

5,003 students receive scrolls at 20th UMS Convocation Ceremony

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KOTA KINABALU: A total of 5,003 Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) students will graduate during the university's 20th Convocation Ceremony.

On the first day of graduation, which was held at Chancellor Hall yesterday, the scrolls were presented by Head of State cum Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Chancellor Tun Dr Haji Juhar Mahiruddin.

A total of 4,267 graduated with a Bachelor's Degree, 55 graduated with a PhD, 603 graduated with a Master's Degree and 69 students graduated with a Diploma.

The convocation will have six sessions and will take place for three days (Saturday, Sunday and Monday).

Of the total number of graduates, 195 of them obtained First Class Honours, 89 were B40 students, 146 international students, 14 graduates with disabilities and two graduates received their awards posthumously.

This year, 56 per cent of the students were Sabahans and 41 per cent was from other states.

In his speech, Juhar reminded the graduates that the presentation of scrolls should serve as a symbol of the potential of the graduates.

"The graduates reflect the future of the country. The graduates are the ones who will replace our current leaders in the future.

"We, the old generation, will eventually leave and you (the graduates) will continue our legacy and be the successor of the state's and country's glory," said Juhar.

He also said that graduates must always remember all the teachings and advice from their leaders, parents, teachers and lecturers.

Juhar stressed that the graduates must carry out their calling responsibly.

"Malaysia is in need of fresh, agile and excellent people. The country needs a creative and innovative manpower," Juhar asserted.

He added that the graduates should emulate the culture of great countries such as Japan.

Among those present in the event was Chief Minister cum UMS Pro-Chancellor Datuk Seri Panglima Shafie Apdal.