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#### Special prayers for Merdeka

Saadon Aksah

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Malaysians have been urged to participate in special religious services nationwide in conjunction with the Merdeka month.

Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said the special services would be held as a show of gratitude for the country's prosperity and stability.

He was speaking at a Press conference today which was also attended by six representatives of major religions.

Kadir said all mosques nationwide would hold a special Friday sermon followed by "Doa Kemerdekaan".

At the national level, it will be held at the National Mosque on Friday and will be attended by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Hindus will hold prayers on Friday at 7pm at the Sri Sundaraja Perumal Temple in Jalan Raja Musa, Klang, while the Sikh temples in the country will hold prayers on Sunday.

Taoists will have their prayers at the Hwa Kwang Temple in Jalan Meru in Klang on Sunday at 8pm.

Churches nationwide held a special service yesterday.