

SPEECH BY

**PROF DR MOHAMED IBRAHIM ABDUL MUTALIB
VICE CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI PETRONAS
FOR**

THE NATIONAL 2018 3MT COMPETITION

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Multipurpose Hall, Centre of Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Honourable judges of The National 2018 3 Minute Thesis Competition
The participants of The National 2018 3 Minute Thesis Competition
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh
Salam Sejahtera and a very good morning.

First and foremost, on behalf of Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP), it is my pleasure to welcome everyone here to The National 2018 Three Minute Thesis Competition. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone Selamat Hari Raya. As this year's host and organiser, together with Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris for this prestigious international event, it is indeed a privilege to host all of you. We are all here to honour your exciting research in which you spend three to four years writing an 80,000 word but today, you will have to present it for three minutes!

I am glad that we finally manage to conduct this competition after the postponement due to the general election. For this year Malaysia 3MT

2018, 61 contestants from 22 Malaysian Universities will compete to be the TOP TWO winners who will represent Malaysia at the Asia-Pacific 3MT 2018 in Brisbane, Australia on 27 September 2018.

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) celebrates the exciting research conducted by PhD students around the world. Developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), Australia, the competition cultivates students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills. Presenting at this competition increases the participants' capacity to effectively explain your research in three minutes, in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience. Good Luck to all the participants today!

Ladies and Gentlemen,

When I first heard about this unique competition, I thought that it sounded impossible! But this competition is in line with what the nation needs in producing quality graduates by cultivating students' academic, presentation and research communication skills. Through platform like this, students are given the opportunity to communicate effectively in which they convey their research output to all level of audiences not just the scientific community alone. Postgraduates students are also trained to pitch their ideas or create interest for funding agencies or venture capital to proceed with commercialisation in a very short period of time. This is very imperative for students at this day and age as they need to deliver key academic concepts in the most succinct and effective way to pursue exciting new avenues of market-driven research that will help accelerate innovations toward commercialization.

I also hope that this competition not only helps to highlight research findings but most importantly the impact of research towards our community because now there is an even greater opportunity to mobilise our research capabilities for the good of society. At UTP, through our research and innovation activities, we hope to match our research capabilities with that of society's needs.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For this year's competition, I hope to see another one of Ashwin Charles Benedict, the Universiti Malaysia Pahang (UMP) PhD student from Faculty of Chemical & Natural Resources Engineering who was crowned the winner for the Asia-Pacific 3 Minute Thesis Competition last year. Ashwin defeated 55 others contestants from Australia, New Zealand and Asia. His win is a testament that our students and research outcome are at par with top universities in the world. Hopefully Malaysia can retain this achievement.

In closing, allow me to express my sincere gratitude to Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris for co-organising this event with us for this year. Thank you to the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) and Majlis Dekan Pengajian Siswazah (MDPS) for their support in making 3MT 2018 a reality. I would also like to thank our sponsor, Springer Nature for your invaluable support and for sponsoring the winner to University of Queensland (UQ), Australia. My heartiest appreciation to the 3MT 2018 organising committee for your commitment and dedication in ensuring the success of this event. Last but not least, I wish the participants all the best and a wonderful time here on our campus.

Thank you.