

19 MAR 1997

DR MAHATHIR TO VISIT SAUDI ARABIA

KUALA LUMPUR, March 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will leave for Saudi Arabia on Friday to receive the King Faisal International Prize 1997.

He will be accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali.

A Wisma Putra statement issued here today said that the presentation ceremony will be held at the conference hall of the Al-Khozamah Centre in Riyadh on Saturday.

Dr Mahathir, awarded the King Faisal International Prize-Service to Islam, will receive a certificate, a gold medallion and US\$200,000 (RM495,000).

He was announced the prize winner for his contributions to Islam on Jan 14.

The foundation was set up in 1976 in honour of Saudi Arabia's third king, King Faisal bin Abdul Aziz, who reigned from 1964 to 1975.

Dr Mahathir will also be accompanied by several Cabinet ministers and senior government officials during the visit. -- BERNAMA

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