



MEDIA RELEASE

HARI RAYA AIDILFITRI WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

Eid-ul-Fitr is a Muslim celebration that marks the end of Ramadhan, the fasting month. It signifies the victory of personal human self-restraint and abstinence, and symbolizes purification and renewal.

In Malaysia, Eid-ul-Fitr is known as Hari Raya Aidilfitri or simply Hari Raya. The celebration normally begins with a special prayer at mosques followed by a gathering of family members and relatives to enjoy dishes specially prepared for the occasion. Muslims also visit their friends and neighbours and seek forgiveness from each other.

Although Hari Raya is generally celebrated by Muslims, the celebration in Malaysia is unique, as it is also enjoyed by fellow Malaysians of other religions and faiths. The unique tradition of "open house" – where Malaysians literally open their doors to welcome friends and family into their homes – is extended to everyone from all walks of life and is seen as a symbol of unity among the multi-racial Malaysians.

In conjunction with the auspicious event and in true Malaysian tradition of hospitality, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi will be

hosting an open house at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) on 13 October 2007. Details are as follow:

Date: 13 October 2007 (Saturday)
Venue: PWTC
41, Jalan Tun Ismail
50480 Kuala Lumpur
Time: Diplomats – 11 am
Public – 12.30 pm – 5 pm

The public and tourists are invited to the open house for the chance to meet the prime minister in person. Several Cabinet ministers will also be attending the event.

The public is advised to use public transportation to the venue as parking spaces are limited. PWTC can be accessed by bus, taxi, LRT (Star Line – disembark at PWTC station) and KTM Komuter (disembark at Putra station).

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