

Tuanku Mizan installed as king

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Ceremony steeped in tradition

KUALA LUMPUR: The Sultan of Terengganu, Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin was installed as the 13th Yang di-Pertuan Agong in a ceremony steeped in the tradition of the Malay rulers at Balairong Seri of Istana Negara yesterday.

Soon after the 45-year-old King read out his pledge as the Head of State, the VIPs and guests led by Datuk Maharaja Lela Tengku Farouk Tengku Jalil hailed "Daulat Tuanku" three times.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong, in his pledge inscribed in Jawi on a goat hide, vowed to govern the nation with utmost fairness in accordance with provisions in the Federal Constitution and uphold Islam.

Tuanku Mizan said he would ensure a just and peaceful administration.

After His Majesty read out his pledge, a *nafiri* (trumpet) was sounded followed by the beatings of the *nobat* (drum) "Raja Bertabal" (the King has been installed) by the Royal Terengganu Nobat Group.

This was followed by a 21-gun salute by the 41st Artillery Battery Re-

giment followed by the rendition of *Negara Ku* by the Royal Armour Corps.

Earlier, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi read out the installation proclamation, also inscribed in Jawi on a goat hide.

The Government will not make any compromise in preserving the harmony being enjoyed by the people, Abdullah said.

As such, the Prime Minister said, the Government would monitor and be wary of anyone who threatened the country's stability.

Tengku Farouk then stepped forward to present the government keris or "Keris Panjang di-Raja", the main royal insignia denoting greatness and power of the King.

Tuanku Mizan then kissed the keris and sheathed it before placing it on a side table on his left and read out his pledge.

The Malay Rulers, who attended the ceremony were the Sultan of Kedah, who is also the Deputy Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan, Sultan of Pahang, Sultan of Kelantan, Sultan of



Historic moment: Tuanku Mizan and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Nur Zahirah arriving at Balairong Seri of Istana Negara for the installation ceremony yesterday.

Perak, Regent of Terengganu and Sultan of Selangor.

Johor was represented by the Tengku Mahkota of Johor, Tunku Ibrahim Ismail, and Perlis by the Raja Muda of Perlis, Tuanku Syed Faizzuddin. The Crown Prince of Brunei, Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah, represented the Sultan of Brunei Darussalam, Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah.

Also present were Yang di-Pertuas Negeri, ministers, menteri besar and chief ministers, and the Terengganu royal family.

The ceremony was also attended by foreign diplomats and guests.

Tuanku Mizan was elected as the 13th Yang di-Pertuan Agong by the nine Malay Rulers at the 208th Conference of Rulers meeting at Istana

Negara on Nov 3 last year, succeeding the 12th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail, whose five-year term ended on Dec 12 last year. - Bernama

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