

# *Star* Special

THE STAR, SUNDAY 14 JANUARY 2024

DAULAT TUANKU



## A beloved Ruler

Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan, Tuanku Muhriz Tuanku Munawir, celebrates his 76th birthday today.



# Fostering unity and togetherness

Stories by **SARBAN SINGH** and **C.S.NATHAN**  
sarbans@thestar.com.my

MALAYSIANS are grateful for the blessings they enjoy, but they must not allow themselves to become complacent, advised Tuanku Muhriz Tuanku Munawir recently.

The Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan, who celebrates his 76th birthday today, also reminded Malaysians of the importance of upholding the principles of the Rukun Negara, the foundation for national unity.

The Ruler's message to Malaysians to unite for a better Malaysia is more apt than ever, particularly at a time when world news seems to be headlined by conflict.

Reflecting on recent world events, the Ruler repeated this call in his opening address at the Negri Sembilan Bar Committee dinner and dance held last November.

"When we look at the conflicts that occur around the world today, we get dismayed at all the injustice that is perpetrated.

"There are nations whose authorities neglect the development of their own countries, causing widespread poverty, or practise gross discrimination between their citizens on the basis of religion, race or culture," he said.

While they appreciated the nation's blessings, the Ruler urged citizens not to rest on their laurels and instead, to work on improving their understanding and practice of the Rukun Negara, which is integral to the Malaysian identity.

"The good news is that here in Malaysia, we are grateful for all the blessings we enjoy. But we must not be complacent, resting on our laurels.

"Instead, we must safeguard what we have and also work towards improving on practising the values we uphold.

"Simply put, the essential values are a responsible society and good governance. If properly practised, the Rukun Negara can achieve these goals," he said.

In times of crisis or on happy occasions, whether offering words of comfort to flood victims or enjoying cultural performances at the state's Deepavali Open House, the Ruler does not shy away from lending his support to the people.

To foster the spirit of togetherness, the Ruler encourages greater interaction between people of different cultures and religious beliefs.

As someone who truly believes in practising the values set out by the Rukun Negara, Tuanku Muhriz exemplifies what it means to embrace the principle of mutual respect and good social behaviour – the fifth pillar embodied in the Rukun Negara.

"Greater interaction will result in an appreciation of the values upheld by cultures different from your own.

"In this way, one is not merely encouraged to be tolerant of others, but to have a greater respect for the ways and culture of others," he said.

While acknowledging the



Tuanku Muhriz, accompanied by his consort Tuanku Aishah Rohani and their children Tunku Ali Redhaudin (left) and Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin, attending an event to mark the 250th anniversary of the Negri Sembilan state monarchy in November 2023.



Tuanku Muhriz delivering his address at the swearing-in ceremony of the Mentri Besar at Istana Besar Seri Menanti following the last state election. Present was his consort Tuanku Aishah Rohani.

numerous calls to revive the observance of the Rukun Negara's principles, Tuanku Muhriz said merely reciting it was not enough.

"The Rukun Negara was formulated in 1970, and yet, it is not appreciated by many.

"It is not enough to be able to memorise and recite the Rukun Negara in the early years of school, only to forget it as one grows up.

"It is also not enough to have a recitation at functions by youths. If we are serious about observing its principles, recitations must be led by leaders," he said, citing Negri Sembilan's Mentri Besar-led recitation of the Rukun Negara on National Day as one good example.

The Ruler, a firm believer in the power of education, suggested that the teaching of the Rukun Negara could be done at several levels beginning with the basics

in primary school.

The teaching of the Rukun Negara at different levels of understanding in schools is imperative to mould citizens with a strong sense of responsibility.

"At secondary school, there can be classes to explain the objectives of the principles. At a higher level still, there can be discussions to encourage a deeper understanding," said Tuanku Muhriz, who is also Chancellor of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

Since ascending the throne in 2009, the Ruler has reiterated that national unity and the spirit of togetherness are pivotal for the nation's continued peace and harmony.

