

Muar declared as royal town of Johor

By **HAMDAN RAJA ABDULLAH**
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

MUAR: Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar has declared Muar, also known as Bandar Maharani, as the royal town of Johor.

He had first mentioned it during the state's Maulidur Rasul celebration here on Feb 5 and officially conferred the status by signing a declaration plaque and planting a time capsule at Dataran Tanjung Emas here yesterday.

The Ruler was accompanied by his consort Raja Zarith Sofiah Sultan Idris Shah and Mentri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman.

Also present were Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, his wife Puan Sri Norainee Abdul Rahman and state executive council members.

The finest selection of top properties in Malaysia.

The people's paper
Star **PROPERTY FAIR 2012**
MALAYSIA'S PREMIER SHOWCASE FOR STYLISH LIVING

30 Nov-2 Dec (Fri-Sun), 11am-7pm
Halls 3, 4 & 5,
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Visit www.starproperty.my/propertyfairs

Admission FREE

In his address, the Sultan said Bandar Maharani should have its own identity befitting a royal town.

"It should always be clean, peaceful and not contaminated by garbage and waste," he said, urging his subjects of all races to work together with the state government and

the local council to ensure the cleanliness of the town.

Sultan Ibrahim called for old buildings in the town to be gazetted as heritage buildings and all arts and traditions of the people be promoted and exhibited to the public.

In his speech, Abdul Ghani said Bandar Maharani was opened by the late Sultan Abu Bakar Sultan Ibrahim in 1887 and named it to mean "the empress' town" in honour of his consort Maharani Fatimah Abdullah.

"Sultan Abu Bakar liked to visit Muar and that is why many roads and buildings here were named after members of the royal family," the menteri besar said.

"We all know Muar is older than Malacca and was mentioned in the history of Majapahit before Malacca was founded," he added.



Frozen in history: Sultan Ibrahim putting a time capsule at Dataran Tanjung Emas after declaring Muar as the royal town of Johor.