

16 APR 1998

Uganda

KING WELCOMES MUSEVENI AT PARLIAMENT SQUARE

KUALA LUMPUR, April 16 (Bernama) -- An official welcoming ceremony, replete with a 21-gun salute, was held for Ugandan president Yoweri Kaguta Museveni at Parliament Square here today to mark the start of his four-day state visit to Malaysia.

Museveni and wife, Janet arrived here yesterday with a 24-member entourage.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah received them at Parliament Square.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali were also present.

Museveni took the salute and inspected a guard of honour mounted by 103 officers and men of the 1st Battalion Royal Malay Regiment commanded by Major Abdul Basit Abdul Rahman.

The president and wife were later introduced to the members of the Cabinet, deputy ministers and heads of foreign missions here.

Museveni's entourage includes first deputy prime minister-cum-foreign minister Eriya Kategaya and planning and economic development minister Richard Kaijuka.

The visit by the Ugandan president, at the invitation of Tuanku Ja'afar, is to strengthen bilateral ties.

During the visit till Sunday, Museveni is scheduled to hold bilateral talks with Dr Mahathir and attend a briefing on Malaysia's development by the Economic Planning Unit.

He is also scheduled to visit the national car manufacturing plant in Shah Alam and the Sungai Way free trade zone and the Multimedia Super Corridor project site in Cyberjaya, among others.-- BERNAMA

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