

PM to attend Taib's wedding reception tomorrow
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak, who is due in Sarawak for a working visit this weekend, is expected to attend Chief Minister Abdul Taib Mahmud's wedding reception in Kuching tomorrow, press secretary to the chief minister Jameson Ahip Nawie said today.

He said the prime minister would join about 460 invited guests to mark the recent marriage of Taib, 74, to Ragad Waleed Alkurdi, 28, who is from Syria, at the new state legislative assembly complex in Petra Jaya.

The couple married on Dec 18 last year, with the akad nikah (solemnising of the marriage) performed at Taib's residence at Demak Jaya in Petra Jaya.

"This particular celebration will be a formal affair, where the male guests are expected to be attired in tuxedo suit.

"The chief minister is expected to visit all the divisions to hold similar receptions," said Jameson.

He said Najib and wife Rosmah Mansor are expected to arrive at 8pm for the function where Sarawak head of state Abang Mohammad Salahuddin Abang Barieng would be the guest-of-honour.

Meanwhile an advisory from the Sarawak Information Department said Najib, who is expected to arrive in Bintulu from Kuala Lumpur late tonight, would be touring the RM7.3 billion Bakun hydroelectric dam project in Belaga tomorrow.

At Bakun, he is scheduled to attend a briefing on the project's socio-economic impact on the local community by the developer, Sarawak Hidro Sdn Bhd, before being flown by helicopter to SMK Belaga to launch the 1Malaysia health clinic and the Jiwa Murni project.

He will then proceed to Sungai Asap to attend the 'pemimpin bersama rakyat' (meet the people) session at Rumah Belor and, thereafter, to attend Taib's wedding reception, here.

On Sunday, Najib is scheduled to officiate at the Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) Convention in Kuching before declaring open the new block of SJK Chung Hua Sungai Tapang Hilir here.

He will also declare open the Sarawak General Hospital's heart centre at Kota Samarahan near here before returning to Kuala Lumpur.

- Bernama