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Abdullah-Trust

POST OF PM IS A TRUST AND NOT PERSONAL GLORY, SAYS ABDULLAH

KEPALA BATAS, Nov 1 (Bernama) -- The new Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said his appointment as successor to Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad is not an honour for himself or his family.

He said the appointment was more a responsibility entrusted to him to ensure the continued development of the people and country.

He said the trust must be preserved properly and he called on the cooperation of everyone to ensure that he could carry out his responsibility effectively.

Speaking at the gathering to celebrate his homecoming at the grounds of the Kepala Batas member of Parliament's service centre, Abdullah, who is also MP for the constituency, said he prayed for good health and guidance from Allah to discharge his responsibility in the best possible manner.

Earlier, about 10,000 people had lined up along the approximately three-kilometre route from the Bertam Toll Plaza, North-South Highway near here to the town to welcome the Prime Minister who was escorted by a motorcycle convoy from Bayan Lepas International Airport.

Although there was a heavy downpour when he was delivering his speech, the thousands of people who had gathered to welcome him stayed in the rain to listen to his speech.

Abdullah also thanked Dr Mahathir for giving him the trust and naming him as successor.

To the people of Kepala Batas whom he had represented since 1978, he pledged to continue to develop the constituency as the place had become the starting point in his political career.

He said although he would not be in the constituency often due to his tight schedule as Prime Minister, he would ensure the continued development of the district.

Abdullah said he believed the support given to him by the constituents in Kepala Batas was not because he was the son of Ahmad Badawi (an Islamic education and Umno figure) or the grandson of Abdullah Fahim (an ulama and independence activist) but because they cared for the cause of the party.

After the speech, he proceeded to visit his mother, Datuk Seri Kailan Hassan, whose house was located nearby.

Abdullah's wife, Datuk Seri Endon Mahmood who had accompanied him for the visit, was at the house waiting for him together with his mother and other relatives.

He later broke fast with family members. He is scheduled to perform the Isyak and tarawih prayers at the Masjid Jamek Jamiul Badawi across the road from his mother's house and visit his father's and grandfather's graves.

--BERNAMA

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