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KING SENDS GREETINGS TO SYRIA

KUALA LUMPUR, April 16 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Ja'afar, sent a congratulatory message to Syrian President Hafiz Al-Assad on the occasion of the country's National Day tomorrow.

In his message, he expressed the hope that the country would continue to enjoy peace, progress and prosperity under the wise and able leadership of President Assad.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in his message to his counterpart Mahmoud El-Zou'bi, hoped that both of them could work closely to strengthen the bonds of friendship between their peoples.

"I also hope we can explore ways of increasing cooperation in trade and other areas between our two countries that would be mutually beneficial," Dr Mahathir said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, in a similar message to his counterpart Farouk Al-Shara, hoped that the republic would continue to achieve progress and prosperity and that the existing close relations and cooperation between the two countries would be further strengthened in the years ahead. -- Bernama

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