



Kasim arriving at the Majlis Lafaz Ikrar dan Aku Janji for UMS 2025/2026 intake on Tuesday.

UMS students urged to uphold integrity, obey rules

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KOTA KINABALU: New students of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) were reminded to uphold the university's values, observe its regulations and stay committed to their academic and personal development, as they officially began their journey into higher education.

Delivering his address during the Majlis Lafaz Ikrar dan Aku Janji for the 2025/2026 intake on Tuesday, UMS Vice Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Kasim Mansor called on students to carry the name of their families and communities with pride, reminding them that every action they take reflects directly on the university.

"UMS will be your second home. This is where you will learn, grow, fail, rise again and ultimately succeed," he said.

Kasim explained the ikrar dan aku janji (pledge and oath) is not merely a ceremonial formality but a sacred promise that carries deep responsibility.

"It is a guide to life as a student, not just words recited in unison. Behind those words lies a great responsibility," he said.

He urged students to go beyond the narrow pursuit of passing exams, instead embracing the broader goal of building critical, creative and mature thinking.

"The aim of your university education is to shape a holistic student, one who is intellectually, emotionally, spiritually and socially balanced," he added.

Discipline, he stressed, remains paramount. Students must strictly adhere to university rules, and approach every task and assignment with a sense of duty and integrity.

"You are not only here to represent yourselves. You represent UMS, on campus and beyond. Guard its name and reputation. The university's honour is your honour too," he said.

Prof Kasim also highlighted the need for active participation

beyond academics, encouraging students to seize opportunities in clubs, sports, culture and volunteer work, where vital values such as leadership, empathy and resilience are forged.

"Do not waste time. Avoid laziness, bullying, or misusing your newfound freedom. Remember the sacrifices your parents have made to send you here," he stressed.

Kasim underscored that the role of lecturers is to open the doors of knowledge but it is the student's responsibility to walk through them with initiative and hunger to learn.

This year, a total of 5,123 students have been offered admission to UMS, with registration taking place from September 27 to 28.

This total includes 3,648 students from Sabah, 928 from Peninsular Malaysia, 453 from Sarawak, 73 from Labuan and 21 international students.