

Unlike before, people are ashamed to admit they are Malaysians, says Sanusi Junid
The Rakyat Post
October 7, 2015

Former Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid says Malays will gain the respect of non-Malays if the community succeeds in life.

KUALA LUMPUR, Umno veteran Tan Sri Sanusi Junid says unity in the country can be achieved if all races want it.

Sanusi, in a report by *Sinar Harian*, said unity, especially among the three major races in Malaysia was made more difficult as there was no shared experiences or suffering endured as the economic gap between the communities widened.

“If their desire to unite is absent, then that’s the end,” he was quoted by the Malay tabloid.

Sanusi said this at a forum organised by *Sinar Harian* last night.

The former Kedah Menteri Besar had also said Malays would gain the respect of non-Malays if the community succeeded in life.

He alleged the failure of leaders to uplift the Malay community, despite being in power for decades had led to others looking down on the community.

“If the Malay community succeeds, the Chinese and Indians will look up to us,” *Sinar Harian* reported him as saying.

Sanusi, who was also previously a federal minister, said Malaysians were ashamed to admit they were citizens after what had befallen the nation.

He explained that when he met other races, they would identify themselves as Chinese or Indians from Malaysia.

“Yet during former Prime Minister Tun Dr Manathir Mohamad’s time, if you bump into other races, they would say ‘I am Malaysian’.

“This meant they put nation before race,” he said.

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Source: <http://www.therakyatpost.com/news/2015/10/07/unlike-before-people-are-ashamed-to-admit-they-are-malaysians-says-sanusi-junid/>