



Dr Yusuf (third from left) officiating the event.

UMS told to produce multi-lingual books commercially

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STATE Education and Innovation Minister Datuk Dr Yusuf Yacob calls on Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) to produce multi-lingual books which can be commercialised in the market.

He said this when officiating the Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage's book launching ceremony at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Recital Hall, Thursday.

The launching saw 24 books all published in Bahasa Malaysia in 2018 to January this year by UMS, Dewan Bahasa Pustaka and Springer, among other publishers.

Dr Yusuf said it's a great effort and that titles of the books are relevant in particular in the context of Sabah's development, adding that many of the books have high quality.

He however suggested that the books be translated into other languages, such as English and Mandarin in order to give it commercial value.

"I would also like to see diversity on the articles on Sabah," he said.

He said UMS has the expertise, with experts in fields which can certainly be an

opportunity that can be used especially in the context of Sabah's development.

"I think books on history, culture and nature needs to be multiplied. This will not only stimulate lecturers showcase their talents and knowledge but at the same time supplement reference materials and indirectly promote Sabah in the context of tourism, particularly educational tourism," he said.

He also noted the importance of publishing e-book version of the books but added that there are rules that have already been set up for e-book versions.

"How to subscribe to e-book version, there are ways to doing it, in today's world, this is indeed one way we can expand the market," he said.

"I also suggest that we engage in international bodies or have a market space for these books through the media," he added.

Also present are UMS Vice-Chancellor Prof Datuk Dr D Kamarudin D Mudin, Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Heritage Dean Dr Marsitah Mohd Radzi and UMS Board of Directors Chairman KY Mustafa, among others. — Sherell Jeffrey