

**Be Grateful Ramadan Can Be Celebrated In Peace And Harmony - Najib  
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PEKAN, July 13 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said Muslims in the country should be grateful for the peace and political stability Malaysia had been blessed with all this while as this enables them to carry out their religious activities without any hindrance especially during the holy month of Ramadan.

The Prime Minister said Ramadan was eagerly awaited by Muslims in the country to seek Allah's blessings.

"All Muslims in the country anticipate Ramadan full of joy because of the holiness of the month.

"We should be grateful and consider ourselves fortunate to be able to celebrate Ramadan in peace and harmony and carry out our religious obligations to the best of our ability," he said at a breaking-of-the fast ceremony at Masjid Chini 2 here Saturday.

Najib said the peace and stability Malaysia was enjoying was a far cry from the situation in many other Islamic countries especially in the Middle East.

In Egypt and Syria, for example, he said political turmoil made it challenging for Muslims to fast and carry out other religious activities.

"In Syria, millions of Muslims have become refugees and are forced to live in tents with an uncertain future ahead of them.

"Citizens of Iraq, Afghanistan and Palestine live in unrest and insecurity while we here in Malaysia are free to make a living for a future," he said.

Najib, who recently returned from a working visit in Tanzania, also shared on the economic situation of African nations and said there was a huge gap compared to Malaysia.

"There are many Muslims there, but their achievement and income is different from us. The per capita income there is USD1500 (RM4763.25) while ours is USD10,000 per capita (RM31755.00).

"Why are they left behind compared to Malaysia although they are rich in oil and fertile land? This is because their political leadership is different from ours here," he said.

At the ceremony, Najib also presented Ramadan contributions to 126 senior citizens from around Felda Chini before breaking fast and performing the Maghrib prayers with the congregation.

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