

08 DEC 1997

MAHATHIR LEAVES FOR TEHRAN

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad left for Tehran today to attend the three-day Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit beginning tomorrow.

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

Among those to send them off at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang, near here, were Information Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, Defence Minister Datuk Syed Hamid Albar, several deputy ministers and other dignitaries.

Besides attending the eighth summit of the 55-member OIC, Dr Mahathir is also scheduled to hold meetings with the heads of government present to discuss current issues.

Yesterday the prime minister said he would not bring up any special measures to strengthen cooperation among the OIC members.

In a recent interview with the Iranian news agency, Irna, he said the OIC must do more to strengthen unity among the Islamic nations. -- BERNAMA

AH JK