

# UMS to build 20th anniversary clock tower

BP 61 2014 5

By Natasha Sim

**KOTA KINABALU:** Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) will be constructing a nine-meter high clock tower in hopes of it becoming a new landmark as part of its 20th celebration as an established institution of higher learning.

UMS vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Mohd Harun Abdullah disclosed this yesterday during the launch of a "Healthy Exercise Program", jointly organized by Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (YADIM) and UMS Student Affairs and Alumni Department.

"As part of the celebration, UMS is also planning a host of activities that are of national and international standards," he said.

Harun announced that amongst these events would be a 'Malaysia Longest Distance Running on a Treadmill' organized by

UMS' School of Education and Social Development, and School of Medicine, which would be held on January 20 at 1Borneo Hypermall.

"The goal of the event is to chart 264 hours or 11 days on the treadmill in hopes of breaking the Malaysia Book of Records for longest running time in rotation," he said, adding that the activity will involve nine UMS athletes.

He hopes that these events will not only improve UMS' stature but also make the university an active part of the government's tourism efforts for Visit Malaysia 2014.

"UMS will be organizing several international conferences which would attract professors and scientists from around the world for the purpose of sharing research findings for community benefit," Harun added.

He also said that UMS is organizing community programs

to strengthen communal ties between the university and society.

Meanwhile, Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister, Datuk Haji Mohd Arifin Haji Mohd Arif, in welcoming the initiative here yesterday, said that health is an important aspect of daily life.

"Health is important for worship, but it also helps us to fulfil daily responsibilities and obligations efficiently," he said, adding that the program is an innovative way to celebrate Maulidur Rasul.

He added that the program is also indicative of the government's and organizer's appreciation of the role of the university as a treasure trove of knowledge to produce future leaders of caliber.

"I hope this program would be the starting point for the younger generation to take on a more active role in future religious programs of the state," he said.



**Harun (fourth right) and Arifin (fifth right) with other guests of honor joining the students in aerobic exercise yesterday.**