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Private celebration: Dr Mahathir about to blow out the candles while Tun Dr Siti Hasmah and family look on in a screen grab of Mukhriz's Facebook page.

Dr M celebrates 90th birthday quietly with family

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PETALING JAYA: He is one of the most notable and outspoken leaders in the country, but former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad decided to spend his 90th birthday in a quiet celebration with his family.

His son, Mukhriz Mahathir, posted a picture of the family celebration on his Facebook.

"Selamat Hari Jadi ke 90 Ayah, Selamat Hari Jadi ke 89 Ibu (12/7), dan Selamat Hari Jadi ke 7 Mia. (Happy 90th birthday dad, happy 89th birthday mum (12/7) and happy 7th birthday Mia)," he wrote.

He said he wished for a long, prosperous and healthy life for them, as well as happiness in this life and the next (*akhirat*).

Mahathir's daughter Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir had also wished him on her Facebook.

"To my dearest Daddy, Happy 90th birthday!

"May you always continue to enjoy your robust health, may you always have the strength and courage to do what you think is right, and the time to enjoy the love of your children, grandchildren and your new great-granddaughter.

"I love you," she said.

When contacted, Marina said the family decided to celebrate her father's birthday together.

"We have a big family and it was a small celebration," she said.

Besides his family, Malaysians from all walks of life also took to social media to wish the longest serving prime minister well on his birthday with the #TunM90.