

08 MAY 1998

Mahathir-Arrival

MAHATHIR IN EGYPT FOR OFFICIAL VISIT, G-15 SUMMIT

By: Azman Ujang

CAIRO, May 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here Friday evening to begin a three-day official visit to Egypt and another three days to attend the summit meeting of the Group of 15 (G-15) developing countries.

Dr Mahathir, accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, was greeted on arrival at 5pm (10pm Malaysian time) by his Egyptian counterpart Dr Kamal Ahmed Al Ganzoury, other senior Egyptian officials and Malaysian Ambassador here Azman Nazir.

Tomorrow, Dr Mahathir and Dr Ganzoury will lead each other's delegations for bilateral talks that will focus on expanding economic and cultural ties between the two countries.

The two prime ministers will sign the first ever agreement on science and technology between the two countries and a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in Islamic affairs.

Dr Mahathir will call on President Hosni Mubarak before addressing a luncheon hosted by the Federation of the Egyptian Chambers of Commerce.

Dr Mahathir will then open the first showroom here of Perodua Kancil, Malaysia's second national car, which entered the Egyptian market with the first sale of 80 units in February.

On Sunday, the prime minister will receive a rare honour of an Honorary Doctorate of letters from Al Azhar University, the world's oldest, the first foreign head of government to be conferred the doctorate in 30 years.

He will also deliver a lecture at the presentation ceremony.

From Monday, he will attend the three-day G-15 summit.

-- BERNAMA

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