

# Dr M: Rahah contributed immensely to country

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** During her lifetime, Tun Rahah Mohamed Noah made immense contributions to the nation's development by assisting her husband, Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, the country's second prime minister.

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad described Rahah as the last of the "Merdeka generation", who made invaluable and immense contributions to the country.

"(She is from the) Merdeka (independence) generation. Not many people from the Merdeka generation (who witnessed independence) are still alive.

"Perhaps she was among the last (of the Merdeka generation).

"She helped Tun Razak when he was prime minister," the Langkawi member of parliament and former prime minister told Bernama.

Dr Mahathir was visibly sad when met at Masjid Ar-Rahah here where he paid his last respects to Rahah.

He was accompanied by his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, and son, Datuk Seri Mukhriz, who is Jerlun MP and former Kedah menteri besar.

Dr Mahathir was among several prominent figures, members of royalty and political leaders seen paying their last respects to Rahah at the mosque in Kampung Kerinchi.

The motorcade with Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah and Tengku Permaisuri Selangor Tengku Permaisuri Norashikin was seen entering the compound of the mosque at 9.18am.

About 40 minutes later, Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah arrived at the mosque to pay his last respects to Rahah, who was the mother of former prime minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

A motorcade with Yang di-Pertua Sarawak Tun Abdul Taib Mahmud, who was accompanied by his wife, Toh Puan Ragad Kurdi Taib, was seen entering Masjid Ar-Rahah about noon.

Leaders who expressed their condolences included Najib's predecessor, Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Abdullah, in a joint statement on Friday with his wife, Tun Jeanne Abdullah, expressed their condolences to Najib over the death of his mother.