

PM back home after UNGA, UK visit

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SUBANG, Oct 2 (Bernama) — Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad returned home today after a packed visit to the United Kingdom and New York, where he led the Malaysian delegation to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The special government jet carrying Dr Mahathir and wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali touched down at the Royal Malaysian Air Force Subang airbase here at 6.20pm.

VIPs on hand to welcome them were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, Defence Minister Mohamad Sabu, Deputy Home Minister Datuk Mohd Azis Jamman, Deputy Defence Minister Liew Ching Tong and Deputy Human Resource Minister Datuk Mahfuz Omar.

Hundreds of people had also gathered at the airbase as early as 5pm to greet the prime minister and even though it rained heavily and were wet, it did not dampen their spirits to get a glimpse of their beloved leader.

Upon his arrival, the people shouted 'Hidup Tun' (Long live Tun) and Al-Fatihah and "doa selamat" prayers were offered before Dr Mahathir made a brief speech and shook hands and joined for picture taking by the crowd before leaving the arrival hall.

Dr Mahathir left for the United Kingdom for the first leg of his working visit there on Sept 21.

Whilst in the UK, Dr Mahathir met Sir James Dyson, a British billionaire and inventor of the "bagless" vacuum cleaner, who is reported to be keen on making new investments in Malaysia.

He then left for New York on Sept 25 and delivered his UNGA address on Sept 28. In between Dr Mahathir held bilateral meetings with a number of world leaders, discussions with top business people and dialogues with the Malaysian diaspora in the “Big Apple”.

Dr Mahathir returned to London for the second leg of his UK visit on Sept 29 and this time visited the British Museum’s Islamic World Collection, delivered a talk titled “Future Democracy in Asia” at Chatham House, attended a briefing on police and public sector reforms in the UK and met key British investors and fund managers on Sunday night to discuss Malaysia's economic and investment prospects

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