

Graduates need to be proactive, says TYT

By Eve Sonary Heng

KOTA SAMARAHAN: Head of State Tun Datuk Patinggi Abang Muhammad Salahuddin has advised Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) graduates to be proactive and always update their knowledge and skills to meet the demand of the country's development.

He said lifelong learning could improve and increase their basic skills they learnt from the university.

"To equip yourselves with lifelong learning and self improvement would enable you to respond to the country's development changes and future challenges.

"However, to possess knowledge and skills is not enough. You must show that you have good and effective communication skills in order to compete in the job market," he said at the 9th Unimas Convocation yesterday.

Salahuddin, who is also the Chancellor of Unimas, pointed out

that graduates must have positive attitude and exercise their own initiative to improve and upgrade themselves from time to time to meet the job market demand since universities could provide students only with basic knowledge and skills.

Earlier, vice chancellor Professor Abdul Rashid Abdullah hoped that graduates would settle their National Higher Education Fund (PTPTN) loans once they had found a job.

"Those of you who loaned from the PTPTN do fulfil your promise to repay as soon as you can. This is not only about fulfilling your promise with the PTPTN, but more importantly the repayment can help the government to continue to help other students who need the loan," he said.

He asked graduates concerned to regard their loan repayment as a contribution towards the country and reminded them of the difficulties faced by other students who wanted

so much to study but could not get any financial assistance.

Meanwhile, Wong Chin Pheing from Engineering Faculty was awarded the "Canselor Anugerah".

The "Anugerah Pendidikan DiRaja" award went to Norazwah Mokhtar (Human Resource Development) and Freddy Yeo (Science and Plants Resource Management).

Maya Asyikin Mohamad Arif (Chemical Resource) received the "Anugerah Pro-Canselor".

A total of 1344 graduates comprising 448 men and 803 women attended the convocation. This means that 6606 students have graduated from Unimas since 1997.

"This is not only the success of the graduates but also the success of their parents. Without their parents' support, encouragement and motivation, their children would not achieve the success they get today", said the Head of State.



PROUD MOMENT: Norazwah shows the award she received to her parents, Mohd Mokhtar Rahman (right) and Aznah Mohd Noor.

