

## Ceramic Crafts to Help Women and Single Mothers to become Entrepreneurs

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**MONDAY, 16 DECEMBER** – The craft industry such as ceramics could be made into a cottage industry, indirectly producing competitive women craft entrepreneurs.

In order to realise the government's intention to create a 'One District One Industry', a Rural Industry Development and Ceramic Crafts Manufacturing Entrepreneurs programme was organised by the School of Arts (SPS), Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) in collaboration with the Department of Women's Development Sabah and Brunei Youth Community Association Sabah.

A total of 22 participants consisting of women and single mothers attended the programme which was held for 10 days at the Seri Wawasan Hall Kg. Pimping, Membakut recently.

According to the Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister, YB Datuk Hj. Arifin Hj. Mohd. Arif, the programme was able to attract women and produce more skillful women in the process of making ceramic crafts.

"I also hope that Membakut district would be a new tourist destination for tourists who are searching for ceramic crafts and local products," he said during the closing ceremony.

Datuk Arifin who is also the State Assemblyman for Membakut said expert advice from UMS academicians would help in realising his wish, seeing that the soil in Membakut were very suitable material for making ceramic crafts.

Also present were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), Professor Dr. Shahril Yusof, SPS Dean, Assoc. Prof. Abdul Jamal Abd. Hamid; representative from the Department of Women's Development Sabah, Salawana Arin and Brunei Youth Community Association Sabah, Ag. Mohd. Faizal Ag. Sahak. – *CD*

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