## Unity crucial for transformation of country — UMS VC KOTA KINABALU: Muslims in the country should follow the

KOTA KINABALU: Muslims in the country should follow the examples set by the Prophet Muhammad who successfully united the communities of Madinah, said Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) vice chancellor Professor Datuk Dr Harun Abdullah.

He stressed that unity is very important for the transformation

of a country.

"The success of the Prophet in uniting the communities of the city of Madinah must be seen in a wider context," said Harun in his speech at the UMS Maulidur Rasul celebration yesterday. He was represented by the deputy vice chancellor of Student Affairs and Alumni, Professor Dr Ismail Ali.

Harun added that the communities in Malaysia were multiracial and multireligious, hence the importance of unity to ensure the spirit of harmony continued to prevail in the

country.

"Moreover, we are faced with challenges and outside influences that try to poison the thinking of our community and disunite the people," he said.

"As peace and harmony loving people, we need to emulate the

examples shown by the Prophet," he said.

"We need to adopt a tolerant behaviour and all that had been planned for the development of the country will be achieved,"
Harun added.

The vice chancellor also called on members of UMS to work together and be united and provide their best service to the students and surrounding communities.

"Without understanding and unity, it would be very difficult

for UMS to attain its Key Performance Index," he said.