

07 FEB 1999

Agong-Jordan

AGONG AND ABDULLAH CONVEY CONDOLENCES TO JORDAN

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 7 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi have conveyed their condolences to Jordan on the demise of King Hussein of Jordan.

In his message to Hussein's heir Crown Prince Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, released by Wisma Putra here tonight, Tuanku Ja'afar said he and the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah were grieved by King Hussein's demise today.

Tuanku Ja'afar said the late King Hussein had left a legacy of courage and fortitude which he displayed throughout his long and prosperous reign which has contributed to the prosperity of Jordan and in advancing peace and stability in West Asia.

Crown Prince Abdullah was sworn in as Jordan's new king in front of parliament after his father's death.

Abdullah, in his message to Jordanian Prime Minister Dr Fayez Tarawneh, said the region and the world have lost a most prominent statesman and an acknowledged and experienced leader.

He said King Hussein contributed to the development of Jordan and to peace and stability in West Asia and he would always occupy a revered place in the annals of the country's history.

Abdullah said King Hussein had made significant contributions to strengthening relations between Jordan and Malaysia and his demise would be mourned by all Malaysians.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Minister and Acting Foreign Minister, Datuk Amar Dr Sulaiman Daud will represent Malaysia at the late King Hussein's funeral.

The funeral will take place tomorrow following afternoon Moslem prayers.

A Wisma Putra spokesman said Sulaiman will leave for Amman tonight.

Foreign Minister, Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar is following Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who is stopping over in London en route to Jamaica to attend the G-15 summit.

-- BERNAMA

AR THG