

▼11/07/21-48MST

CNS2631

R GE 11-07 0024Z EF255

aae

MAHATHIR ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

*93* *My overseas.*

TIRANA, July 11, (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here this evening for a three-day official visit, the first by a Malaysian government leader to the just liberated Balkan peninsula state of Albania.

The Prime Minister, who is accompanied by his wife, Datuk Seri Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, was met on arrival at Rinas Airport by his Albanian counterpart, Aleksander Meski, and his wife.

After a brief welcoming ceremony, Encik Meski accompanied the Prime Minister in a motorcade to the Palace of Brigade where Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah will be staying during their stay here.

Dr Mahathir will have a busy schedule tomorrow with a series of talks with Albanian government leaders including President Sali Verisha, Encik Meski and members of the Albanian cabinet and the chairman of Presidency of the Peoples' Assembly Pjeter Arbnori.

While Dr Mahathir meets government leaders, Dr Siti Hasmah will have a separate programme, visiting a children's welfare home and a carpet factory.

She will later join the Prime Minister in a visit to Durres Port and the amphitheatre near here.

The Prime Minister is leading a 10-member delegation which includes Director-General of the Economic Planning Unit Tan Sri Ali Abul Hassan Sulaiman and Foreign Ministry Deputy Secretary-General Datuk Abdul Halim Ali. -- Bernama

ZS RM

▼11/07/23-42MST