

## **Sarawak A Model Of Social Harmony, Says Najib**

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KUCHING, June 2 (Bernama) -- The success of Sarawak in creating an atmosphere of peace and harmony despite having the most ethnic and sub-ethnic groups among the states in Malaysia makes it a model of social harmony, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said it was this harmony that had led to continuous economic growth in Sarawak and thus the channelling of more development projects to the state especially in the rural areas.

He said based on the environment in Sarawak, it was clear proof that the Barisan Nasional (BN) government was capable of bringing tremendous success, through the harmony and stability strived for by all.

"This success should not be taken lightly, not take it for granted, because if we reject what we have inherited today, there is no certainty that we will get what we chase for.

"Therefore, let us all on this Hari Gawai (Harvest Festival) be grateful for what we have achieved and continue to build for greater success in time to come," he said when visiting the Rh Jarek ak Klambu longhouse in Kampung Tunku Abdul Rahman, Lambir, about 20 kilometres from here, today.

The visit was part of his itinerary on his two-day visit to Sarawak in conjunction with Hari Gawai.

Accompanying him on the visit to the Iban longhouse were Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri Alfred Jabu, several federal ministers, state ministers and local leaders.

In his speech, Najib, who just returned from a working trip to China, said he went directly to Miri for the Gawai festivities.

"I believe in sharing the joy of being a Malaysian, believe in being inclusive. This nation belongs to all of us, and we must work together under the spirit of 1Malaysia," he said.

He said he really appreciated the support and commitment shown by all the

communities in Sarawak under the BN's leadership and also promised to look into approving more development projects in Sarawak.

Najib said in the many visits he had made to Sarawak since 2009, he had approved many development projects for the state, costing more than RM2 billion.

Earlier, the Prime Minister was given a rousing welcome during his visit to the longhouse. It included the ngajat dance, a traditional Iban warrior dance, and a pantun session (poetry declamation).

Tonight, Najib is scheduled to attend a Hari Gawai celebration at Dataran Kipas here together with state leaders before returning home.

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