At the Negri Sembilan Bar Committee event, he reminded guests of the motto emblazoned on Malaysia's Coat of Arms – "Bersekutu Bertambah Mutu" or



Tuanku Muhriz, accompanied by his sons Tunku Ali Redhaudin (left) and Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin, taking a stroll at the breathtaking Luna Lights Wonderland in Seremban's Malaysia Park.

Unity is Strength.

"I expect you remember the motto of your alma mater, but the country's motto is never mentioned and is forgotten.

"It is Bersekutu Bertambah Mutu, Unity is Strength, and sits very well with the Rukun Negara," he said imploring that the motto be used more frequently in correspondence and speeches.

Having inculcated the values of righteousness and integrity as a young law student at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth (now Aberystwyth University), the Ruler espouses doing the right thing, particularly in the face of injustice.

Tuanku Muhriz, who graduated with an LLB (Hons) in 1970, credits the concepts he learned at university for imbuing in him an unwavering sense of integrity.

These principles of justice and fair play are the background for

the Ruler's approach towards his subjects and the many causes he champions.

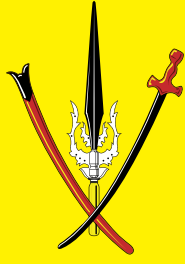
Having served the community in various capacities including as a member of the Rotary Club of Kuala Lumpur DiRaja in his younger years, the Ruler always prioritises selfless service.

Tuanku Muhriz's untiring efforts to ensure people from all walks of life have equal access to quality healthcare, for example, was recognised with an Honorary Fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh (RCSEd).

The honour, which is the prestigious institution's highest award, was presented to Tuanku Muhriz in appreciation of his efforts to support healthcare in aid of impoverished communities in Malaysia and the advancement of surgery.

> TURN TO PAGE 4





# *Daulat Tuanku*



***Salutations and Heartiest Congratulations***  
**DULI YANG MAHA MULIA YANG DI-PERTUAN BESAR**  
**NEGERI SEMBILAN DARUL KHUSUS**  
**TUANKU MUHRIZ IBNI ALMARHUM TUANKU MUNAWIR**

D.K., D.M.N., D.K. (PERAK), D.K. (PERLIS), D.K. (SELANGOR), D.K. (KEDAH),  
D.K. (KELANTAN), D.K. (JOHOR), D.K. (TERENGGANU), D.K.Y.R., P.P.T.

**May Allah The Almighty Bless His Royal Highness's Reign**  
**On The Occasion Of His Royal Highness's 76th Birthday**

on

**14th January 2024 (2 Rejab 1445H)**

FROM

**Executive Chairman,**  
**Board of Directors, Management & Staff.**



**YTL Corporation Berhad**





Tuanku Muhriz (centre) with winners of the Tuanku Muhriz's Trophy 2023 PSA Challenger Tour 15 tournament and other officials at Kompleks Sukan Tan Sri Mohd Said in Seremban 2, in August 2023.



Tuanku Muhriz, Tuanku Aishah Rohani and their sons with the Negri Sembilan Bar Committee at its recent Negeri Sembilan Bar dinner held at a hotel in Seremban.

# An approachable Ruler loved and respected by all

> FROM PAGE 2

Another award, the Tuanku Muhriz Travelling Fellowship in Rural Surgery, a collaboration between RCSEd and UKM, was also named in his honour.

At the opening of the UCSI Hospital in Bandar Springhill near Port Dickson in November, Tuanku Muhriz spoke about how the provision of high-quality medical care had the potential to change the healthcare landscape in Negri Sembilan.

"The availability of high-quality medical care and sufficient specialists as well as doctors offers more medical care and treatment options for the people of Port Dickson and Negri Sembilan.

"UCSI Hospital is part of UCSI Health Metropolis, a mega project planned to make Bandar Springhill a hub for medical tourism and education. This multi-facility project includes accommodation, a convention centre, a shopping complex, sports facilities, a research lab and more," he said.

