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MAHATHIR-TOURISM  
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MELAKA, JULY 22 (BERNAMA) -- THERE ARE MANY INTERESTING HISTORICAL PLACES AND THINGS IN THE COUNTRY WHICH COULD BE TURNED INTO TOURIST ATTRACTIONS TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE TOURISM SECTOR! PRIME MINISTER DATUK **SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID** TONIGHT.

+DO NOT THINK THAT WHAT WE NORMALLY SEE IN THIS COUNTRY IS NOT INTERESTING TO OTHERS? ESPECIALLY FOREIGN TOURISTS . . . BECAUSE XT COULD BE SOMETHING SPECIAL TO **THEM,** + HE SAID WHEN LAUNCHING THE \$6.5 MILLION LIGHT AND SOUND PROJECT AT THE PADANG PAHLAWAN BANDAR HILIR HERE.

DATUK **SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID FOREIGNERS,** ESPECIALLY WESTERNERS, WERE PREPARED TO TRAVEL LONG DISTANCES TO SEE SOMETHING WHICH THEY DEEMED INTERESTING JUST TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT IT.

+**THEREFORE,** WHAT IS ORDINARY AND UNATTRACTIVE TO US COULD BE SOMETHING SPECIAL TO OTHERS. FOR **EXAMPLE,** MOSQUES OR TEMPLES ARE INTERESTING TO FOREIGN ~~D-\$~~**TOURISTS - \$WHO** CONSIDER THEM AS **SPECIAL,** + THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

AS SUCH, THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALWAYS PROMOTING THE TOURISM INDUSTRY AND WAS PROUD TO DISPLAY HISTORICAL PLACES FOUND IN THE **COUNTRY,** HE SAID. -- MORE  
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ON THE LIGHT AND SOUND **PROJECT,** THE PRIME MINISTER FELT THAT IT COULD BECOME AN ATTRACTION FOR TOURISTS **VISITING** MELAKA AND HELP BRING IN REVENUE.

AFTER THE **LAUNCHING,** THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS WIFE, DATUK **SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH ALI,** MELAKA CHIEF MINISTER DATUK **SERI ABDUL RAHIM TAMBY CHIK** AND OTHER DIGNITARIES WATCHED THE LIGHT AND SOUND SHOW.

PRESENT WERE STATE ASSEMBLY SPEAKER DATUK **ABU ZAHAR ISNIN,** STATE SECRETARY DATUK **MOHAMAD ZAM ABDUL WAHAB,** STATE EXECUTIVE **COUNCILLORS,** HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR WIVES.

THE LIGHT AND SOUND SHOW DEPICTS THE HISTORY OF MALAYSIA FROM THE TIME OF THE MELAKA MALAY SULTANATE TO THE PRESENT **DAY,** WITH THE HISTORICAL BUILDINGS IN BANDAR HILIR SERVING AS THE BACKDROP.

THERE ARE TWO VERSIONS FOR THE **57-MINUTE SHOW,** ONE IN ENGLISH AND THE OTHER IN BAHASA MALAYSIA. EFFGRTS ARE BEING MADE TO HAVE IT TRANSLATED INTO MANDARIN AND JAPANESE, -- BERNAMA  
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