

MAHATHIR-AWARD

FR M SYED IMRAN ALSAGOFF

ISLAMABAD, MARCH 23 (BERNAMA) -- PRESIDENT ZIA-UL-HAQ CONFERRED
PAKISTAN'S HIG AWARD OF NISHAN-I-QUAID, I-AZAM ON DATUK SERI
DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD AT THE STATE GUEST HOUSE IN RAWALPINDI LAST
NIGHT..

IN CONFERRING THE AWARD THE PRESIDENT SAID: +THE PEOPLE AND
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN HOLD YOU AND YOUR COUNTRY IN THE HIGHEST
ESTEEM AND AFFECTION, AND DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE PERSONAL CO-
OPERATION THAT YOU HAVE MADE TOWARDS THE STRENGTHENING OF
THOSE AND CORDIAL TIES BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND MALAYSIA.

YOUR PRESENT VISIT TO PAKISTAN WILL MAKE THESE BONDS EVEN
STRONGER AND LEAD TO FURTHER MEANINGFUL COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THE ECONOMIC, CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND
OTHER FIELDS. +

PRESIDENT ZIA SAID DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ENJOYED THE
HIGHEST RESPECT AND ADMIRATION BOTH AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL
LEVEL AS A DYNAMIC AND OUTSTANDING LEADER OF ASIA WITH FORCEFUL
AND PROGRESSIVE IDEAS AND DETERMINATION TO CARRY THEM INTO
PRACTICE.

HE SAID THE PRIME MINISTER'S DISTINGUISHED POLITICAL CAREER HAS
THROUGHOUT BEEN MARKED BY DEEP COMMITMENT TO THE WELFARE,
PROSPERITY AND PROGRESS OF MALAYSIA.

PRESIDENT ZIA SAID IN AN INTERNATIONAL FIELD, DATUK SERI DR.
MAHATHIR HAD WORKED WITH GREAT ZEAL AND DEVOTION TO PROMOTE
THE IDEAS OF UNITY AND COOPERATION AMONG THE MUSLIM STATES
AND HAS CONSISTENTLY AND ELOQUENTLY CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE OF
THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.

PRESIDENT ZIA SAID THE AWARD WAS GIVEN TO DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR
IN RECOGNITION OF THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION HE HAD MADE TO THE
THE GROWTH OF FRATERNAL TIES BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND MALAYSIA,
THE SERVICES RENDERED BY HIM TO ISLAM AND THE ISLAMIC UMMAH, AND
HIS ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE CAUSES AND CONCERNS OF THE THIRD WORLD
COUNTRIES. - - BERNAMA 1145/MB