

Experience living ocean life with UMS Marine Aquarium, Museum

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Marine Aquarium and Museum offer visitors a lively atmosphere and face to face experience with the living ocean life..

Located at the scenic seafront, the Marine Aquarium and Museum of UMS Borneo Marine Research Institute houses a growing collection of colorful and amazing beautiful marine life.

According to the Director of Borneo Marine Research Insti-

tute, Professor Dr Saleem Mustafa, this year, the school has undertaken a marine expedition to Labuan and Mantanani Island and has collected specimen for references.

In the museum corner, some research from the Borneo Marine Research Institute displayed through posters, it also offers close viewing of the preserved remains of marine flora and fauna including corals, mollusks, fish, marine turtle and mammals.

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"In this marine aquarium and museum, we showcased the marine biodiversity of Sabah and some coral preserved which has never been recorded before.

The Marine aquarium-museum is organised into different sections; Information counter near the entrance, deep dive diorama, aquarium, museum, ocean outreach corner, mangrove walk area, mini theatre and administrative block.

"As for the Ocean Outreach Corner, we open it so that people will carry some message about the marine ecosystem as marine ecosystem faces numerous challenges and serious problems," he said.

He added that the Ocean Outreach Corner aims to inform the people messages about the adap-

tation that we need to develop in order to face the ravages of changing climate.

A section called aquaculture tourism is an exclusive section of a deep reef tank containing 11, 000 litres of seawater houses high value species such as grouper, snapper and sea bass.

The message of aquaculture tourism is to develop a sense of respect towards the resources which have been exploited for seafood and concern for their sustainability.

This UMS Marine Aquarium and Museum is open daily except for public holiday. The morning session begins at 9. 30 am to 12. 30 pm (11. 30 am on Friday) while afternoon session at 2.00 pm to 4. 30. pm. - By NOR AIN HASSAN