

01 JUL 2001

DR MAHATHIR CLOSES SYMPOSIUM AT UNIVERSITI MALAYA

KUALA LUMPUR, July 1 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived at Universiti Malaya here this morning to close the Symposium on Reaffirming the Idealism of Undergraduates in the New Millennium.

Accompanied by Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, he was received by Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad and UM Vice-Chancellor Datuk Dr Anuar Zaini Mohamed Zain.

He was also greeted by about 1,000 students in front of the UM main library before proceeding to the Perdana Siswa Auditorium where the symposium was held.

The prime minister is to hold a dialogue with the students in conjunction with the official closing of the symposium which was originally scheduled to be held at the Dewan Tunku Canselor which was razed by fire on Friday.

Dr Mahathir is expected to survey the damage caused by the fire which is suspected to be an act of arson.

Although pamphlets were distributed on Thursday instigating the students to demonstrate against his visit to the UM campus, Dr Mahathir was warmly received by the students holding banners welcoming him.

-- BERNAMA

ROZ ZS JK