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AGONG CONGRATULATES PRESIDENT OF CHINA

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 30 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar has sent a congratulatory message to President of the People's Republic of China Jiang Zemin on the 49th anniversary of the republic's founding.

According to a Wisma Putra statement issued here, Tuanku Ja'afar and the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah, in the message, extended sincere felicitations and expressed their welcome to Zemin who is to attend the Apec leader's meeting here next month.

"Such visits contribute to consolidating and enhancing bilateral relations between our two countries," Tuanku Ja'afar said.

In a similar message to the republic's Prime Minister Zhu Rongji, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he was confident Malaysia and China could expand the scope of their relations as they face the challenges of the new millennium.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi also sent a similar message to his counterpart Tang Jiaxuan.

-- BERNAMA

NHZ RM