

11 OCT 2003

OIC-Festival

OIC ARTS FESTIVAL LAUNCHED AT NATIONAL ART GALLERY

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 11 (Bernama) -- The OIC Arts Festival showcasing various art works from Islamic countries worldwide was launched today at the National Art Gallery here in conjunction with the 10th Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Summit.

The festival, aimed at sharing knowledge on the various aspects of Islamic arts, was opened by Culture, Arts and Tourism Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Mohd Azmi Razak.

The main activities at the festival are photography exhibition, fashion show (Muslims' costumes), musical performances with Islamic features, calligraphy, paintings and "Arts For All" workshop and exhibition.

The exhibition is organised in collaboration with the Arab Women's Association.

Among the Islamic musical performances are "ghazal Johor", a traditional Malay music laced with the Middle-East melodies and Kelantan's "Dikir Barat" whose history goes back to the Islamic practice of "zikir" (chanting of Quranic verses).

The festival will end on Nov 30.

A exhibition themed "One Thousand Faces of Dr Mahathir. A Tribute to a Statesman" is also being held at the National Arts Gallery.

The two-month exhibition is being jointly organised by the Information Ministry and the Malaysian Media in appreciation of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's immense contributions to the country and people.

The exhibition, opened by the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalulail, will end on Dec 6.

-- BERNAMA

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