

**Speech by
Professor Dr Muhammad Ibrahim Abdul Mutalib
Vice Chancellor
Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS**

THE 20TH FOUNDATION STUDIES COMPLETION CEREMONY

**9 October 2019 (Wednesday)
1.30 pm at Main Hall, UTP**

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

Professor Dr Hilmi Mukhtar
Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic

Associate Professor Dr Balbir Singh Mahinder Singh
Dean of Centre for Foundation Studies

Members of the Executive Management Committee and Senate,
Lecturers and Students,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

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

It gives me great pleasure to be here to congratulate each and every one of you for having successfully completed your Foundation Programme in Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP). I am proud to announce that today 842 foundation students from the January, March and July 2018 intakes will be receiving their certificates of completion. And I am greatly pleased that they are now pursuing their Undergraduate studies in the

Engineering, Science, Geoscience and Technology programmes here in UTP. Congratulations!

I would also like to applaud the excellent results achieved by all foundation students this year. I am sure that the outstanding academic achievements will also resonate in the students' life values. This is indeed a proud moment as these achievements are testaments to our university's strong core values and moral principles.

Dear Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,

For 22 years, the university has produced over 17,000 graduates from 60 countries. To produce you as the desired graduates, UTP has invested time and effort on the curricula, method of teaching and learning, the design of academic facilities and student services, linkages with industry and business processes. We aim to educate, encourage and inspire you to become the next generation of globally responsible citizens, with the knowledge, skills and understanding to shape a better future for all.

The next four (4) years of your undergraduate life here can bring many exciting opportunities and new challenges! This is the time where you will encounter a wealth of knowledge, meet countless new people, and pave the way for your future. As a UTP student, you will spend a significant amount of time performing lab work, as well as participating in tutorials, written assignments, and attending lectures. But in between all these, I also want you to be part of our co-curricular modules such as sports, music and culture and arts. You will also undergo a compulsory seven-month industrial training designed to ensure that what you have learnt in

classes and on campus would be meaningful and beneficial to both the undergraduates and host companies.

Dear Students,

I urge all of you to go out there and get involved in activities you find interesting. Try something new! Meet others with different interests or backgrounds. Attend a workshop, event, club meeting or take part in our University Social Responsibility or USR in volunteering and giving back. Become a leader so that your leadership skills will be developed to complement and enhance your overall educational experience. Establish meaningful relationships with peers, faculty and staff. Because once you leave, you will truly miss these days. Dig deeper to achieve your goals and expand your interests. Your time at UTP will form a launchpad from which you can build an exciting career. With so many opportunities available, you'll never be short of ways to improve your employability.

We hope that your time in UTP will not only mould you into engineers or technologists, but to become leaders and strong personalities to bring the community and our nation towards international recognition and global prominence. It is my fervent hope that your time spent with us has been as enriching and exciting as we had having you.

Dear Students, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We hope that the quality, relevance and breadth of your foundation experience here will help you gain greater heights in the faculty. Undergraduate study will be a little more challenging, which require even more resilience and persistence from your part. However, I do not have

the slightest doubt on all of you because you have received the best guidance and learning experience throughout your one-year foundation programme.

In closing, I would like to thank the lecturers and the university management for without them, you wouldn't be where you are today. From this day forward, let us make each decision with our best interests in mind. Let us believe in ourselves so that we may reach our goals and fulfil our dreams. Let us be the best that we can be so that we may fill our lives and the lives of those closest to us with happiness and with pride.

Last but not least, again, I would like to congratulate all of you and the organising committee for making this a memorable event.

Well done, and good luck to all of you!

Welcome to the start of a new journey, a new experience and a new challenge!

Wabillahi taufik walhidayah,

Wassalamualaikum warahmatullah hiwabarokatuh..