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Award will be inspiration to serve community: Lee

by Standley Dikod

THE recipient of the honorary doctorate from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye, said the award would be the inspiration and incentive for him to best serve the community.

"The award would not only encourage but give inspiration and incentive to me in providing community service to various associations and organisations," said Lee at the university's Sixth Convocation yesterday.

He was conferred the honorary Doctor of Letters by the university in recognition of his contributions to the community and nation.

"The award is certainly an honour and recognition for me and I wish to share it with all my family, my friends and my colleagues in various associations as well as organisations in which I am involved," said the former Member of Parliament for Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur.

Lee, who is also chairman of the National Institute of Safety and Health (NIOSH), is active in various organisations including as an advisory panel member of National Unity Council and Suhakam.

He was born in Ipoh, Perak and completed his

secondary education in St Micheal Institution.

Later, he joined the teaching profession before involvement in politics in 1969. He was the Member of Parliament for Bukit Bintang from 1974 until he resigned from politics in 1990 to concentrate on community service.

In 1999, he was conferred the Honorary Doctorate in Law from Universiti Sains Malaysia apart from various other honorary awards from other institutions.

Lee was among three prominent figures in the country who were conferred the award at the convocation. The other two are the Director General of Malaysia's Health Ministry Tan Sri Datu Dr Haji Mohamad Taha bin Arif who was conferred the Doctorate in Science and former president of the United Nation's (UN) Security Council, Tan Sri Razali Ismail who will receive his Doctorate in Law this morning. They received their awards from Head of State, who is also the Chancellor of the university, Tun Datuk Patinggi Abang Haji Muhammad Salahuddin.

Also witnessing the convocation yesterday was the Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud who is also the Pro-chancellor of the university.