

**SPEECH BY**  
**YBhg Dato' Dr Amir Abbas**  
**Chancellor, International Medical University**  
**Convocation at IMU Bukit Jalil, 8.45 am**

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YBhg Tan Sri Dato' Dr Yahya Awang, Pengerusi, Lembaga Gabenor, IMU

YBhg Dato Prof Gan Ee Kiang, Pro Chancellor, IMU

YBhg Tan Sri Abu Bakar Suleiman, President

Ahli-ahli Lembaga Gabenor

Ahli-ahli Senat

Tan Sri-Tan Sri, Puan Sri-Puan Sri

Dato'-Dato', Datin-Datin

Dif-dif Terhormat

Para graduan dan tuan-puan hadirin sekalian

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am extremely pleased to preside over this convocation ceremony today.

To our distinguished guests, parents, spouses, and graduands, I wish them a very warm welcome to this convocation. I wish to thank all of you for your presence and for making this a more meaningful occasion for the graduands. Personally, I have always been uplifted to see the joy on the faces of our graduates as they receive their degree, proudly wearing their IMU convocating gowns and for adding pomp and grandeur to the whole occasion.

On behalf of all those assembled here, I would like to congratulate all those who are graduating today. As you receive your degrees, you will hold in your hands the key to your respective professions. However, it is important on this occasion that you always remember the sacrifices your parents and guardians have made to ensure your success today; not forgetting also your respective sponsors for those on scholarships. Please join me in showing our appreciations.

I pay special tribute to the faculty and staff who have prepared our students during their stay here and for their commitment to the success of these students. I would also like to express my profound gratitude to our university partners around the world and the government for their unwavering support.

Today's graduation is special in that we are graduating the first cohort of Chinese Medicine graduates who joined the five-year programme in 2011. I would like to extend special congratulations to all of these graduates.

Also graduating today are the ones with MSc in Public Health. I am sure you will be pleased to know that this programme has recently received recognition from the Malaysian Public Service Department (JPA).

As Chancellor, I would like to share the wonderful news that 17 students from the first cohort of our Foundation in Science obtained distinctions, achieving a CGPA of 3.7 and above. Such a great success speaks volumes of the quality of the students and of the lecturers in the FIS. As Chancellor, I would like to express my appreciation of the efforts that have been put into this programme. These students are now pursuing a degree programme of their choice at IMU.

I am also heartened to know that since 2014, the University staff and students have been very active in community projects under IMU Cares programme. In addition, IMU is one of the twelve private education institutions who are participating in the MAPCU Organ Donation Awareness Campaign. In fact, IMU is leading this campaign. It is inspiring to know that that IMU staff and students have also shown the caring spirit by responding positively to some of the natural disasters that have occurred such as the floods in Kelantan and the earthquake in Nepal. I understand that IMU staff,

students and alumni have participated in the relief team in both these locations. We are all proud of our people who are living the values of our University in every sense of the word.

Graduates of IMU, giving back to the community is an attribute that we would certainly like you to continue doing. Your success as a graduate will open many doors for you. As you advance through your career, remember to always serve with a strong sense of professionalism and ethics, as is demanded of caring healthcare professionals.

You must be willing to work across disciplines and across borders. Whether you are treating individual patients as a doctor; delving into the mysteries of life as a scientist; or addressing the broader issues of public health as a government official, you certainly have the opportunity and responsibility to be part of a whole that's greater than yourselves.

Graduates, All of you will be following in the footsteps of hundreds of previous graduates before you. IMU would want you determined to continue learning and improving in all that you do.

You will all be global ambassadors for IMU and we wish you to continue to reflect the standards of excellence that have become our signature. Though miles may soon separate you from IMU, do stay connected with the University via its Alumni Association. Be proud of yourselves - you are now members of a vital and important international organization with an expanding number of branches worldwide: the IMU Alumni.

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in congratulating the graduates on their accomplishments. We wish them all the best in their careers and future endeavours.

Thank you.