

# UMS extends last call for participation in language conference

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**KOTA KINABALU:** The Centre for the Promotion of Knowledge and Language Learning (CPKLL) of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) is extending the last call for participation in the inaugural International Conference on Languages, Linguistics and Society (ICLALIS) which is to be held from Oct 22 - 24.

The convenor of the international conference, Associate Professor Dr Jason Lim Miin Hwa, said that this would be a huge international conference involving more than 200 participants from different parts of the world.

"More than 155 papers will be presented in the three-day conference which will be held at Promenade Hotel here. Although the deadline for the submission of papers is over and there are limited places left, the organiser is encouraging more residents, particularly those in Sabah, to take part in this international conference as non-presenting participants.

"This event is a very special occasion in which individuals, who are interested in getting postgraduate degrees, can obtain new ideas and fresh insights about conducting studies at the Master's or PhD levels," he said.

Given that a broad range of papers related to languages and linguistics will be presented, Lim added potential postgraduate candidates in language studies can also develop interests in

various fields and subfields pertaining to language studies.

During the press conference at UMS yesterday, Lim also said the conference will discuss topics pertaining to many interesting areas of linguistics and languages in institutional, social, and cultural contexts.

He further explained that many studies have been conducted from inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary perspectives, thus involving research into languages in different academic disciplines.

The main objectives of the ICLALIS are to encourage participants to discuss and exchange ideas related to the learning and/or use of language in institutional, social and/or cultural settings, to explore the benefits of cross-disciplinary studies involving linguistics, and to examine the theoretical and practical implications of new ideas, perspectives and recommendations concerning different approaches to language teaching and/or language analysis.

The convenor also pointed out that the main theme of this conference is "The Developing Roles of Language in a Multifaceted Society".

The related topic areas will encompass Applied Linguistics; Educational Linguistics; Language and Culture; Language and Ideology; and Language Varieties, among others.