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`Legends of Malaysia' takes to the streets

DAZZLING ... It's all systems go for the most anticipated tourism event of the year - Citrawarna Malaysia 2001 - which promises a spectacular show at 8.30pm at Dataran Merdeka today.

Except for some minor glitches, the event's full dress rehearsal last night went smoothly.

Dataran Merdeka was packed with locals and foreigners who took the opportunity to soak in the sights, sounds and colours of Malaysian culture.

The show, themed "Legends of Malaysia", is the third to be held since 1999, and showcases 17 cultural and arts troupes whose performers number 5,000. They will portray the legends of the various States through dance and song.

The parade will begin at Dataran Merdeka and move through Jalan Raja Laut before ending at Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman.

"It was a good rehearsal ... and I'm confident we will put on a spectacular show tomorrow," said Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, who was at the rehearsal last night.

He urged city folks not to miss the event.

He said the wide coverage given to the event by the foreign media would highlight Malaysia's rich cultural heritage worldwide.

More than 20 foreign television networks have arrived in the capital to film the event.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah, and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will attend the extravaganza.

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