

Uphold the Principle of Wala' To Party Leadership - Najib

Bernama

Dec 1, 2016

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 1 (Bernama) -- UMNO president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today stressed that the principle of loyalty and faithfulness toward the party leadership institution should be upheld for the sake of the future struggle of the sacred party in championing the cause of the Malays and Bumiputera.

Nevertheless, the Prime Minister said UMNO, which has been helming the government leadership since the country gained independence had proven that the party's struggle was inclusive to ensure the interest and rights of the other races were not marginalized.

Najib when delivering his presidential policy speech at the 2016 UMNO General Assembly, at the Putra World Trade Centre here today called on all UMNO members not to waste their energy entertaining a handful of traitors to the race and nation.

"It is more important for me and the government leadership to carry out the greater 'jihad', to give our 100 per cent efforts to continue to move forward, promote the economic growth and the country's development to protect the interests of 31 million Malaysians," he said.

Najib, in blue 'Baju Melayu' also elaborated the principle of wala', which is associated with loyalty, faithfulness, 'bai'ah' (oath of allegiance) towards legitimate leaders, in which in the context of UMNO referred to the president while in the government, it referred to the Prime Minister.

The UMNO president, who earlier asserted that he would deliver his speech with maturity also highlighted several events which had caused disunity and the formation of cliques in the party.

Those experienced by Umno, he said required the party and its members to adhere to the principle of wala' towards the party president.

He cited an example of the success of the country in achieving a positive economic growth via the National Transformation Policy, established through the strong teamwork between the party leadership and the government.

Najib, who stood on the main podium of the UMNO General Assembly for the 13th time, five times as deputy president and eight times as president expressed his regret over Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who used to be a distinguished statesman but now had defected from the party he had once led.

The action of the former prime minister and UMNO president who was willing to be in cahoots with the DAP, the illegal Bersih rally and enemies from outside the country like George Soros was regarded as an act of treason at its peak towards UMNO, the race and the country, he said.

He was also disappointed with the actions of former party and government leaders from UMNO who had betrayed the party struggle and violated their oath of office and secrecy in the name of Allah.

The UMNO president also expressed his appreciation to three million party members who had remained loyal to the party even when UMNO was facing tough challenges.

Najib urged the people to think deeply whether to choose the UMNO-led government or DAP-led government (UMNO-led Vs. DAP-led government).

"The Malays and Bumiputeras as well as Malaysians will face the most crucial crossroad in the annals of the country's politics, whereby in the GE14 (the 14th General Election), voters will determine who should lead the administration of the country," he said.

The Prime Minister said as a Malay, a Muslim, a Bumiputera and a Malaysian, he could not imagine the ill effects that might befall the Malays and Bumiputeras if DAP, which has been fighting for extreme liberalism and secularism ruled the country.

Najib said he was concerned about the fate of Bumiputera institutions, Islam's position as the federal religion, the Institution of Malay Rulers as well as privileges of the Malays and Bumiputeras should DAP rule the country.

He also said that through a discussion with PAS, the UMNO-led government had taken a historic move when a motion to amend the Syariah Courts, Criminal Jurisdiction Act 1965, or better known as Act 355 was tabled at the Dewan Rakyat on Nov 24.

"No one should politicize this issue because it is a private bill which will then be taken over by the federal government," he said.

The Prime Minister also gave an assurance that the bill would not affect the non-Muslims.

Najib also recalled the history of the Malay Muslims that had been crippled and toppled many times due to rivalries and betrayal thus called on the Malays not to be used by certain parties.

"For the sake of the Malay and ummah unity, forget our quarrels and differences. Let us return to the beginning," he said.

The Prime Minister said he was confident that the large victory in the 11th Sarawak State Election, as well as the Sungai Besar and Kuala Kangsar by-elections would bring a momentum victory to Barisan Nasional in the GE14.

At the end of his speech, Najib reminded all the party members to always defend, uphold and continue the struggles of the party.

"If UMNO succumbs due to our complacency, it will be a sin that will not be forgiven by our children and grandchildren," he said.

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