

**SPEECH BY DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH BINTI HAJI MOHD. ALI
INDIANA UNIVERSITY IN BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA, U.S.A.
THE DINNER HOSTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY, MR
THOMAS EHRLICH IN HONOUR OF HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS
06 MAY 1994**

Mr Thomas Ehrlich, President of Indiana University; Mrs Ehrlich; Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to thank President Ehrlich for his kind invitation to visit Indiana University and for the honour that will be bestowed on me at the Commencement Ceremony tomorrow.

2. Indeed, the conferment of the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters on me is an honour shared by all Malaysians here in Bloomington and in Malaysia, and is testimony to the close and enduring relationship between Indiana University and Malaysia in the past years and hopefully in the years to come.

3. Malaysian institutes of higher learning and training agencies have had a very rewarding relationship with Indiana University under the stewardship of President Ehrlich. We are indeed gratified to note the contribution the University has made in its association with MARA Institute of Technology to prepare students for American universities; inconcluding a twinning programme with Tenaga Training Institute beginning in July 1994; in the preparation of selected Malaysian students for the American Top Universities (ATU) Program; and generally in the higher education of Malaysian students over the years. This has contributed significantly to the much needed pool of engineers, computer analysts, business managers and administrators that Malaysia required in its quest to develop into an industrialized nation by the year 2020.

4. I am confident that this network of relationships has been mutually beneficial to both sides and will no doubt prosper in the years to come. To the hundreds of Malaysians who have graduated from Indiana University, Bloomington will remain a second hometown, cherished and remembered fondly, for many years to come.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. I understand President Ehrlich will be leaving the University soon to return to full-time teaching. My husband and I would like to wish you, President Ehrlich, and your family, the very best in the continuation of what has been a distinguished university career. You will have left a concrete foundation for University of Indiana-Malaysia cooperation and I have no doubt your successor will continue with the good work you have done.

6. Lastly, my husband and I would like to thank you and Mrs Ehrlich for hosting this wonderful dinner tonight. Thank you.