



Naval personnel carrying the coffin containing the remains of Amin to the burial site at the Royal Mausoleum in Kuala Kangsar yesterday. — NST pictures by Jamah Nasri

Ngah Ibrahim, Amin laid to rest

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TAIPING: At long last, Tengku Menteri Ngah Ibrahim Long Jaafar and Laksamana Mohd Amin Alang Duakap are back where they truly belong — in Perak.

After being interred on foreign soil for more than 100 years, the two heroes who were exiled from Perak have found their eternal resting place on home soil.

Yesterday was a homecoming befitting their status as Malay chiefs and heroes who had contributed immensely to the annals of Perak.

At exactly 12.30pm, the remains of Mohd Amin were buried at the Royal Mausoleum at Bukit Chandan in Kuala Kangsar, less than 10 metres from the grave of his compatriot Sultan Abdullah Muhammad Shah.

At the Matang Museum Complex near here, Ngah Ibrahim's remains were interred at 2pm.

The museum complex was once the home, office and fort

from where Ngah Ibrahim, the richest Malay in the 19th century, administered Larut.

On hand at the burial places were liaja diHilir Raja Datuk Seri Jaafar Raja Muda Musa, second in line to the Perak throne, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali and heads of government departments and agencies.

In keeping with tradition when burying Perak's Malay chiefs and also for their contributions to the history of Perak, they were given state funerals.

Earlier yesterday, the Royal Malaysian Navy corvette *KD Laksamana Mohd Amin*, transporting the remains of the heroes from the Tanjung Pelepas Port in Johor, arrived in Luminal 4am.

Thousands greeted the homecoming about 9am. Among them was the Raja Muda of Perak Dr Raja Nazrin Shah.

KD Laksamana had arrived after a 16-hour journey and was escorted by *KD Kinabalu* and a CB90 assault craft to the Air Cetek jetty here for the ceremony. The boxes, draped in Jalur Gemilang, were then

placed by officers from *KD Laksamana* into two coffins.

These too were covered with the Malaysian flag before being carried to two vans for the transfer to the respective burial sites.

The homecoming of Ngah Ibrahim and Mohd Amin has nearly completed the return of the four major personalities banished to the Seychelles in 1877 for their alleged role in the murder of Perak's first British resident J.W.W. Birch in November 1875.

Sultan Abdullah, Ngah Ibrahim, Mohd Amin and Shahbandar Uda Kediti were exiled without trial.

When they were asked to go to Singapore in 1876 to answer charges for their involvement in the murder of Birch, they were instead put in prison for almost 10 months and then exiled to Seychelles.

In 1878, they wrote to Queen Victoria seeking her indulgence to release them on the grounds that they were not tried and to send them back to Perak. Only Sultan Abdullah was allowed to return to Perak, after spending 16 years in exile.



The remains of Ngah Ibrahim being carried to the Matang Museum near Taiping. In the background is the house where Ngah Ibrahim lived until he was banished to the Seychelles.



Territorial Chief of Hilir Perak Datuk Mohd Amin Shuker Ali Akbar, the grandson of Amin, carrying out the final burial rites yesterday.

Territorial Chief of Larut, Matang and Selama Datuk Dr Wan Mohd Isa Wan Ahmad performing final burial rites on Ngah Ibrahim yesterday.