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**Effective synergy between UMP and AKEPT in promoting leadership  
organisation**

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The Higher Education Leadership Academy (AKEPT) has intensified its engagement programme with leadership and governance that would support the sustainability of competency-based talent management.

Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and the academy jointly organised a programme, 'Leadership Cafe and Innovation Leadership Engagement Programme (ILeAP)', that focused on personnel profiling and measures taken towards the making of a sustainable organisation.

It was pertinent to identify the right and capable talents to be groomed as future industrial leaders.

More than 30 participants comprising the university's top management attended the programme which was held on August 1, 2019.

Among them were AKEPT Director, Professor Dr. Nordin Yahaya, AKEPT's Centre for Leadership Programme Director, Professor Dr. Ismie Roha Mohamed Jais, Chairman of UMP Board of Directors, Dato' Sri Ibrahim Ahmad, Azhar Wan Yusoff and Chief Operating Officer/Registrar, Associate Professor Dr. Mohd. Ridzuan Darun.

According to Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar, only a leader could take the lead towards a positive change.

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“On this, UMP has taken the initiative of having a competency profiling among its staff based on their position. It is a systematic way to ensure that the pool of talent formed are those with leadership qualities, the front-runner,” he said.

Professor Dr. Nordin said he was pleased with the commitment showed by UMP and UMP Advanced in conducting the Executive Diploma programme - Professional Diploma in Competency Based Talent Management (CBTM).

He added that it was a step forward that would further enrich the existing leadership talents in the country’s public service.

“AKEPT plays a role too in providing reports of candidates to be selected at the ministry level.

“The report includes leadership score, information on academic achievement, publication, research and community partnership as well as networking,” he said.

He said the report would only entitle the candidate for consideration and an interview session would assess the candidate’s suitability for the position.

He also suggested that the university’s top management to attend leadership module that had been put in place. It is an activity to be carried out since the process was to be conducted systematically.

The programme also focused on the mechanism that had been applied by AKEPT in profiling the educational institution to move to enhance the individual’s leadership competency.

In the process, it helped the individual to identify his or her strength and make the necessary improvements. It also helped in participating in development programmes provided by AKEPT.

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**Everyone’s responsible to uphold dignity of Nation**

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Teachers, lecturers, educators and parents alike will have to play their exemplary roles in upholding the dignity of the Malay Language among the younger generations in the country today.

The prominence of the Malay Language as the country's National Language is sanctified by Article 152 of the Federal Constitution, the colonization of the Federation of Malaya on August 31, 1957, and the formation of Malaysia on September 16, 1963.

According to the highly regarded Malay Language expert, Professor Emeritus Datuk Dr. Nik Safiah Karim, every Malaysian citizen should include having a good command of the national language, and mastering of the global languages, English, Chinese, Hindi, Urdu, third and fourth other widely-spoken languages.

Speaking at a scholarly serial talks organized by Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) recently, Professor Emeritus Datuk Dr. Nik Safiah Karim said a national language is the flagship symbol of a nation's sovereignty and the identity of her citizen, whilst English is the key to the outside world, as well as the fundamental language to access knowledge and pursuit of life-long education.

“On that note, aside from taking pride in loving and mastering the national language, as Malaysians, we should also learn English and master it, while simultaneously upholding the national language as the key to our national unity and integrity.”

The existing pluralism of ethnicity, religion and culture has shaped the characteristics of Malaysia population. It presents a unique challenge in building national identity and sustainable unity – but fortunately, Professor Emeritus Datuk Dr. Nik Safiah Karim's promote national language became its means to universally-unparalleled union.

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“The drive for a national identity has to be ingrained and continuously reinforced throughout childhood – with respect and love for the national language and country,” emphasized the linguist.

“Today, as we move forward into the 21st century, we are faced with the challenges of reinventing a nation which is also engulfed in the era of globalization, and science and technology – when the importance of language is intertwined,” she added.

During the talk, Professor Emeritus Datuk Dr. Nik Safiah also shared the history of the Malay Language, with roots as early as 7th century in Sumatera, Indonesia, and 14th century in Kuala Berang, Terengganu.

In between the two discoveries, she said, in the 13th century, Islam finally reached the shores of the Malay Peninsula. Malay excellence and cultural centres began to sprout at the capitals of territories under the rule of Samudra Pasai (1489-1511), Aceh (1511-1650) and Johor-Riau (1650-1800).

The scholarly serial talks dubbed “Siri Bicara Cendekiawan Mulia UMP” is organized by the Association of Malay Language Professionals with the Office of Vice-Chancellor (PNC).

Discussing the theme '*Bahasa Melayu dan Pemerkasaan Identiti Nasional dalam Era Malaysia Baharu*', on the theme of Language and Reinforcement of National Identity under the New Malaysia Era', the scholarly serial talk held at UMP is organized by the Head of Human Sciences Department of the Centre for Modern Languages & Human Sciences (CMLHS).

The second speaker for the day, renowned Malay Language proponent and founder of Yayasan Budi, Tan Sri Dr. Rais emphasized the tertiary learning objectives set by the Ministry of Education (MoE), local public institutions of higher learning to uphold the dignity of the Malay Language, employing it as a daily communication tool and applying the language in various fields.

“In addition, the Malays themselves should take pride in speaking in Malay, and collectively, practice the language in their daily lives, including traditions, including traditional attires,” Tan Sri Dr. Rais emphasized.

