

21 NOV 2001

Agong-Death

11TH AGONG DIES, NATION OBSERVES ONE-WEEK MOURNING

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 21 (Bernama) -- The 11th Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah died at the Gleneagles Intan medical centre here today of heart failure after two months of illness.

He was 75.

His majesty breathed his last at 11.57 am after having been in critical condition for five days and was on ventilator and dialysis machines.

The Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced the King's death over Radio Television Malaysia at 1.55 pm.

The government announced seven days of mourning from today and directed that flags be flown half-mast.

All official functions slated for today and tomorrow have been cancelled as a mark of respect.

Tomorrow has been declared a public holiday to enable the people pay their last respects during the lying-in-state at Istana Negara.

Sultan Salahuddin, who was also the Sultan of Selangor for the past 41 years, suffered serious heart problem since Oct 6 and underwent treatment at the Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore for eight weeks, including a week as an out-patient.

His majesty's condition became critical after his kidneys malfunctioned since Oct 15.

Last Sunday, his majesty was airlifted at 5.30 am from Singapore and admitted to the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre here.

His majesty then had to rely on support machines for his breathing and kidney functions.

The King was attended to by a team of 20 specialists from the Kuala Lumpur Hospital, the National Heart Institute, the Selayang and Kajang hospitals assisted by seven Gleneagles Intan specialists until he breathed his last.

-- BERNAMA

MFJ AHH RYN