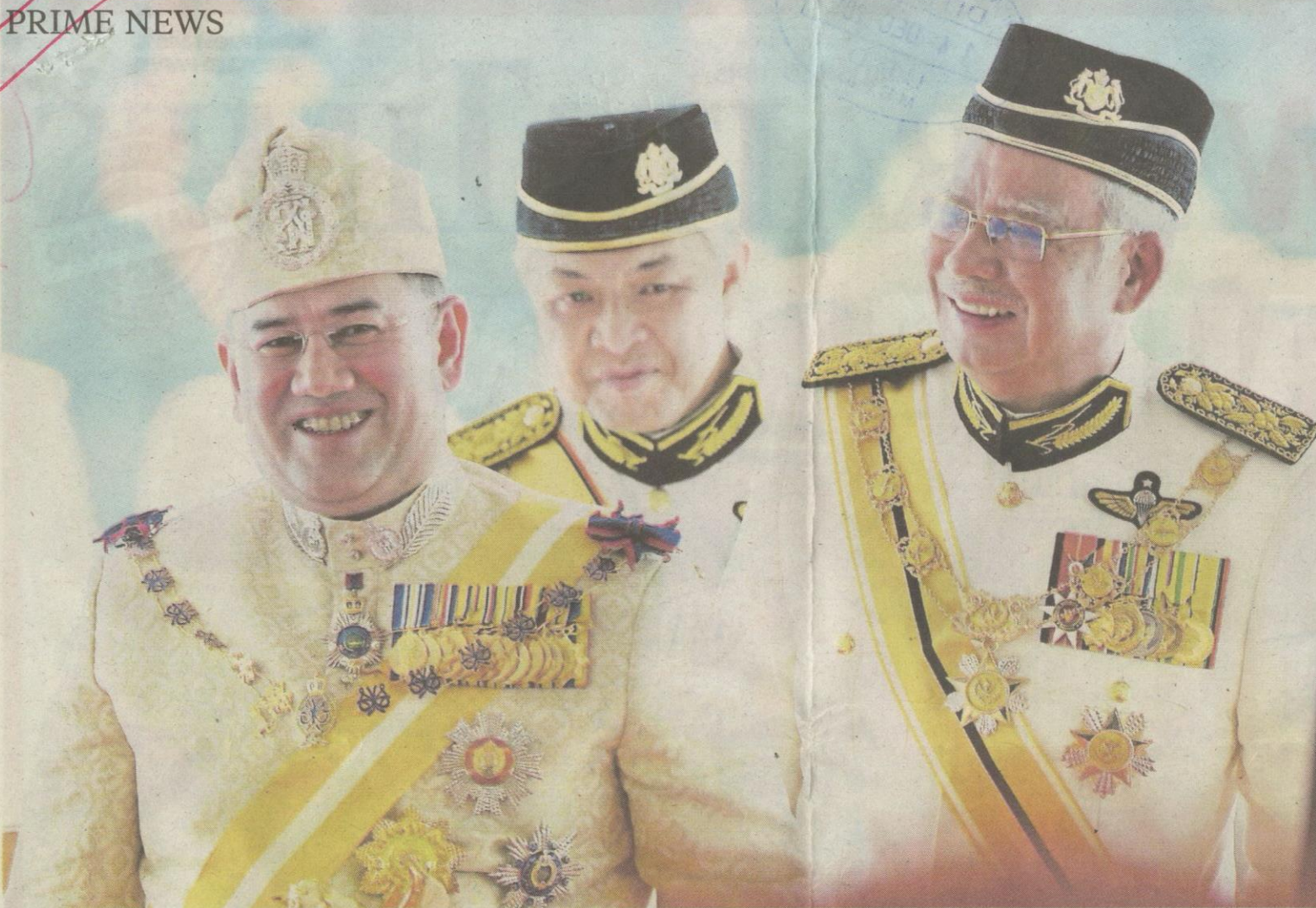


PRIME NEWS



Sultan Muhammad V, Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Najib Razak** and Deputy Prime Minister **Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi** during the official welcoming ceremony at **Parliament Square** in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. Bernama pic

