



A priceless collection

The Star - 23/8/2007

Glass with Bapa Merdeka's photo the most prized

MOHAMAD Zulkifli Mohamad Ali has many collectors' items to show off to friends.

One special item is a glass with a picture of first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman, with Umno and Malaya flags framing the sides.

The words *Menyambut Hari Kemerdekaan* are written above the image.

Mohamad Zulkifli is very careful with his collection and things like this glass piece are only brought out when he is around.

And he has reason to be possessive. The glass is as old as this nation.

"I remember that my family had five of these which my late father bought as souvenirs," Mohamad Zulkifli said during an interview at his home in Shah Alam.

"But four broke and now we are left

»This glass and the rest of my collection would be passed down to my children one day«

MOHAMAD ZULKIFLI MOHAMAD ALI

with just this one. This glass and the rest of my collection would be passed down to my children one day. It will be their inheritance," he said.

"Glasses like these are no longer pro-

duced and so is an exclusive collector's item," he said.

Mohamad Zulkifli, 56, said he started collecting unique items from the places he had to visit in the course of work as a technician.

"I think I started doing this about 30 years ago.

Mohamad Zulkifli even has an egg with an uneven shell among his collection.

He also holds the record in the *Malaysian Guinness Book of Records* for having the most number of matchboxes – a staggering 8,000, all stacked in a basket and gigantic biscuit jar.

Also fascinating is a small metal badge engraved with the Umno flag.

"My collection is not something I would part with, however tempting the offer," said Mohamad Zulkifli.