

11 NOV 2000

Mahathir-Arrival

MAHATHIR ARRIVES IN DOHA FOR OIC SUMMIT

By: Muin Abdul Majid

DOHA, Qatar, Nov 11 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was accorded a red carpet welcome on his arrival for the Organisation of Islamic Conference Summit (OIC) here today.

He was greeted at the Doha International Airport by the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani before being introduced to Qatari dignitaries.

Dr Mahathir also inspected a guard of honour before leaving in a motorcade for his designated official residence in Doha.

He is scheduled to chair a meeting with Malaysian officials in the afternoon to prepare for the three-day "Summit of Peace and Develeopment" which begins tomorrow.

The opening ceremony at the Sheraton Doha hotel will see the election of the Emir as chairman of the ninth OIC summit. The last one was held in Tehran in 1997.

Well-known Muslim scholar Prof Dr Yusuf Qardawi is also expected to call on Dr Mahathir.

Tonight, Dr Mahathir will meet with Muslim intellectuals and businessmen at the Diplomatic Club.

Besides attending the summit, where he is scheduled to speak on behalf of the Asian Group, the prime minister will hold bilateral talks with several leaders.

-- BERNAMA

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