A Ruler who walks the talk, Tuanku Muhriz insists that elected representatives hold to the same standard of putting the people first. To the Ruler, duty and service are foremost.

During the state investiture ceremony to mark his last birthday, Tuanku Muhriz had said that leaders who had been given the mandate by the people must possess sincerity to serve and put the country's interests above their own.

"Although there are differences in ideologies and agendas among us, I am sure that there are similarities, especially in the agenda for development and the people's welfare to establish a more prosperous country."

This sentiment was repeated in October during the opening of the state assembly when the Ruler congratulated newly elected representatives and commended the formation of a new collaborative state government working towards a common aim – continued progress for the state.

In line with his views that elected representatives should always set any differences aside for the benefit of the rakyat, Tuanku Muhriz stressed that duties given to the people's



Tuanku Muhriz (hand pointing) and his consort Tuanku Aishah Rohani (on his left) leading the procession during the recent Maulidur Rasul celebrations in Seremban.

representatives must be carried out with full integrity and accountability, prioritising the interests of the state without any political or personal agendas.

Tuanku Muhriz said that politicians must be sensitive to the wishes and views of people who voice their sentiments via various spaces and platforms.

"Know that you are always being watched and judged by the people, so debate and argue rationally and intellectually on matters that can bring good and mutual benefit by complying with the rules of the House throughout the sitting.

"I wish to remind honourable house members to always appreciate, protect, preserve, and defend the Federal Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Negri Sembilan," he said.

Tuanku Muhriz also applauded the state administration for successfully steering Negri Sembilan through economic uncertainties and challenges brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, saying it was due to its commitment and cooperation in working together effectively that helped the state remain a preferred destination



Tuanku Muhriz inspecting a guard of honour during the state-level Merdeka Day celebration in Seremban, last year.

for investors.

However, Tuanku Muhriz said, while the state recorded good financial performance, it was imperative that issues such as the cost of living, job opportunities and income disparity between urban and rural areas also be addressed.

In his speech, the Ruler out-

lined initiatives implemented by the state government to ensure that the people had access to a sufficient food supply and that they would not be burdened by the higher cost of living or goods.

"These economic empowerment programmes include the development of unused land, business capital assistance, halal

cottage industry certification, fishing equipment assistance for coastal fishermen, monthly living assistance for university students and the provision of Rumah Harapan subsidies.

"The state government also launched the Jualan Harga Ladang Negri Sembilan Prihatin initiative to combat supply issues and the rising prices of essential items. Through the programme, the people can purchase essential goods 20 to 30% cheaper than the market price," he said.

The Ruler expressed hope that socio-economic development efforts that include the state's economic empowerment agenda, digitalisation and the adoption of new technology, entrepreneurship and human capital development, would be intensified to boost the state's economic growth.

If there is one thing that the people of Negri Sembilan know, it is that they have their Ruler in their corner.

Tuanku Muhriz's love of state and country and his commitment to put people first endear him to his subjects as an approachable Ruler.





# *Daulat Tuanku*



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*FROM*

**IJM CORPORATION BERHAD AND ITS GROUP OF COMPANIES**



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# Championing lifelong learning



Tunku Ali officially launching the Program Kelestarian Pendapatan Universiti Melalui Integrasi Zakat, Wakaf dan Endowmen at USIM.



Tunku Aishah chatting with two of the award recipients during USIM's recent convocation ceremony.

TUANKU Aishah Rohani Tengku Besar Mahmud regularly accompanies Tuanku Muhriz Tuanku Munawir whenever the state Ruler attends events in her capacity as the Tunku Ampuan Besar of Negri Sembilan.

There are many such events graced by the royal couple which include the opening of the state legislative assembly, official state celebrations and programmes with the rakyat held throughout Negri Sembilan.

