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Photo exhibition dedicated to Dr Mahathir

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's inspiring life will be showcased in an exhibition of photographs dedicated to him before he retires at the end of this month.

The "Thousand Faces of Dr Mahathir: A Tribute to a Statesman" to be held at the National Art Gallery for two months from next week, will see a selection of 1,000 photographs of the Prime Minister during his 22 years of premiership.

Speaking after inspecting the exhibition space at the gallery today, Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said about 70 per cent of the 1,000 photographs on display had never been exhibited before.

The exhibits, selected from about three million photographs of Dr Mahathir, were contributed by the media and the Information Department. The organising committee took about two months to select the photographs to ensure quality.

Jointly organised by the ministry and the media, the event will depict the Prime Minister in his various roles as a statesman, Muslim leader and family man.

Khalil, who is the organising committee chairman, said the exhibition would also be held in other States to enable more people to see the photographs.

On the future of the exhibits, he said they would be kept in suitable places such as government offices.

"My committee will decide who will keep them," he said, adding that the committee planned to compile the photographs into a book.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin is scheduled to attend the opening on Monday, while Dr Mahathir is expected to make a visit on Oct 12.

The exhibition will be opened daily to the public beginning Tuesday from 10am to 6pm. Admission is free.