

BY NURL SHIMA SHAHMINON

BINTULU: Two Universiti Putra Malaysia Bintulu Campus (UPMKB) students have brought glory to Malaysia at the recent 20th ASEAN University Network (AUN) and 9th ASEAN+3 Educational Forum and Young Speakers' Contest.

Muhammad Hud Aqeel Abdullah, a third-year Human Development with Management student, emerged among the top eight in the Young Speakers' Contest.

Meanwhile, Ugeneish A/L Balakrishnan, a Diploma in Animal Health and Animal Husbandry student, impressed with his policy presentations during the Educational Forum.

The competition, held at Universitas Airlangga in Surabaya, Indonesia, saw the participation of 18 universities from seven ASEAN+3 countries, including Japan and China.

"Muhammad Hud Aqeel presented an insightful argument aligned with the theme of 'Emancipatory Education as a Path towards an Emancipated Future,'" UPM said in a statement.

The Educational Forum session provided a platform for both students to represent Malaysia in discussions on crucial education

Outstanding performance in Young Speakers' Contest

policies.

Their presentations showcased innovative perspectives on transformational education that fosters an inclusive future.

Dr Juniza Md Saad, Deputy Dean (Academic and Student Affairs) of the Faculty of Humanities, Management and Science (FKPS), who served as a guest judge, commended the students' achievements.

"This accomplishment demonstrates the university's commitment to producing competent young leaders at the regional level," Juniza said.

Organised by the AUN, the programme encompassed not only speech competitions but also workshops, group discussions and cultural tours.

These activities aimed to cultivate relationships among ASEAN+3 delegations and enhance their understanding of regional issues.



DR Juniza (2nd left) joins Muhammad Hud Aqeel (1st left) and Ugeneish (1st right) at the 20th AUN and 9th ASEAN+3 Educational Forum and Young Speakers' Contest, hosted by Universitas Airlangga in Surabaya.