

18 OCT 2000

Abdurrahman-Departure

INDON PRESIDENT ENDS WORKING VISIT, LEAVES FOR HONG KONG

LANGKAWI, Oct 18 (Bernama) -- Indonesian President Abdurrahman Wahid left here for Hong Kong today, ending a two-day working visit to Malaysia during which he discussed enhancing of bilateral ties with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He and wife Sinta Nuriyah were seen off at the airport here by Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Leo Michael Toyad.

Abdurrahman is enroute to Seoul to attend the 3rd Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem) on Friday.

While here, Abdurrahman and Dr Mahathir discussed deportation of unemployed Indonesian illegal immigrants from Malaysia and latest developments in the Palestine-Israeli conflict, among other things.

In a separate programme, the Indonesian first lady visited Langkawi Crystal, the country's leading producer of crystal products, among other local tourist attractions.

Last night Dr Mahathir and wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali hosted a dinner for the Indonesian leader and his entourage at the Sheraton Perdana here.

Abdurrahman's 50-member entourage included senior government officers, businessmen and media representatives.

His visit here was in accordance with an earlier agreement with Dr Mahathir that they meet every six months to discuss bilateral ties.

Their last meeting was in Jakarta last March.

-- BERNAMA

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