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MAHATHIR RECEIVES AWARD-WINNING PORTRAIT

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 7 (Bernama) -- An award-winning embroidery portrait of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was today presented to the Prime Minister when he visited the Asean-SMI Showcase 1997 exhibition here.

The portrait was presented by Rand Asia Sdn Bhd General Manager Harald Chia to Dr Mahathir when he visited the company's booth at the exhibition held in conjunction with the Asean-East Asian Business Forum.

The prime minister had earlier opened the forum.

Chia said the portrait was a winning entry at the Grand Eurostitch Embroidery Contest in London in 1995.

According to Eurostitch magazine, the prime minister's portrait was chosen because of his local as well as world standing and contribution to world peace.

It also lauded Dr Mahathir's achievement in developing Malaysia into a harmonious multi-racial and economically stable country and his Vision 2020 to make it a developed nation by year 2020.

The magazine said the portrait itself has realistic details and colours resulting in a striking resemblance of Dr Mahathir.

Rand Asia Sdn Bhd, set up in 1994 with a paid-up capital of RM300,000, is the sole distributor of embroidery machines in Southeast Asia. --

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