Tunku Aishah always makes time for these events, including visits to hospitals and homes despite her royal status which has only endeared her more to the people.

As Chancellor of Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia, Tunku Aishah makes it a point to attend the Nilai-based university's graduation ceremonies.

Since being proclaimed as Chancellor back in 2011, Tunku Aishah has presented degrees to thousands of graduates and postgraduates, as well as conferred honorary doctorates (PhD) and other awards to others.

Tunku Aishah is also always present at important events at USIM such as when its Faculty of Quran and Sunnah Studies created the country's first Quran application to facilitate hearing-impaired individuals to read and discover the holy book.

The achievement allowed hearing-impaired communities not only in Malaysia but from all over the world to read the Quran using the Sign Language Quran application that can be downloaded through the Android and iOS platforms for free.

Tunku Aishah has personally witnessed several other milestones that have helped in the rapid development of the university, leading it to become one of the most respected Islamic institutions especially in the Asean region.

Tunku Aishah always shares words of wisdom with graduates, advising them that their outstanding achievements in both the fields of academics and co-curriculum such as debates, Islamic arts and culture and international relations reflected USIM's ability to help realise the nation's higher education policy and vision.

While delivering her address at the university's 21st graduation ceremony recently (in December 2023), Tunku Aishah said USIM has produced graduates who have made a positive impact on the local community and the ummah.

"USIM graduates have not only become public figures but have succeeded in becoming job creators by providing job opportunities for others.

"They have proven that they have been able to apply the knowledge, skills and values they acquired at the university in their career and their daily lives," Tunku Aishah said, adding that this was in line



Tunku Aishah delivering her address at USIM's 21st convocation ceremony recently.

with the national education development plan to produce holistic, entrepreneurial and balanced graduates.

Tunku Aishah was proud that the graduates had been instrumental in helping the local community including people with disabilities, single mothers and Orang Asli by helping raise their quality of living.

This was made possible, among others, through USIM's mobile clinic, the Ummi Maktum centre and its sports centre.

Tunku Aishah said the university's graduates were not only knowledgeable but were competent professionals who possessed leadership qualities.

"There are also undergraduates and graduates who have brought honour to USIM by achieving success in various fields including research and competitions at both national and international levels," she said, reminding them that with every challenge comes opportunity.

Tunku Aishah also expressed confidence that graduates who had pursued their studies at USIM had developed their potential in a holistic manner, which would enable them to face future challenges and build more meaningful lives.

Citing an example, Tunku Aishah said at present, the challenges faced by graduates come from artificial intelligence (AI) although it brings with it plenty of potential.

"We need to accept the fact that the pace of this man-made technology will be a part of our lives and that there are times when we cannot live without the help of technology.

"However, there needs to be a balance between the advancement of AI and the preservation of dignity, love and spiritual development," Tunku Aishah said, adding that technological progress will improve human capabilities but not

replace humans.

Tunku Aishah went on to say that she believed USIM graduates were the true manifestation of the Madani Malaysia slogan which was the basis of the country's administration.

"And through the integration of Naqli and Aqli knowledge cultivated at USIM, the graduates produced are ready to be leaders of the future," Tunku Aishah said, adding that these leaders should continue to apply and strengthen values they learnt at the university such as trust, consensus, professionalism, efficiency and possessing a global outlook.

Tunku Aishah also congratulated the graduating foreign students, expressing hope that as future leaders, they too would be able to instil USIM's philosophy in the integration of naqli and aqli knowledge in all aspects of their lives.

Tunku Aishah's oldest prince, Tunku Ali Redhaudin Tuanku Muhriz who is also USIM's Pro-Chancellor, regularly accompanies her for events there.

In his recent address to graduates, the Tunku Besar of Seri Menanti said as they embark on the next chapter of their lives, graduates need to remember that learning is a lifelong journey which extends far beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

"While you've achieved an incredible feat by graduating, this is just the beginning," Tunku Ali said, adding that their graduation was not the conclusion, but a catalyst for a lifetime of growth and development.

