

"I offer my heart and soul for the nation " - Muhyiddin

02 March 2020

KUALA LUMPUR, March 2 -- Newly-appointed Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin in his maiden address to the nation appealed to the *rakyat* (people) to give him the opportunity to use his 40 years of political and government experience to steer the nation towards greater glory.

"I offer my heart and soul for the nation. I ask you brothers and sisters to give your full support to me to shoulder this trust and heavy responsibility," he said in his address titled 'Rayuan Kepada Rakyat Malaysia' (An Appeal to Malaysians) that was carried live on all major television networks tonight.

Muhyiddin was sworn in as Malaysia's 8th Prime Minister before Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah at Istana Negara yesterday.

The Pagoh MP was appointed PM after a week of political uncertainty following the resignation of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad as prime minister on Feb 24, which led to the collapse of the Pakatan Harapan government when PH component Bersatu pulled out of the coalition.

Muhyiddin, who is also Bersatu president, stressed that he is the prime minister for all Malaysians, from Perlis to Sabah.

"Whether you are Malay, Chinese, Indian, Sikh, Iban, Kadazan, Dusun, Murut, natives, or whichever ethnic group, I am prime minister for all.

"Whether you are a farmer, fishermen, businessman, civil servant, private sector employee, I am your prime minister," he said.

Thus, he asked to be given time to set the direction of the government and nation.

Muhyiddin also thanked Malaysians for their patience and calmness in facing the recent crisis

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