

# 10,000 celebrate National Youth Day at UPM

**SERDANG:** A festive air permeated the grounds of Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) for the 46th National Youth Day 2016 celebration.

The university grounds resembled an outdoor music festival, with spaces set for a bazaar, a performance area, a meet and *cerita* corner, and a food truck area.

The food trucks garnered the most attention, with hundreds of people queuing to buy food and drinks.

Among the favourites were Waffwagon's waffles with creamy ice-cream toppings, Barba Bros with *nasi rempah* (rice with herbs) served with juicy fried chicken, and 2GoCoffee serving refreshing coffee and tea-based beverages.

The lively spirit continued even when it rained in the afternoon.

The youths' exuberance could be clearly seen with the rousing welcome they gave to Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi when he arrived for the launch.

"Do you want the celebration to be in Putrajaya next year?" he asked the youths, who responded with a resounding "yes!"

The youths, numbering about 10,000 according to the organiser, Youth and Sports Ministry, were entertained to a variety of programmes throughout the day.

Those with curious minds attended workshops touching on topics such as Instagram photography, chalk art and miniature making.

The meet and *cerita* corner by TAPAUtv offered motivational talks and discussions, featuring speakers such as Youth and Sports Minister Khairy Jamaluddin and Alena Murang, an artist specialising in the



**'Booked':** Dr Ahmad Zahid launching a book titled 'Tokoh Belia Milenia' during the 46th National Youth Day at Universiti Putra Malaysia. Looking on are (from left) Deputy Youth and Sports Minister Datuk S. Saravanan, Malaysia Youth Council president Muammar Gaddafi and Khairy.

arts of Borneo.

An interesting attraction in the bazaar and artists' performance areas was the art installations by Minut Inis.

Featured artistes such as Elena Krauchenko, Artists Estranged, OAG, Najwa Latif and Monologue entertained the youths in the late afternoon.

The National Youth Awards 2016

recipients received cheques and trophies from Dr Ahmad Zahid and Khairy.

The winner of the Special Award was Hafizah Noor Isa, 29, a Kelantanese lass who was in a group of researchers which managed to prove Albert Einstein's theory of gravitational wave.

The PhD student at the University of Glasgow hoped that her win

would motivate more young Malaysians to enter the science and technological fields.

"If my achievement can give inspiration to youths to pursue scientific fields it would be good," she said.

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