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Mahathir-Dinner

CHINESE COMMUNITY HOSTS DINNER IN HONOUR OF DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 7 (Bernama) -- Although retired for almost four months now, former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad still has his hands full with various functions thrown in honour of him.

Tonight, Dr Mahathir was once again feted, this time at a dinner organised by five Barisan Nasional component parties which represented the Chinese community.

The parties were MCA, Gerakan, Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP), Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and Sabah Progressive Party (SAPP).

Apart from that, other Chinese-based associations also joined in, namely the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry Malaysia (ACCIM) and The Seven Federations of Chinese Associations of Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir who was accompanied by his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, were given a grand welcome with a lion dance performance before escorted to an art exhibition which featured the many faces of the former Prime Minister.

Also present were MCA President Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting and wife; Gerakan President Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik; Human Resources Minister Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn who is also MCA Vice President; SUPP President Tan Sri Amar George Chan Hong Nam, SAPP President Datuk Yong Teck Lee and LDP President Datuk Chong Kah Kiat.

The dinner started with the customary "yee sang toss" as a symbol of prosperity.

Ong who is also chairman of the dinner's organising committee said the success of tonight's event was testimony of how the Chinese appreciated Dr Mahathir and his contributions to the country.

"We would always admire Tun Dr Mahathir because when he was the Prime Minister, he always cared about the wellbeing of the Chinese community," he said.

Gerakan President Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik in his speech

said that
the Chinese community was comfortable and confident under Dr
Mahathir's
administration through balanced policies which benefited all races
in the
country.

Meanwhile, Dr Mahathir in his speech said he was happy with the
recognition given to him by the Chinese community and thanked them
for
graciously hosting the event.

He reminded all Malaysians to share the nation's wealth together
to
ensure continued prosperity.

-- BERNAMA

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