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Agong-Malaysia

KINS ATTENDS MALAYSIA'S OPEN HOUSE

JOHOR BAHRU, Dec 22 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tengku Fauziah today joined tens of thousand of people at the national-level Malaysian Open House 2001 at the City Square here.

The Sultan of Johor Sultan Iskandar and Sultanah Zanariah as well as the Tunku Mahkota Tunku Ibrahim Ismail and Raja Zarith Sofia also attended the open house held in conjunction with Hari Raya Aidil Fitri organised for the first time by the Culture, Arts and Tourism Ministry in collaboration with the Johor Government.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman and several Cabinet ministers were also present.

Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister Brig-Gen Lee Hsien Loong and several of his Cabinet colleagues were guests at the function.

His Majesty was accorded a traditional Malay welcome on arrival at the City Square.

Some 100,000 people including Singaporeans and foreign tourists attended the open house held from 10am to 4pm.

A cultural show was also staged at the function.

Entertainment was also provided by various local artistes as well as artistes from Singapore, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Johor Tourism and Environment Committee Chairman Datuk Dr Chua Soi Lek, when met by reporters, said that the target of 100,000 guests had been achieved.

The open house, he said, provided an opportunity for them to forge closer ties and promote unity in the true spirit of Hari Raya.

Thousands of Singaporeans were ferried from the republic and back in special buses since morning.

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