

# Quality education begins with quality teaching

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Masidi beating a gong, witnessed by Dr Shahril (fourth right) and Dr H Djaali (fifth right) officiating the opening ceremony of the conference

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Teachers and educators play a pivotal role in shaping the nation's future by imparting quality education to equip students with the necessary knowledge, skills and values needed to attain a better future.

"Quality educators ensure quality education; therefore it is imperative to empower teachers into contributing effectively to improve the standard of teaching and learning," said Deputy University Malaysia Sabah (UMS) deputy vice-chancellor Prof Dr Shahril Yusoff, at the International Conference for Education 2014 at the 1Borneo Grand Ballroom here on Wednesday.

In his opening address, Chief Min-

ister Datuk Seri Musa Haji Aman commended the convention which provides an "ideal platform" for educators and practitioners to discuss ideas aimed at improving best practices in the field of education and teaching.

Being the brainchild of a ground-breaking regional academic partnership between UMS and Universitas Negeri Jakarta, the three-day international conference to discuss best practices in the field of education and teaching gathered 83 delegates from Indonesia and Malaysia to improve education and teacher education in the two countries.

"Enhancing the capabilities of educators and teachers is fundamentally important to produce quality human capital to meet growing demand for highly skilled workforce," Musa said in

his speech delivered by Tourism, Environment & Culture Minister Datuk Masidi Manjun.

Furthermore, Musa also highlighted the government's efforts in transforming the nation's education system through various high-impact outreach projects, namely i-THINK teacher's training programme and expanding the e-KL initiative to the Sabah Development Corridor (SDC) to promote ICT literacy in rural areas.

Lauding the initiative, Rector of University Negeri Jakarta, Prof Dr H Djaali described the convention as a "momentous step forward building a culture of academic collaboration" between the two universities, and hoped the conference would expand new insights in advancing education practices in Malaysia and Indonesia.