

# Of the law and technology

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**KOTA KINABALU:** Former sixth Chief Justice of Malaysia Tun Zaki bin Tun Mohamed Azmi said technology is dictating how the law should be going and getting updated.

He said modern technology like the Internet and smart devices are introducing services like Uber and Grab but the law still lags behind stipulating that such services are illegal as vehicles are not insured for commercial hire business and accident victims are not covered by insurance for compensation in any mishap.

He was giving a keynote address at the

7<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Law and Society at UMS, on Wednesday. In his address, Chief Justice of Sabah and Sarawak, Tan Sri Richard Malanjum, decried how timid some new lawyers were.

"This is surprising," he said of the expectation required in the profession, going on to ruminate on our education system, blaming the "spoon-feeding culture" for the malaise going on to blame the "hand-out" mentality of some rural folks expecting free aid from their political leaders, thereby spoiling them instead of helping them to be self-reliant.

To this, Tun Azmi jested that Malanjum

touched on a sensitive topic with the election just weeks away, as Richard explained that from a viral WhatsApp video on how the ancient Greeks classified people into Idiots, Tribes People, and Citizens.

Malanjum ended his address with an Albert Einstein quote on his fear that technology would make idiots out of people in this modern era.

Earlier, both Malanjum and Azmi teased each other about the introduction of the mobile court system.

"During his leadership, Tun Zaki was a reformer in bringing the court nearer to

the people with the introduction of the mobile court system," Malanjum said, among other things.

To which, Zaki replied: "Malanjum gave me too much credit. The mobile court using a bus was his idea. I just spread it around of bring court justice and services nearer to the people instead of having people to travel from remote areas to attend court services."

"However, mediation is my idea introduced in courts (to seek civil cases settlement by negotiation first instead of straight proceeding to lengthy and costly trial for the parties involved)," he said.