

2,000 TURNED UP TO CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR CULTURAL NIGHT



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Close to 2,000 people from all walks of life turned up to watch a cultural show held in conjunction with the Chinese New Year celebration at the Sports Complex on March 17, 2012.

It was organised by Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP)'s Chinese Cultural and Arts Secretariat and Chinese Cultural Committee.

Also present was Member of Parliament for Paya Besar Dato' Haji Abdul Manan Ismail.

He lauded UMP for holding the event which was considered as an effort to promote unity and the 1Malaysia concept, bringing together people from all races and faiths.

"The country's multiracial society calls for each citizen, regardless of ethnic background, race and religion, to identify unity as something that is unique and the kind of multiracial unison not found in other countries," Dato Abdul Manan said when officially launched the programme.

He hoped the present younger generation would make use of



the programme by promoting the cultures of Malaysia.

Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Student Affairs & Alumni), Professor Dr. Yusserrie Zainudin said the programme's objective was to give the opportunity to undergraduates to share their understanding on the Chinese culture through academic-related activities.

He added that it would also encourage the society to place importance on unity, regardless of race and country, upholding and responding to Prime Minister's call to embrace 1Malaysia.

He said the university always encouraged undergraduate associations to be actively involved in holding activities that had academic impact on them as well as

the surrounding community.

Programme Director, Tan Ban Lin, 21, was very happy that the celebration was well-received by the society around the campus but especially so the support showed by UMP denizens.

According to 35-year-old Sudanese Mustafa Mohamed Mustafa who is a Technology Faculty masters' degree student, he was excited to be able to be involved in the programme that was rich in knowledge about the Chinese people, their tradition and culture.

He added that programme such as this would indirectly encourage people from different races to be appreciative of each other and promoted harmony among university staff, students and local

community.

The visitors were also entertained to a variety of performances and among them were traditional and modern dances, a Chinese orchestra, a Dragon dance and mask-changing show.

