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Historical event: Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Muhammad V and other Sultans leaving after the 244th (Special) Conference of Rulers at the Istana Negara. — Bernama

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Leaders express faith in new King

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia will continue to make great strides under the reign of Sultan Muhammad V, says Johor Ruler Sultan Ibrahim Ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar.

In his Facebook posting, Sultan Ibrahim said the state government and the people of Johor sent their warmest wishes and congratulations to the new Yang di-Pertuan Agong.

"I have no doubt that under your reign, Malaysia will continue to make great strides in its quest to become a modern, progressive and prosperous nation," said the Sultan of Johor in his posting yesterday.

International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed described the new King as a moderate person who endeared himself to the people of Kelantan, *Bernama* reported.

He noticed the moderate personality of Sultan Muhammad V when attending some of the breaking of fast and *terawih* prayer events at mosques during Ramadan.

"The Tuanku seems at ease sitting with the local people, a quality which the people always remember," he said as he congratulated His Majesty on being appointed the new King yesterday.

Mustapa, the Jeli MP, said he was awed by Sultan Muhammad V's easy-going personality and described His Majesty as being compassionate about his subjects.

This was reflected when he visited victims during the severe floods that hit Kelantan in 2014, he added.

On Twitter, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Dr Wee Ka Siong wished "the most auspicious blessings and congratulations" to Sultan Muhammad V.

"His Majesty is a dynamic ruler known for his approachable and charitable manner. As a young and energetic King, he is close to his subjects' hearts and listens to their worries.

"Upon his ascension, his grace and benevolence will reach more Malaysians than ever.

"May His Majesty's reign be met with abundant well-being and happiness and usher in an era of harmony, peace and progress for all Malaysians. Daulat Tuanku," he said.

Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Datuk Seri Mah Siew Keong also offered his congratulations.

"The Malaysian royal institution is the driving force of the country's unity and progress," he added.

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Up close and personal: Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Muhammad V exchanging pleasantries with other royalties and dignitaries following the 244th (Special) Conference of Rulers at Istana Negara. — Bernama

Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Nazrin holds many posts

Royal meet-and-greet: Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Muhammad V having a chat with Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Nazrin Shah while Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah looks on following the 244th (Special) Conference of Rulers at Istana Negara. Behind them are (from left) Yang di-Pertuan Besar Negri Sembilan Tuanku Muhriz Tuanku Munawir, Tengku Mahkota Kelantan Tengku Dr Muhammad Faiz Petra and Raja Perlis Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail. — Bernama

IPOH: Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah of Perak, who has been elected Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong, is well known as a ruler who always gives sound ideas and constructive criticism.

Born on Nov 27, 1956, His Majesty is the eldest child of the late Sultan Azlan Shah and Tuanku Siti Bainun Mohd Ali.

He holds a doctorate in Economics, Politics and Government from Harvard University.

Sultan Nazrin, 60, also holds numerous other posts, including as Chancellor of Universiti Malaya and Universiti Sultan Azlan Shah and Honorary Fellow of Worchester College, Oxford University.

He was also appointed Member of the Chancellor's Court of Benefectors, Oxford University, and Eminent Fellow at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (Isis) Malaysia.

Sultan Nazrin is also the Financial Ambassador of the Malaysian International Islamic Financial Centre and a member of the High-Level Panel on Humanitarian Financing at a United Nations conference on refugees.

His majesty's contributions as a member of the panel received accolades, including from Bulgarian President Rosen Plevneliev, at a high-level conference on measures to tackle the large movement of refugees and migrants which was held in conjunction with the UN General Assembly in September.

He was proclaimed the Sultan of Perak in May 2014 after the death of his father, Sultan Azlan Shah.

His majesty is married to Tuanku Zara Salim, the Raja Permaisuri of Perak, and they have a son, Raja Kechil Besar Perak Raja Azlan Muzaffar Shah, eight, and a daughter, Raja Nazira Safya, five.

Sultan Nazrin was appointed the Regent of Perak when he was the Raja Muda after his father was elected the ninth Yang di-Pertuan Agong from April 1989 to April 1994.

In one of his constructive criticisms, he urged government-linked companies (GLC) headed by Malays to do more to uphold the national language in their business. — Bernama