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Muhammad V takes oath as 15th Agong

Sultan signs instrument of proclamation at Istana Negara

KUALA LUMPUR: It was a day steeped in tradition and custom as Kelantan Ruler Sultan Muhammad V ascended the throne as Malaysia's 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

Sultan Muhammad V arrived at Istana Negara about 11.20am to take his oath of office as the new King and sign the instrument of proclamation, at Balairong Seri (throne room).

Well-wishers were gathered outside the palace entrance to catch a glimpse of Sultan Muhammad V as he arrived.

The solemn ceremonies were held during the 244th (Special) Meeting of the Conference of Rulers chaired by the Sultan of Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah, which also saw Perak Ruler Sultan Nazrin Shah take the oath of office as Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak then read out the Letter of Proclamation declaring that Sultan Muhammad V was now the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong and Sultan Nazrin Shah, the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

Federal Territory, Mufti Datuk Dr

Cultural performances were staged at 11 locations along the route.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, who was the minister-in-attendance, accompanied Sultan Muhammad V who took off at 9.12am on a special flight to KLIA.

Sultan Muhammad V arrived at KLIA's Bunga Raya Complex about an hour later where he was welcomed by Raja Muda Selangor Tengku Amir Shah, Tengku Laksamana Selangor Tengku Sulaiman Shah, and Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Dr Salleh Said Keruak, the Special Committee chairman.

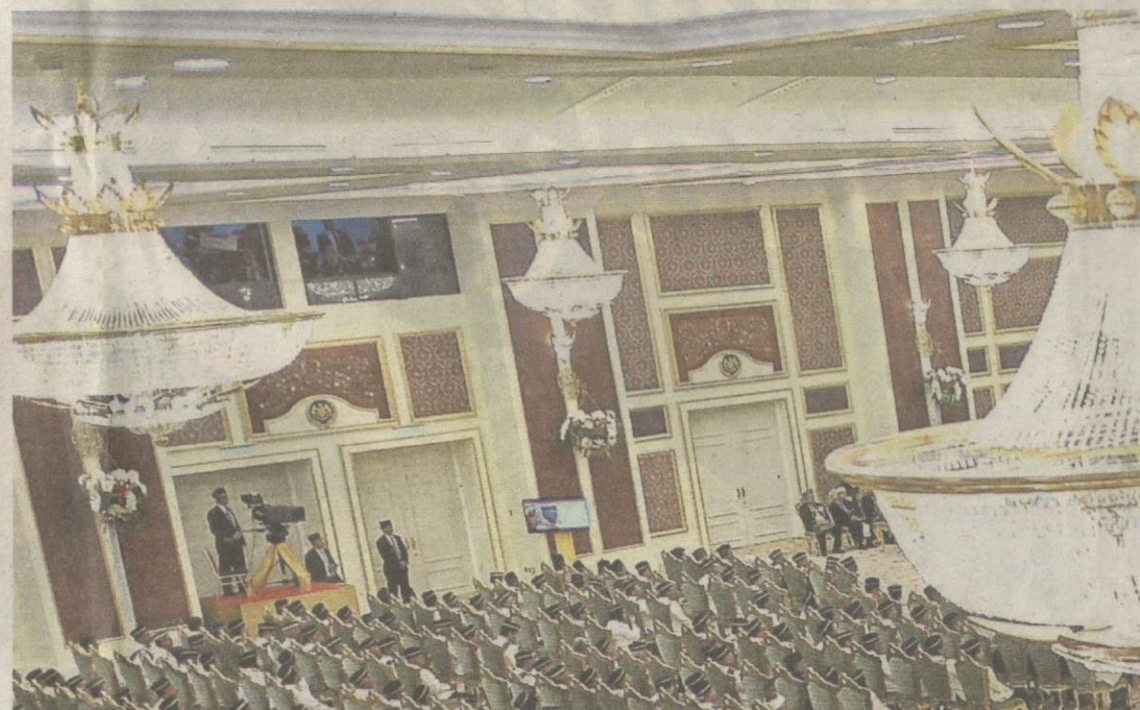
Sultan Muhammad V was given a static honour guard comprising two officers and 26 men of the Royal Ranger Regiment led by Captain Mohd Hafiz Mohamad Noor before proceeding in a motorcade to Parliament Square.

He arrived at about 11am and was greeted by the sound of the *nafiri* (Malay trumpets) played by 14 members of the Army's Royal Ceremonial Ensemble.