Tunku Ali also commended the teaching staff at the university, adding that their dedication to the profession and the care they showed for the students made them invaluable assets.

"I am confident with this level of dedication and spirit, USIM's name will be upheld to be amongst the very best of

**"USIM graduates have not only become public figures but have succeeded in becoming job creators by providing job opportunities for others."**

Tunku Aishah Rohani Tengku Besar Mahmud

higher educational institutions," the Prince said.

Tunku Ali also advised the graduates to always uphold the principles of Rukun Negara wherever they served in the future.

This, the Prince said, would help them become leaders with good ethics and of high integrity who could bring positive change to society.

"I am confident that the principled graduates will contribute to the development of a harmonious, fair, and united country regardless of their background," Tunku Ali said.

Echoing Tunku Aishah's sentiments on AI, Tunku Ali told the graduates that it plays a pivotal role in driving the changes we witness today and will revolutionise the way we live, work, and interact.

"Embracing AI is not merely an option but a necessity for future graduates who will enter the workforce to stay competitive and innovative in a rapidly evolving global environment.

"Indeed, embracing AI, balancing technology and research is crucial for making a positive impact on society," the Prince said, adding that AI will also help bridge gaps, disseminate information, and improve academic outreach.

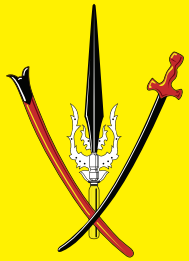
The collaboration of technology and research in universities, he said, would not only equip future leaders with essential skills for a tech-driven world but would also empower them to contribute meaningfully to society's betterment.

Tunku Ali congratulated the university's international students, adding that their journey at USIM had significantly enriched its academic community.

"Your achievements speak not only to your academic excellence but also to the strength of character and adaptability essential for thriving in a new cultural and educational environment.

"As you navigate the journey back to your hometown, I hope that USIM remains close to your hearts, and you carry with you the values instilled during your time here," Tunku Ali added.





# Daulat Tuanku



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FROM



**Ranhill Utilities Berhad**  
201401014973 (1091059-K)  
*(Formerly known as Ranhill Holdings Berhad)*

**Ranhill Utilities Berhad** 201401014973 (1091059-K)  
**Ranhill Capital Sdn Bhd** 201401034295 (1110393-P)  
**Ranhill SAJ Sdn Bhd** 199901001818 (476718-H)  
**Ranhill Water Services Sdn Bhd** 200501004811 (681858-H)  
**Ranhill Water Technologies Sdn Bhd** 199401017329 (303007-T)  
**Ranhill Sabah Energy I Sdn Bhd**  
*(formerly known as Ranhill Powertron Sdn Bhd)* 199501001148 (330342-K)

**Ranhill Sabah Energy II Sdn Bhd**  
*(formerly known as Ranhill Powertron II Sdn Bhd)* 199501025099 (354304-U)  
**Ranhill Sabah Energy III Sdn Bhd** 202301033904 (1527827-W)  
**Ranhill Sabah Energy O&M I Sdn Bhd**  
*(formerly known as Ranhill Power O&M Sdn Bhd)* 199701002432 (417928-T)  
**Ranhill Sabah Energy O&M II Sdn Bhd**  
*(formerly known as Ranhill Power II O&M Sdn Bhd)* 199501025101 (354306-D)  
**Ranhill Bersekutu Sdn Bhd** 198101006302 (72416-T)  
**Ranhill Worley Sdn Bhd** 199501031145 (360351-A)



# Honouring heritage and traditions



Tuanku Muhriz and Tuanku Aishah being transported on a special carriage called the Takhta Rencana to Panca Persada, a ceremonial dais for a bathing ceremony during the Istiadat Ulangan Penghulu Luak Tanah Mengandung Mengadap Menjunjung Duli ceremony.

