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Mahathir-Departure

DR MAHATHIR LEAVES FOR HOME AFTER FOUR-DAY VISIT TO JAPAN

By: Jamaluddin Muhammad

TOKYO, June 10 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad left here today for home after a four-day visit to Japan.

Dr Mahathir, who was accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, was seen off at the Narita International Airport here by Malaysian ambassador to Japan Datuk Marzuki Mohamed Noor.

During the visit, Dr Mahathir made an inaugural speech at the U Thant Distinguished Lecture Series at the United Nations University here and delivered a keynote address at the 7th Nikkei International Conference here.

He has expressed his concern on the impact of globalisation on poor nations if one-sided approach was taken by rich nations at both occasions.

Dr Mahathir also held bilateral talks with his Japanese counterpart, Junichiro Koizumi here. At the meeting, the new Japanese administration gave an assurance that Japan would continue to provide loans for Malaysia's infrastructure development.

The Malaysian prime minister was also conferred an honorary doctorate by the Meiji University here for his contribution, among others, for promotion of peace, stability and development in Asia.

He also visited the NTT (Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation) research and development (R&D) centre here to take a closer look at the four new research projects which include the development of smart card being carried out there.

During the visit, he also managed to get the cooperation of the United Nations University to carry out research on Malaysia's biodiversity especially on the genetic structure and coding of natural resources towards the development of the medicinal field.

Dr Mahathir also met and had a dialogue with Malaysian students during the visit.

-- BERNAMA

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