

08/04/2001

#### Four-day IIUM carnival starts next Saturday

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - In conjunction with the grand opening of the International Islamic University Malaysia's Gombak campus by its founder Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on April 17, a four-day carnival themed "IIUM Carnival 2001" will be held from April 14.

The carnival, the first ever at the campus, is being jointly organised by IIUM Students' Representative Council and International Students Society at the IIUM cultural activities centre.

The carnival's chief executive director, Ahmad Fathi Alias, 22, said the objective was to kick-start the historic opening celebration of IIUM.

"The carnival will also be an avenue to foster and strengthen the ties among the university staff and members of the public besides to manifest and reflect the unique ideas, abilities and Islamic reality of the universe."

Ahmad, who is a third-year political science student, said the idea to hold the carnival was mooted by the IIUM authority who wanted student involvement in the historic opening.

"We were informed a month ago and we strongly felt that it was our responsibility to organise the carnival and to do the best for the university," he added.

He said it was a privilege that the university also got the students totally involved in the opening ceremony through the carnival.

Some 200 small committees with about 20 students in each were set up to organise various activities for the carnival which is expected to attract more than 50,000 people to the campus.

Ahmad said the carnival to be launched by IIUM president Tan Sri Sanusi Junid would also give the opportunity for the public to have the real insight of IIUM, the Garden of Knowledge and Virtue.

According to Ahmad, the launch of the carnival was going to be done with such grandeur that it would never be forgotten by many students and members of the public for years to come.

Among the highlights of the carnival is the local and international performances by students, karaoke by deans and staff, international Islamic cultural competitions and the theme park where the young and old are going to have lots of fun and laughter.

The theme park, Ahmad said, would encompass fun fishing, canoeing, peddling, shows by schoolchildren, and 40 army personnel in a marshall arts display.

There will also be 45 stalls put up, with 15 of them selling food and drinks while the rest sell non-food items such as souvenirs, handicrafts and books.

More information can be obtained from the Students' Representative Council at 03-2056466.

(END)