

21 NOV 2001
Agong-Khalil

PRIVATE TV AND RADIO STATIONS TO ALSO OBSERVE NATIONAL MOURNING

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 21 (Bernama) -- Local private radio and television stations have agreed to hold back entertainment-oriented programmes in observance of national mourning declared following the King's death today.

The Information Minister Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said they would instead air religious and other programmes that suit the solemn mood.

In the same context, Khalil appealed to local cable-tv stations to also observe national mourning.

"We want the nation to feel the mourning mood at least for today and tomorrow and during the official mourning period," he said.

Khalil was speaking to reporters after accompanying the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who announced the death of the 11th Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah over Radio Television Malaysia at Angkasapuri here.

Sultan Salahuddin, 75, died of heart failure at the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre just before noon after being ill over the past two months.

Dr Mahathir declared seven days of national mourning from today and that flags be flown half-mast.

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

-- BERNAMA

AT ZS RYN