

Abdul Gani First Local Graduate To Become Attorney-General
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KUALA LUMPUR, July 28 (Bernama) -- Tan Sri Abdul Gani Patail, whose service as Attorney-General was terminated yesterday due to health reasons after a 14-year tenure, is the first local graduate to have held the post.

Abdul Gani, the country's eighth attorney-general, was born on Oct 6, 1955 in Lahad Datu, Sabah and holds a law degree from Universiti Malaya (UM).

Joining the Judicial and Legal Service since 1980, the father-of-two began his career as deputy public prosecutor in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah and is the first Sabahan to have held the post following the establishment of the Attorney-General Chambers in the country.

Throughout his service, Abdul Gani has held various posts, including as federal senior counsel in Sabah in 1985, head of the Prosecution Division (1994- 2000), chairman of the Advisory and International Division (1995) and commissioner of Law Revision (1997).

On Nov 19 2001, Abdul Gani was appointed as Attorney-General effective Jan 1 2002, replacing Datuk Seri Ainum Mohd Saaid who suffered from thyroid problems.

During his service, he was awarded the Panglima Setia Mahkota (PSM) which carries the title Tan Sri by Yang di-Pertuan Agong in 2013, the Darjah Kebesaran Datuk Setia-Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah (SSIS) which carries the title Datuk Setia by DYMM Sultan Selangor (2003) and Panglima Mangku Negara which carries the title Tan Sri by Yang di-Pertuan Agong (2005).

Throughout his tenure as Attorney-General, Abdul Gani has handled several high-profile prosecution cases, including corruption charges against former Sabah Chief Minister, Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan in 1993 and led the prosecution team in the corruption and attempted sodomy case against Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Sukma Darmawan, Sastmitaat Madja as well as the Al-Ma'unah attempted revolt (1998).

Abdul Gani has also also led a seven-member panel in the case involving 30 individuals facing charges of waging war against the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and various terrorism activities in Lahad Datu, Sabah in February 2013.

Abdul Gani will serve as Judicial and Legal Officer until his mandatory retirement on Oct 6, 2015.

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