China nationals top foreign UMS intake this year

Sherell Ann Jeffrey

KOTA KINABALU: A majority of the 156 international students who enrolled for the 2011/2012 Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) academic session on Wednesday, were from China.

Others came from Turkey, South Korea, Algeria, Indonesia and Brunei. Chinese national Hoh Qiu Yi, 18, said she expected UMS to be both good and affordable. "It's very beautiful here and Malaysians are very friendly, that's why I chose UMS," she said.

"I chose to come particularly to Sabah because I think it is very clean and quiet compared to other parts in Malaysia. I came here with a group of friends who are also students in UMS," said Hoh, who signed up for a Hotel Management degree.

Altogether, the latest intake numbered 4,593. From elsewhere in Malaysia, Rajeswary Ramachandran, 20, from Penang said it was her first time away from home.
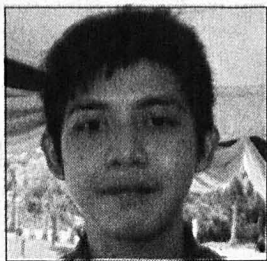
"Before I arrived in UMS, I was expecting to see more jungle, I didn't expect to see a big town. I came here with six other friends who were all offered a place in UMS," said Rajeswary who will be taking up a degree in Mathematical Economics.

Manjan Gendi, 20, from Sarawak shares the same view. "I wanted to experience a different environment and I think UMS is suitable for me since it's not far from my hometown.

"I believe UMS is capable of providing the right level of education and training for me," said Manjan who will be taking her degree in Youth Development and Community, adding that it was her first time in Sabah.

Meanwhile, Economics degree student, Ibrahim Abdul Sana, from Lahad Datu said: "I applied for a place in Universiti Malaya but was unsuccessful. But I'm glad and thankful I have a place in UMS since its closer to my hometown compared to Peninsular Malaysia."

Leong Ming Choong, 21, from Sandakan, will be taking up Civil Engineering said: "I think the level of education here is good. It's a good place to study."
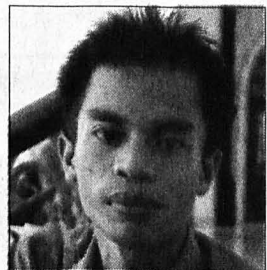

Leong Ming Choong

Manjan Gendi

Hoh Qiu Yi

Ibrahim Abdul Sana

Rajeswary Rama