

**Avoid The Extremist Form Of Islam, Says Najib  
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PUSA (SARAWAK), Feb 27 (Bernama) -- Muslims in the country should avoid the extremist form of Islam as practised by a certain group.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said these extremists had made Islam a religion to hate and to fear by the others.

Islam he said was actually a religion of peace, friendship and unity when addressing the congregation at the Masjid Rahmaniah in Kampung Pusa, in here today.

"We should rectify the thinking of these extremists. They have deviated from the true teachings of Islam," he said.

More than 600 people attended the Friday prayer which was led by a State mosque assistant Imam, Ustaz Mustapha Kamal.

Pusa is Najib's third destination today on his three-day visit to the state beginning yesterday.

Earlier, he visited Sri Aman where he laid the foundation stone for the RM200 million Hospital Pakar Minor Sri Aman.

From there he proceeded to Beladin where he launched the construction of a RM3.6 million community centre.

"Because of our pural society with its many religions, we must avoid conflicts. We must strengthen goodwill in order for Malaysia to become an even more progressive county in the future.

"We have been able to develop the country based on the demands of Maqasid Syariah. Malaysia practises the form of Islam based on its true teachings.

Meanwhile, he said the government would consider sending the "bilal" in the state on sponsored haj pilgrimage.

"We are now sending some 200 Imam and leaders of the village security and development committees on the pilgrimage sponsored by the 1Malaysia Development Board."

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