

# AZERBAIJAN BULLETIN

Embassy of Malaysia in Baku

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## THE NEW KING OF MALAYSIA



**SULTAN  
MUHAMMAD**

### ABOUT SULTAN MUHAMMAD V:

Date of birth: 6 October 1969

Education: Sultan Ismail School (76-81)  
Alice Smith School (83)  
Oakham School UK (89)  
Oxford University (89-91)  
Courses at Huron University College,  
Deutsche Stiftung Internationale  
Entwicklung, European Business School  
London.

Hobbies: Horse-riding, reading, golfing, shooting,  
badminton, bowling, football, 4WD  
expeditions



All Malaysian Ambassadors will henceforth receive their credentials from Sultan Muhammad V.

The new *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* (King) of Malaysia, Sultan Muhammad V, took his oath of office on 13 December 2016 in a simple yet highly symbolic ceremony at the *Istana Negara* (National Palace).

Also in attendance were the Conference of Rulers or their representatives, i.e. the Sultans and the *Yang di-Pertua Negeri* (rulers) of the other states in Malaysia. The ceremony itself was chaired by the Sultan of Selangor, Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah.

Malaysia practices a constitutional monarchy system, with the post of the *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* rotated among the nine Sultans in Malaysia. The decision of which of the nine will be the *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* is made by the Conference of Rulers, taking into account a number of factors including the principle of geographical rotation.

Once appointed, the *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* presides over all federal ceremonies involving the monarchy, and is resides at the National Palace in Kuala Lumpur. In his own home state, a regent will be appointed to oversee state ceremonial matters.

Sultan Muhammad V becomes the 15<sup>th</sup> *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* of Malaysia, corresponding with 60 years of Malaysia's independence. The last time a Sultan of Kelantan was the *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* was in 1975, in the form of Sultan Muhammad V's grandfather. The installation ceremony will be held on 24 April 2017.

The Sultan of Perak, Sultan Nazrin Muizzuddin Shah (pix below), was officially appointed as the Deputy *Yang di-Pertuan Agong* at the same ceremony.



## 2050 NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION



The 2050 National Transformation or *Transformasi Nasional* (TN50) is a new 30-year transformation plan for Malaysia. It is a new vision for Malaysia, announced by the Prime Minister of Malaysia during the 2017 Budget. TN50 aims to transform Malaysia into a nation of caliber with a new mindset. TN50 will span three decades, and the youths of all races will form the core of this new transformation plan.

On 19 January 2017, the Malaysian Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak, launched the first series of national discourse to chart the nation's direction on a new canvas as the 2050 National Transformation with some 500 youth leaders at Dewan Tunku Canselor, University Malaya. The general goal for TN50 is for Malaysia to become a top 20 country in the world by the year 2050.

In the run up to the unveiling of TN50 in 2019, there will be a series of discussions on what the Malaysian identity should be by 2050 – in terms of how Malaysians view themselves as diverse Malaysians.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is tasked to collect views from youths in the first few months of this year, before moving on to other groups. The year 2017 will be spent collecting views from public with 2018 the year for the Government to have more focused discussions with experts to see whether the views and suggestions are realistic. Near the end of the next year or early 2019, the Government will form a policy document on TN50 to be announced by the Prime Minister.

***“Let TN50 bear witness; (let it) be recorded in history that we are responsible citizens and forefathers, to leave behind the best and the greatest legacy to be inherited by future generations. “From now on, TN50 is our lucky charm. Let the old legacy pass. The future of Malaysia, we will recreate,”*** - Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, 21 October 2016.

TN50 will be the roadmap, after Vision 2020 that will transform the country's economy, citizen's well-being, environment, technology, social interaction, governance and public administration.

## AZERBAIJAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITED MALAYSIA

H.E. Elmar Mammadyarov, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan attended the “Extraordinary Meeting of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers on the Situation of the Rohingya Muslim Minority in Myanmar” held in Kuala Lumpur on 19 January 2017.



H.E Mammadyarov also met with his Malaysian counterpart YB Dato' Sri Anifah Aman on the sidelines of the Meeting. They explored ways of further developing cooperation between the two countries. The



two ministers praised development of political dialogue between the two countries, as well as, cooperation and mutual support within the international organisations. They also discussed the issue of expanding the high-level reciprocal visits and bilateral legislative base.

H.E. Mammadyarov and Dato' Sri Anifah Aman emphasized the necessity to increase joint efforts to develop bilateral economic relations. YB Dato' Sri Anifah Aman also hosted a dinner in honour of H.E. Elmar Mammadyarov's visit to Malaysia.

