

Najib Offers Condolences To Ex-Kedah MB Azizan's Family
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 26 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak has offered his condolences to the family of former Kedah menteri besar Tan Sri Azizan Abdul Razak who died in Alor Setar Thursday.

"Al-Fatihah. Condolences to the family of Tan Sri Azizan Abdul Razak on his demise. May his soul be blessed," the prime minister said in his Twitter post.

Azizan, 69, died at the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital, Alor Setar at 11.10am today after a long illness.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, on behalf of the government, UMNO and the Barisan Nasional (BN), extended his condolences to Azizan's family.

He described Azizan's demise as a loss to the country as the deceased had contributed to the country's development, especially Kedah during his tenure as menteri besar.

"On this score, we feel that his demise is a loss as a friend and a leader. Politics aside, we believe his demise is a loss to us as well," he told reporters after receiving Myanmar Parliament speaker Thura U Shwe Mann at his office at Parliament House in the capital.

Muhyiddin said he knew Azizan personally and had visited him at the hospital before.

He prayed for Azizan's soul to be gathered among the faithful.

In his Facebook post, Communication and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek described Azizan as an eminent, simple and sincere politician.

"Al-Fatihah, we are saddened over his lost. The deceased was a leader, teacher and friend.

"Condolences to his family. May Allah bless his soul and place him among the faithful," said Ahmad Shabery.

In ALOR SETAR, Menteri Besar Datuk Mukhriz Tun Mahathir said the Kedah government offered its condolences to Azizan's family and described his demise as a big loss to the state.

"The deceased was attentive to the needs of the people during his tenure as menteri besar. Although we had different ideologies, we had mutual respect for one another.

"I had visited him a couple of times at the Penang Hospital and the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital (HSB) here. We are saddened over his loss," he told reporters at HSB.

Meanwhile, PAS secretary-general Datuk Mustafa Ali, said the party extended its condolences to the family and hoped they would remain patient over the loss of their loved one.

"I was in Alor Setar since yesterday. Last night, I was informed by doctors that his condition was critical.

"I was at the airport this morning when got the news (of his death) and turned back. It is a big loss to PAS and I lost a close friend," he said.

In KUALA LUMPUR, PAS vice-president Datuk Mahfuz Omar described Azizan's demise as loss to the party as he had led the Kedah opposition government for five years from 2008 and offered his condolences to the deceased's family.

Speaking to reporters at Parliament lobby, he said the deceased had created a new political landscape in Kedah and his services were appreciated by the party.

In GEORGE TOWN, Penang UMNO liaison secretary Datuk Musa Sheikh Fadzir offered condolences on behalf of the committee to Azizan's family and described the deceased as a respected leader who had made a major contribution to Kedah.

In ALOR GAJAH, Melaka Chief Minister Datuk Idris Haron offered condolences on behalf of the state government to Azizan's family and described the deceased as an eminent leader who had played a big role in national politics.

"The deceased's leadership and administrative style was well like by many quarters' He was humorous at times, but remained firm in his action," he told reporters after visiting a Petronas oil refinery in Sungai Udang.

Earlier in his Facebook post, Najib described Azizan as a good and amenable leader who treated political leaders from other parties with respect.

"I feel sad after receiving the news of Tan Sri Azizan Abdul Razak's death.

"For me, the deceased was a leader who advocated unity among Muslims so that they become stronger.

"The deceased was also seen as a leader who did not prolonged political feuds or disagreements to the detriment of the people," prime minister said.

Describing Azizan's demise as a big loss to the country, he said, "My family and I pray that his soul is placed among the faithful and blessed.

"To his family, I would like to express our condolences and advise them to be patient in facing the test. Al-Fatihah," he said.

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