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Mahathir-Diana

MAHATHIR SADDENED DIANA WAS "CHASED TO DEATH"

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 1 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight that he and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali were saddened by the tragic death of Princess Diana.

Saying that Diana was literally "chased to death", Dr Mahathir said the media must practise some ethics in terms of privacy of public figures.

"I feel deep regret...I think there should be some ethics, it is not fair to chase her all over the world.

"It was not fair to do that to her," he told reporters here tonight when asked on his reaction to Diana's death yesterday.

Dr Mahathir had earlier accompanied Dr Siti Hasmah at the Pacific Region and Southeast Asian Women Association Conference dinner at a leading hotel here.

Diana, 36, her millionaire companion Dodi Al-Fayed, 41, and their driver were killed when their car crashed in a Paris tunnel after being pursued by a pack of motorcycle-riding photographers.

Dr Mahathir said being "chased to her death" should not be the price that Diana had to pay for wanting publicity on the good things that she had done.

"Now, I think everybody regrets but very soon people will be talking again about press freedom, the right to haunt people and literally chase people to death.

"Today they regret but tomorrow they will say this is press freedom, and in the future they will debunk all that she has done and she will be run down for wanting publicity for herself," he added. -- BERNAMA

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