

**Pahang Sultan, Sultanah Visit Relatives Of Several Malaysian Passengers Of Missing Airliner  
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PUTRAJAYA, March 17 (Bernama) -- The Sultan of Pahang, Sultan Ahmad Shah, and the Sultanah of Pahang, Sultanah Hajah Kalsom, today visited the relatives of several Malaysian passengers and crew of a missing Malaysian airline, at The Everly Hotel, here.

The sultan said he advised the next-of-kin to exercise patience and continue to pray for the safety of their loved ones and for the search-and-rescue operation to be conducted smoothly.

"I advised them to be patient. We seek the guidance of Allah (God). God willing, we will find them (the passengers and crew)," he told reporters after spending about an hour with the relatives.

The sultan and sultanah were accompanied by the Tengku Muda of Pahang, Tengku Abdul Rahman Sultan Ahmad Shah. Also present was Putrajaya Corporation president Tan Sri Aseh Che Mat.

Sultan Ahmad Shah said he advised the relatives to continue to stay at the hotel and wait for developments.

He said the various quarters involved in the operation should take care of the welfare of the relatives in their moment of sadness. Thirty-eight Malaysians had travelled on the missing Malaysia Airlines (MAS) flight, MH370.

The Beijing-bound Boeing 777-200ER aircraft, with 227 passengers and 12 crew on board, disappeared about an hour after leaving the KL International Airport at 12.41 am on March 8. It was scheduled to arrive in Beijing at 6.30 am on the same day.

The fate of the passengers is unknown as the multi-national search for the aircraft has drawn a blank so far.

It has been revealed that the plane veered off course after someone deliberately switched off the communication system on board and, according to the Inmarsat satellite, it had flown for several hours after that.

The satellite had continued to identify the plane once an hour through what is called an 'electronic handshake' after it disappeared from radar screens at about 1.30 am on March 8, and the last handshake was recorded at 8.11 am.

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