VOICES

We are confident that **Sultan Muhammad V**, a people-oriented ruler, will have a fruitful reign.
Mohamed Yudin, 54, Kampung Chicha, Kelantan

The king is a simple and humble person. He has no qualms about eating or drinking at a small village shop.
Umie Teh, 50, Pasir Mas, Kelantan

King takes oath of office

5-YEAR TERM: Ceremony at Istana Negara steeped in royal tradition

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Sultan Muhammad V is a man of the people and prioritises the

SULTAN of Kelantan Sultan Muhammad V took his oath of office as the new Yang di-Pertuan Agong in a ceremony steeped in royal tradition at Istana Negara here yesterday.

Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah also took his oath as the new Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

Both will reign for a five-year term.

The 47-year-old Sultan Muhammad V succeeds Sultan of Kedah Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, who completed his five-year reign as the 14th Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

The swearing-in ceremony, witnessed by fellow rulers, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi and ministers, was held at the Balai Rong Seri (Throne Room) of the national palace.

The oath-taking ceremony was preceded by the 244th Special Meeting of the Conference of Rulers, which was chaired by Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah.

Keeper of the Rulers' Seal Datuk

Seri Syed Daniah Syed Ahmad then presented the oath of office document to the new king, who read out the document and signed it.

The document was also signed by Sultan of Terengganu Sultan Mizan Zainal Abidin and Raja of Perlis Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail as witnesses.

Najib, flanked by Datuk Paduka Maharaja Lela (Grand Chamberlain) Major-General Datuk Md Tajri Alwi and his assistant, Azuan Effendy Zairakithnaini, then presented the instruments of proclamation of office, to be signed by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

The prime minister read out both proclamations.

This was followed by the recital of *doa* by Federal Territory Mufti Datuk Dr Zulkifli Mohamad Al-Bakri.

All nine Malay rulers or their representatives and three Yang di-Pertua Negeri were in attendance.

Sarawak Yang di-Pertua Negeri Tun Abdul Taib Mahmud, who was away, was represented by state Speaker Datuk Mohamad Asfia Awang Nassar.

The rulers of Johor, Pahang and Kedah also sent representatives.

Present, too, were menteri besar, chief ministers, parliamentary opposition leader Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, members of par-

liament, senators and senior government officials.

After the ceremony, Najib led a delegation of ministers and VIPs to have an audience with the rulers.

Earlier, Sultan Muhammad V boarded a special aircraft at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Kota Baru, headed for the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA).

Among those who sent him off was his mother, Tengku Anis Tengku Abdul Hamid.

At KLIA's Bunga Raya VVIP Complex, Raja Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah and members of the Selangor royal family welcomed the Kelantan ruler.

Also present was Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak.

Sultan Muhammad V then left for Parliament Square.

Along the way, people carrying Malaysian and Kelantan flags lined the roads.

It was a sunny morning, with a light breeze in the air, when the ruler arrived at the square in a black Rolls-Royce an hour later.

He was greeted by Najib, his wife,

Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, ministers and their deputies.

Sultan Muhammad V cut a commanding figure at Parliament Square, resplendent in a cream-coloured royal ensemble made of *songket*.

As the monarch took his position onstage, a brass band from the Royal Malay Regiment (RMR) played the national anthem and, simultaneously, a 21-gun salute was fired in his honour.

Sultan Muhammad V held his salute throughout *Negaraku*, which was played by the regiment's central band, led by Captain Muhammad Nor Azizah Yahya.

The ruler then stepped down from the stage to inspect a guard of honour, mounted by 103 soldiers and four officers, led by Major Mohd Ridhuan Bashir from the First Battalion of RMR.

After a prayer was recited by the Federal Territory mufti, the national anthem filled the air again.

