

17/04/2000

Raja of Perlis Tuanku Syed Putra dies at 79

Shahrum Sayuthi

KANGAR, Sun. - The Raja of Perlis Tuanku Syed Putra Syed Hassan Jamalullail (picture) passed away at Institut Jantung Negara in Kuala Lumpur at 2.20pm today. He was 79.

The Raja Perempuan Tengku Budriah, Regent Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail and members of the Perlis royal family were at the IJN when he died.

Tuanku Syed Putra was admitted to the IJN on March 21 for heart problems, kidney and diabetic complications.

He was in critical condition today after suffering a cardiac arrest. His condition later improved and he was taken off the life support system.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim announced the Ruler's death at a Press conference at his office here this evening.

In Kuala Lumpur, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived at the IJN at 4.10pm to pay his last respects to the Ruler and left 30 minutes later.

Also present were Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, who is a cousin of the Raja Perempuan, the Tengku Mahkota of Kelantan Tengku Muhammad Faris Petra and former Defence Minister Datuk Abang Abu Bakar Mustapha.

Later, the royal hearse left for the Royal Malaysian Air Force base in Subang in a convoy which included the Raja Perempuan and Dr Mahathir.

His remains arrived at the Kepala Batas Airport at 6.45pm, from where it was taken to Istana Arau.

Shahidan said dignitaries, including the Rulers, the Yang di-Pertua Negeri, Dr Mahathir and other leaders would pay their last respects at Istana Arau from noon tomorrow.

Members of the public started paying their last respects after the maghrib prayers today and will continue to do so at 8am tomorrow. They are required to wear either all-white Malay attire or black-and-white for non-Muslims.

Shahidan said Tuanku Syed Putra would be buried at the royal mausoleum in Arau after zohor prayers tomorrow.

On the appointment of Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin as the new Raja of Perlis, he said the matter would be finalised before the funeral.

Shahidan declared tomorrow a public holiday for Perlis and said all official functions would be postponed.

A period of mourning will be announced later.

Tuanku Syed Putra was appointed the Raja of Perlis on Dec 4, 1945. He was installed as the third Yang di-Pertuan Agong on Jan 4, 1961.

(END)