

## **Najib Given A Grand Welcome At 1Malaysia CNY Open House**

**Bernama**

**11 February, 2013**

GEORGE TOWN, Feb 11 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said he felt humbled and honoured to be given a grand welcome by more than 80,000 people at the 1Malaysia Chinese New Year (CNY) open house hosted by the Penang Barisan Nasional (BN) at the the Han Chiang School field here Monday.

Speaking at the event, he said it was also a big moment for him as it was the first time he got to celebrate the Chinese New Year with the people of Penang.

"Thank you the people of Penang for giving me, my wife and children such a grand welcome.

"I feel fortunate and happy because this year I got to do something I have never done before, that is celebrate the Chinese New Year with the people of Penang," he said.

Najib, who was accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, son Ashman Razak, daughter Nooryana Najwa and her fiance Daniar Nazarbayev, arrived at the venue at 10.50am and was greeted by Penang (BN) chairman Teng Chang Yeow.

Also present were ministers in the Prime Minister's Department Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yakcop and Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon and Penang Umno Liaison Committee chairman Datuk Zainal Abidin Osman.

Najib also called on the local community to respect the culture of each race in Malaysia to strengthen unity for a more harmonious future.

He said racial unity and understanding was important in driving economic growth and development to greater heights.

"This is the government (BN) that will be fair to all Malaysians, this is the government that has real plans for the future of all Malaysians.

"The people of Penang want better and affordable housing and the government will deliver...believe that these promises will be fulfilled," he said.

Najib also brought much cheer to the gathered crowd when he announced that the Han Chiang College in Penang would be upgraded to a university college specialising on mass communication.

Earlier, he and Ashman Razak had extended Chinese New Year wishes in Mandarin which was reciprocated with a thunderous applause from the guests while Rosmah joined a choir group in singing two Mandarin songs, namely 'Gong Xi Gong Xi' and 'Da Di Hui Chun'.

The open house will also feature Ching Gay and lion dance performances, cultural dances of the various races and songs by popular local artiste Shila Amzah.

The highlight of the open house is a performance by South Korean sensation Psy whose 'Oppa Gangnam Style' hit has taken the world by storm.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2013 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/newsindex.php?id=927390>