

## **Maulidur Rasul celebrated with programmes to exult love for prophet**

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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 20 (Bernama) -- This year Maulidur Rasul in observance of the birthday of Prophet Muhammad is celebrated nationwide with programmes to exult love for the prophet.

The national-level celebration was held at Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC) in Putrajaya and was attended by Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah.

The Raja Permaisuri of Perak, Tuanku Zara Salim, also attended the event. Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail were also present.

About 4,000 people, representing various government agencies, statutory bodies, uniformed organisations, non-governmental organisations, institutions of higher learning, schools and the private sector participated in the Maulidur Rasul gathering.

In SELANGOR, Menteri Besar Amirudin Shari led the Maulidur Rasul two-kilometres procession from Shah Alam Stadium to the Melawati Stadium.

Also in the procession were State Secretary Datuk Mohd Amin Ahmad Ahya, Selangor Islamic Religious Department director Datuk Haris Kasim and Selangor Mufti Datuk Mohd. Tamyas Abd Wahid.

The procession involved the participation of about 3,000 representatives from 84 contingents, comprising government departments and agencies.

In KEDAH, the celebration was held at Dewan Sri Negeri, Wisma Darul Aman, Alor Setar , and was attended by the Sultan of Kedah Sultan Sallehuddin Sultan Badlishah, the Sultanah of Kedah Sultanah Maliha Tengku Ariff and the Raja Muda of Kedah Tengku Sarafudin Badlishah Sultan Sallehuddin. .

Also present were Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Tun Dr Mahathir and his wife, Tok Puan Norzieta Zakaria.

The sultan, in his speech, advised Muslims to uphold moral values to avoid themselves from getting involved with undesirable elements such a crime and drug abuse that could lead to moral decadence in the society.

He said parents played an important role in inculcating moral values in their children.

In PERAK, the state-level celebration was held at the Advanced Technology Training Centre (ADTEC), near Kamunting, and was attended by 2,000 people, including chairman of the Perak Regency Council, the Raja Muda of Perak Raja Jaafar Raja Muda Musa.

Also present were the Raja DiHilir Perak Raja Iskandar Dzulkarnain Sultan Idris Shah and Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Faizal Azumu and his wife, Dr Nomee Ashikin Mohammed Radzi.

The programmes for the celebration included religious talk and presentation of awards to mosque officials.

In PENANG, 55 contingents, involving more than 2,700 participants, including from various government departments and agencies and non-governmental organisations, took part in the two-kilometre Maulidur Rasul procession from Maahad Al Mashor Al Islami to the Balik Pulau Polytechnic.

Penang Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Ahmad Zakiyuddin Abdul Rahman, Penang Islamic

Religious Council president Datuk Abdul Malik Abul Kassim and State secretary Datuk Seri Farizan Darus also joined in the procession.

In TERENGGANU, Menteri Besar Dr Ahmad Samsuri Mokhtar joined in the Maulidur Rasul procession from Dataran Shahbandar, Kuala Terengganu, to the State Stadium.

Despite the drizzle, it did not deter the more than 2,000 representatives from 66 contingents, comprising government departments, uniformed bodies institutions of higher learning, schools and non-governmental organisations from completing the walk.

The Sultan of Terengganu, Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin and the Sultanah of Terengganu, Sultanah Nur Zahirah, also attended the celebration.

Sultan Mizan, in his speech at the event, called on Muslims to practice the true teachings of Islam brought by Prophet Muhammad.

He said they should also emulate the practises by the prophet in everyday life, including on the way he talked and socialised, to give a positive picture of Islam to other people.

In JOHOR, it involved the participation of more than 7,000 people in a one-kilometre Maulidur Rasul procession which started from Sekolah Menengah Sri Mersing to Masjid Jamek Bandar Mersing.

Leading the procession was the Tengku Temenggong of Johor, Tunku Idris Iskandar Sultan Ibrahim, who represented his father, the Sultan of Johor Sultan Ibrahim Almarhum Sultan Iskandar.

Also in the procession was Menteri Besar Datuk Osman Safian.

In MELAKA, 6,429 participants in 111 contingents, led by Chief Minister Adly Zahari, took

part in the four-kilometre Maulidur Rasul procession from the Hang Tuah Stadium to Dataran Masjid Al-Azim diketuai Ketua Menteri Melaka, Adly Zahari.

The celebration was also attended by the Yang Dipertua Negeri of Melaka Tun Dr Mohd Khalil Yaakob.

In KOTA KINABALU, the Yang Dipertua Negeri of Sabah Tun Juhar Mahiruddin and his wife, Toh Puan Norlidah R.M Jasni, led the more than 10,000 participant, involving 79 contingents, in the state-level Maulidur Rasul procession from Sutera Avenue to the Sabah State Mosque.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal, Law and Native Affairs Minister Datuk Aidi Moktar and other Muslim state cabinet members also joined in the 1.4 kilometre walk.

Meanwhile, Juhar, in his speech, called on Muslims in the state, including state leaders, to emulate the noble values of Prophet Muhammad to ensure continuity of their self-development, that of their family and their beloved Sabah.

“Be humble, sit together with the poor, you will be great people in the eyes of the Almighty...Islam does not want to produce pious followers and scholars, but also politicians, not only leaders with the people’s soul at heart and the ability to guide the people..

“A leader who knows well which path to take... and in all decisions made, to ensure the benefits for the people, not for own benefit,” he added.

In SARIKEE, Sarawak, the Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Abdul Taib Mahmud and Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg joined more than 5,300 participants, comprising Muslims and non-Muslims, from 120 contingents in the 3.5 kilometre Maulidur Rasul procession which started and ended at the Sarikei Sports complex.

In his speech, Abdul Taib said Islam is a religion that does not oppress others, but it unites

the people of all races and religions.

The teachings of Islam, he said, should be used as guidance by the Sabah leadership in administering the state.

In PAHANG, the state-level Maulidur Rasul celebration at Masjid Sultan Ahmad Shah 1 in Kuantan, was attended by the Regent of Pahang Tengku Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah and Tengku Puan of Pahang Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah.

Also present was Menteri? Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail.

Tengku Abdullah, in his speech at the event, advised the people to avoid a conflict in the country, saying that they should always respect and help others, regardless of their race and religion.

He expressed disappointment that there were some people who wanted to change the country's political landscape by accepting the western policy of equality.

More than 3,000 people in 39 contingents, representing government departments and agencies, non-governmental organisations, uniformed bodies, institutions of higher learning, schools and the private sector took part in the Maulidur Rasul procession in the state.

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