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MIDWIFE, BARBER RENEW ACQUAINTANCE WITH MAHATHIR AFTER 40 YEARS

LANGKAWI, July 28 (Bernama) -- Retired midwife Rokiah Jaafar 70, was at a loss for words when she came face to face today, after about 40 years, with her former boss -- the then Langkawi District Hospital Administrative Officer Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Rokiah came near the Prime Minister when he was visiting the Langkawi Photo Exhibition at the Langkawi Development Authority Complex here.

"It has been a long time that we have not come face to face...some 40 years to be exact," she said as the Prime Minister looked fondly at the photograph showing him with the staff of the hospital in 1957.

The picture was taken a day before Dr Mahathir completed his service as the hospital administrative officer.

Rokiah, of Kampung Bukit Tekoh, began work at the hospital in 1947 and retired in 1962.

Retired barber Haji Ibrahim Haji Ahmad, 73, of Kampung Padang Lalang, Kuah, was overjoyed meeting the Prime Minister face to face.

He cropped Dr Mahathir's hair when was the administrative officer at the Langkawi Hospital.

Haji Ibrahim had also cropped the hair of Malaysia's first Prime Minister the late Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj of revered memory.

-- BERNAMA

ZI/JM AAM