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NEW RECORD SET IN NUMBER OF DAYS MAN LIVES WITH SNAKES

LANGKAWI, Dec 27 (Bernama) -- Othman Ayeb, 31, has set a new Malaysian record today in the number of days he has lived with poisonous snakes in a special cage.

The death defying effort by Othman enters its 21st day today, breaking the previous record set by Malaysia's King of Snakes, Hussain Dastagir, who lived with poisonous snakes for 20 days.

Perlis-born Othman is also known as a snake champion after winning several competitions at the national and international levels in the past.

Othman, when contacted at Taman Lagenda here, said his feat has an added meaning as it was achieved in the holy month of Ramadan.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had, on Dec 6, visited Taman Lagenda on the day Othman began his "living with 150 poisonous snakes" effort.

Thankful for his effort so far, Othman said he is confident of seeing his name in the Malaysia Book of Records for his 27-day "living with poisonous snakes" target which would end this Saturday.

He said about 11,000 people, including foreign tourists, had visited him to give him moral support.

-- BERNAMA

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