

20 APR 2002

Mahathir-Bahrain

DR MAHATHIR ARRIVES IN BAHRAIN FOR TWO-DAY VISIT

MANAMA, April 20 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here from Tripoli, Libya Saturday to begin his two-day working visit to this gulf island state of Bahrain.

He was received on arrival by Bahrain's Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salaman Al-Khalifa.

The specially chartered Malaysia Airlines (MAS) Boeing 777-200, carrying the Prime Minister and his entourage of several Cabinet members and businessmen, touched down at the Bahrain international airport at 1.35pm local time (6.35pm Malaysian Time).

Also present at the airport to greet Dr Mahathir was International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz who had arrived earlier.

After the official welcoming ceremony, Dr Mahathir had an audience with the Emir of Bahrain Sheikh Hamad Bin Isa Bin Salaman Al-Khalifa at his palace. He also called on Sheikh Khalifa.

A hectic schedule awaits him on Sunday where he will officiate the ground-breaking ceremony of Malaysia's Trade and Exhibition Centre in the district of Seef here.

Dr Mahathir is also expected to deliver a luncheon address to the business community here, apart from officiating a Petronas office and deliver a keynote address at the 31st IFTDO World Conference at the Gulf International Convention and Exhibition Centre here.

IFTDO is a worldwide network of human resources professionals committed to develop, and transfer knowledge, skills and technology.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir and his entourage will be leaving home tomorrow night and is expected to arrive in Kuala Lumpur on Monday.

-- BERNAMA

KHY MAD ABG