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Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi posing for a photograph with Tan Sri Lim Kok Wing after being conferred with an honorary doctorate in Human Capital Development at the Limkokwing University of Creative Technology in Cyberjaya yesterday. — Bernama picture

Honorary doctorate for former PM

CYBERJAYA: Former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi was yesterday conferred an honorary doctorate in Human Capital Development by Limkokwing University of Creative Technology.

The honorary doctorate, presented by the university's founder and president, Tan Sri Lim Kok Wing, was in recognition of his strong endeavour for human capital development during his tenure as the prime minister.

In his acceptance speech, Abdullah spoke of the importance of building quality human capital, describing it as the best solution in building Malaysia.

"Unskilled and uneducated means a great loss and missing the opportunity to compete

and to be successful," he said.

Abdullah noted that about half of the world population was now below 25 years of age, making human capital development "a very important focus for the world".

"It is the simple truth. We need to grow our people before we can grow our economy.

"If people don't grow and stay trapped within the circle of poverty and ignorance, then the conflicts and social ills that we see in so many countries will continue."

Abdullah noted that the second thrust of the national mission, introduced during his tenure, was to raise the capacity for knowledge and innovation and nurture a "first-class mentality". — Bernama