

PM's first home opened

ALOR STAR: The birthplace of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Lorong Kilang Ais was opened to the public on the Prime Minister's birthday yesterday.

Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Sabaruddin Chik said the house was a "national treasure."

At the ceremony were

National Archives director-general Datuk Zakiah Hanum, ministry secretary-general Datuk Khalid Ismail and State Tourism Committee chairman Datuk Haji Syed Razak Syed Zain.

Special guests included the Prime Minister's brother Mashahor, 68, and sisters Rafeah, 75, and Habshah, 72.

Dr Mahathir's Singaporean medical course-mate, Prof Dr Tow Siang Hwa, was also invited.

Dr Mahathir stayed in the house with his family until 1956, when he married and moved to Titi Gajah.

Pictures of the young Mahathir are displayed in the home, which is open from 9am to 6pm daily.