

U E431 AAE

HUSSEIN-MAHATHIR R R R

BM

KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 29 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE NATION HAS LOST A LEADER AND STATESMAN WITH THE DEMISE OF TUN HUSSEIN ONN.

HE SAID THE LATE TUN HUSSEIN HAD MADE GREAT SACRIFICES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATION.

+HIS CONTRIBUTIONS ARE INVALUABLE,+ HE SAID IN A STATEMENT.

TUN HUSSEIN, 68, WHO WAS DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S PREDECESSOR, PASSED AWAY IN SAN FRANCISCO AT ABOUT 7.15AM MALAYSIAN TIME TODAY AFTER UNDERGOING TWO OPERATIONS WITHIN THE PAST SIX WEEKS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID TUN HUSSEIN'S CONTRIBUTIONS WERE NOT JUST CONFINED TO POLITICS BUT ALSO TO OTHER FIELDS. -- MORE

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HUSSEIN-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR R R R

EVEN AFTER HIS RETIREMENT, TUN HUSSEIN STILL OFFERED HIS VIEWS AND IDEAS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

SINCE STEPPING DOWN AS MALAYSIA'S THIRD PRIME MINISTER IN 1981, TUN HUSSEIN BECAME PETRONAS' ADVISOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (ISIS).

HE HAD ALSO SERVED IN THE ARMY AND WAS ALSO A LAWYER.

+HIS SACRIFICES AND EFFORTS IN THE POLITICAL FIELD AS WELL AS IN THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION AND AN EXAMPLE TO MALAYSIANS,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HE AND HIS WIFE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH MOHAMED ALI WERE DEEPLY SAD OVER TUN HUSSEIN'S DEATH.

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT, HE EXPRESSED HIS CONDOLENCES TO TOH PUAN SUHAILA AND HER FAMILY. -- BERNAMA

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