

**Do Not Politicise Nation's History, Says Kedah Sultan
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SINTOK (Kedah), Oct 1 (Bernama) -- The Sultan of Kedah, Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, today advised the people not to politicise the nation's history but to use it to guide them through life.

He said history was the essence of one's identity and the compass of life.

"History should not be politicised. The history of the communist terrorists attacks on the people and security forces should not misinterpreted to justify their brutality.

"I notice that the young are too oriented towards the future. There is much good in thinking about the future; we will strive to realise our ambitions and carry out our tasks earnestly," he said at the 24th convocation of Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM), here.

However, he added, being too oriented towards the future also had its disadvantages because one would tend to forget the facts of history.

"As a Western philosopher said 'those who forget the past are condemned to repeat their mistakes'," he said.

UUM Vice-Chancellor Prof Datuk Mohamed Mustafa Ishak, in his speech, said that for the first time, the university would see the graduation of students in the Master of Commercial Law programme (four graduands) and Master of Science (Applied Economics) programme (nine).

He also said that the university was pleased to award an honorary doctorate in Politics and Development on former Cabinet minister and former Kedah menteri besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid and an honorary doctorate in International Trade on former International Trade and Industry Minister Tan Sri Rafidah Aziz.

The convocation will see a total of 8,556 graduands, receiving honorary degree (two); doctorate (69); Doctor of Business Administration (four); Master's degree (1,887); Bachelor's degree (6,357); Master of Public Administration (30); Master of Commercial Law (four); Master of Science (Applied Economics) (nine) and Postgraduate Diploma (Diploma in Education) (194).

A total of 162 of the 6,357 receiving the bachelor's degree have secured first-class honours.

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