The ceremony began with the nation-

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Ruler and leader: Sultan Muhammad V receiving the instrument of proclamation as the 15th King from Najib. — Bernama



Federal Territory Mufti Datuk Dr Zulkifli Mohamad Al-Bakri recited a prayer and the ceremony concluded with the Keeper of the Rulers' Seal Datuk Syed Danial Syed Ahmad announcing the adjournment of the 244th (Special) Meeting of the Conference of Rulers *sine die*.

All nine Malay Rulers or their representatives and three Yang di-Pertua Negeri attended the ceremonies.

Also present were Najib's wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Cabinet ministers and their deputies, MPs, senators, senior government officers and diplomats.

Following the ceremonies, Najib led a delegation of Cabinet ministers and other VIPs for an audience with their majesties.

Earlier yesterday, at 7.50am, Sultan Muhammad V left Istana Negeri, Kubang Kerian, for the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Pengkalan Chepa.

He was accompanied by the Regent and Tengku Mahkota of Kelantan, Tengku Dr Muhammad Faiz Petra, Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yakob and many other dignitaries.

Thousands lined the 14km route from Istana Negeri to the airport and cheered while waving the Kelantan and Jalur Gemilang flags as Sultan Muhammad V's motorcade passed.

The ceremony began with the national anthem played by the Royal Malay Regiment Central Band, led by Captain Muhammad Nor Azizan Yahya, as the royal colour of Sultan Muhammad V and the national flag were raised simultaneously.

A 21-gun salute was fired as Sultan Muhammad V then inspected an honour guard comprising 103 members and four officers of the 1st Battalion Royal Malay Regiment led by Major Mohd Ridhwan Basheer.

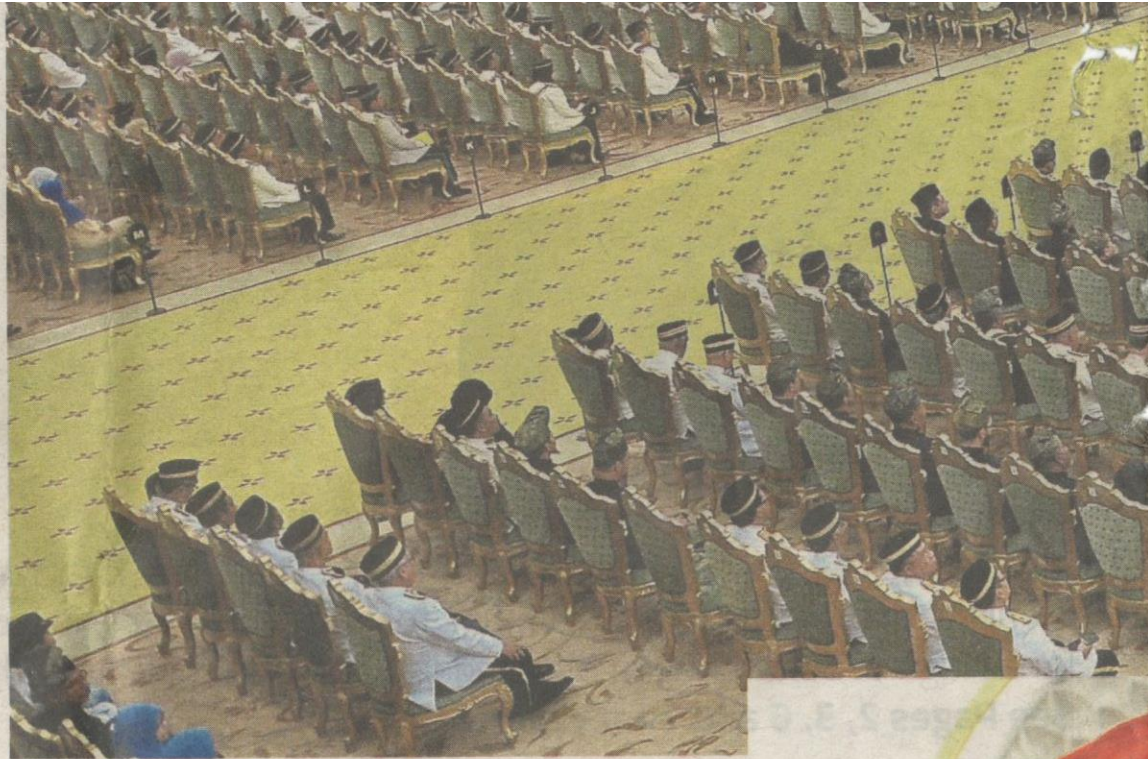
A prayer was then recited by Federal Territory Mufti Datuk Dr Zulkifli Mohamad Al-Bakri, followed by another salute and the rendition of the *Negaraku* again.

