

# Mum, 56, among graduates from Unimas

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**PROUD MUM:** Ong happy with her achievement.

**KUCHING:** There is no age limit to obtain higher education certificate, said Cecilia Ong, 56, the oldest post-graduate at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak's (Unimas) 11th convocation yesterday.

Ong a retired nursing manager at the Sarawak General Hospital has completed post-graduate studies in Business Administration.

She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in nursing three years ago.

"I feel very special today because I am the oldest person to graduate. I am very happy because I have finally fulfilled my wish to have an MBA," Ong told reporters.

Ong who is also an author of several books mostly based on her experiences

decided that it was not too late to further her studies.

"After serving the government for 35 years, I wanted a Masters degree for self satisfaction. However, I was also mindful of my children's education."

Ong said she did not find any difficulty during her studies because she had wonderful course mates and lecturers for support.

"My husband who is a Unimas staff was also very supportive and even encouraged me to go higher with him. He is pursuing his own PhD," she said.

For 24-year-old Priyalatha Govindasamy, who was awarded the Royal Education Award, the convocation was an exciting moment in her life.

"I worked hard for it and it paid off. I studied from

Monday to Friday and on weekends I spent my time doing other things what I like most."

Her advice to the undergraduates is to study consistently and communicate with others to share knowledge.

Recipient of the Pro Chancellor Award, Izora Lim, a student from the Tourism programme said her experience in the university had made her a more responsible person.

"Never say you cannot do it unless you have tried," Lim said, adding that a positive attitude was also important to develop one's confidence and skills.

"I have many sweet memories as an undergraduate in this university and I am sure others have theirs too."