

# UMP's Nur Khairiyah turns disappointment into joy, now works as engineer in Germany

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KUANTAN: After passing her Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) with flying colours in 2014, Nur Khairiyah Hibatullah Md Rosley secured a scholarship to pursue her dream of studying engineering in Germany.

However, the 25-year-old's aspirations were derailed a year later when she could not achieve the cut-off point during her A-Levels examination to further her studies in Germany under a scholarship.

Instead, she enrolled in an engineering dual-degree programme at Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) and went on to make history.

The Sabah-born lass, who is now working as a product and process engineer in Germany, was named the recipient of the Royal Education Award (Pingat Jaya Cemerlang) during UMP's 17th convocation ceremony.

Nur Khairiyah said she was distraught when she could not further her studies in Germany in 2017, especially after making all the necessary preparations at a college in Shah Alam, Selangor.

"I was only one point short of the required mark (to be eligible for a scholarship) and missed the opportunity to further my studies in Germany.

"I could still go to Germany if I managed to raise funds on my own. But, my family could not afford it, and I decided to look for alternatives to study at a local university.

"I was accepted for a dual-degree programme at UMP with a university in Germany and realised I still had a second chance to turn my dreams into a reality.

"After spending three years in UMP, I completed my final year in Germany and am now working in Germany," she said when met at UMP.

Nur Khairiyah, who completed her mechatronic engineering dual-degree programme in collaboration with Germany's Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences, scored a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.82 and received the Royal Education Award from UMP Pro-Chancellor Tan Sri Abi Musa Asa'ari Mohamed Nor.

The younger of two siblings, Nur Khairiyah was glad to have overcome the challenges of learning the German language and in securing a job at a research and development department at the Vacuumschmelze (VAC) GmbH & Co. KG in Hanau. She is the only Malaysian employed at the multinational company.

Nur Khairiyah described the Royal Education Award as special, adding that it was made possible with the support of her parents, Md Rosley Mohd Lair and Aliah Fatimah Abdullah, both 58, along with her lecturers, course mates and UMP's management.

"The approach emphasised at UMP provides an advantage to graduates, including collaboration programmes with other universities in countries such as Germany, China and Indonesia.

"UMP's industry collaboration programmes have paved the way for students to undergo their internships and get jobs abroad," said Nur Khairiyah, who can write and speak fluently in Bahasa Malaysia, English, Mandarin and German.

Besides Nur Khairiyah, the other Royal Education Award recipient was Willian Mah Wey Lian, 24, who graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering with honours.

