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Raja Nazrin on Malay 'misdeeds'

ROSHIDI ABU SAMAH

REALITY CHECK: He says they are exposing each other's weaknesses

REGENT of Perak Raja Dr Nazrin Shah yesterday reminded Muslims and Malays not to make any miscalculations by assuming they were the strongest race in the country.

This was because the source of their strengths seemed to have eroded as a result of their own misdeeds, he said.

Raja Nazrin said they were now trying to outdo each other, exposing each other's weaknesses and "portraying who is uglier".

"If this situation persists, Muslims and Malays no longer

need enemies from outside to destroy the sanctity of Islam and the Malay race in the country," he said in his royal address when opening the 186th meeting of the state Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Council yesterday.

Also present was Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir.

Raja Nazrin said Muslims and Malays once emerged as a powerful leadership force because they realised their shortcomings and combined their strengths.

"Malays and Muslims at that time were magnanimous and open in their attitude and views, more confident and moderate.

"They were big-hearted, open-minded, rejecting the extreme voices and refraining from sensationalising trivial matters."

He said during the pre- and post-

independence as well as before and after the formation of Malaysia, the Malays remained united on core issues concerning the dignity and pride of the race, and the sanctity of Islam despite differences in political beliefs.

They were also ready to accept diversity, and had respect for differences and were not homogenic, he said.

Raja Nazrin said the strength of the Malay leaders lay in the faith of the people in their sincerity and determination to prioritise the people at the expense of themselves.

At an earlier function, Raja Nazrin received last year's business tithe from Tabung Haji worth RM3.19 million, Tenaga Nasional Berhad (RM2.14 million), Perak Farmers Organisation (RM364,850) and HSBC Amanah Takaful (M) Sdn Bhd (RM60,000).

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Raja Dr Nazrin Shah presenting an instrument of appointment to Perak Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Council's chief executive officer **Dr Amiruddin Mohamed** at the presentation of business tithe at Kompleks Islam Darul Ridzuan yesterday. Bernama pic