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Goat-Celebration (Roundup)

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATED NATIONWIDE

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 1 (Bernama) -- Malaysian Chinese today ushered in the Year of the Goat with nationwide celebrations which included hosting open house and visits to temples.

In KUALA LUMPUR, the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi visited the MCA open house at Dewan San Choon of Wisma MCA in Jalan Ampang here.

They were received on arrival by MCA President Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and other MCA leaders.

Also joining the 5,000 odd people at the open house were members of the foreign diplomatic corps.

Tourists visiting the country also visited the MCA open house and took the opportunity to speak to the Prime Minister.

Dr Mahathir spent about an hour at the MCA open house during which he watched Chinese cultural dances.

The Prime Minister and other dignitaries also attended the Gerakan party's open house at Wawasan Hall of the PGRM Tower in Cheras.

In KOTA KINABALU, the Chinese community celebrated the new year by visits to the temples in the morning and in the afternoon held open house for friends and relatives.

The Sabah Progressive Party will host a Chinese Year open house at the Likas Sports Complex tomorrow.

The Sabah MCA and Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) will also host open house tomorrow at the Sekolah Menengah Kian Kok, Likas, and Airport View Hotel respectively.

Chief Minister Datuk Chong Kah Kiat and his wife Datin Ivy will host open house at their residence in Jalan Telekom, Kudat, tomorrow from 10am to 2pm.

In KUCHING, heavy rain this morning did not dampen the Chinese New Year celebrations.

Sarawak Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Abang Muhamad Salahuddin and Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud called at the open house of the Sarawak United Peoples Party (SUPP) at its party headquarters.

More than 3,000 people visited the open house hosted by the SUPP, Sarawak's oldest political party.

In Penang, the Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Abdul Rahman Abbas and his consort Toh Puan Majimor Shariff visited the open house hosted by Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon and his wife Puan Sri Chui Kah Peng at Fort Cornwallis.

Some 10,000 people of various communities and foreign tourists also visited the open house.

Penang State Executive Councillor for Local Government, the Environment and Traffic Management Datuk Dr Teng Hock Nan and his wife Datin Chang Lee Lee held open house at the Che Hoon Khor Moral Uplifting Society premises.

Among the dignitaries who visited the open house were former Penang Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Dr Hamdan Sheikh Tahir and his wife Toh Puan Zainab Baharuddin.

The Peoples Progressive Party (PPP)'s new year open house was held at the Dewan YMCA in Jalan Macalister.

In ALOR SETAR, Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain and his wife Datin Seri Sharifah Hamidah Syed Hamid were among the dignitaries

at the Kedah MCA open house at the Keat Hwa Private Secondary School hall.

They were welcomed by Kedah MCA Chief Datuk Beh Heng Seong and Deputy Home Minister Datuk Chor Chee Heung.

An opera from China also entertained the visitors to the Kedah MCA open house.

In the afternoon, Syed Razak visited the open house of Kedah Gerakan Chief and State Executive Councillor Datuk Fong Chok Gin at Taman Malaysia, Alor Star.

In IPOH, Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali, State MIC Chief Datuk G.Rajoo and State Secretary Datuk Isahak Yeop were among more than 2,000 people who visited the open house hosted by Perak MCA Chairman and State Executive Councillor for Infrastructure and Public Utilities Datuk Ong Ka Chuan.

The Perak Government will host a state level open house at the Ipoh Padang from 7pm tomorrow.

In SEREMBAN, Negeri Sembilan MCA Chief and Deputy Education Minister Datuk Hon Choon Kim hosted open house at the Seremban Town Hall while State Gerakan Chairman entertained visitors to the party's house at Terminal One Shopping Complex.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Abdul Samad and his wife Puan Sri Hazizah Tumin were among the people who visited the open house.

Similar celebrations were held in other states.

--BERNAMA

APG KHY AAM