

20 OCT 1999

AGONG CONGRATULATES NEWLY-ELECTED INDONESIAN PRESIDENT

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 20 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah has sent a congratulatory message to Abdurrahman Wahid who was elected the new president of Indonesia today.

According to a statement by Wisma Putra, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong expressed confidence that under the leadership of Abdurrahman, Indonesia's fourth president, the republic and people of Indonesia could develop and achieve progress and prosperity in line with their wishes and aspirations.

He also hoped that with Abdurrahman's wisdom, the existing close ties between Malaysia and Indonesia would be further enhanced for mutual benefit.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in his message to Abdurrahman, said he was happy that the election process could be conducted in a peaceful manner, in accordance with Indonesia's constitution.

Dr Mahathir hoped that the existing close ties between Malaysia and Indonesia could be further strengthened in the spirit of neighbourliness for the benefit of both countries and the region.

He also prayed that Allah would give Abdurrahman the strength and patience in facing the various challenges in carrying out his duties in leading the republic towards progress and prosperity in the new millennium.

-- BERNAMA

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