

NEW STRAITS TIMES

DATE: 02/09/2007

People have right to celebrate, says PM

NST- 2/9/2007

SHAH ALAM: The people have the right to be happy and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the country's independence because they have also participated in the development of Malaysia, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said yesterday.

He said the celebrations, held in an atmosphere of gaiety and splendour showed that they were grateful for God's gift of independence and the comfort and benefits that came with it.

As for Muslims, they understand that they have to strive always and that God determines the success of their endeavours and they would definitely feel grateful that their work has resulted in progress for the people and nation, he said at the presentation of prizes at the Umno Golf Championships 2007.

Abdullah also expressed thanks to everyone who had worked hard to stage the 50th Merdeka anniversary celebrations yesterday.

He said that after working hard, for example in carrying out preparations for the Merdeka celebrations, they should consider taking a break.



He's an ace... Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi presenting a mock key to Shaari Mustafa (right) who won a Mini Cooper S for scoring a hole-in-one. With them is organising chairman Jalaluddin Alias.

"It is good to also take a break, play golf (for example). I believe it is good for our health.

"This is part of the development of human capital in accordance with Islam Hadhari (Civilisational Islam)," he said.

The prime minister then gave

away prizes to the winners of the tournament, which was won by Selangor Umno for the third time since the championships began in 2005.

Shaari Mustafa, from Kuala Lumpur fired a hole-in-one yesterday and won a Mini Cooper S.

An invitational tournament was held yesterday and the participants included Deputy Prime Minister and Umno deputy president Datuk Seri Najib Razak and Umno vice-presidents Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Rustam. — Bernama