

Anwar conferred honorary doctorate by Philippines varsity

MANILA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has been conferred an honorary doctorate by the University of the Philippines (UP) in a ceremony held at its

Villamor Hall yesterday.

According to a statement by the university, Anwar was awarded the honorary doctorate for being a scholar and an internationally

acclaimed expert on economics, democracy, freedom, governance, Islam and democracy as well as the need for accountability.

He was conferred the degree by

the chairperson of the Commission of Higher Education J. Prospero E. De Vera III and university president and co-chair of the UP Board of Regents Angelo A. Jimenez.

"The Malaysian prime minister has been a devoted scholar on the life, works and teachings of Jose Rizal.

"Anwar's interest in Rizaliana was furthered by his frequent visits to the University of the Philippines in his youth under the tutelage of the late University Professor Emeritus of History and UP Diliman College of Arts and Sciences Dean Cesar Adib Majul," said UP vice-president for Public Affairs Jose Wendell Capili.

He said Anwar is also respected for his principled stance against corruption and his management of the Malaysian economy during the Asian Financial Crisis.

The premier arrived in Manila on Wednesday for a two-day official visit, the fifth Asean country he visited since being appointed as Malaysia's 10th prime minister in November last year.

Capili also said Anwar's prescriptions saved the Malaysian economy during the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997 and earned him accolades, including the Asian of the Year tide from *Newsweek International*. - Bernama



Anwar being conferred the honorary doctorate by Jimenez yesterday. - AFP/IC