## **H.E. AMBASSADOR MEETING WITH MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE PRIME CONSULTING COMPANY**

On 3 March 2017, the Ambassador of Malaysia to the Republic of Azerbaijan, H.E. Dato' Roslan Tan Sri Abdul Rahman met with Mr Farhad Aliyev, Managing Director of the Prime Consulting Company (PCC). Mr Farhad was accompanied by Mr Elmar Ibrahimov, Project Manager of the PCC. Present with the Ambassador was Mr Harris Alwi, Counsellor and Ms Movlana Mammadzada, Translator of the Embassy.

Mr Aliyev informed that the PCC provides market entry services to assist new foreign companies to successfully establish and develop business in Azerbaijan. Currently, the company has partnership with some of the world's leading international Organizations, Embassies and Chambers of Commerce here in Azerbaijan.

Mr Aliyev expressed his wish in establishing cooperation with Malaysian companies and assist them in entering the Azerbaijan market.

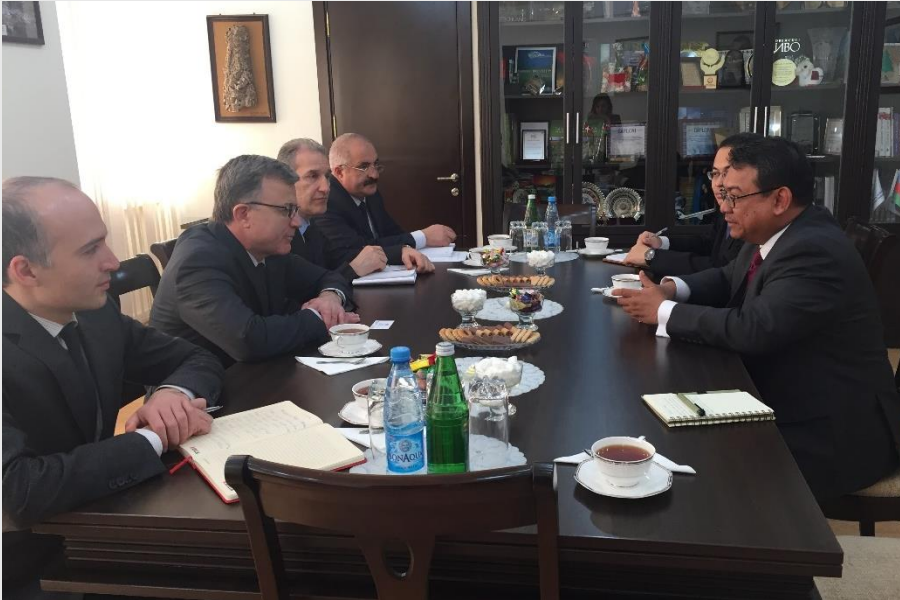


H.E. Ambassador showed an interest in the activity of the company and gave a short briefing about the local companies in Malaysia. H.E. also mentioned about the role of MATRADE and MPOB to the PCC.

The two sides discussed current state and prospects of cooperation in different fields and agreed to further expand their relations.

## **COURTESY CALL ON THE MINISTER OF ECOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF AZERBAIJAN REPUBLIC BY H.E. AMBASSADOR**

H.E. Ambassador Dato' Roslan Tan Sri Abdul Rahman paid a courtesy call on H.E. Huseyngulu Baghirov, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 15 March 2017.



H.E. Baghirov briefed on the ongoing projects of the Ministry that could be of interest to both countries. One of the projects is installation of modular water treatment plants in order to improve drinking water supply of the population of Azerbaijan.

H.E. Ambassador talked about Malaysia-Azerbaijan relations and cooperation of the two countries in different fields. He said that Malaysia would be interested to work closely with Azerbaijan in the field of ecology and natural resources.

H.E. Baghirov expressed his wish to meet with the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in Azerbaijan and discuss the possibility of further cooperation. He also invited Malaysian companies to come over to Azerbaijan to explore possible partnerships.

In his reply, H.E. Ambassador Roslan said that he would convey the invitation of the Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources to his Malaysian counterpart upon receipt. H.E. Ambassador also stressed that he would invite potential Malaysia companies to participate in the projects discussed between the two sides.





## NOVRUZ HOLIDAY IN AZERBAIJAN

*Novruz is widely celebrated on 20-21 March in Azerbaijan as the symbol of winter's leaving and spring's coming. According to scholars, it originates from the Ancient Mesopotamia. In Babylon New Year was celebrated the 21<sup>st</sup> day of Nissanu (correspondent to March and April) with festivities held further 12 days, each commemorated with individual rites, amusements and performances. Novruz is certain to have been celebrated in pre-Islamic times and later. During the Soviet period it was given unofficial status and even persecuted. For the first time in 1967 on the initiative of Shikhali Gurbanov, Novruz has been celebrated as a national holiday at state level.*

