

Jay (middle) shows her degree certificate to Jaya (right) and mother Alina Jantan after the convocation ceremony.

Proud moment for graduate

JAYA Longkop was very proud when his daughter Jay Nurivanna Asrienza Jaya graduated from Universiti Putra Malaysia during its 40th convocation this week.

"It's something really amazing and exceptional if someone from our village obtains a degree," said Jaya who is an orang asli from the Temuan tribe.

He said there are four graduates from his village, Kampung Chergun in Batu Kikir, Negri Sembilan.

Jay who graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, was jubilant, saying that "having a degree is something very invaluable".

"Our village has about 120 people. They rarely continue with their education after completing primary school.

"I hope my success will set an example for other orang asli to improve their level of education and livelihood.

"Both my parents are poor and as the eldest child, I want to see my siblings get a good education," she said.

Jay hopes to help her family before pursuing her Master's degree.

She is currently working in Kuala Lumpur. She expressed her thanks to the Department of Orang Asli Development (JAKOA) which had provided her with a scholarship.