

08 JUNE 2000

Mahathir-Funeral

DR MAHATHIR ATTENDS OBUCHI'S FUNERAL

By: Ghazemy Mahmud

TOKYO, June 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today attended the funeral of the late Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi at the Nippon Budokan Hall here, in the capital's Kudan district.

Dr Mahathir was among the scores of world leaders attending the funeral, jointly organised by the Cabinet and the Liberal Democratic Party.

Obuchi died on May 14, six weeks after suffering a stroke and falling into a coma.

Later, Dr Mahathir called on Yoshiro Mori who succeeded Obuchi as Prime Minister.

Dr Mahathir arrived in Japan on Wednesday for a working visit during which he will also attend a major economic conference and explore latest technologies to boost Malaysia's industrial development.

The high-powered conference he will attend here, Nikkei's Sixth International Conference, will map out strategies to accelerate East Asia's recovery from the 1997 financial crisis.

Wisma Putra officials said Dr Mahathir will deliver a keynote address tomorrow at the conference on the "Future of Asia", organised by the media group Nihon Keizei Shimbun.

Also attending the two-day conference which begins today are Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid and Singapore's Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

Dr Mahathir is scheduled to meet Gus Dur later in the evening.

-- BERNAMA

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