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By ANNA VIVIANNE

Hari Raya Guests

Open houses were held every where during the recent Hari Raya Celebrations. Actually for the whole month of Syawal, Sabahan Muslims will still hold open houses for their guests.

Most of us know that open houses mean we eat and drink with the hosts. There is the toasting and the usual catching up on news.

Some open houses are quite interesting, however. It is value-added, so to say, with cultural performances and singing.

The Papar Member of Parliament Rosnah Abdul Rashid Shirlin added something more interesting to her open house by inviting a Gambus group called Gambus Tunas Harapan Kampung Laut.

Her home at Kg. Pengalat Kecil, Papar was filled with music and laughter, depicting the true character of Hari Raya.

Guests were fascinated with the music and enjoyed it tremendously, even the children.

Later in the afternoon, the guests were treated to something more fascinating; an unexpected visit from an up and rising star in the entertainment industry, Ebi of AF5 fame.

Ebi or Ebi Kornelis @ Firdaus Yaimal, 23, shot to fame when he won the Akademi Fantasia Kelima (AF5) reality show.

He was instantly mobbed by fans, who ask to pose with him and also vied for his autograph.

He also answered several questions, including those of his love-life where fans needed to know if he was having a relationship with fellow entertainers.

On another note, the State Assemblyman for Kawang, Datuk Haji Ghulam Haidar Khan Bahadar added an interesting twist to his guest list; 80 handicapped and orphans graced his table.

Thirty of them were inmates of the Beringgis Children Home.

Local comedian and artist Abu Bakar Ela was on hand to entertain the guests, witnessed by an appreciative host; Ghulam and his family.

He later distributed 'green packets' or 'duit raya' to the less fortunate. He was accompanied



by Deputy Chief Minister, Datuk Seri Panglima Joseph Pairin Kitngan.

The presence of BN leaders from various ethnic backgrounds at Ghulam's open house showed the epitome of integration worth lauding in this part of the world.

Also present during the event were members of the media.



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