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Artist plans solo kayak voyage around peninsula

KUALA PILAH, Sun. - A 52-year old artist is planning a solo voyage by kayak from Kota Baru to Kuala Perlis as a special retirement gift for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Ku Mohd Fozi, from Johol near here, said the expedition, via the South China Sea, Tebrau Straits and Straits of Malacca, was in appreciation of Dr Mahathir's leadership and contributions to the country.

The father of 10 will begin his voyage from the Sultan's Pier at Sungai Kelantan on Oct 1.

He hopes to complete the voyage in 22 days to signify the 22 years of leadership under Dr Mahathir.

From the starting point, Ku Mohd will travel southwards through Cherang Ruku, Kuala Terengganu, Dungun, Chukai, Kuantan, Merchong, Mersing, Sedili Besar, Kampung Teluk Ramunia, Johor Baru and Tanjung Piai.

From Tanjung Piai, he will continue his journey through the Straits of Malacca and pass by Batu Pahat, Tanjung Bidara, Teluk Kemang, Morib, Port Klang, Kuala Selangor, Sungai Besar, Lumut, Kuala Gula Kampung Sepetang and Penaga, near Butterworth.

He is due to arrive at the Kuala Perlis jetty on Oct 23.

Ku Mohd said he has not been successful in getting sponsorship for his expedition.

He said he had forwarded a working paper to the Youth and Sports Ministry a few months ago but has yet to receive any answer.

He has also written to the police and several other organisations to assist him in the expedition.

However, he would go ahead with the expedition with the support received from Johol Assemblyman Datuk Darus Salim Bulin and from the Perlis Umno Youth wing.