Sultan Muhammad V then left for Istana Negara, for the oath-taking ceremony. **Additional reporting by Fernando Fong**

Page 1 pic: Sultan Muhammad V (second from left) signing the oath of office document, declaring him the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, at Istana Negara in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are (from right) Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah, Raja of Perlis Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail and Sultan of Selangor Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah.

people's welfare.
You can see him going down to the ground whenever there are floods or disasters.

Steven Phang, 55,
Rantau Panjang, Kelantan

I can still remember the time when he returned from Kuala Lumpur. **He thanked everyone who was patiently waiting for him at the airport.**
Shaari Mohd Nor, 47,
Tanah Merah, Kelantan

PRIME NEWS



Sultan Muhammad V taking leave from his mother, Tengku Anis Tengku Abdul Hamid, at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Pengkalen Chepa yesterday. Bernama pic

Touching moment between mother and son



Sultan Muhammad V

Born **Tengku Muhammad Faris Petra Sultan Ismail Petra** on **Oct 6, 1969**.
Eldelst son of Sultan Ismail Petra Al-Marhum Sultan Yahya Petra.

- Early education at **SK Sultan Ismail I** from 1976 to 1981.
- Attended the **Alice Smith School** in Kuala Lumpur in 1983.
- A stint at the **Oakham School** in Rutland, England, until 1989.
- Further studies at **St Cross College, Oxford**, and also the **Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies** from 1989 to 1991.
- Took up a course in **diplomatic relations and business administration** at **Huron University College** in London, besides attending another course in **diplomatic relations** at **Deutsche Stiftung Internationale Entwicklung** in Berlin in 1990.
- He also attended the **European Business School London** to study business administration.

Hobbies:

- Reading, four-wheel drive expeditions, horse riding, golfing, go-karting, shooting, archery,

SHORT AND SWEET: Sultan Muhammad V meets with Tengku Anis at airport

SHARIFAH MAHSINAH ABDULLAH
AND KALBANA PERIMBANAYAGAM

KOTA BARU
news@nst.com.my

IT was a touching moment when Sultan Muhammad V met his mother before flying off to Kuala Lumpur yesterday. He kissed his mother, Tengku

Anis Tengku Abdul Hamid, on the cheek in the meeting that lasted several minutes at the lobby of Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Pengkalan Chepa.

It was understood that Tengku Anis had been waiting at the lobby prior to the arrival of his entourage at the airport at 8.50am.

They spoke to each other before Sultan Muhammad V left for Kuala

Lumpur on a special flight.

Tengku Anis joined the sultan in the VVIP lounge, but did not join the entourage to Kuala Lumpur. She accompanied Sultan Muhammad V up to near the tarmac where she waved to him as he boarded the Airbus A319.

The short meeting between mother and son touched the hearts of the crowd and people who saw it live on television.

The crowd from all walks of life, lined up alongside the 14km stretch from the palace to the airport as the entourage, which included Regent and Tengku Mahkota of Kelantan

Tengku Dr Muhammad Faiz Petra, Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yaakob and International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, passed several main roads in the state capital.

The crowd, which comprised civil servants and the public, gathered at the airport as early as 7.30am to catch a glimpse of the new king. He shook hands with people before boarding the plane to Kuala Lumpur.

Dressed in the official head of state attire called the *muskat*, Sultan Muhammad V waved to the crowd from the plane. Three F/A-18 Hornet fighter jets accompanied the flight,

go karting, shooting, badminton, bowling and football.

- He is also an animal lover who takes care of horses, cats, chickens, birds and other pets.

Appointed Tengku Mahkota Kelantan on Oct 6, 1985. He was appointed Acting Sultan on May 24, 2009 following his father's illness.

which reached Kuala Lumpur International Airport at 10.15am.

Earlier, the send-off ceremony began at Istana Negeri in Kubang Kerian at 7.50am.

King's organisation brings royals, the people closer

KOTA BARU: Sultan Muhammad V, who was installed as the 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong yesterday, has always had the best interests of the people at heart.

He founded Pertubuhan Kerabat DiRaja Al-Muhammadi in 2010 to get closer to the people, especially Kelantan folk.