“What is practically alarming and worrisome nowadays, we no longer find books, technical manuals and professional journals in Malay,” he added.

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into Malay by Dewan Bahasa & Pustaka, for the purpose of teaching and learning,” he lamented.

Tan Sri Dr. Rais raised his concerns that the Malay Language is seen lagging behind, in its application and trade and commerce.

“In fact, even roads and residential areas are no longer named using the Malay Language,” he bemoaned.

Tan Sri Dr. Rais proposed that utilization of the Malay Language in communal interactions should be proper and should not be mixed up with other languages.

“A national identity is strictly linked to the national language, and henceforth, such national identity could not be lost.”

The '*Siri Bicara Cendekiawan Mulia UMP*' talks is a monthly programme showcasing in-depth discourse from within the country and from abroad.

These figures will speak on and dissect the current state of affairs of a particular theme, across all dimensions for the benefits of those at UMP, specifically, and the surrounding communities, generally.

The scholarly serial talks is part and parcel of UMP's commitments to transform the university into an open house with various activities of mature debates as well as sanely discussions.

The July talk was graced by UMP Chairman, Dato' Sri Ibrahim Ahmad; UMP Vice-Chancellor, Professor T. S. J. Ariffin; UMP President, Mohd. Hairul Ab Rahim.

It also saw attendance of staff from Centre of Foundation Studies of International Islamic University of Malaysia, corporations of Library and Museum, Pahang Hall of Malay Literature, as well as teachers and educators from various schools in Pekan.

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**Fun *Merdeka* walk while flying the *Jalur Gemilang***

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More than 100 Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) staff took part in the Fun Walk: 1,000 *Merdeka* Steps on August 15, 2019.

They started the walk from the Student Activity Centre (PAP) and ended at the Tun Abdul Razak Chancellery.

UMP Board Member, Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Mohd Yunus flagged off the participants and UMP Vice-Chancellor Dato' Dr. Yusoff received them.

He was also presented with the *Jalur Gemilang* by the group's leader, Nur Adam Maximillian from the Centre for Student Development.

Also present were Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Professor Ts. Dr. Kamal Zuhairi Zamli and UMP Board Member Professor Dato' Dr. Rosli Abu Bakar.

The flags of *Jalur Gemilang* were also distributed to representatives of all departments.

It has been a yearly tradition for UMP to celebrate the month of National Independence by organising a programme and this year's programme was the Fun Walk: 1,000 *Merdeka* Steps.

It was a show of support by the university in promoting healthy lifestyle in campus.

On the walk participated by the staff, Professor Ir. Dr. Wan Azhar said it demonstrated a high level of patriotism and the university should be proud of.

"The walk is part of an event planned to celebrate a very special occasion, a manifestation of patriotism that we should be proud of being.

"We hope that with the activities organised, it will help instill and lift up the integrity and identity of Malaysia and keep it staying clean," he said at the launching of 'Love My Malaysia Fiesta' in conjunction with the 2019 National Day Celebrations at the university-level.

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Various activities had been planned that blended two important aspects, patriotism and UMP as a centre talks on prominent personalities, exhibition on the *Merdeka* Day at UMP Library, Aspiration of *Merdeka* and

The aim was for UMP community and society especially the young generation to understand the meaning earnestly and with gratefulness.

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## **128 UMP Reserve Officers Training Unit (PALAPES) cadet officers lieutenants**

By: DEPUTY COMMANDANT CAPTAIN MOHD AZAM MUHAMAD AKHIR, ACTING UMP PALAPES

A total of 128 Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) Reserve Officers Training Unit (PALAPES) from the commissioned as Cadet Officers in the Malaysia Armed Forces, with the rank of Second Lieutenants.

They were among the 1,560 cadet officers from 18 public universities who attended the 38th Public U Accreditation Ceremony held at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) on August 3, 2019.

It was graced by His Royal Highness Tunku Mahkota of Johor, Major General Tunku Ismail Ibni Sultan Ibra



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Also present at the ceremony were Commander (H) Professor Dato' Ts Dr. Yuserrie Zainuddin, who is a (Minister of Education & Higher Education Affairs & Alumni), Acting UMP PALAPES Deputy Commandant Captain, Mohd Azam Muhamad Akhir and Ahmad Johari Mohamad.

In his speech, Tunku Ismail congratulated the cadet officers who had completed their trainings and were now serving in the armed forces and the special reserve force.

He advised them to be better persons who were armed with the experience and training and eventually, contribute to building the nation.

He emphasised on the aspect of loyalty to the King and country, an effort that would uphold harmony in a multi-ethnic society.

Tunku Ismail also presented the Sword of Honour to the best cadet officers from each university.

Three UMP cadet officers representing the army, navy and air force branches received the Swords of Honour.

They were Cadet Officer Sergeant Mohd Najmi Hamad Zamri (PALAPES – Army) and Occupational Safety and Health undergraduate, Senior Under Officer Amirul Aiman Johari (PALAPES – Navy) and Occupational Safety and Health undergraduate and Senior Under Officer Norashikin Samsuddin (PALAPES – Air Force) and Computer Science and Network undergraduate.

Second Lieutenant Mohd Najmi said he was pleased to receive the Sword of Honour and thanked all the staff and cadets for their support during the three years.

He said he would stay committed and stay active in the Military Reserve Force even if he had a career of his own.

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