

The Star (1/12/2022) MS/7

PJ folklore fest returns with cultural events

THE ongoing Petaling Jaya International Folklore Festival is expected to draw 30,000 visitors.

Taking place from Nov 28 to Dec 4, the festival features cultural performances from eight countries including Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Japan.

The festival will also see participation from 10 Malaysian states such as Sabah, Sarawak, Kelantan, Terengganu, Perak, Pulau Pinang, and Johor.

This is the seventh year that the festival is being held.

Petaling Jaya mayor Mohamad Azhan Md Amir said the event was aimed at supporting small local businesses.

"We will have a *wayang kulit* performance conducted by a

Chinese *tok dalang* (narrator and puppet master).

"This is very unusual as the *tok dalang* is usually a Kelantanese Malay," said Azhan.

The Petaling Jaya International Folklore Festival is a cultural event that has been held since 2013 and is a good platform for cultural exchange, said the mayor.

"Events such as this bring economic opportunities and help businesses such as the tourism industry, food and beverage and also the hospitality industry," he added.

The festival's official launch will take place at Dataran Petaling Jaya, Selangor on Dec 3 at 8.30am.

Legendary Malaysian rock group Wings will be performing at the launch.



A Sri Lankan dance troupe performing at a mall as part of a pocket show for the festival. The official launch will take place at Dataran Petaling Jaya on Saturday at 8.30am.