

22 MAR 2001

AGONG SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO PAKISTAN

KUALA LUMPUR, March 22 (Bernama) -- The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Siti Aishah have sent a congratulatory message to Pakistani President Mohammad Rafiq Tarar on the country's National Day tomorrow.

According to Wisma Putra today, the royal couple hoped that the existing close relations between the two Muslim nations would continue to flourish and strengthen further under the president's wise and able leadership.

In his message to Chief Executive of Pakistan Pervez Musharraf, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he was happy to note that both countries have continued to enjoy warm and friendly ties over the years.

"It is my sincere hope that bilateral relations and cooperation between our two countries will continue to be strengthened in the years ahead," he said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, in his congratulatory message to his counterpart Abdus Satar, said he was confident that the desire to foster closer economic, trade and cultural relations would further complement and enhance the excellent relations between the two countries.

-- BERNAMA  
AR AHH RM