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MAHATHIR MADE HONORARY FELLOW OF ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

By: Zainoor Sulaiman

EDINBURGH, Oct 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali were today made fellows of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh.

Dr Mahathir was conferred the honorary fellowship, the first Malaysian to receive the award, while Dr Siti Hasmah was made a distinguished fellow, in recognition of their contribution and services to the people of Malaysia and the world.

They received their awards from the college president Prof. John Cash at a ceremony held at the Great Hall of the distinguished college which was established in 1681.

Dr Mahathir is among a handful of living world leaders who have been conferred with the honorary fellow of the college. Other leaders who have received similar awards are former Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and the British royal family -- Queen Mother, Prince Charles and Princess Anne.

Dr Mahathir arrived here this morning to attend the three-day Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) beginning Friday.

Apart from attending the summit, the prime minister is also scheduled to hold bilateral discussions with several Commonwealth leaders including those from Cyprus, Malta, Bangladesh, New Zealand, Australia and Singapore.

--BERNAMA

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