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## An honour for Sabahans, says V-C

**KOTA KINABALU:** Prof Datuk Dr Kamarulzaman Ampon, the first Sabahan to be made vice-chancellor of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), has described his appointment as an honour to the people of the state.

Dr Kamarulzaman, 55, who will be the third vice chancellor of the 14-year-old university, said that he hoped to be able to take the fledgling university to greater heights.

"I am grateful to God for this appointment.

"I am excited about it but I

know that it comes with a heavy responsibility and I hope to take it to greater heights.

"It is not an easy task. I will do my best," he said.

Dr Kamarulzaman, whose appointment was announced by Prime Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi on Saturday, will take over from incumbent vice-chancellor Datuk Prof Mohd Noh Dalimin, who is retiring with effect from June 18.

He did his Master's degree from the University of York before pursuing his doctorate in biochem-

istry at the Ohio State University in the United States.

An ethnic Kadazandusun from Keningau, Dr Kamarulzaman started his career as a biochemist lecturer with Universiti Putra Malaysia in 1979 and in 1995, he returned to Sabah to join UMS.

He was the first Sabahan to be made a full professor by a local Malaysian university.

He is currently the deputy vice-chancellor and is also in charge of academic affairs, research and development as well as student affairs.



**Dr Kamarulzaman:** 'It is not an easy task. I will do my best'