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Arab nations fete Dr M and wife to pot-luck dinner

By L.H. Lim

THE heads of Arab missions in Kuala Lumpur recently feted former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali to a pot-luck style dinner at Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Kuala Lumpur.

Organising chairman and Palestine ambassador Ahmad Al-Farra extended his appreciation to Dr Mahathir for his contribution in promoting ties between the Arab countries and Malaysia.

He said 12 ambassadors and charge d'affaires had each prepared a special dish for the dinner, making it a special event of different culinary styles.

Among the diplomats present were Algerian ambassador Rachid Bladehane, Moroccan ambassador Badre Eddine Allali, Jordanian ambassador Mazen M. Juma, Libyan ambassador Dr Ahmed Ali Hanesh, Egyptian ambassador Mohammed Ali Afifi, Oman Sultanate ambassador Sheikh Ghazi Said Albahar Al Rawas, Yemeni ambassador Dr Abdunasser Ali Abdo Munibari, United Arab Emirates ambassador Nasser Salman Al Aboodi, Kuwaiti ambassador Abdulhamid Ali Mohammad Al-Failakawi, Sudanese ambassador Abdel Rahman Hamza Elrayah Hamza, the charge d'affaires of Syria Abdul Aziz Ali, and the charge d'affaires of Iraq Dr Mahmoud Khalid.

Other guests included Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, Foreign Ministry secretary-general Tan Sri Ahmad Fuzi Abdul Razak and other senior officers of the Foreign Ministry.

Guests were also entertained by Iraqi artiste Hilal Al-Seelm who sang popular Arabic songs.

Al-Farra also presented an ornate model of an Arab traditional ship as a memento to Dr Mahathir.

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