

Hishammuddin Confirms Step-grandmother On Board MH17
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PUTRAJAYA, July 19 (Bernama) -- Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein today confirmed that his step-grandmother was among those on board the Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 which was crashed in Ukraine on Thursday.

He said being angry for personal reasons as he had someone related to him on board the ill-fated aircraft would not help in getting to the bottom of the tragedy.

"What can we do, just being angry won't help," he said when mobbed by reporters after joining a meeting of the next-of-kin of those on board MH17, with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak here Saturday.

Puan Sri Siti Amirah Kusuma, 83, was second wife to Tan Sri Mohammad Noah Omar who had passed away in 1990.

Mohammad Noah was grandfather to both Hishammuddin and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

During the meeting, Hishammuddin, who was consoling Lt Commander Lee Vee Weng, who lost wife Ng Shi Ing, a son and a sister in-law who were on board the ill-fated aircraft, said he understood Lee's feelings.

"My family (member) was also on board. Yes, it is difficult because of geopolitical landscape and I know you can understand that," said Hishammuddin as he spoke personally to Lee.

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