

Social Harmony Backbone To National Stability

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THURSDAY, 7 NOVEMBER – Social harmony has always been the backbone in maintaining peace and stability in Malaysia with its multi-ethnic society with different backgrounds and religious beliefs.

Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohd. Harun Abdullah said that social harmony which emphasised on the ‘living together’ concept as the primary basis for sustainable progress. He added that failure to educate society to the concept would lead to bloody conflict such as the black history of 13 May 1969.

“There is no quick formula towards unity as the effort requires smart planning. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) believes that the learning pillar for social harmony is to learn to live together,” he said.

“In Malaysia, learning to ‘live together’ means to be tolerant with each other,” he said. He said this when officiating at the National Psychology Seminar II 2013.

He added that to understand the differences and uniqueness of the various aspects of psychology including the belief, culture, customs, ethnicity, tradition, ideology, interest and talent is extremely important and should have an element of consideration in fostering national harmony.

The seminar organised by the Psychology and Social Health Research Unit themed ‘Psychology As A Channel For Social Harmony’ received over 156 participants from all over Malaysia. This two-day seminar saw several keynote lectures delivered by national psychology experts, among them the Assistant President of Cyberjaya Medical Science University College, Prof. Dato’ Dr. Mahmood Nazar Mohamed; Damai Service Hospital Health Expert, Prof. Emeritus Dr. Mohd. Ismail Tambi and the Head of Ethnic Research Institute, Eminent Professor Datuk Dr. Shamsul Amri Baharuddin. – *MA*

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