

# UMS students advised not to waste opportunities

BP 10/09/2011 A2

**KOTA KINABALU:** Students of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) should take the opportunity to study and experience the harmonious co-existence of the various ethnics in the State, said UMS chairman of the board of directors Tan Sri Abdul Hamid Egoh.

“The ethnic diversity in Sabah cannot be found elsewhere. Studying in UMS therefore offers a unique opportunity, one

that should not be wasted by the students,” he said.

Speaking at the ‘Aku Janji’ ceremony for UMS 2011/2012 freshies yesterday, Abdul Hamid said the people of Sabah are well known for their ability to accept and appreciate their differences.

Sabahans, he added, celebrate their colourful ethnic and religious backgrounds and use them to strengthen their unity.

“In Sabah, people from the different ethnics are very friendly towards each other, and there’s no strata nor social class. They respect everyone who knows to appreciate and reciprocate the respect given.

“I hope the students will learn and practise the norms of harmonious co-existence while studying here and continue practising it after they graduate,” he said.

He noted that towards

producing high quality graduates, UMS has come up with a basic ‘etiquette guideline’ for its students which include tips for smart time management, interpersonal skills as well as noble life values and patriotism.

Abdul Hamid reminded the students of the importance of mastering the English language, in addition to Bahasa Malaysia.