

Queen Donates To Thai Red Cross Children's Home
Bernama
4 Sept, 2013
From Norhayati Mohd Akhir

BANGKOK, Sept 4 (Bernama) -- The Raja Permaisuri Agong, Tuanku Hajah Haminah, on Wednesday presented a cheque for 620,000 Baht (about RM64,000) to the Thai Red Cross Children's Home here.

The home has 48 children, comprising 25 boys and 23 girls aged up to six year.

Tuanku Hajah Haminah was accompanied by Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn during the visit to the home. Her Majesty was welcomed by the deputy president of the home, Phan Wannamethee, and several trustees.

Also present at the event was Tan Sri Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz Tuanku Abdul Halim, a member of the Kedah Council of Regency.

At the home, the Raja Permaisuri Agong handed over hampers to 30 infants and school bags to 21 children aged five to six years, all the gifts provided by the Istana Negara.

Two children of the home presented bouquets of flowers to Tuanku Hajah Haminah and Princes Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, after which Her Majesty signed the visitors' book.

Tuanku Hajah Haminah toured the home and watched a visual presentation of the activities of the children.

The Raja Permaisuri Agong then attended a luncheon hosted by Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn at the Terd Phrakiat building adjacent to the home.

The Thai Red Cross Children's Home was born out of concern by Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn for babies abandoned by their mothers after birth at Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, Queen Sawangvatana Memorial Hospital and other Thai Red Cross agencies.

Established under Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's initiative on Sept 17, 1981, the home takes care of the babies and locates suitable families for adoption.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, and Tuanku Hajah Haminah arrived here last Monday for a three-day state visit to Thailand.

Tonight, Their Majesties are scheduled to attend a dinner with Malaysians living in Thailand at the Malaysian embassy.

Tomorrow, Their Majesties are scheduled to leave for Vietnam on a three-day state visit.

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