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Agong-Visit  
KL'S KAMPUNG BARU FOLKS WELCOME THEIR MAJESTIES

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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 5 (Bernama) -- The people of Kampung Baru, the oldest Malay Kampung in Kuala Lumpur, turned out in full force today to welcome the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah and the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Siti Aishah.

On arrival at the Sultan Sulaiman Club, they were received by local dignitaries as well as Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar, Deputy Information Minister Datuk Dr Suleiman Mohamed, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali and Kuala Lumpur Datuk Bandar Tan Sri Kamaruzzaman Shariff. There were also hundreds of school children clad in yellow T-shirts bearing the words "Daulat Tuanku" and waving the Jalur Gemilang.

Also to welcome Their Majesties were a kompang band, Bhangra Sikh traditional dancers and a lion dance troupe.

After attending a briefing at the club, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong spent more than 30 minutes at No 28 Jalan Raja Musa and chatted with its tenant Sutiah Ahmad, 70.

The King recalled the days when he used to play marbles with his friends near the house, said Dr Suleiman who is the Chairman of the Organising Committee for the Royal Visit to Kampung Baru.

Kampung Baru, remains close to the Yang di-Pertuan Agong as his grandfather, Almarhum Sultan Alauddin Sulaiman Shah, had donated the land to the Malays there in 1890 and the kampung was officially opened by the Sultan himself.

The King and Queen were also shown the commercial aspects of the kampung when they visited Naza Motor Trading Sdn Bhd, a distributor of imported luxury cars such as BMW, Ferrari and Mercedes Benz as well as Jet ski.

Their Majesties were briefed that the company proposed to build a 14-storey building next to the present site of which five floors would be devoted to displaying cars, hence it would be the biggest motor showroom in the country.

They also visited the Kampung Baru Mosque where the King donated a total of RM 112,000 to orphans and to people affected by the May 14 floods in Kampung Baru and Kampung Datuk Keramat.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong also handed over 16 computer sets to the Sekolah Menengah Puteri Wilayah Persekutuan.

The King later opened Dataran Sultan Sulaiman -- a venue for various sports, recreational and social activities in the kampung.

The King and Queen had lunch with the local community before ending their visit to Kampung Baru.

Dr Suleiman speaking to reporters later said the King before departing from Kampung Baru, had expressed the hope that there would be a comprehensive plan for the development of Kampung Baru.

"His Majesty had discussed with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad...and the (Selangor) Menteri Besar had also been informed... the allocation of 400 (160 hectares) acres in Putrajaya or in its vicinity for the development of a new Kampung Baru," he said.

Dr Suleiman said the committee set up to plan the development of Kampung Baru here, would enlist the services of Amanah Raya Berhad to resolve the problem over land and a panel of lawyers would settle the question of land inheritance through the Islamic Law of Faraid.

He said Kampung Baru would only be developed into a commercial area after the question of multiple ownership of land had been resolved and development plans were ready.

This would take about three years, he added.

-- BERNAMA

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