FAMED for its Adat Perpatih (customary laws), Negri Sembilan has a wealth of fascinating traditions. Among them is the Istiadat Ulangan Penghulu Luak Tanah Mengandung Mengadap Menjunjung Duli, a ceremony steeped in heritage and history. Typically held triennially, the ceremony dates back to 1898 during the reign of Tuanku Muhammad Tuanku Antah, the great-grandfather of the present Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan, Tuanku Muhriz Tuanku Munawir.

Locals and foreign visitors were fortu-

nate enough to witness a slice of history during the most recent edition of the event which was held from Nov 17 to 19.

A spectacular showcase of pomp and grandeur, the three-day event commemorated the state's unique traditions, passed down through generations.

In the weeks leading up to the event, the royal town of Seri Menanti was bedecked in state colours.

Yellow, red, and black pennants billowed along the town's streets, setting the stage for the time-honoured event.



Tuanku Muhriz and Tuanku Aishah at the Panca Persada which is part of the unique Istiadat Ulangan Penghulu Luak Tanah Mengandung Mengadap Menjunjung Duli ceremony.

The atmosphere in the charming town was festive throughout the period, underscoring an event of great historical importance.

The Istiadat Ulangan Penghulu Luak Tanah Mengandung Mengadap Menjunjung Duli reaffirms an over-a-century-old pledge of allegiance by the penghulu (chieftains) of several luak (districts) to the state Ruler.

This show of loyalty originates from the union of the different luak under one Ruler – the Yang di-Pertuan Besar or Yamtuan.

Based on historical sources, Negri Sembilan was founded as a sovereign entity in 1773 by Raja Melewar, a member of the Pagar Ruyong royal family in Sumatra who was invited by local chieftains to become the first Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan, a federation of nine "states".

In the intervening decades, turmoil including a British incursion and the annexation of Naning to Melaka, resulted in an unstable political climate.

Given shared economic and political interests, an agreement was made in 1885 to reconstitute the federation of Negri Sembilan.

This ultimately led to the Istiadat Ulangan Penghulu Luak Tanah Mengandung Mengadap Menjunjung Duli, an affirmation of allegiance that ensured continued peace and prosperity for the state.

In true Negri Sembilan tradition, the main event was heralded by two days of festivities entrenched in age-old customs.

The highlight of day one was Istiadat Menurun dan Memasang Alat Kebesaran, the emplacement of the royal regalia in the forecourt of Istana Besar Seri Menanti.

Day two unfolded with Istiadat Bersiram, the royal bathing ceremony.

Before the ceremony could begin, Tuanku Muhriz and his consort Tunku Ampuan Besar Negri Sembilan Tuanku Aishah Rohani Tengku Besar Mahmud were transported to Panca Persada, the ceremonial dais, in a special royal carriage called Takhta Rencana.

The procession was led by musicians who sang praises of Prophet Muhammad accompanied by the rhythmic beating of century-old gongs punctuated with the booms of cannon fire.

The carriage, pulled by smartly uniformed Pegawai 99 or ceremonial guard, was a sight to behold.

Once the royal couple had disembarked and were seated on the dais, they were

presented with cepu bedak limau or lime water by the Orang Empat Istana (four senior palace officials) for a symbolic cleansing ritual. After the ceremony, the crowd was treated to traditional dance performances.

The much-awaited main event took place at the palace's Balairong Seri on day three, when the penghulu luak, elected following the matrilineal clan system, declared their allegiance to Tuanku Muhriz, as their forebears once did to former state Rulers.

The penghulu luak who pledged their allegiance were from Luak Ulu Muar, Luak Jempol, Luak Terachi, Luak Gunung Pasir and Luak Ineh. The event was even more special as 2023 marked the 250th year of the state monarchy.

In his address, Tuanku Muhriz said since its institution in 1898, the ceremony mirrored the loyalty and allegiance of the penghulu luak under the patronage of the Yang di-Pertuan Besar Negri Sembilan in line with the phrase "Alam yang beraja, luak yang berpenghulu".

