

UMS graduates receive key to KK city

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is an important asset to the people of Sabah as it has succeeded in fulfilling its role in the creation of knowledgeable and quality human capital, said Mayor Datuk Abidin Madingkir.

"The knowledge derived can be applied to educate and create awareness to the community in various activities," he said at the "Town and Gown" parade participated by 200 UMS graduates and senate members as well as a marching band around the city yesterday.

The UMS graduates yesterday were also presented with a key to the city.

"With the power invested in me as a mayor, today I will present the key to you as representatives of thousands of your colleagues and other UMS graduates," said Madingkir.

He explained that the key symbolised the recognition of the recipients being citizens of the city.

It also symbolises them as educated and professional generation.

The mayor urged the recipients to contribute to the programmes organised by the City Hall and register as members of City Friends.

Meanwhile, UMS vice chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah said that the event was to celebrate the UMS graduates who have successfully acquired their scrolls.

The congregation walked a distance of 0.8 kilometer from the



Harun (red robe) and UMS senate members taking part "Town and Gown" parade in the city centre yesterday.



Some of the UMS graduates in the "Town and Gown" parade to mark their graduation.

Kota Kinabalu Community Hall to the City Hall, he said.

Yesterday's parade was the ninth since it started in 2007 and

Dr Harun explained that it was a symbolic manifestation of the community's acceptance, and to witness the graduates' joy in successfully completing their studies.

Dr Harun also commented on the upcoming 17th UMS convocation ceremony on November 21 to 23.

He said that a total of 5,081 students at all levels would be graduating during the ceremony.

"With that, we will have 55,787 UMS alumni members. The growing (alumni) population is a significant element to UMS and they can become ambassadors and play their role to spread the university's name and that of Kota Kinabalu," he said.