

Ex-Customs chief steps up to the plate

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KOTA MARUDU: Sabah's former director of Customs revealed at a party political gathering here early this week he intended to pursue a path in politics full time to serve the state and people.

And, Datuk Dr Janathan Kandok said he chose to go into frontline politics with Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) precisely because it was a multi-racial party.

PBS is the second largest component party of Sabah Barisan Nasional after UMNO.

Having retired in August after a 41-year career in the civil service, he felt that age was no barrier to his entry into frontline politics,

"I want to serve the state and its people," he told a gathering of Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) Lugu Kurangji branch.

Dr Janathan who is the branch's assistant secretary and president of the Kimaragang Association of Malaysia (KAM) said he was very active with NGOs before he retired recently "but now I want to get involved in politics".

Born in Kampung Damai, Tandek in Kota Marudu, Dr Janathan began his career aged just 19.

He has a degree in Management and Finance from Walsh University in the US and a master's degree in Education, Training and Development from Hull University in the United Kingdom.

And, he also has a PhD in Creative Arts from Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) while he was still in the civil service.

Dr Janathan was a New Sabah Times columnist for a brief period.

Also present at the gathering were Assistant Community Development and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Anita Baranting who is also the elected representative of Tandek; former Kota Marudu MP Datuk George Sangkin; KAM leader Datuk Latiff Kandok as well as PBS branch leaders.



GOING STRONGER ... Dr Janathan (front row, 6th left) with George (front row, 5th left), Latiff (front row, 2nd right) and others during the gathering.