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# King creates history in 'second dissolution'

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**Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah** granting his consent to the **dissolution of Parliament** yesterday at **Istana Negara**. With him is **Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak**. Bernama pic

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah made history yesterday by becoming the first king to consent to a dissolution of Parliament twice.

He first oversaw Parliament's dissolution prior to the 1974 general election when Datuk Seri Najib Razak's father, Tun Abdul Razak Hussein, was the country's prime minister.

Tuanku Abdul Halim is the first monarch to serve as Malaysia's head of state for two separate terms, as well as the first to serve during the leadership of two different prime ministers, who happened to be father and son.

He first became king in 1970, holding the office until 1975. His second term began on Dec 13, 2011. The 27th and current sultan of Kedah, his first ascension to kingship had paved the way for Razak to assume the role of Malaysia's second prime minister after Tuanku Abdul Halim's uncle and the country's first prime minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, felt he could not serve under his nephew, given Malay royal protocol.

Razak died of leukaemia on Jan 14, 1976 after six years in office. Najib is looking to emulate his late father's success in the general election 39 years ago.