Translated, the phrase means that there is a Ruler for every place, country or region.

The Ruler said that detailed research was currently underway to document facts related to the establishment of the Negri Sembilan monarchy. This research aims to give a more accurate picture of the state's history by focusing only on documented evidence.


"It is important to know the right history as history connects us to the past and guides our future.

"The accurate recording and documenting of facts is a discipline that has to be practised by all parties particularly the authorities, academic institutions and historians," Tuanku Muhriz said.


An advocate for justice, Tuanku Muhriz also decried the tweaking of historical facts, saying such acts went against educational and intellectual ethics as they denied future generations the truth.

"A complete record of the history of monarchy in the state is imperative to defend the state's sovereignty, particularly in identifying the boundaries of power.

"Through the monarchy, the Yang di-Pertuan Besar plays a vital role in uniting every district in the state of Negri Sembilan," Tuanku Muhriz said, adding that he hoped the research findings would serve as a resource to the state administration and the public to maintain the state's sovereignty and the harmony of its multi-racial population.




## Daulat Tuanku



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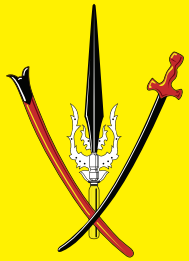
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FROM



The General Committee, Management & Members of  
**ROYAL SUNGEI UJONG CLUB**





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*With utmost sincerity from*



THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF NEGERI SEMBILAN DARUL KHUSUS







Tunku Ali with winners after a prize presentation ceremony at the inaugural Negri Sembilan Youth Challenge 2023 tournament, in June last year, which attracted some 260 young fencers from all over the country.



Tunku Zain (middle, back row) during a photo session at the launch of the IDEAS Autism Centre (laC) autism awareness week in April 2023. laC is a Malaysian not-for-profit organisation that provides early intervention, therapies and education to young children with autism.

# A philanthropic royal family

TUANKU Muhriz Tuanku Munawir was born on this day in 1948, in the royal town of Seri Menanti and is the only son of Tuanku Munawir Tuanku Abdul Rahman, the ninth Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan, and his consort Tuanku Durah Tunku Besar Burhanuddin. The 11th Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan is also the grandson of the country's first Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Rahman Tuanku Muhammad.

The Ruler was raised in Negri Sembilan, where he attended the Tuanku Muhammad School in Kuala Pilah, Tunku Besar School in Tampin and later King George V Secondary School in Seremban.

When Tuanku Muhriz was just 12 years old, the young prince was made Tunku Laxamana, second in rank among the Putera Yang Empat or four senior princes. Just a year later, he was bestowed the title of Tunku Besar Seri Menanti, the most senior rank among the four princes, a role he assumed until his ascension to the throne as Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan on Oct 26, 2009.

As a teenager, Tuanku Muhriz attended England's prestigious Aldenham School, where he completed his O- and A-Levels.

It was at the school that the young prince explored his love for music, picking up the guitar and fronting a band called The Prince and the Paupers.

After Aldenham, the Ruler continued his tertiary education at the University of Wales at Aberystwyth (now Aberystwyth University) where he studied law and was a keen sportsman.

Armed with an LLB (Hons) from the university, Tuanku Muhriz returned to Malaysia and launched a career in the corporate world with stints in banking, finance and advertising.

Looking back on his university years, Tuanku Muhriz has said that Aberystwyth University played an important role in shaping his character and instilling in him values that he still holds dear today.

These values include a high standard for legal principles, natural justice, and the impor-



Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Aminuddin Harun respectfully greeting Tuanku Muhriz and Tuanku Aishah at the opening of the state legislative assembly session.

tance of doing what is proper.

Tuanku Muhriz was conferred an Honorary Fellowship by Aberystwyth University in 2014 for his contributions to the public and private sectors, as well as his tireless charitable initiatives.

