

17 APR 1997

Mahathir-Sacrifice

DR MAHATHIR HANDS OVER SACRIFICIAL COWS

ALOR SETAR, April 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who arrived here today with his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, to celebrate Hari Raya Aidil Adha in Kedah, presented sacrificial cows to two mosques and the Kubang Pasu district police headquarters.

Dr Mahathir's first destination upon arrival at the Sultan Abdul Halim airport, Kepala Batas, was Masjid Pekan Changlun where he presented a cow, followed by Jitra where another cow was given to the policemen there.

Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah then proceeded to their residence, Pondok Maharizan, in Titi Gajah, here, where he presented a cow to Masjid Titi Gajah.

Tomorrow the prime minister will perform Aidiladha prayers at Masjid Zahir and have an audience with the Sultan of Kedah at Istana Anak Bukit before holding open house at Dewan Jitra from 10.30am to 4pm. There will be a break from 1pm to 3pm for Friday at Masjid Al-Aqila, Jitra.

On Saturday, Dr Mahathir's one-day working visit to Kedah will begin with a visit to the Jihad Basmi Kemiskinan Complex in Paya Pahlawan, Jitra, which houses an abattoir and sacrificial beef distribution centre, the second largest in the world, after Jeddah.

A total of 1,000 cows will be slaughtered at the complex tomorrow and the beef kept in cold rooms for distribution to the poor in the state through 526 mosques during Friday prayers.

Dr Mahathir will attend a briefing on the state reclamation project at Wisma Darul Aman and visit the fishermen's resettlement site in Kuala Kedah before returning to Kuala Lumpur at 5.30pm the same day. -- BERNAMA

MZM MFJ JK