Sultan Muhammad V left for Istana Negara at about 11.15am to take his oath as the next Yang di-Pertuan Agong for a five-year term.

Sultan Muhammad V is the appellation for Tengku Muhammad Faris Petra, who ascended the throne as the 29th Sultan of Kelantan on 13 Sept, 2010.

He was installed as Tengku Mahkota Kelantan on Oct 6, 1985.

Watch the video
thestartv.com



Pomp and pageantry: Sultan Muhammad V at the centre of the main table with the Council of Rulers during the signing of the instrument of proclamation of office at Istana Negara in Kuala Lumpur. — Bernama

Kelantan folk tearful but proud as King departs

KOTA BARU: It was with a mixture of pride and sadness that Kelantan folks lined the road leading to the airport in Pengkalan Chepa to see off the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Muhammad V.

Waving the Jalur Gemilang and the state flag, they waited for him along a 15km stretch from Istana Negeri in Kubang Kerian from as early as 6am yesterday.

Among the dignitaries to see Sultan Muhammad V off at the air-

port was his mother, Tengku Anis Tengku Abdul Hamid, and his younger brother and Acting Kelantan Sultan, Tengku Dr Muhammad Fa'iz ibni Sultan Ismail Petra.

Also present were Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yakob, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed and other state VIPs.

Scores of people wept quietly as Sultan Muhammad V embraced his

mother and sought her blessing to carry out his duties as the country's new Agong. He then left in a private jet.

Earlier, the official ceremony at Istana Negeri kicked off at 7.50am with the departure of Sultan Muhammad V, accompanied by the playing of the national and state anthems and a 21-gun salute.

Sultan Muhammad V also inspected a 107-personnel military parade mounted by the Fifth Royal

Regiment and led by Mejar Mohd Saiful Azly.

Kelantan mufti Datuk Mohamad Shukri Mohamad then recited prayers after which the national anthem was played again before the King left the palace for the airport.



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A King with great concern for the welfare of his subjects

KOTA BARU: The 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Muhammad V has great concern for the administration of the Kelantan government as well as the welfare of his subjects.

Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yakob said Sultan Muhammad V constantly shared his views and suggestions on various issues.

"It is customary for me to meet him as the Menteri Besar and openly discuss matters of concern.

"Whatever paperwork discussed is done for the benefit of the people. This is his distinction. We always get his views first and table it at the

Our humblest apologies

OUR special supplement on Sultan Muhammad V's ascension to the throne as the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong inadvertently included "Almarhum" in His Majesty's full name.

His Majesty's name should have been Sultan Muhammad V

and not as published.

The error is deeply regretted.

We humbly apologise to His Majesty and to Sultan Ismail Petra ibni Almarhum Sultan Yahya Petra and seek their forgiveness for the error.

state executive council meeting," Ahmad said in an exclusive interview with *Bernama* at his office at the Kota Darul Naim Complex here.

Commenting on the appointment of the Regent, Tengku Dr Muhammad Faiz Petra, younger brother of Sultan Muhammad V, as

the president of Kelantan Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Council, Ahmad said the action of Sultan Muhammad V proved that he was careful in safeguarding the welfare of his subjects.

Sultan Muhammad V made sure that the welfare of the poor was championed by the Kelantan Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Council.