*Waking of the nature, life begins from Novruz and the people of Azerbaijan begin to celebrate it one month prior to it in festive conditions. Every year Azerbaijanis celebrate the last four Tuesdays of winter before Novruz, which are known as Ilakhir Charshanba. The Tuesdays represent the elements of life - earth, wind, fire and water. The most important among these Tuesdays is the last Tuesday. The same day is very rich in ancient traditions. There are many poems, songs, rituals and beliefs concerning each of these Tuesdays. Every year on the eve of Novruz traditional sweets and cakes are made.*

*Noruz holiday is rich with ancient traditions and games. 'Khidir Ilyas' the symbol of productivity and blossom), 'Kos-Kosa' - funny square game (the symbol of spring's coming) and fortune-telling are among them.*

*Novruz also have interesting traditions relating with water and fire. Being the land of the fire Azerbaijan has rich traditions relating with it. The fire is the symbol of purification and clarification. Bonfires are made in Novruz and before the holiday comes people in Akhir Charshanba, despite of the age and gender, jump seven times over one, or once over 7 bonfires and say: 'Give me your redness and take my yellowness.' The fire is never put out by water; it burns down by itself. Young boys and girls take the ash of the fire and throw it far from the house. It is explained as follows: all the mischance of the family is thrown away with the ash. From the ancient times special training for this wonderful evening was carried out. First house and home is cleaned, a special holiday purchases are made. Malt (Samani) is germinated, egg is painted, wheat is roasted, pilaff is cooked, and sweets are prepared. This holiday, especially is celebrated more beautiful in rural areas. Everyone hurries to congratulate each other at this holiday, at holiday dinner in the evening candles according to a number of family members are burnt, and the intentions are kept.*

In the evening on the Last Tuesday children knock at the doors of neighbouring houses, leave a hat and hide. The hats with holiday have a holiday tray Samani is put in and candles is adjusted family There seven kinds that day should be at children their parents to their homes. tradition to listen It is a tradition to go for at dark time by having kept an are commented in accordance with the intention kept. So, beautiful words, hopeful talks should be carried out at homes in the evening of Novruz holiday.



householders should return the treats. It is important to at holiday table. the center of tray and painted egg according to members. should be of dishes. At everyone his home, but should visit and must return There's a holiday to ear fortune telling. listening talks of neighbors

intention. The first audible words



## **THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ISLAMIC SOLIDARITY GAMES TO BE HELD IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN : 12 – 22 MAY 2017**



The Islamic Solidarity Games is a multinational, multi-sport event held by the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF). It is the second largest inter-governmental organization after the UN with 57 member states spread over four continents.

Their first event was held in 2005 in Saudi Arabia. The second event, originally scheduled to take place in October 2009 in Iran, was later re-scheduled for April 2010, but then cancelled. The third Games took place in 2013 in Indonesia. Azerbaijan was delighted when the eighth elective General Assembly of the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation (ISSF), based in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, announced Baku as the host city for the 4th Islamic Solidarity Games in 2017.

Azerbaijan's capital Baku will host the fourth Islamic Solidarity Games on 12-22 May 2017. The Games will bring together more than 5,000 athletes from 57 countries, will be held under the slogan "Solidarity is our power". About 75 athletes and officials from Malaysia are expected to participate in the games. They will be participating in athletics, swimming, tennis, weightlifting, boxing, judo and karate.

The official opening ceremony and closing of the fourth Islamic Solidarity Games will be held at the Baku Olympic Stadium on 12 and 22 May, respectively. Tickets for the events can be purchased via <https://www.baku2017.com/en>.

## **BAKU TO HOST FORMULA 1, 2017**

**Azerbaijan will again host the Formula 1 in Baku. This will be the second Formula 1 to be held in Baku. It will be from 23-25 June 2017.**

**It is expected to attract more fans from all around the world compared to last year.**

**The six kilometre, anti-clockwise layout of the circuit was designed by famous circuit architect Hermann Tilke. The circuit is planned to start adjacent to Azadliq Square, then loop around Government House before heading west to Maiden Tower. From there the track is planned to have a narrow uphill traversal and then circle the Old City before opening up onto a 2.2 km (1.4 mi) stretch along Neftchilar Avenue back to the start line.**

**Tickets can be purchased via <https://tickets.formula1.com/en/10851-baku-fom/>**



The 24<sup>th</sup> International Caspian Oil and Gas exhibition, the largest energy sector event in the Caspian region, will take place from 31 May - to 3 June 2017 at Baku Expo Center. As a recognized international platform and the key event in the region's oil and gas industry, the exhibition has been bringing together senior level directors every year to discuss key oil and gas projects in the Caspian region and ensure energy security. Malaysian companies are invited to participate in the event. More information can be found at <http://www.caspianoilgas.az/en-main/>.





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**Working days:** Monday-Friday, 09:00 – 17:00 hrs