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Tribute to Dr Mahathir a hit with the people

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Never mind if they had to make the two-hour journey from Malacca.

It was their admiration for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that brought this family to the "A thousand faces of Dr Mahathir" exhibition at the National Art Gallery.

Dr Hamdan Hashim of Bandar Hilir, who was accompanied by his wife and two sons, said they adored the Prime Minister who had contributed immensely to the country's progress.

"We simply adore him. He practises what he preaches and this is evident in his book the Malay Dilemma," he said when met at the exhibition today.

His wife Roslina Sulung described Dr Mahathir as a great leader.

Amid tears she said: "It will be a loss to the nation when he retires as he is still capable of contributing to the country."

Roslina said the most memorable advice from Dr Mahathir was to place importance on children's education.

Their son Ahmad Hafifi, a standard four pupil of Sekolah Kebangsaan Paya Rumpit, was also proud of Dr Mahathir, saying: "He is a great architect and proves this through the way he has developed the nation."

Two foreign International Islamic University students also took advantage of their day-off to visit the exhibition.

"We've heard so many great things about him...we wanted to know more," said Fatoumia Abder Emame, an Information Technology student.

She was accompanied by a friend, Zainaba Youssouf, a Telecommunications student.

The exhibition, jointly organised by the Information Ministry, Bernama and the Malaysian media in collaboration with the National Art Gallery, will be held until December. It will be extended to 9pm every day beginning tomorrow.