

29 SEP 2003

Mahathir-Exhibition

A THOUSAND FACES OF DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 29 (Bernama) -- A photo exhibition entitled "A Thousand Faces of Dr Mahathir: A Tribute To A Statesman" will be held at the National Art Gallery (BSLN) here next month in honour of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his visionary leadership of the country as Prime Minister for 22 years.

The exhibition, jointly organised by the Malaysian media comprising newspapers, television stations, the Information Department and Bernama in collaboration with BSLN, will be opened by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong on Oct 6.

It will be on for two months and open to the public from Oct 7 from 10 am to 6 pm daily. Admission is free.

A total of 1,000 photographs of Dr Mahathir will be on display, about half printed on canvas and the rest in the form of murals and multi-media images, Bernama general manager Datuk Syed Jamil Jaafar, who is the project coordinator, said today.

"A large number of the pictures to be put on show have never been published," he said.

"The photos caught Dr Mahathir in various poses, moods and situations. They are all interesting and give viewers glimpses of the great man."

Syed Jamil said the idea of having the exhibition was mooted by Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob after the media expressed their intention to pay tribute to Dr Mahathir who is well-known to be "media friendly" throughout his 22 years as the Prime Minister.

"Since words may not be adequate to express our appreciation to Dr Mahathir, we have chosen to say it in pictures," Syed Jamil said.

The photographs were contributed by Utusan Melayu, New Straits Times, Berita Harian, The Star, The Sun, Sin Chew Daily, Nanyang Siang Pau, China Press, the Information Department and Bernama. RTM, TV3, Ntv7 and Filem Negara contributed in other forms.

Nearly 80,000 photos were screened and the number was brought down to 10,000. The selection committee comprising the photo department heads of the newspapers then spent countless hours to make the final selection of 1,000.

Syed Jamil said the exhibition was expected to be the biggest of its kind to be held in Malaysia.

-- BERNAMA

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