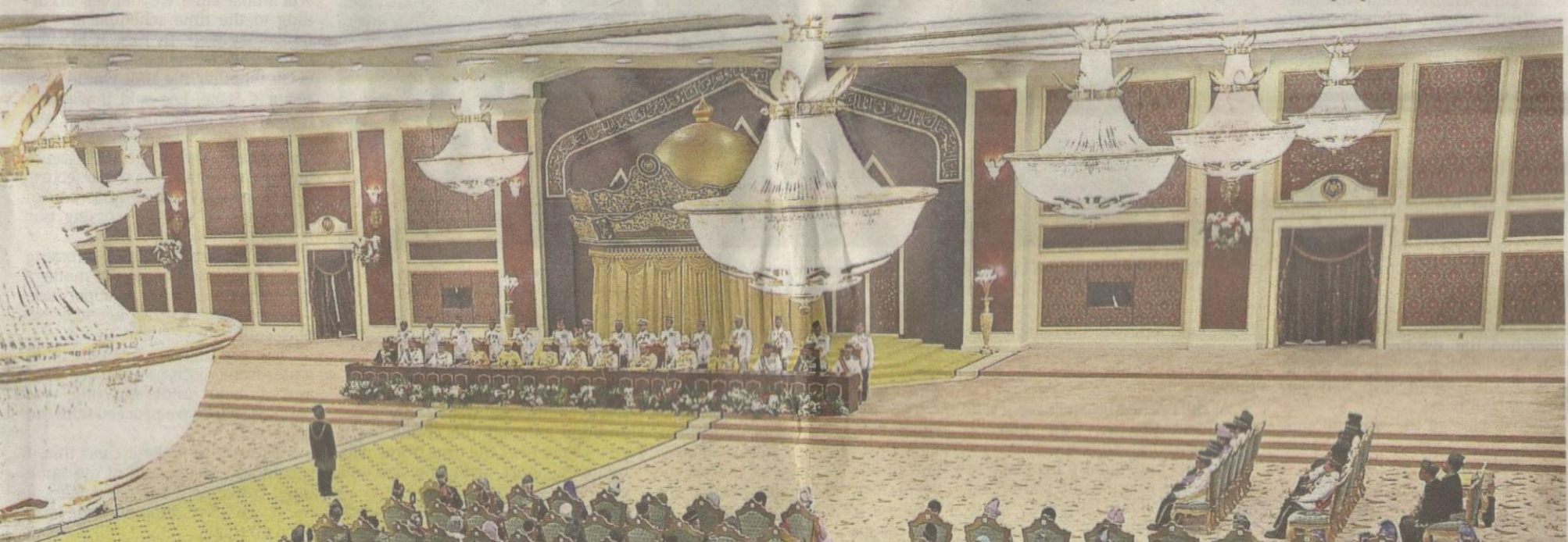
Ahmad said that as the guardian of Kelantan, Sultan Muhammad V showed great concern for non-Muslims in the state and had excellent relations with them.

For instance, the Thai community in Tumpat had requested to be

allowed to attend his official departure from Kelantan to Kuala Lumpur for the swearing-in ceremony and signing of the instrument of office as the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

"Even for the appointment of the chief monks, they would seek the permission of Sultan Muhammad V to do so, showing the existence of an established relationship.

"The Kelantan people are thankful for the appointment of Sultan Muhammad V as Yang di-Pertuan Agong for he is a ruler who is concerned with fulfilling the needs of Islam, a pious son and role model for his people," said Ahmad.





Warm welcome: Sisters Nurain Qistina Safiah Zulkifli (right), 11, and Nurul Izzah Zulkifli, eight, waving the Kelantan flag before the arrival of Sultan Muhammad V at Istana Negara in Kuala Lumpur.



Kelantanese show their pride at the gates

KUALA LUMPUR: It was a proud moment for the Kelantanese as they caught a glimpse of their Sultan arriving at the Istana Negara for his installation as the 15th Yang Di-Pertuan Agong.

Sultan Muhammad V arrived at the palace at Jalan Sultan Abdul Halim (formerly known as Jalan Duta) at 11.24am from Parliament.

The royal motorcade zoomed past the crowd that chanted *Allahuakbar* (Allah is Great) as the convoy entered the palace gates.

Some were outside the palace entrance from as early as 7am.

Lorry driver Zulkifli Ismail, 37, said his family woke up at 5am so that they could leave their home in Shah Alam in time to catch a glimpse of the new King outside

the palace gates.

"I told my children that our Sultan would be the new King and they were excited to follow me to the palace," said Zulkifli, whose hometown is Tumpat.

His daughters Nurain Qistina Safiah, 11, and Nurul Izzah, eight, happily waved a Kelantan flag.

Zulkifli said as a Kelantanese, he was proud that his Sultan would be the King for the next five years.

"He is a Sultan with *jiwa rakyat*. From the way he speaks to what he wears, he is truly people-oriented.

"When he goes to the mosque, there are no bodyguards around him," he said, adding that Sultan Muhammad V would usually drive himself to meet the people.

Persatuan Anak Kelantan Peran-

tauan Malaysia (Perakan) president Hamdzah Abdul Rahman, 49, said almost 200 Kelantanese nationwide came to the palace yesterday morning to catch a glimpse of Sultan Muhammad V.

"We came in about 30 cars. We have been waiting for this moment as we are very proud that our Sultan is selected to be the new Agong.

"He is a very down-to-earth leader. With his new role as the King, I hope that all Malaysians will be able to see his humble nature," the engineer said.

Tourists were seen taking photos with the motorcades of state leaders arriving for the installation outside the palace gates.

Many Kelantanese also shared their joy on social media.