

27 OCT 2001

Sultan-Unity

MAINTAIN PEACE AND UNITY, SAYS PAHANG SULTAN

PEKAN, Oct 27 (Bernama) -- The Sultan of Pahang Sultan Ahmad Shah today reminded the people to continue to cooperate with the state government to maintain unity, peace and security in the state.

The people of Pahang should not be influenced by the instigation and tactics of certain quarters which could undermine unity, he said at the investiture ceremony in conjunction with his 71st birthday at Istana Abu Bakar here.

"Do remember that the spirit of unity and cooperation among people from all strata of society irrespective of race and religion can preserve unity and bring the state to greater heights," he said.

He was happy to see the strong unity among the people as this would facilitate planning and implementation of development projects for the people.

The Sultan also urged Muslims to hold fast to the teachings of Islam and to maintain the spirit of Islamic brotherhood and unity.

He advised them not to be taken in by people who intentionally misinterpreted the teachings of the religion for their own gains.

He expressed confidence that with the measures taken by the federal leadership under Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Malaysia could handle whatever situations arising from the current uncertainties in the world.

Meanwhile, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob said despite the present global political and economic difficulties, Pahang was still capable of generating economic growth albeit at a slower pace.

The government would continue to discharge its duties amidst a tight financial situation, he said when making the pledge of loyalty on behalf of elected representatives, government officers and the people.

The Tengku Mahkota of Pahang Tengku Abdullah, in his pledge of loyalty on behalf of members of the royalty and titled chiefs, spoke of a "special gift" in conjunction with the Sultan's 71st birthday.

He was referring to the intention and agreement of the Tengku Muda of Pahang Tengku Abdul Rahman to get married next year.

"If possible we want to know when and who that person is. This matter will be discussed and announced at the appropriate time," he said.

The Sultan then presented the Sri Sultan Ahmad Shah Pahang (SSAP) award, which carries the title Datuk Seri, to four people.

The recipients are Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Samsuddin Osman, Home Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Aseh Che Mat, Rimbaka Forestry (M) Sdn Bhd executive director Datuk Wong Yeon Chai and Road Builders (M) Holdings Bhd executive vice-chairman Datuk Dr Chua Hock Chin.

At the ceremony, seven people received the Sri Indera Mahkota Pahang (SIMP), four the Darjah Sultan Ahmad Shah Pahang (DSAP), 71 the Darjah Indera Mahkota Pahang (DIMP) and three the Honorary Darjah Indera Mahkota Pahang (DIMP), all of which carry the title Datuk.

-- BERNAMA

ROS YBY