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Dr M tells of Jordan visit to pay condolences

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad stopped in Amman, Jordan, on his return journey to pay his condolences to the family of the late King Hussein.

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia enjoyed close ties with Jordan.

While in Jordan, the Prime Minister met King Abdullah, his wife Princess Rania and Queen Noor, the widow of the late King.

The Prime Minister was speaking to reporters at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang on his return from a trip during which he attended the G15 meeting in Jamaica.

Dr Mahathir also went to London and Paris where he met French President Jacques Chirac.

On the G15 meeting, the Prime Minister said quite a number of countries did not have any experience with problems concerning currency depreciation.

Thus, they were not aware of how currency devaluation took place, who was responsible for it, who benefited from it and who stood to lose in the event of a currency crisis.

He added that it was difficult for countries tied up with the International Monetary Fund to say anything.

On his meeting with Chirac, Dr Mahathir said he informed the French President of G15's decision and the President had given his support for the group as well as for Malaysia.

Chirac had pledged to raise the issue of G15 countries wanting to be directly involved in the formulation of a new international financial architecture with fellow G7 countries.

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