

14 MAY 1997

MALAYSIA SENDS CONDOLENCES TO IRAN

KUALA LUMPUR, May 14 (Bernama) -- Malaysia today extended condolences to Iran which was recently hit by a severe earthquake.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Haji Badawi, in a message to his Iranian counterpart Dr Ali Akhbar Velayati, said Malaysia fully shared the grief and bereavement of the victims.

According to latest figures, 1,560 people were killed and 2,810 injured in the disaster which struck eastern Iran.

Abdullah said: "Malaysia prays to mighty Allah to give the Iranians the strength and determination in coping with the massive task of bringing relief and assistance to all those affected by the disaster."

Yesterday, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Malaysia would send humanitarian aid to the victims and the amount would be decided at today's Cabinet weekly meeting. -- BERNAMA

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