

25 MAY 1999

Ministers

KHALIL, KADIR, PANDIKAR AND SHAFIE SWORN IN

KUALA LUMPUR, May 25 (Bernama) -- Three newly-appointed ministers and a deputy minister took their oath of office and allegiance before the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah at Istana Negara here today.

The ministers were Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob, 60 (Information), Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, 59, (Culture, Arts and Tourism) and Datuk Pandikar Amin Mulia, 46, (Prime Minister's Department).

Datuk Mohd Shafie Apdal, 41, took the oath of office as the new Deputy Minister of Housing and Local Government.

Earlier they received their letters of appointment from his majesty.

Present at the ceremony were Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Cabinet ministers.

Following last Thursday's cabinet reshuffle, the second this year, Khalil succeeded Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat and Abdul Kadir took over from Datuk Seri Sabbaruddin Chik upon their predecessors' resignation.

Khalil, formerly Pahang Menteri Besar, also succeeded Sabbaruddin as Umno secretary-general.

Pandikar Amin succeeded Datuk Chong Kah Kiat who resigned as Minister in the Prime Minister's Department to contest in the Sabah state election last March.

Pandikar Amin is the first federal cabinet member from the Iranun community in Sabah.

Last Thursday's reshuffle also saw Datuk Azmi Khalid, formerly Housing and Local Government Deputy Minister, moving to the Home Ministry as Deputy Minister succeeding Abdul Kadir.

-- BERNAMA

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