On April 25, 1974, Tuanku Muhriz married Tuanku Aishah Rohani Tengku Besar Mahmud. The couple were blessed with three princes – Tunku Ali Redhaudin born in 1977, Tunku Zain Al-'Abidin born in 1982, and the youngest, Tunku Alif Hussein Saifuddin Al-Amin who was born in 1984.

The close-knit royal family was devastated when Tunku Alif, who was born with special needs, breathed his last on Jan 15, 2016.

Through their various roles and charity work, the royal couple and the princes continue to serve the needs of the underprivileged including at-risk children and people with disabilities.

As Chancellor of Universiti Islam Malaysia (USIM), Tuanku Aishah has helped transform the tertiary institution into a preferred choice for further studies, particularly among foreign students.

Tunku Ali who is the current Tunku Besar Seri Menanti, completed his GCSE and A-Levels at Marlborough College in Wiltshire, England and later

attended Cambridge University where he read History and Social and Political Science.

The prince also has a Master in Public Administration from Harvard Kennedy School, the public policy and public administration school of the prestigious Harvard University in the US.

Tunku Ali, like his parents, is passionate about education and serves as Pro-Chancellor of USIM and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

Tunku Ali is also the founding trustee of non-profit Teach for Malaysia. A senior advisor to global equity firm TPG Capital, the prince also sits on various boards including Malaysian satellite television and IPTV provider Astro and wildlife NGO WWF-Malaysia.

Among the causes close to Tunku Ali's heart is Yayasan Munarah, one of the first charitable initiatives undertaken by the Negri Sembilan royal family after Tuanku Muhriz ascended the throne.

As chairman of Yayasan Munarah's board of trustees, Tunku Ali ensures that less privileged and deserving members of the community, particularly students, receive financial assistance to pursue their dreams regardless of race or religion.

His younger brother, Tunku Zain, was also educated at



Astro Malaysia Holdings Bhd group chief executive officer Euan Smith (sixth from right), together with chairman Tunku Ali (seventh from right), leading eager participants at the Rimba Kita Run flag off.



Tunku Zain trying his skills at using the blowpipe at the Pesta Bola Ngoca event held in Kuala Pilah.

Marlborough College. The prince has an honours degree in Sociology and Government, and an MSc in Comparative Politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

The prince is a keen pianist and the patron of Euroasia Association of Performing Arts, which is dedicated to the education, development and promotion of the performing arts in Malaysia.

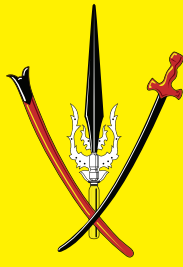
The founding president of the Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), the prince sits on the board of various corporations and non-profits including IDEAS Autism Centre,

which focuses on early intervention, care and therapy for children with autism from low-income families.

Tunku Zain is a trustee of Yayasan Munarah, Yayasan Chow Kit and the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation, as well as the Pro-Chancellor of UCSI University and a Royal Fellow of Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. He is also a newspaper columnist.

As president of the Negri Sembilan Squash Association, the prince has contributed to the development of the state's sporting talent and continues to support next-generation squash champions.





# *Daulat Tuanku*



*Salutations and Heartiest Congratulations*  
**DULI YANG MAHA MULIA YANG DI-PERTUAN BESAR  
NEGERI SEMBILAN DARUL KHUSUS  
TUANKU MUHRIZ IBNI ALMARHUM TUANKU MUNAWIR**

D.K., D.M.N., D.K. (PERAK), D.K. (PERLIS), D.K. (SELANGOR), D.K. (KEDAH),  
D.K. (KELANTAN), D.K. (JOHOR), D.K. (TERENGGANU), D.K.Y.R., P.P.T.

**May Allah The Almighty Bless His Royal Highness's Reign  
On The Occasion Of His Royal Highness's 76th Birthday**

on

**14th January 2024 (2 Rejab 1445H)**

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