

Love can conquer all

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BANGI: Love means caring, never disappointing anyone and always helping those in need.

These were lessons in life that Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi learnt from his late wife Datin Seri Endon Mahmood.

And this is the way of life that the Prime Minister wants for all Malaysians.

Abdullah said he and his wife had learnt a lot about love and care from each other.

"She taught me how I could be more caring. She was a caring woman. She would never disappoint anyone," he said when opening the Penyayang Club 2006 conference organised by the Yayasan Budi Penyayang Malaysia.

The two-day event at the Employees' Provident Fund and Social Security Training Centre here began yesterday.

Endon was the founder of Yayasan Budi Penyayang Malaysia, of which her daughter Nori Abdullah is now chairman.

"She never wanted to be in a position where she could not offer help to someone who had come to see her for help."

Abdullah said this was why Endon had been active despite her poor health before her death on Oct 20 last year.

"Although she was not well, she was always active, helping and taking part in social activities."

Penyayang was recently introduced as a club activity in institutions of higher learning.

Abdullah said a loving family

usually led to a loving and caring society. It was for this reason that everyone should love himself or herself first.

"We should love ourselves as useful and confident individuals. When everyone loves and cares for themselves, they will progress in life.

"When we love ourselves, it means we will also love our families. When there is love in the family, then we can truly say that 'my family is my heaven'."

Abdullah said there should be no harsh words or hatred within the family. This atmosphere would lead to a strong bond in the family and strong support for each other.

Love would lead to fairness in the manner in which people treated others, he added.

"Fairness is what is being prop-

agated by all religions."

On the introduction of Penyayang clubs in institutions of higher learning, he said they would contribute positively to the quality of participation in co-curricular activities.

Abdullah hoped undergraduates would be caring and loving after learning such values from Penyayang.

"When there is love and a caring attitude in a person, it would be easy for that person to help others and feel sympathetic towards them."

Earlier in her speech, Nori said Penyayang clubs were seen as a platform to extend help to the younger generation.

"I hope Penyayang clubs will become a role model for all other voluntary organisations."