



Tan Sri Azman Hashim

## UMS graduates urged to improve English proficiency

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Pro Chancellor, Tan Sri Azman Hashim reminded the university's graduates on the need to always improve their proficiency in the English language.

According to him, the level of proficiency in the international medium of instruction is now showing a significant decline.

"The level of English proficiency has decreased a lot. For example, during job interviews there are many graduates that showed a poor command of the language. In the international conference this matter was raised to our attention by participants from Thailand and Indonesia," Azman stated this when speaking to 764 graduates in the third session of UMS' 22nd convocation ceremony on Monday.

Azman also reminded the graduates that graduating from their studies does not mean that their learning process is over.

"It marks the next phase in your learning process. Yes, learning is a lifelong thing. Like me, a lot of things that I learned before are now no longer relevant. I am learning a lot of new things that are permanent and relevant over time.

"In the world of business and economics, I have to learn about the world of cyberspace, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI), cryptocurrencies, bitcoins, computing, drones, aerial spraying and food delivery," he said.

According to Azman, graduates should also have good values as their attributes are the quality, skills and high level of understanding that students need to acquire as a result of the learning and experience they are involved in while at university.

"In addition, graduates must always practice high integrity and avoid a culture of corruption," he said.

Also present at the convocation was UMS Vice Chancellor of UMS, Prof Datuk ChM Ts Dr Taufiq Yap Yun Hin.