

21 FEB 2003

Hishamuddin-Aman

LIVE TELECAST FOR AMAN M'SIA MAMMOTH GATHERING

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 21 (Bernama) -- The Aman Malaysia mammoth gathering will be shown live this Sunday on local television stations and the 13th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Summit delegates may watch it from their hotels.

Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Hishamuddin Hussein said big screens would be installed in every hotel with NAM delegates as guests.

Hishamuddin spoke to reporters after Health Minister Datuk Chua Jui Meng handed him 31,000 signatures from the ministry staff - for the Aman Malaysia 'One Million Signatures' campaign.

Hishamuddin said the current 1.4 million signatures had exceeded its target but the campaign would continue with co-operation from the 4B Youth Association and the Malaysian Association of Youth Clubs.

The signatures would be audited, bound and documented before being handed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed at the Aman Malaysia Gathering at Stadium Nasional Bukit Jalil on Feb 23.

Over 150,000 people were expected at the event that would kick-off with peace-themed performances by local artistes, followed by speeches from non-governmental organisations, Iraqis, Palestinians and Dr Mahathir.

Meanwhile, Chua said the signature campaign symbolised the support for peace. "Propaganda by the super-powers has spurred Malaysia to reject war. Malaysia loves peace, Malaysia loves harmony," he said.

Chua said the visit to Iraq in 2001 reflected the pain and suffering endured by the people of the country.

War was against the objectives of the Health Ministry which saved lives and innocent people would be killed in war, Chua added.

-- BERNAMA

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