

Najib Congratulates Trump on Winning US Presidential Election

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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 9 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak has congratulated Donald Trump for winning the United States presidential election and expressed the wish for the relationship between the two countries to continue under his leadership.

Najib said the US and Malaysia elevated their relationship to a comprehensive partnership in 2014 and had been firm allies in the worldwide fight against terrorism and extremism.

"We look forward to continuing this partnership under President-elect Trump. "I congratulate him on this extraordinary victory and look forward to meeting him soon," the Prime Minister said in a statement here today.

The Republican Trump beat Democrat Hillary Clinton in a close race early today to become the 45th US President, pulling off a major upset after what some have described as a bitter and at times ugly campaign.

In the nail-biting contest throughout the night, Trump managed a winning margin in many of the crucial swing states including Florida, Ohio and North Carolina, and was even able to snatch previously democratic-leaning states like Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

The victory has made Trump the first president who never held elected office since 1953.

Najib said the world had watched this year's presidential election with fascination.

"At almost every turn, media commentators have been proven wrong and the results anticipated by experts have been overturned," he said.

The Prime Minister noted that Trump was considered a distant outsider when his candidacy was first announced.

"He beat the establishment consensus by winning the Republican nomination and did so again with his remarkable victory today," he said.

His winning, Najib said, showed that politicians should never take voters for granted.

"Opinion polls, and established political figures, all underestimated the strength of his support.

"His appeal to Americans who have been left behind - those who want to see their government more focused on their interest and welfare, and less embroiled in foreign interventions that proved to be against US interests - have won Mr Trump the White House," he added.

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