



PRIME MINISTER

FOR PRESS

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DEATH OF TUN ABDUL RAZAK

I was shocked and saddened to learn today of the death of the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Abdul Razak. Australia has lost a good and dear friend. The loss is very great. It will be sadly felt not only by the people of Malaysia but by the people of the South East Asian region in particular and the world in general.

Tun Razak has made a significant contribution to the development of Malaysia both domestically and internationally. He was a skilled administrator and conducted the affairs of State with great dignity, calmness and sense of purpose. His statesmanship and his contribution to peace and stability in South East Asia will long be remembered by the nations of the region.

He had a sustained and close contact with leaders of Australian Government for many years. He was greatly respected by all Australians for his sense of high purpose and dedication. In his illness he was a quietly brave man.

On behalf of the Australian Government and people, I express our sincere sympathy and condolence at the untimely loss sustained by the people of Malaysia.

I knew Tun Razak for a very long period of time and feel his loss personally. As a mark of respect I will be attending the funeral.
