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**Chief Minister tells Unimas graduates to be guardians of social peace, harmony**



CONGRATULATIONS: Taib (right) hands out scroll to a graduate. – Photo by Muhammad Rais Sanusi

KOTA SAMARAHAN: The Generation Y in Sarawak must be able to distinguish between useful and twisted information on the Internet to avert social conflicts.

Chief Minister Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud, who expressed his concern yesterday, said this was important because the younger generation were actively involved in online social networking and micro-blogging service.

“We can see that Facebook, Twitter and Blogs are gaining popularity among the Generation Y.

“However, we do not want to see them being overly occupied by online information, which may be intended to bring about chaos,” he told graduates at the 17th Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) Convocation here yesterday.

Taib, who is also Unimas Pro-Chancellor, said the so-called Spring Revolutions that occurred in some Middle East nations, would not be welcomed in Malaysia.

He said youngsters ought to reject any form of confusion and aggression spread by irresponsible parties via the Internet.

“Graduates will be expected to uphold social harmony of the country. Hence, they should practise critical thinking to decide whether to trust the information received.”

He hoped they would rise to be the guardians of social peace and harmony in the state and country.

Towards this end, he said they had to first shape their mentality and adhere to moral and social ethics.

He added leadership skill was also key to ensure Unimas graduates could compete with their counterparts across the globe.

“With quality leadership, the competitiveness of Malaysia will be enhanced. More so, leadership skill decides the success or failure of an organisation.” Taib was confident Unimas graduates would contribute tremendously to the country’s overall development.

He said they should continue to seek knowledge or equip themselves with various skills to play their role in nation building.

“Success is achieved and maintained by those who try and keep on trying.”

Source: The Borneo Post