

19 JUN 1998

DR MAHATHIR OPENS 52nd UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 19 (Bernama) -- The three-day 1998 Umno general assembly began at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) here today attended by more than 1,900 delegates.

The opening ceremony, at the PWTC square, started with Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad inspected a guard-of-honour mounted by a brigade of the party's youth and women's wings followed by a flag-raising ceremony.

Deputy Prime Minister and party deputy president Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, party secretary-general Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik and members of the Umno Supreme Council were present.

Dr Mahathir then delivered the presidential address formally opening the general assembly, the party's 52nd, at PWTC's Dewan Merdeka.

Leaders of the Barisan Nasional component parties, local and foreign observers were among the party's guests at the opening alongside 14 representatives of political parties from other countries.

Eighteen representatives and six observers from Umno clubs overseas are also attending the assembly.

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