

06 JUN 2003

Mahathir-Return

PM RETURNS HOME FROM OVERSEAS TRIP

SEPANG, June 6 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad returned home today after a week-long trip that took him to France and Japan.

Present to welcome him at the KL International Airport (KLIA) here were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob, MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting, Religious Adviser to the Prime Minister Tan Sri Dr Abdul Hamid Othman and Deputy Education Minister Datuk Abdul Aziz Shamsuddin.

The plane carrying Dr Mahathir and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali landed at 4.30pm after a six-hour journey from Tokyo's Narita International Airport.

Dr Mahathir left the country on May 30 to attend the Enlarged Group of Eight (G8) Summit in Evian, France, at the invitation of French President Jacques Chirac.

On the sidelines of the dialogue, he held talks with various world leaders including Russian President Vladimir Putin, South African President Thabo Mbeki and Chirac himself.

From France, the Prime Minister headed for Japan for the Ninth Nikkei Conference, arriving there on Tuesday.

He also held a meeting with his Japanese counterpart, Junichiro Koizumi.

-- BERNAMA

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