

Sultan: Help Malays without sidelining other races



Speaking to the graduates: The Sultan of Johor speaking at UTHM convocation ceremony.

By **CHRISTINA TAN**
metrose@thestar.com.my

BATU PAHAT: Sultan of Johor Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar urged Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) to improve in various fields including research, consultancy and community services.

He said it would help to support the state government in its effort to strengthen unity, economy and environmental preservation.

"The university should continue to help the Malays in education and economic fields without sidelining other races," Sultan Ibrahim added.

The Ruler called on all state departments to work with the university to enhance the well-being of the state and its people.

Speaking at the convocation ceremony held at the university in Parit Raja here recently, Sultan Ibrahim, who is also chancellor of the university, congratulated the graduates who have completed their studies.

A total of 3,520 graduates received their certificates.

Also listed were academic excellence awards – the Royal Award (Pingat Jaya Cemerlang), Sultan

Ibrahim Award, Chancellor's Award, Puan Sri Sapura Award, Undergraduate Project Award and Special Alumni Award – among others.

Sultan Ibrahim reminded the graduates to continue contributing to the country and keep up the good name of the university and avoid any elements that could damage it.

At the event, Gabenor Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta, Baginda Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono was given the award of an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Philosophy for his contribution to the economic and social development in the area.

While the former vice-chancellor of UTHM Prof Datuk Dr Ismail Bakar was awarded Professor Emeritus in appreciation of his dedication and service as a leading figure of UTHM.

In a related development, Sultan Ibrahim also promulgated the new convocation hall that was named after him, Dewan Sultan Ibrahim.

The new facility could accommodate 3,000 people at one time.

Also present at the event were Batu Pahat district officer Ab Wahab Ridwan and UTHM board chairman Tan Sri Jamilus Hussin.