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Oh, for a peaceful retirement

Nuraina A. Samad

DATUK Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali is looking forward to Dr Mahathir's retire

"I know of people who found it hard to return to a 'normal life' when they no

"Alhamdulillah (God willing), we have no problem with that. In fact, it will

Dr Siti Hasmah spoke of her life as First Lady and being with her husband thro

To her, he is a loving husband and father, a doting grandfather and a committe

As a wife, she, of course, knows him intimately, yet he has kept some of the h

When former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim was sacked, she sai

When Dr Mahathir announced his retirement last July, she was as stunned as eve

How does her husband take all the attacks against him by his detractors?

"He is strong, Alhamdulillah. He can ward off all these. He has a knack for d

Following the regional financial crisis in 1998 and just before the 1999 gener

Dr Siti Hasmah said it greatly saddened her because Dr Mahathir is far from wh

"I felt very much for them. I feel sorry for my children. People have the wron

"His children or relatives getting favours from him as Prime Minister just nev

Dr Siti Hasmah said her children are where they are in their own right after

"They are where they are with no help from their father. They work so hard and

Indeed, Dr Siti Hasmah admires Dr Mahathir's strength, patience, resilience an

"Always, when there are problems, he will tell me not to worry and that they w

When at home, they do not discuss his work. Because he keeps a hectic schedule

Dr Mahathir, she said, tries his best to attend his children's and grandchildr

Like any other husband, he does try to come home for lunch and when he is not

Dr Siti Hasmah said that at the moment she is "(with Dr Mahathir) everywhere

When all this is done and everyone gets to say adieu to Dr Mahathir, she will

It is not easy, she reminds you, because, after October, all their belongings

It is not a palatial home on a large piece of land for a statesman and former

"It is a small house. It is what we will be happy in. And it is home where our

* The writer is the Political Editor at NST