



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim delivering his lecture after receiving an honorary doctorate from the University of the Philippines yesterday. **BERNAMA PIC**

PM gets honorary doctorate from top Philippine varsity

MANILA: The University of the Philippines (UP) yesterday conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

J. Prospero E. De Vera III, chairperson of Higher Education and chairperson of the UP Board of Regents, and Angelo A. Jimenez, UP president and co-chair of the UP Board of Regents, facilitated the conferment of the honorary degree on Anwar.

According to the UP vice-president for Public Affairs, Jose Wendell Capili, the Malaysian

prime minister had been a devoted scholar on the life, works and teachings of Filipino national hero Dr Jose Rizal.

"Anwar's interest in Rizaliana was furthered by his frequent visits to the UP in his youth under the tutelage of the late Professor Emeritus of History and UP Diliman College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) dean, Cesar Adib Majul.

"Aside from that, Anwar is respected for his principled stance against corruption and his management of the Malaysian economy during the Asian Financial

crisis," read UP's statement.

Nearly 2,000 students, academicians and senior representatives from embassies and other universities attended the event at Villamor Hall in UP.

After the ceremony, Anwar delivered a lecture titled "30 Years from Asian Renaissance: Strategic Takeaways for Asean".

The university also said Anwar was cited for being a scholar and an internationally acclaimed expert on economics, democracy, freedom, governance, Islam and the need for accountability.