

**SPEECH BY
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VICE CHANCELLOR UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI PETRONAS
FOR
TAZU ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE INCENTIVE AWARD CEREMONY
2018**

WEDNESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2018

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Tuan Haji Mohd Noor Rosli Baharom
Director, Zakat and Waqaf Management Unit of UTP.

Executive Management Committee and Senate Members

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, Selamat Sejahtera and a very good afternoon.

Alhamdulillah, all praises are for Allah for it is with His blessings that we are able to gather here for this Zakat Academic Excellence Incentive Award Ceremony for 2018. Today, 228 Foundation and Undergraduate students from 10 programmes will receive the Zakat Academic Excellence Incentive Award. Among these 228 students, 5 students have earned a perfect 4.00 CGPA! Congratulations to these top students and to the rest of you!

We are here this afternoon to celebrate the outstanding academic achievement of these students. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate all of you for your success. UTP is really proud of you. I am confident that

today's awards will encourage the recipients to build on their successes and continue to excel. Being invited to share this celebration of remarkable achievements, I am pleased to see happy and excited faces in front of me. Congratulation, your months of hard work, struggles, commitment and determination have finally paid off. This ceremony is a recognition of your hard work and so much more that you have put in throughout this semester and hopefully for the upcoming semesters as well.

Looking back at your achievements today, I urge all of you to not forget and appreciate those who have contributed to your success, especially your parents, lecturers, peers, the entire university community as well as your sponsors. It is a great virtue to show your gratitude, count your blessings, notice the simple pleasures in life and acknowledge everything that you receive.

For this Zakat Academic Excellence Scheme, I was informed that TAZU has allocated RM116,500 for all recipients. I am very proud of TAZU's efforts and accomplishments. Their commitment to assist UTP Asnaf students is unwavering. This can be seen through the continuous improvement efforts in collecting and distributing zakat to deserving students. In fact, various aid schemes have been designed to meet the needs of our Asnaf. Through this academic excellence scheme, our students will be inspired to excel in their studies and contribute well to society in the future.

Dear Students,

Being in university, it is important to give your very best in both academic and co-curricular activities. The demands of employers towards fresh graduates have changed greatly over the years. It has become a norm for employers to seek out graduates who are not only academically accomplished, but also possess industry-relevant skills and character, such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity, also known as the 4 C's. The new expectations towards university students, especially in UTP, has urged the university management to bring about various initiatives to provide adequate support to students to facilitate their learning. We hope that we at UTP have prepared you, our students to grow and thrive in your chosen programmes and ultimately, your careers. The university has always offered an environment that is academically challenging, supportive, and rich in opportunities.

In closing, I would like to once again congratulate all the recipients of today's TAZU Academic Excellence Incentive Award. I would also like to thank our zakat contributors for their generous offerings to support our students' education. I do hope that TAZU will continue to assist UTP Asnaf students in this noble endeavour.

With Bismillahirrahmanirrahim, I hereby officiate today's TAZU Academic Excellence Incentive Award Ceremony.

Thank you.

Wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.