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Selangor Balkis retains Premier Cup title

KOTA KINABALU, Sun. - Defending champion Balkis of Selangor retained the title in the Premier Cup badminton championship, defeating Bakti 3-2 in a thrilling final at the Likas Stadium today.

The prizes were given away by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who took time off from a busy schedule to officiate at the closing of the championship.

Also present were Bakti president Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Chief Minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee, Transport Minister Datuk Dr Ling Liong Sik, State Cabinet Ministers and wives of Menteris Besar and Chief Ministers.

The three-day championship hosted by Sabah for the first time saw the participation of wives of ministers, State executive councillors and assemblymen from Kuala Lumpur and States, except Kelantan.

Dr Mahathir said the championship was an excellent avenue for the participants to foster better ties.

He hoped the championship would continue to be held to further enhance ties among the wives of ministers, State Exco members and assemblymen.

Meanwhile, Dr Siti Hasmah announced that Pahang would host the championship next year, followed by Johor in 1999 and Kedah in the year 2000. The championship started 15 years ago.

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