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Ras-Return

RAS ADIBA RETURNING TO KL ON MONDAY NIGHT

By: Naville D'Cruz

MELBOURNE, Sept 21 (Bernama) -- Despite being battered and bruised by her critics in recent months, Ras Adiba Radzi returns to Kuala Lumpur from Sydney on Monday night in good spirits.

She is expected to arrive by flight MH122 at 9pm.

"I would invite those who have questioned my integrity and cast aspersions on my decision to seek further treatment in Australia for my disability, to see for themselves my condition," she said.

"But I have no animosity towards them. They had been caught up with the media frenzy," she said.

Ras Adiba, 34, said that her doctors in Sydney felt that she had made reasonably good progress after her second operation last week and it would be safe for her to return home to continue her rehabilitation.

"More importantly I am keen to rush back because my younger brother, he's only 22 years' old, has a serious heart condition and I wish to be there to give him moral support," she said.

Ras Adiba said that she had many people to thank for their moral and financial support in recent months.

"Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been a tower of strength for me and a source of inspiration to get on in life...to face the challenge of a new life in a wheelchair," she said.

"The PM is like a big father caring for his people."

Ras Adibah is also grateful for the medical treatment she had received in Malaysia and Australia.

"In a lot ways we in Malaysia can learn from Australia, especially in the way they cater for and respond to the marginalised.

"I have had discussions with sports people involved with the handicapped in Australia and they have proved to me that being handicapped is no barrier to taking an active part in sports," she said.

-- BERNAMA

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