

01 OCT 2001

Brunei-Arrival

SULTAN OF BRUNEI ARRIVES FOR TWO-DAY VISIT

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 1 (Bernama) -- Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei Darussalam arrived here today for a two-day visit to Malaysia in conjunction with the fifth annual consultation with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The special aircraft carrying the monarch and his entourage landed at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang here at 10am.

Present at the airport to welcome the Sultan was Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah was accompanied by the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha, Pengiran Isteri Mariam and a delegation which included members of the royal family, the Special Adviser to the Sultan, Pehin Awang Isa, Education Minister Pehin Abdul Aziz and senior government officials.

A Wisma Putra statement yesterday said the four-eye meeting between him and Dr Mahathir at the Prime Minister's Department in Putrajaya this afternoon would focus on matters pertaining to bilateral relations, regional issues and current world developments.

Only last month the Sultan made a three-day official trip to Sabah.

Dr Mahathir last visited Brunei, an oil-rich sultanate on the island of Borneo, in October last year.

Tonight, Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah and his entourage would be hosted to a dinner reception by the prime minister at his official residence, Seri Perdana, in Putrajaya.

The Sultan would also be conferred an honorary doctorate in political science by the International Islamic University Malaysia at its special convocation tomorrow.

Total trade between the two Asean countries amounted to RM979.4 million last year. Malaysia exported to Brunei RM965 million worth of goods while imports stood at RM14 million.

For the first half of this year, total trade was RM656.6 million. Brunei's total investment in Malaysia stood at RM48 million last year.

-- BERNAMA

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