

Najib Calls For Peace, Unity Among Muslims

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KUALA LUMPUR, June 23 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today expressed the hope that Muslims in general and especially those in Malaysia will take the opportunity of Aidilfitri to forgive one another and foster peace and unity as prescribed by Prophet Muhammad.

The Prime Minister said that if the Muslims were negligent and chose to practise politics of hate, it would be no surprise that relations between Muslims and non-Muslims in Malaysia would also worsen.

"Victory for Muslims begins only when they forgive each other for the sake of unity, and it is also encouraged that the spirit of forgiveness be practised among all humans, irrespective of their beliefs and ideologies," he said in a post on his blog, NajibRazak.com.

Reflecting on the current situation of Muslims, with conflicts occurring all around the world, Najib pointed out that it was very difficult to state that they were winning.

"This situation is exacerbated by the perception of some outsiders who regard Islam as the source of hatred and violence despite the fact that the 1,400-year-old religion has always advocated peace and unity as the best solution to conflict resolution," he said.

Najib said that only those with big hearts could forgive, and Muslims, who were big-hearted, should choose the path of understanding and not one of contradiction for the sake of self-benefit.

In another post, on Equality in Islam, Najib said Islam emphasised aspects of racial equality as well as recognised the honour of every human being regardless of race or ethnicity.

"I adhere strictly to this principle. We cannot make ethnic differences as an excuse to deny any community its rights, " he said.

Najib said the principle of equality was closely related to the principle of justice which was one of the fundamental principles of the country's prosperity.

The Prime Minister said the policies and initiatives of the government, such as the 1Malaysia People's Aid (BR1M) and eKasih aid, have benefited needy individuals regardless of race and religion.

"I hope we can continue to make diversity and differences as the strengths of our nation to know and help one another and not as a factor of divisiveness and enmity, " he said.

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