

19 MAR 1997

KING SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO TUNISIAN PRESIDENT

KUALA LUMPUR, March 19 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Ja'afar, has congratulated President Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali on the occasion of Tunisia's National Day tomorrow.

Tuanku Ja'afar said he and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah hoped that the close friendship between the two countries could be further enhanced.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in his message to his Tunisian counterpart, Dr Hamed Karoui, reaffirmed Malaysia's wish to further enhance cooperation and relations with Tunisia in the years ahead.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi sent a similar message to his Tunisian counterpart, Abderahim Zouari. -- BERNAMA

ARA JK