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Sultan-Proclamation

TENGGU IDRIS SHAH PROCLAIMED AS THE NINTH SULTAN OF SELANGOR

KLANG, Nov 22 (Bernama) -- The Regent of Selangor, Tengku Idris Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah was today proclaimed as the ninth Sultan of Selangor following the demise of his father, Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah, who was the 11th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, yesterday.

Following the proclamation, he has taken the title Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah.

The proclamation by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamed Khir Toyo took place at the Throne Room of the Istana Alam Shah here at 3pm prior to the burial of Sultan Salahuddin at the Sultan Suleiman royal mausoleum, about 1.7km from the palace.

The Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Siti Aishah, the Malay Rulers and members of the royalty were present at the ceremony.

The Selangor Council of Regency decided on Tengku Idris, 55, as the Sultan at a meeting attended by its 20 members including the Menteri Besar last night.

Sultan Salahuddin, 75, who was Ruler of Selangor for 41 years, died at 11.57am at the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre in Kuala Lumpur.

At the ceremony, the Tengku Panglima Diraja of Selangor, Tengku Sulaiman Shah who is head of royal ceremonies presented to Tengku Idris Shah the "keris panjang kebesaran di raja", the sword symbolising the instrument of sultanship.

He took the sword and later held up the blade and placed it to his lips to symbolise acceptance.

This was followed by three calls of "Daulat Tuanku" and the beating of the nobat drums to mark the proclamation. A 21 gun salute was fired simultaneously.

Earlier, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, as head of the Federal Government, handed over the hearse with Sultan Salahuddin's remains to Dr Mohamed Khir.

Tengku Idris Shah is Sultan Salahuddin's eldest son from his first marriage, to Raja Nor Saidatul Ihsan Tengku Badar Shah, his cousin.

He was born on Dec 24, 1945 at Istana Jema'ah here (now the Kolej Islam Sultan Alam Shah).

At 15, he was the youngest in the history of the Malay royalty to be proclaimed as the Raja Muda, on Sept 3, 1960. He was installed as the Raja Muda of Selangor 10 years later, on March 14, 1970.

Tengku Idris Shah was appointed the Regent of Selangor on several occasions between 1972 and 1997, when Sultan Salahuddin went on overseas trips.

He was also entrusted by his father to represent him in the performance of official duties like attending the meetings of the Conference of Rulers, the installation of the Malay Rulers and chairing the state's Pardons Board.

When Sultan Salahuddin was elected by the Conference of Rulers as the 11th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tengku Idris was appointed Regent of Selangor on April 24, 1999.

Tengku Idris Shah has two daughters, Tengku Zeratina, 31, and Tengku Zatashah, 26, from his first marriage to Raja Zarina Raja Tan Sri Zainal which ended in divorce, and a son, Tengku Amir, 9, from his marriage to American Puan Nur Lisa Abdullah, which also ended in divorce.

Dr Mahathir and state executive councillors were also present at the ceremony.

-- BERNAMA

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