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Patriotic songs can catch on among the youth

SEREMBAN, Thurs. - The new genre of fast-paced patriotic songs can become a fad for the youth of the country if they are used to accompany recreational activities such as Senamrobik.

Malaysian Youth Council secretary general Khaidir Jamal said the songs were catchy and the young could easily relate to them.

He was speaking to reporters after attending a Senamrobik rehearsal by a group of 1,000 youngpeople at the King George V Secondary School under the auspices of the Persatuan Kecergasan Negri Sembilan.

The group will be performing at the New Millenium Patriotism Gathering at Stadium Malawati Shah Alam on Feb 18, in front of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Khaidir said the youngsters from seven secondary schools, the Raja Melewar Teachers Training Centre and two colleges thoroughly enjoyed exercising to the tune of the four patriotic songs, "Jalur Gemilang", "Kerana Mu Malaysia", "Kau Boleh" and "In The Eyes Of The World".

"This is one way of instilling patriotism among our young especially since the activity also includes promoting a healthy lifestyle."

One of the Senamrobik participants, Reza Nordin, 19, a student at Kolej Negri, said exercising to the tune of patriotic songs was truly enjoyable and should be turned into a regular activity.

His schoolmate, Nor Suriati Mohamed, felt the activity helped to increase the feeling of patriotism among the young.

Suraiha Sulaiman, 16, from SMK Tunku Ampuan Durah said the four songs were a hit with youngsters and it also helped to inspire a feeling of patriotism among them.

Teacher trainee Lee Soo Chit, 21, said taking part in the Senamrobik routine made her feel proud to be a Malaysian.

Persatuan Kecergasan Negri Sembilan deputy president Rashidah Jamaluddin said this was the first time the association had organised such an activity and was happy with the good response to it.

She said the State Youth and Sports Department and Education Department had also helped in organising the activity.

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