



Masidi (3rd right) with guests at the event



The Tourism, Culture & Environment Minister launches the 'Tinimungan Tangan Kadazandusun' book

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**KOTA KINABALU:** The efforts by Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI) to publish books on Sabah's ethnic groups should be expanded and continued.

Tourism, Culture & Environment Minister Datuk Masidi Manjun said the cooperation of both institutions to publish the Kadazandusun book entitled 'Tinimungan Tangan Kadazandusun' and

'Jejak Warisan Borneo' is very much appreciated.

"This collaboration is very important as we try to document the history, culture and social life of Sabah's multiracial and multiethnic communities," he said during the launching of "Pesta Buku Borneo 2016" themed "Buku Mendidik Minda Memandaikan Bangsa" at the South Atrium Exhibition Hall of 1Borneo shopping mall here on Saturday.

The exhibition and sales of books will be ongoing until Monday, October 10 from 10am until 9pm.

## Masidi praises UMS, UPSI book collaboration

Masidi said that as the country aims to be a developed nation by 2020, Malaysia needs citizens that are highly educated and well versed in multiple fields.

"To achieve that educational goal for the people, a reading culture and the love for books need to be instilled as stated in the 'Dasar Buku Negara' or National Book Policy," he said.

Masidi said an event such as the "Pesta Buku Borneo 2016" is a way forward to achieve the objective of the National Book Policy.

"An event as such provides a platform for publishers to promote books of high quality to readers," he said, adding that his hope is for the "Pesta Buku Borneo" to continue in the years to come.

Meanwhile, in his speech the vice chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah said that the "Pesta Buku Borneo 2016" provides 68 booths with 49 exhibitors.

"Most of them are local exhibitors with participants also coming from Brunei Darussalam and Singapore as

well as a publisher from Australia," he said.

"Pesta Buku Borneo' does not only provide publishers a place to market books of various titles and genre but also an opportunity for small local businesses to sell their products," Dr Mohd Harun said.

His speech was delivered by UMS deputy vice chancellor (research & innovation) Prof Shahril Yusof.

At the event, two books were officially launched; the first one 'Tinimungan Tangan Kadazandusun' co-published by UPSI and UMS, and the

second 'Jejak Warisan Borneo: Catatan Perjalanan Siri 1' by UMS.

'Tinimungan Tangan Kadazandusun' is written by Minah Sintian and Rosliah Kiting, who are both senior lecturers at the Language & Communication Faculty of UPSI.

The book is the first in collaboration by UMS and UPSI through a memorandum of understanding signed early this year.

Dr Mohd Harun said both books are a documentation of the rich cultural heritage of the multiethnic people of Sabah.