

**Rais: People-To-People Relations Between Malaysia And Indonesia Can Be Enhanced Further**  
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JAKARTA, March 8 (Bernama) -- People-to-people relations between Malaysia and Indonesia can be enhanced further through various channels to ensure continuity and bring the Nusantara civilisation (of the Malay archipelago) to greater heights, said Information, Communications and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim.

He said the ties that bound both the peoples included history, language, culture, education and economy.

"Both in Indonesia and Malaysia we have enough numbers of people who are matured in their thinking, serious and value the people-to-people relations between the two countries," he said when delivering his keynote address titled "Demi Hubungan Erat dan Mesra Rakyat Malaysia-Indonesia" (Towards closer people-to-people relations between Indonesia and Malaysia) at the launching of the Malaysia Corner at Universiti Indonesia here today.

Rais said the main step to be taken was to expose the younger generation to the history and realities of the two communities so as to minimise external negative influences which were out to weaken the Nusantara culture.

"The younger generation today is not taking the history of the peoples of Malaysia and Indonesia seriously because the majority of them have been more taken in by their new world, universal human rights, the Internet, social media and peer pressure.

"And furthermore, our schools, universities are no longer bothered about the nusantara heritage unlike China which is very serious in managing its pan-Sino cultural-political influence," he said.

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