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AGONG SENDS GREETINGS TO NORTH KOREAN LEADER

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 9 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar today sent a congratulatory message to North Korean leader Kim Jong II on his re-election as the chairman of the National Defence Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"We are confident that under your leadership the close and friendly relations between Malaysia and the Democratic Republic of Korea will be further developed and strengthened in the years ahead," he said in his message.

A Wisma Putra statement said that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad sent a similar message to his counterpart, Hong Song Nam, on his appointment as Prime Minister.

Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi also sent a message to his newly-appointed counterpart, Paek Nam Sun.

The Agong also sent greetings to Kim Jong II on the occasion of the republic's 50th National Day anniversary.

Dr Mahathir and Abdullah sent similar messages to their respective counterparts.

-- BERNAMA
AKT RM