

13 MAY 1999

DR MAHATHIR IN SABAH FOR TWO-DAY VISIT

KOTA KINABALU, May 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, arrived here today for a two-day working visit to Sabah.

The Prime Minister was met on arrival at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport at 1.55pm by Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam and Deputy Chief Ministers Datuk Tham Nyip Shen, Datuk Lajim Ukin and Datuk Wilfred Bumburing.

Other leaders of the Sabah Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties, senior State and Federal government officers as well as some 3,000 local residents were also at the airport to welcome Dr Mahathir.

A group of 70 Bajau horsemen from Kota Belud also accompanied the Prime Minister's motorcade on the 2km trip to the hotel where Dr Mahathir would be staying.

Dr Mahathir is scheduled to hold a closed-door meeting with the State Cabinet Ministers and Assistant Ministers.

He will then attend a "tahlil" at the State Mosque here held to commemorate the BN's victory in the March 12-13 ninth state election in which the BN won 31 of the 48 seats.

Dr Mahathir will also attend a meet-the-people session later in the evening at the Likas Stadium here. He is scheduled to visit Ranau, about 100 km from here, tomorrow.

-- BERNAMA

TM THG