The organisation's treasurer, Datuk Tengku Ibrahim Farihaddin Tengku Feisal, said Sultan Muhammad V implemented programmes for the people after being proclaimed the 29th Sultan of Kelantan on Sept 13, 2010.

These included three main activities, namely the Walkathon D'Raja

Kelantan, Qiam With Me and Come Clean With Me, which were well received by people of all races who participated in them every year.

"Each of these activities has its own uniqueness. The Walkathon D'Raja promotes good health; Qiam With Me is a spiritual programme for Muslims; and, Come Clean With Me promotes good hygiene.

"The organisation is also always on the move to help the people, especially during the floods that hit Kelantan in 2014," he said at Balai Besar Palace here.

He said the programmes conducted by the organisation were the

brainchild of His Majesty.

Through the Walkathon D'Raja Kelantan programme, he said, thousands of people of all ages had the opportunity to walk with the Sultan of Kelantan and members of the royal family for 7km in Kota Baru.

"If we do the calculations, walking 7km is equivalent to walking 10,000 steps. His Majesty is ahead of the Health Ministry in promoting good health to the public.

"In fact, in 2011, the programme was recognised by the *Malaysia Book of Records* as the largest participation in a walkathon event during the year, with 21,111 participants."

He said through the Qiam With Me programme, Sultan Muhammad V promoted the importance of religion where His Majesty joined the people for prayers on the last 10 nights of Ramadan.

He said the two programmes were in Kelantan's tourism calendar to attract more visitors to the state.

On Sultan Muhammad V's personality, Tengku Ibrahim Farihaddin said his cousin was an avid reader and very knowledgeable.

"He is like an encyclopedia because anything that I do not know about, I'll ask him. He will most certainly be able to give an answer be-

cause he is an avid reader and always consults experts in various fields. So he is a person with vast knowledge and we talk about many topics.

"He is also very humble. When he wants to visit the districts, he will do it quietly and not tell the state government. And he never informs the *imam* of a mosque in advance of his intention to pray there."

On Sultan Muhammad V's hobbies, Tengku Ibrahim Farihaddin said he liked sporting activities.

"He is also particular about what he eats and enjoys nutritious food," said Tengku Ibrahim Farihaddin. **Bernama**

PRIME NEWS

King places Islam above all in his life, says state mufti

KOTA BARU: The 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Muhammad V, is a king who extols Islam and reserves the highest position for religion in his life.

Kelantan Mufti Datuk Mohamad Shukri Mohamad said Sultan Muhammad V often turned to him when it came to matters related to Islamic law.

"For example, the entertainment law under the Kota Baru-Bandar Raya Islam Municipal Council. Any form of entertainment cannot be held on Friday night.

"The Chinese community wanted to hold (entertainment events) on Friday night, so they sought permission from Sultan Muhammad V. He would not approve it until he has obtained the Mufti Department's views," he said in an interview with Bernama and Bernama News Channel (BNC) at his office at Balai Islam Lundang here.

Shukri said the ruler held religious intellectuals, such as *mudir* and *sekolah pondok* principals, in high regard, and showed this by conferring on them awards and medals on his birthday.

"In fact, when there is time, he would have lunch at religious schools."

Shukri said Sultan Muhammad V would hold religious classes at least once a week during *Maghrib* and *Isyak* prayers at Istana Negeri in Kubang Kerian here.

"Apart from inviting speakers, such as Almarhum Tuan Guru Haji Mohd Noor Ibrahim, Almarhum Datuk Yusoff Zaky Yaacob and myself, he would also ensure that every palace staff member attends the discourses, which often end with light refreshments after *Isyak* prayers."

The ruler has a special Quran

teacher, who accompanies him on his travels, including to Europe.

"He always invites me to perform *umrah*, particularly in the last 10 days of Ramadan, and he would celebrate Aidilfitri there," said Shukri.

