



Abdullah putting the national flag on a vehicle.

## UMS distributes 2,500 national flags

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KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah distributed some 2,500 flags to its staff, students and the public at the entrance of the university in conjunction with Malaysia's 54th Independence Day celebration, here, Tuesday. The flags were handed out by UMS Registrar, Abdullah Mohd Said, and UMS officers, in keeping to their annual tradition.

"We are giving away small flags in this Jalur Gemilang campaign as a sign of respecting Malaysia's 54th Independence Day celebration," he said.

"I hope people will be able to understand the true meaning of our independence."

Hilmey Saili from the UMS Corporate Relations Division, said: "We should not ask what the country can do for us but instead ask what we can do for our country." He pointed out that it is the same when it comes to work. Being a proud employee of UMS, he felt honoured

to do something for UMS.

"The Malaysian flag is a symbol of our country. Respecting our flag means respecting our country. People who disrespect our flag should automatically lose their citizenship," he said.

Security officer, Hamudin Tarinchang, 43, who also helped out at the main entrance, said usually the handing over of flags was done at two places, but this year they only focused on the main entrance.

"We usually hand over flags at the recital hall or one of the lecture halls as well as the main entrance."

According to Hamudin, the campaign is a good way to get people in the mood for Independence Day celebration.

Another UMS personnel, Lamjin Muluk, 53, who works as a security guard said: "I have been working here for 30 years and I have to say, we have never failed to organise this Jalur Gemilang campaign every year."