

CLOSING SPEECH

Yang Berhormat
Dato' Sri Haji Abdul Karim Rahman Hamzah
Minister of Tourism, Creative Industry, and Performing
Arts, Youth, Sports and Entrepreneur Development,
Sarawak

**Talent Showcase Day and Closing Ceremony
*Come Discover Bumi Kenyalang 2023 (CBDK 2023)***

25 May 2023

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Esteemed guests from Indonesia:

Dr Jamil H. Syarif, MA

Rector of Institut Agama Islam Negeri Pontianak,
Indonesia

Dr Purwanto, SH

Rector of Universitas Panca Bhakti Pontianak, Indonesia

Professor Dr Garuda Wiko

Rector of Universitas Tanjungpura Pontianak, Indonesia

Esteemed guest from Cambodia:

Dr Hor Peng

Rector of the National University of Management,
Cambodia

Yang Berbahagia

Professor Dato' Dr Jamil Haji Hamali

Rector of Universiti Teknologi MARA Sarawak

Foreign delegates and participants, ladies, and gentlemen.

Salutations

(To be confirmed by the organiser on the day of the event)

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh and good evening to all.

1. Alhamdulillah, praise be to Allah S.W.T for His grace and blessings and the opportunity to be here again with all of you for the **Talent Showcase and Closing Dinner** for the ***Come Discover Bumi Kenyalang 2023*** programme.

2. Thank you to UiTM Sarawak Branch for inviting me to close this programme. Well done on the initiative to foster cultural awareness and the passion for knowledge among our young people – our global ambassadors and future leaders.
3. We are nearing the end of the programme, and I hope our participants from Cambodia and Indonesia have enjoyed themselves tremendously.

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. As I have mentioned in my opening speech, this ***Come Discover Bumi Kenyalang 2023*** programme is organised by the **Office of International Affairs (OIA), Universiti Teknologi MARA Sarawak Branch** and funded by a grant from the **Ministry of Tourism, Creative Industry and Performing Arts Sarawak**.

5. We have invested so much in enabling cross-cultural exchange and learning as they are crucial for a better regional understanding of fellow Asian countries.
6. Cambodia and Indonesia are also culturally diverse with much to learn about. The Khmer Empire Angkor Wat and the dark era of the Khmer Rouge or the Killing Fields that they have left behind have taught us a lot about ancient civilisations and the negative impact of internal conflicts and the effects of war.
7. Not to mention, Indonesia's island of Bali and the Borobodur Temple needs no introduction, too. All these places are rich with culture and history which we can learn and develop a deeper understanding of values and beliefs as well as respect for each other in this region.

8. Moreover, mobility programmes such as this enable participating students to gain invaluable international experience, and expand their networks, on top of improving their life skills.
9. Therefore, I hope that this two–week international mobility programme has attained its purpose, which also means that our investment is justified.

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. We are in an era of moving towards more automation. Innovations in all aspects of life are necessary.
11. We expect more exciting ideas coming from our bright young people to improve life. It would be excellent if we could develop cross–border innovations that can benefit the nations in this region, especially.

12. The Sarawak state government welcomes any initiative that can improve the state and fully support feasible ideas as we encourage our people to be innovative.
13. Give us your suggestions on making the environment sustainable and better for us. We always consider improving the state's performance in all aspects, even sports.
14. As the Minister of Youth, Sports, and Entrepreneur Development, I am genuinely concerned with the development of our youths.
15. We must ensure that our youths develop holistically if we want continued stability. They must be easily adaptable to survive during trying times. They must be loaded with the right kind of knowledge and tools to prepare them for any possibilities in the future.

16. This is where entrepreneurship comes in. Entrepreneurship skills are becoming a necessity for youths as it is a survival skill. If you have mastered it, you will not go hungry and in fact, you will flourish and benefit those around you, too.
17. With that, I hope that our participants did not just have a good time during this programme but also gained knowledge that would benefit them and utilise these skills and knowledge to enrich others in their country.
18. The programme is ending but that does not mean our collaborations end here. I hope more collaborative programmes can be organised in the future. Believe me when I say that Sarawak still has a lot more to offer.
19. Therefore, I hope our international guests will be back to experience other wonderful places in Sarawak and perhaps we could also come and visit your countries and learn from you.

20. Once again, I thank everyone involved, from the leaders and committee members to the sponsors and participants, and everyone else in between who helped to ensure the smooth running of activities and programme.

**On that note,
I now declare the
Come Discover Bumi Kenyalang 2023 programme
is officially closed.**

Thank you.

**Wabillahi Taufiq Walhidayah Wassalamualaikum
Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.**