"He sponsors five or six of his subjects to perform the haj every year, and built Masjid Al-Ismaili in Pasir Pekan, Tumpat, as an endowment for his father, Sultan Ismail Petra."

Shukri said it was the norm for Sultan Muhammad V to attend breaking of fast programmes and Tarawih prayers with the people.

"He is also an expert in the slaughter of cattle for sacrifice, and would do it himself during Aidiladha. The meat would be distributed to several areas in the state as charity."

Kelantan Syariah chief judge Datuk Daud Muhammad said Sultan Muhammad V would study any Islamic law to be formulated.

In an interview with Bernama and BNC at his office at the Kota Baru Syariah Court Complex in Tunjong here, Daud said the ruler had said every law to be formulated in the syariah court must first be tabled at the Kelantan Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Council.

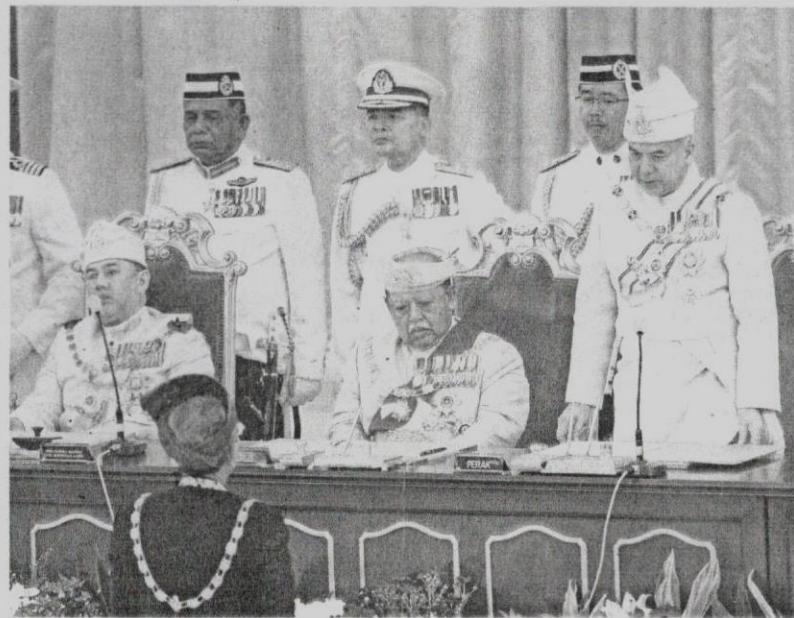
Only upon receiving the council's approval would the proposed law be presented to the state government for the bill to be tabled, debated and approved at the state legislative assembly.

Daud said the ruler was concerned about issues related to the enforcement of syariah law in the state.

"He always asks whether the syariah court is in a good state. He takes it seriously. Every time I have an audience with him, the main issue he wants to know about is how the syariah court is doing," Bernama



Datuk Mohamad Shukri Mohamad



ROYAL OATH

Sultan of Perak Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah (right) taking his oath as the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong at Istana Negara in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. With him are Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Muhammad V (left) and Raja of Perlis Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail. Bernama pic

A ruler who cares deeply for Kelantan

BELOVED: Subjects' welfare close to state guardian's heart, says MB

KOTA BARU

THE 15th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Muhammad V, has great concern for the Kelantan government's administration and the welfare of his subjects.

Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yakub said the sultan frequently

Tengku Dr Muhammad Faiz Petra, the younger brother of Sultan Muhammad V, as president of the state Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Council, the menteri besar said this proved that the sultan safeguarded the welfare of his subjects, ensuring that the council championed the welfare of the poor.

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

For example, the Thai community in Tumpat had

tan Muhammad V as the Yang di-Pertuan Agong as he is a ruler who is concerned about fulfilling the needs of Islam, a pious son and a role model for the people."

Echoing Ahmad's views, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed described Sultan Muhammad V as a

ruler who was heedful of the state's development needs, ensuring that Kelantan folk enjoyed benefits comparable with those in other states.

"For example, Sultan Muhammad V advocated the construction of an air-



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