



Dr Harun (second right) exchange MoU with Abidin (second left) at the UMS "town and gown parade"



Dr Harun (right seated) and Abidin (left seated) signing the MoU

'Town and gown parade' on streets of KK

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KOTA KINABALU: A 'town and gown parade' which involved Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) vice chancellor Datuk Dr Harun Abdullah and more than 100 participants including 64 UMS graduates walked the streets from the Kota Kinabalu Community

Hall to Kota Kinabalu City Hall (DBKK) here yesterday.

According to Dr Harun, the ceremony carries a profound message and signals UMS' commitment to work with the surrounding communities for a better future.

"Also, it elevates unity, education and integrity for the wellbeing of the community," he said in his speech after the parade at DBKK here yes-

terday.

In his speech, Dr Harun said that the event symbolises the success and triumph for UMS graduates in their efforts and sacrifices going through study life.

"This event also symbolises the local community's acceptance and at the same time, trains graduates to be individuals who are interested in social work as well as being

comfortable in becoming part of the local community," he said.

"Basically, this event is not just about parading but is more focused on in-depth message on unity and decency involving both the university and the community," Dr Harun said.

He added that the university would continue to strengthen its ties and col-

laborate with DBKK to enable better initiatives to be taken to provide the necessary facilities and other enablers in the future.

During the event, the Kota Kinabalu City Mayor Datuk Abidin Madingkir presented the 'Key to the City' to students' representative, signifying the gesture of welcoming every UMS graduate as valuable members of the Kota Kinabalu community.

In his speech, Abidin expressed his appreciation to UMS in implementing DBKK's 'Anti Kutu Sampah' campaign where UMS' Indah Permai College has been recognised as litter-free residential college in 2010.

"I believe with this collaboration and support, DBKK will be able to realise its vision to make Kota Kinabalu as a natural resort city," said Abidin.

He said UMS' initiative in promoting environment conservation through its eco-campus and "My Tree" programme have increase the community awareness on the importance to preserve the nature.

"DBKK views university as an important component, partners and customers. Despite playing vital role in producing human capital, it has contributed to community services, international conference, research and development and also developing the tourism and business sector. The existence of university in the city is an important asset for the community," Abidin added.

The university will be holding its 15th convocation on November 23 to 25 where about 4,551 from diploma, degree, masters and doctorate levels students will receive their scrolls.