

NO12: (F)
MAHATHIR-HONOUR

PENANG, NOV. 20 (BERNAMA) — PENANG TODAY HONOURED THE VISITING PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED WITH THE HIGHEST AWARD, THE DARJAH UTAMA PANGKUAN NEGERI (D.U.P.N.) WHICH CARRIES THE TITLE DATUK.

THE AWARD WAS CONFERRED ON HIM BY THE YANG DI PERTUA NEGERI DATUK DR. AWANG HASSAN IN AN INVESTITURE CEREMONY HELD AT THE RESIDENCY HERE AT 10.30 A.M.

THE CEREMONY WAS ATTENDED BY DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR'S WIFE, DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH, THE CHIEF MINISTER, DR. LIM CHONG U, MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO DATUK ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI AND OTHER STATE DIGNITARIES.

IT WAS FOLLOWED BY A TEA PARTY WHERE THE PRIME MINISTER MIXED FREELY WITH THE GUESTS.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR TOLD ABOUT 10,000 PEOPLE AT THE AIRPORT THAT HE WAS PROUD OF THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT IN PENANG ESPECIALLY IN THE FIELDS OF INDUSTRY AND TOURISM WHICH MAKES IT A LEADING STATE IN MALAYSIA TODAY.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD MAKE ALLOCATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS BUT THE ULTIMATE RESULTS WOULD DEPEND ON THE PEOPLE WHO WOULD HAVE TO WORK HARD TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES SET OUT IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES. — BERNAMA MORE 1239/LK

NO13: (F)
MAHATHIR-HONOUR 2 PENANG

THE PRIME MINISTER JOKINGLY REMARKED THAT PULAU PINANG (PENANG ISLAND) WOULD HAVE TO CHANGE ITS NAME TO PINANG (PENANG) ONCE THE BRIDGE LINKAGE WAS COMPLETED.

+WITH THE BRIDGE, WHICH WILL BE THE THIRD LONGEST IN THE WORLD, PENANG WILL NO LONGER BE AN ISLAND ISOLATED FROM THE MAINLAND PENINSULAR,+ HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WAS PROUD OF THE UNITY SHOWN BY THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES IN PENANG WHICH HE SAID STILL FACED A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS.

+HOWEVER, IF THE PEOPLE ARE UNITED AND BE LESS EMOTIONAL, I AM CONFIDENT THAT THESE PROBLEMS COULD BE OVERCOME.+

THE EXECUTIVE JET CARRYING THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS ENTourage TOUCHED DOWN AT 9 A.M. TO A ROUSING WELCOME BY A HUGE CROWD WAVING THOUSANDS OF COLOURFUL BANNERS AND FLAGS.

AS SOON AS HE ALIGHTED FROM THE AIRCRAFT, ACCOMPANIED BY THE CHIEF MINISTER DR. LIM AND THE STATE SECRETARY DATUK SYED ZAINAL ABIDDIN BIN S.A.M. JAMALLULAIL, THE KUMPANG GROUP SOUNDED ITS THUNDEROUS WELCOME.

DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH WAS PRESENTED WITH A BOUQUET BY FOUR-YEAR-OLD ANIS DHUHA, DAUGHTER OF STATE ASSEMBLYMAN ENCIK AHMAD RADHI PACHEE. — BERNAMA MORE 1243/LK

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MAHATHIR-HONOUR 3 PENANG

AS HE WALKED DOWN THE LINE OF DIGNITARIES, HE WAS WELCOMED BY A LION DANCE AND A SMALL INDIAN MUSICAL BAND PLAYING INDIAN MUSIC.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WAS THEN INTRODUCED TO THE SPEAKER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLYMAN, DATUK HASSAN NOH, PENANG HIGH COURT JUDGE DATUK GUNN CHIT TUAN, MEMBERS OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY, MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS BASED IN PENANG AND HEADS OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

HE THEN PROCEEDED TO A SPECIAL DIAZ AND ADDRESSED THE CROWD, COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM UMNO, GERAKAN, MIC AND OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES.

ABOUT 200 UMNO YOUTH MEMBERS ON MOTORCYCLES LEAD THE PRIME MINISTER'S MOTORCADE TO GEORGETOWN.

ON HIS WAY, HE WAS AGAIN GREETED BY THOUSANDS OF FLAG-WAVING FACTORY WORKERS WHO LINED UP ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HIGHWAY AT THE FREE TRADE ZONE AREA.

DATUK SERI DATUK MAHATHIR'S ENTOURAGE INCLUDED DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION DR. LING LIONG SIK AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT DR. GOH CHENG TEIK, BOTH ARE MPS FROM PENANG.

AT NOON, THE PRIME MINISTER WILL JOIN MUSLIMS FOR FRIDAY PRAYERS AT THE STATE MOSQUE HERE. -- BERNAMA 1249/LK