

Tamils in Malaysia mark New Year with prayers

The Tamil New Year or 'Varusha Pirappu' saw Hindus across Malaysia offering prayers and seeking divine blessings.

They swamped markets and malls here for last minute shopping to buy fresh flowers, jasmine and rose garlands and traditional Indian sweets to celebrate the festival Sunday.

Trader S. Krishna Kumar, 48, said almost 2,000 customers came to his sweetmeat shop set up Friday.

People bought sweets mainly made of flour, milk, ghee and sugar, he said.

'Business was very good especially Saturday,' New Straits Times quoted him saying.

Another trader S. Mohan, 20, said people had been coming to his stall especially for dates, and 'halwa', a traditional Indian sweet.

There are over two million Tamil Hindus in a 2.5 million population of ethnic Indians in Malaysia, who came here during British rule.

Ethnic Indians form roughly eight percent of Malaysia's 28-million population.

(© IANS / India eNews)