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Honorary doctorate for Dr M from UKM

BANGI, Fri. - Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad will be conferred an honorary Doctorate of Law from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia for his contribution to the university and the nation.

Dr Mahathir will receive his award from UKM Chancellor, Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negri Sembilan Tuanku Ja'afar Tuanku Abdul Rahman at a special convocation on April 30.

UKM vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Dr Mohd Salleh Mohd Yassin said the award was given to Dr Mahathir in recognition of his enormous and endless contributions towards the development and enhancement of the university.

"Dr Mahathir has contributed tremendously during his tenure as Prime Minister," he told a Press conference here today.

Dr Mahathir was also among the pioneers in the setting up of the university in 1968.

Among those who will be attending the ceremony, to be held at Dewan Canselor Tun Abdul Razak, are vice-chancellors and rectors from public universities.

In conjunction with the convocation, an exhibition will be held to display Dr Mahathir's achievements and contributions organised by the Tun Sri Lanang library.

On another matter, Mohd Salleh said the quality of graduates produced by the local universities had improved compared to graduates in the 60s.

"I believe we received students with good grades and had excelled at schools. These are good students. UKM has produced 95,000 graduates in the past 37 years and the quality of our programmes has improved every year," he said.

He was commenting on a report of the "poor" quality of local graduates.