

22 MAR 1999

ROYAL GREETINGS FOR PAKISTAN

KUALA LUMPUR, March 23 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Ja'afar, and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah have sent greetings to President Mohammad Rafiq Tarar of Pakistan on the occasion of that country's National Day.

Their majesties said they prayed for Mohammad Rafiq's continued good health and happiness as well as for the peace, progress and prosperity of the people of Pakistan.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in a message to his counterpart, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, said he was happy with the excellent ties between the two countries.

"The close cooperation and collaboration in many fields have benefitted our peoples. I hope we can explore new areas of cooperation that would be mutually advantageous to us in the future," Dr Mahathir said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar also sent greetings to his counterpart, Sartaj Aziz.

-- BERNAMA

NM JK