

16 AUG 1996

AGONG CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT SUHARTO

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 16 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Ja'afar, today sent a congratulatory message to Indonesian President Suharto on the occasion of the 51st anniversary of the republic's independence.

In his message, he hoped that the close ties between the two countries could be enhanced through the spirit of brotherhood and neighbourliness.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in his message, said he believed that relations between Malaysia dan Indonesia could be further upgraded through the friendship between the peoples of the two nations.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim sent a similar message to Vice-President Try Sutrisno expressing the hope that the spirit of cooperation between the two countries would continue to be enhanced.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, in his message to his counterpart Ali Alatas expressed the hope that the strong bilateral relations would be nurtured through regional peace and stability. --

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HAK Jk