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# Pak Lah's Contributions To Higher Education Immense – Local Universities

🕒 15/04/2025 12:12 AM



KUALA LUMPUR, April 14 (Bernama) -- The contributions of Malaysia’s fifth prime minister, Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi towards higher education in the country will never be forgotten, as local universities paid tribute to him.

Universiti Malaya (UM) vice-chancellor Prof Datuk Seri Dr Noor Azuan Abu Osman said that Abdullah was a university alumni of 1964 who represented leadership with integrity as well as a well-respected statesman.

"Abdullah dedicated his life to service and built a legacy of visionary leadership that had a huge impact on the development of the country and the well-being of its people.

"As a UM alumni, all his contributions and achievements reflected the university’s core values of excellence, leadership and duty to society. UM is very proud for being part of his early intellectual journey," he said in a statement here today.

Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) conveyed its condolences to Abdullah’s family through a Facebook post, stating that Abdullah had officiated the university’s main campus on April 18, 2006.

"His efforts to develop the country led to the development of several important initiatives, including emphasis on human capital development and the recognition of the halal industry.

“The Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) was also developed under his leadership to drive the economy of the state and the country,” the UNIMAS said.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI), Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) and Universiti Malaysia Perlis (UniMAP) all posted their sadness over the death of the elderly statesman on Facebook, and noted his many achievements in administering the country.

Meanwhile Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka (UTeM) announced on Facebook that it would be conducting funeral prayer in absence for the former prime minister at Sayyidina Abu Bakar Mosque following Zohor prayers tomorrow.