

27 OCT 1996

Jackson-concert

JACKO FINALLY MADE HISTORY IN MALAYSIA

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 27 (Bernama) -- Jacko finally made history!

After the big "hu-ha" over his concert here, Michael Jackson, the millionaire superstar showed why he is the best singer in the world by performing a tremendous two-hour show which sent 40,000 fans into a frenzy.

Thousands of fans started to fill up Stadium Merdeka as early as 4 pm waiting to see the King Of Pop whose present here has been surrounded by controversy.

But that did not deter him from showing his stuff in front of the packed audience including Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah and the royal family as well as Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik.

Dressed in a golden outfit, Jacko surprised the audience by coming out from a "space shuttle" at 9pm.

His first song was "Scream" followed by "They Don't Care About Us".

Jackson's performance here ran into controversy when the Shah Alam Municipal Council and Selangor government refused to allow him to perform at the 80,000-capacity Shah Alam Stadium, saying that it was in conflict with local values.

The Cabinet, however, had no objection to the concert. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said future such performance would depend on the behavior of fans during Jackson's concert.

And it looks like tonight's concert would not be the last for Malaysian concert-goers as they behaved very well and the organisers too did a good job by reminding the audience to behave themselves.

Police, FRU and the promoters' security personnel were also present to control the crowd.

Tonight's performance was one of Jacko HISTORY World Tour Concert 1996.

Jackson would performed here again on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, security at the at the Merdeka Stadium is under control and there was no untoward incident until 10pm.

A Jalan Bandar Traffic Police spokesman said all roads leading to Stadium Merdeka were closed since 3pm to enable fans to get to the show without any hitch.

He said the crowd began to enter Stadium Merdeka from 4pm to watch the concert which is being held in Malaysia for the first time.

Among the roads closed were Jalan Stadium from Bulatan Merdeka leading to Jalan Hang Jebat and Changkat Stadium.

The concert started at 9pm with a five-minute fireworks display before Michael began his show.

More than 1,000 fans could not get into the stadium because tickets had been sold out but there were some who climbed the fencing and the trees nearby to get a glimpse of their idol. -- BERNAMA

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