

23 MAY 2003

Brunei-Arrival

SULTAN OF BRUNEI ARRIVES FOR THREE-DAY VISIT TO PENANG

PENANG, May 23 (Bernama) -- Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei arrived here today for a three-day visit.

The Sultan and his 11-member royal entourage were met on arrival at the Bayan Lepas International Airport on a special aircraft by the Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Abdul Rahman Abbas, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon and his deputy, Datuk Dr Hilmi Yahaya.

Also present were Malaysian high commissioner to Brunei Datuk Paduka Abdullah Jaafar, state executive councillors, State Secretary Datuk Khalid Ramli, heads of government department and senior government officials. Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin is minister-in-attendance.

Brunei's Development Minister Datuk Dr Ahmad Jumat is a member of the royal entourage.

Soon after touchdown, the 'doa selamat' was delivered by State Mufti Datuk Hassan Ahmad.

The Sultan is scheduled to perform Friday prayers at the Kapitan Keling Mosque, one of the state's oldest mosques, and later attend a briefing on the state's development by Dr Koh at the Penang Development Corporation in Bayan Baru.

Tonight, he is scheduled to attend a banquet hosted in his honour by the state government at the Rasa Sayang Hotel in Batu Feringghi.

Tomorrow, he and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will go horse riding in the vicinity of the Penang Mutiara Hotel in Teluk Bahang before holding bilateral talks and later attend a luncheon.

On Sunday, the Sultan and the royal entourage are scheduled to visit the Chinese Recreation Club in Jalan Burmah and meet committee members of the Badminton Association of Malaysia.

The Sultan and his entourage are scheduled to depart for home in the afternoon.

-- BERNAMA

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