

Sabah the best model for M'sia Rahmah

DE 30.11.2019 2

Larry Ralon

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah is the best model for the Malaysia Rahmah (compassionate Islam) concept that the Government is currently promoting, said Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs) Fuziah Salleh.

She said she was impressed by the people of Sabah who are unique and can continue to live in great harmony despite Sabahans being made up of various different races and ethnicities as well as religious backgrounds.

"I am impressed with the people of Sabah. They are unique. There is no feeling of racialism among them.

"(What) I mean is that it is not like the Malays, Chinese and Indians in the peninsula where the separation gap between them is getting bigger. I do not know why (this is happening), maybe by design.

"But in Sabah, whether it is Kadazan, Dusun, Bajau, Bajau Laut, Murut, Sungai and so on, they all live in harmony. In a family there are Muslim and non-Muslim members, but they still live together under one roof, with great respect for each other...this is the concept of Rahmah (compassionate).

"The Malaysia Model that we want to have is based on Malaysia as a multiracial nation. That is why Sabah is the best model, a multiracial State but has great respect between one another," she said at a town hall session titled "Memaknai Rahmatan Lil Alamin Dalam Konteks Mahasiswa Bitara", in conjunction with the



Fuziah (second from right) receiving a memento.

Sabah State-level Kembara Malaysia Rahmah, at the university's Chancellor Hall, here, Friday. It was organised by Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (Yadim) and Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS),

Fuziah also urged the undergraduates to strive towards excellence through elements of idealism, activism, intellectualism and spiritualism, which can make them a Bitara (unlimited) person.

She said the said four elements need to be blended and balanced, and comprehensively integrated in educating and developing an undergraduate generation who are capable of leading the

country in future.

UMS Vice Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Taufik Yap Yun Hin, in his welcoming speech, said the ability of the people of Sabah to continue living in peace and harmony amid great diversities can be promoted as a Sabah model to be practised throughout the country.

"If in other states there are probably racial tension, in Sabah there is none. Because we have great respect between us, a lot of love and compassion among us," he said.

Also present were State Mufti Datuk Bungsu @ Aziz Jaafar and Yadim Deputy President Ustaz Zolkharnain Abidin, among others.