

## Unique Tamu Gadang a crowd-puller

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KOTA KINABALU: The Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Tamu Gadang event held in conjunction with its 16th convocation is expected to draw a strong crowd to its 187 stalls selling a myriad of items.

Tamu Gadang, essentially a carnival, is held during the university's every convocation and this year will run from 18 November to 24 November.

UMS is the only public institution of higher learning (IPTA) in the country to organise such an event during its convocation.

Visitors can look forward to exciting events ranging from a contest of local Sabah songs, a modern dance competition and performances from celebrities with the likes of Farhan AF, Aliff Satar, Dafi Ismail Sabri, Elizabeth Tan and Azlan & The Typewriter.

There is also a Strongest Man Challenge,

Pocket Bike Race Challenge and an Auto Show.

Tamu Gadang was officially declared open on Wednesday night amid a fanfare of songs and an orchestral music show by UMS students and Kombo RTM as well as a show by invited artistes and local rock singers.

The event was graced by the Head of State Tun Haji Juhar Haji Mahiruddin.

Also present were his wife Toh Puan Hajah Norlidah RM Jasni, chairman of the Board of Directors of UMS Tun Datuk Seri Zaki Tun Azmi and Deputy Speaker of the Sabah State Legislative Assembly Datuk Johnson Tee.

Speaking at the occasion, Vice-Chancellor of UMS Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah said the Tamu Gadang has grown to become a symbol of unity for the university.

"We are proud of this unique event called Tamu Gadang. We always encourage students to take part in activities and programmes within the university because it adds to their leadership values," he said.



Tun Juhar cutting a ribbon to mark the opening of the UMS Tamu Gadang