



KEMENTERIAN PERPADUAN NEGARA

SPEECH

**HONOURABLE DATUK AARON AGO DAGANG
MINISTER OF NATIONAL UNITY**

EVENT

**ENGAGEMENT SESSION AND DINNER WITH MALAYSIAN
STUDENTS IN TIANJIN**

DETAILS

6 SEPTEMBER 2023 (WEDNESDAY)

8.00 P.M.

SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, TIANJIN

INTRODUCTION

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

1. Thank you to each and every one of you for being here with us today. We are very pleased to **welcome our Malaysian students who are studying at Tianjin University.**

MALAYSIA MADANI AGENDA

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

2. The concept of **Malaysia Madani is the key to uniting Malaysians of all races and religions** to better appreciate the peace and freedom enjoyed for 66 years until today. In the Concept of Malaysia Madani, unity is the main key to ensuring that the people experience all forms of progress and modernity based on the sustainability of the nation's culture, creativity, confidence, well-being, respect, and compassion.
3. With the ever-growing possibility of a recession this year, the threat of increasing social polarization and political turmoil, Malaysia's newly coined national slogan "Malaysia Madani" (Civilized Malaysia), taking inspiration from the prime minister's reformist agenda, faces many challenges in presenting itself as the "Malaysian Dream," promising a prosperous Malaysia as it hopes to secure the confidence of the people.

4. The slogan "Malaysia Madani" was very recently consecrated as the **government's national philosophy and vision aimed at facilitating progress towards the heights of civilization**, encapsulating efforts to steer the country's trajectory, which has historically been off course, through the implementation of several initiatives. The Ministry of National Unity has formulated various programs and initiatives during my tenure as minister and under the Unity Government administration.

YOUTH AND UNITY

Dear distinguished guests,

5. We should be proud, as **Malaysia is a unique, blended, multi-racial country** comprising different races and a diversity of cultures and customs. **It acts as a melting pot and requires strong assimilation and nation-building**, not only to strengthen and prolong the peace and unity among Malaysian adults and youth but also to break down the barriers and bridge the gaps in their differences.
6. As a matter of fact, **the younger generation or Gen Z must be made aware of the importance of unity, social cohesion, and reconciliation** as they are not only the cornerstone of the nation's success but also key to the political, social, and economic growth of the country. As youth are the future leaders of the nation, it is imperative that they have good moral values and interpersonal communication skills to navigate the differences in race, language, culture, and religion.

7. **National unity and integration can be made stronger and more vibrant by instilling the value of patriotism, adhering to the Rukun Negara**, and practicing true Malaysian identity. It means everything, not only raising our Jalur Gemilang flags, singing our national anthem Negaraku, pledging our Rukun Negara at every assembly or meeting, or attending the National Day parade, but also proudly speaking the Bahasa Kebangsaan language, respecting one another, practicing good vibes, a healthy culture, and appreciating independence.

8. **Our youths must have the ability and take initiatives to be "ethnic bridge builders"** to improve ethnic relations in the country by neutralizing the politics of hatred, racial polarization, and racial exclusiveness. Our diversity is our strength, and it is essential for achieving development and socio-economic progress, as well as our ability to conquer various adversities.

9. I wish every success to all the students here. You are the assets of our country who can nourish the relationship between Malaysia and China in terms of international relations, especially as a joint force. May your efforts yield a favourable outcome.

Thank you, and enjoy your dinner.