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Najib turns cheerleader at champions league final

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak and his wife, Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, joined more than 10,000 football fans at the Putrajaya Square here in the wee hours of yesterday to watch the live telecast of the UEFA Champions League final between Barcelona and Manchester United.

Najib, a fan of the English club Manchester United, arrived at the square, which is flanked by the Putrajaya Corporation complex and the Palace of Justice, about 30 minutes after the game started at almost 3am, to the cheers of the crowd watching the match on a giant screen.

Sporting a Man U jersey bearing his name and the numeral 1, Najib cheered with Man U supporters when three minutes after his arrival, Man U equalised 1-1 through striker Wayne Rooney after Pedro Rodriguez had sent the dominating Spanish side Barcelona 1-0 up in the 27th minute.

The dazzling Lionel Messi and David Villa scored in the 54th and 69th minutes, respectively, to enable Barcelona to lift the cup with the final score of 3-1.

The screening of the match was one of the programmes of the Gathering of One million Youths 2011 in Putrajaya from May 27 to 29.

This is the second time that Najib has watched a football game with the public.

In December last year, the prime minister joined fans of the game to watch the live telecast of the AFF Suzuki Cup 2010 semi-final match between Malaysia and Vietnam on a giant screen in Jalan Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur. - Bernama

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NO. 1 FAN ... Najib cheers when Man U levels the score with Barcelona at 1-1 through Rooney.