

High-achieving couple loves studying together

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KOTA KINABALU: Oct 20 marks a special day for husband and wife Abdul Jawi Abnoh Sawih and Norisah Samutu. The two of them received their doctorate and masters respectively from Universiti Malaysia Sabah.

They tied the knot 10 years ago after meeting in SMK Datuk Panglima Abdullah, in the east coast district of Semporna, where they both work as teachers.

Jawi, 44, said he and his 43-year-old wife decided to further their studies because they knew the importance of acquiring knowledge.

"We need to equip ourselves with the latest knowledge so that we are able to provide students with the most current and relevant methods of learning," he said after receiving their scrolls from Yang di-Pertua Negri Tun Juhar Mahiruddin, who is also UMS chancellor, at the convocation ceremony yesterday.

Norisah said it was easier for them to juggle work and education as they had no children.

"We always study and do our research together. It makes studying fun for us.

"We hope the doctorate in Education Management and Masters in Research for Curriculum and Educating Methods will bring us luck in getting a child soon," she said.

Juhar, in his speech, called on UMS to create a human capital development plan in line with efforts to make Malaysia a developed nation.

He spoke on the need to produce knowledgeable people with the right attitude.

Juhar also advised graduates to better pre-



Proud couple: Jawi and Norisah posing for a photograph after the convocation ceremony in UMS, Kota Kinabalu.

pare themselves as they embarked on their respective careers.

"One must have skills such as the ability to communicate well, be diplomatic and keep the country's image intact," he said.

There were 4,336 graduates from various fields in UMS this year.

National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye was awarded the Honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Social Work).