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F1 dinner raises RM437,500

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - The Petronas Malaysian Grand Prix Ice Gala dinner managed to raise RM437,500 by selling Formula 1 memorabilia at a charity auction in aid of the Asian tsunami victims.

A major portion of the money was raised from the sales of the Royal Oak Offshore Juan Pablo Montoya Chronograph watch which was snapped up at a bid of RM150,000.

Other items which were auctioned were Ferrari's spare parts, Formula 1 driver's racing suits, boots and gloves, and F1 model cars.

Proceeds from the charity auction, graced by Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Fauziah, was channelled directly to the Force of Nature Foundation.

Also present at the function were Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his wife Datin Seri Endon Mahmood, former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, Tourism Minister Datuk Dr Leo Michael Toyad and Cabinet Ministers.

(END) Source : New Straits Times