gabungan Janji, Najib said they were the minority.

"Last night was not the majority (of people). Tonight is the majority that is assembling," he declared.

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