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Mahathir-cleanliness

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KUCHING, May 22 (Bernama) -- The Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight that keeping the nation clean and beautiful is an investment which brings substantial economic and health benefits.

In this context, the government readily spent \$45 million annually to beautify Kuala Lumpur city with parks and keep it clean, he said.

With this in mind, the people, be they in towns or the countryside, should work hand in hand with the government to keep their areas clean and beautiful, he said.

+ I don't want their lack of personal hygiene and disregard for clean environment to lead Malaysians to live under garbage heaps and in dirty surroundings, + he said.

The Prime Minister was speaking at a ceremony here where he was presented the key of freedom to Kuching city, the first person to be accorded the honour. -- More.

♥23/05/00-05MST

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Mahathir-cleanliness 2 Kuching

He said described honour as +most significant+ and which should also be shared by those who had made contributions to Kuching city.

In his speech, Sarawak Chief minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud described Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir as a champion who has brought international fame to the nation through his dynamic leadership.

+Over the past decade, the Prime Minister has led the nation to rapid development and continued stability while guiding it through double-digit economic growth, + said Tan Sri Taib.

He said Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir has been instrumental in making major Malaysian towns, Kuala Lumpur in particular, clean and beautiful.

+ He has made Kuala Lumpur into one of the world's best cities and the cleanest in the region, + said Tan Sri Taib.

The Prime Minister's wife Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah Ali, South Kuching City Mayor Encik Song Swee Guan and North Kuching City Mayor Dr Yusof Haji Hanifah were among the 400 guests present. -- Bernama

♥23/05/00-12MST