



UMP VOLUNTEERS DISTRIBUTED SAHUR MEALS TO THE HOMELESS

The programme is part of the initiative taken by UMP in its support to the UMP MyGift Programme and its volunteerism agenda. These are efforts to make UMP a community university.



A total of 50 volunteers from Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) distributed 450 food packs to the homeless in the city of Kuala Lumpur under its 'Kembara Singgah Sahur' programme on June 24, 2016.

It was organised by Islamic and Human Development Centre (PIMPIN) and among those present were Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industry Partnership & Community Relations), Professor Dr. Zulkefli Yaacob, Ustaz Muhammad Sallehudin Md. Derus and Ustaz Muhammad Farid Mohd. Idris.

Professor Dr. Zulkefli said the programme gave the opportunity to UMP undergraduates to see for themselves the homeless and at the same time, do good deeds by distributing the food packs for sahur during the holy month of Ramadan.

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"The programme has also been made more meaningful with the participation of Marrybrown Restaurant in Kuala Lumpur which provided the food packs," he said.

He added that the programme was carried out with the aim of instilling the values concern and kindness to the less fortunates as well as to inculcate a sense of responsibility among the younger generation on the virtue of helping the needy.

The volunteers were divided into three groups and the places that they went were Jalan Tunku Abdul Rahman, Jalan Raja Laut, Jalan Munsyi Abdullah and ended at Masjid Jamek, Kuala Lumpur.

For Mohamad Danial Mohd. Azmi, 25, who had been a homeless for the past three years, said most of them stayed in the area because they had no choice and that it was difficult to get a job.

He added that his family no longer cared for him but that did not deter him to strive to make changes in his life and aimed for the

better.

Another homeless man who wanted to be known as Azman, 30, said he worked at a restaurant but him and his uncle decided to sleep at the five-foot pavement of a shop because room rental was too high.

He said they also received a lot of aids from members of the public and would regularly receive food and other essentials and that it was easy to go to work.

UMP volunteer Muhammad Amirul Hafidz Darus said the experience of meeting the homeless got them to see for themselves how the homeless lived in the city centre.

Most of the homeless were former drug addicts, ex-convicts, unemployed, those ostracised by their families and those from poor background.

There were also those who were homeless because of problem of their own that required some form of support, motivation and awareness.