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Dr Mahathir's birthday celebration continues at Raya open house

JITRA, Sun. - If Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad thought celebrations for his birthday yesterday had ended, he was wrong.

A special pulut kuning (saffron glutinous rice) carried on a tandu (wooden carriers) awaited him at the finale of the national-level Hari Raya open house celebrations last night.

At 10.45pm the pulut kuning was carried onto the royal dais where Dr Mahathir was seated with Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Fauziah Tengku Abdul Rashid, the Sultan and Sultanah of Kedah, Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra as well as Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

Emcee for the evening Mahadzir Lokman then led the crowd in singing the birthday song in both English and Bahasa Malaysia to the Prime Minister.

As the song ended, fireworks from a platform facing the stage, arranged to spell "Happy Birthday Dr Mahathir" filled the sky.

The pulut kuning was prepared by the Sungai Petani Community College Hotel and Catering students.