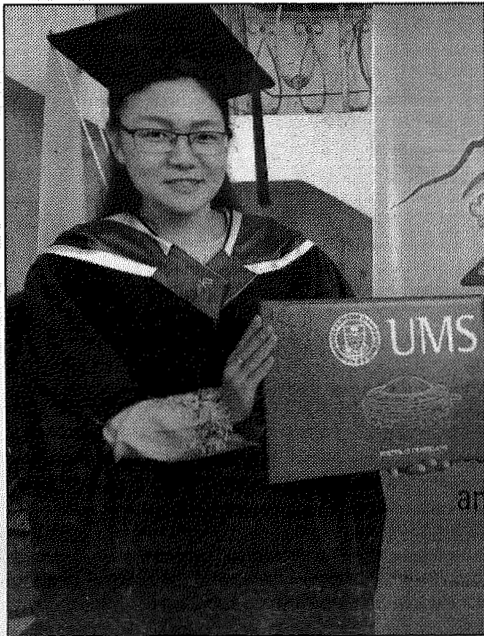


# UMS Japanese graduate shows keen interest in local languages

NST 24.11.2019 6



**KOTA KINABALU:** It was in her final year of study at Gakushuin University, when Fuyuko Iwasaki first visited Penampang and learned the Malay language as well as the Dusun ethnic language.

Fuyuko, 29, who hails from Chiba, Japan, spent 10 days living with the locals as part of the student academic programme organised by the university.

The following year in 2013, after earning her first degree, Fuyuko made a second trip to Penampang, this time on her own, to spend three months in Kampung Buayan.

“After spending a lot of time interacting with the villagers, I began to understand the Malay language. I took

down notes and gradually learned to speak the language.

“Today I am able to understand as well as speak the Dusun language too,” Fuyuko said when met at Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) convocation ceremony at the Dewan Canselori here on Saturday.

Fuyuko who began her studies at UMS in 2015, was among graduands who received their Bachelor of Arts (Sociology and Social Anthropology) at the university’s 21st convocation ceremony.

“If given the opportunity I would love to work in Sabah but if that is not possible, I wouldn’t mind any job that is related to Sabah,” she added. —Bernama

---

Japanese student from Chiba, Japan, Fuyuko Iwasaki, 29, receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree (Sociology and Social Anthropology) at the 21st convocation ceremony of Universiti Malaysia Sabah on Saturday. — Bernama

Photo