

**Najib Attends Malaysia Aidilfitri-Merdeka 2011 Open House At Permatang Pauh
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BUKIT MERTA JAM, Sept 11 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today arrived at the Malaysia Aidilfitri-Merdeka 2011 Open House at the Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Guar Perahu, here in a taxi.

He was greeted on arrival at noon by thousands of local residents, who had come as early as 8am, to the beat of drums by the various communities as well as student and military drummers.

Information Communication and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim was among the cabinet ministers and Barisan Nasional (BN) leaders who accompanied Najib to the open house.

The Malaysia Aidilfitri-Merdeka 2011 Open House, which was organised by the Ministry of Information Communication and Culture Ministry, started with the Prime Minister and BN leaders calling on Norasmah Othman, 41, a housewife who had to work to support her six children and husband who is suffering from "chronic plaque psoriasis", a skin disorder.

Norasmah received aid from the Ministry of Information Communication and Culture through the Special Affairs Department (JASA) and contributions from the various groups.

The approximately 20,000 people who attended the open house were treated to various dishes such as beef 'beriyani', 'lemang', 'ketupat palas' and various traditional cakes.

The Prime Minister and other dignitaries were also entertained to songs by popular local singers such as Datuk David Arumugam, Datuk Ahmad Jais, Uji Rashid and Hail Amir, cultural performances by the children's boria group.

Najib later presented cash of RM10,000 and a certificate of appreciation each to four independence personalities from Penang, namely Datuk Seri Mohd Yusoff Latif, Datuk Md Noor Ahmad, Datuk A. Subramaniam and Datuk Oon Choo Eng @ Choo Khye.

In addition, he gave away packages to 10 poor people and the 1Malaysia 'notebook' to 10 outstanding students.

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