

Ruler: Don't forget your roots

Honour your parents and teachers, graduates told

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BE thankful for the sacrifices of your parents by loving and supporting them.

That was the advice of the Raja of Perlis, Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Putra Jamalullail, to the new graduates of Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) in Penang.

Speaking at the first session of USM's 44th convocation ceremony, the ruler urged the graduates to not forget their roots.

"Nowadays, there are numerous reports of parents being rejected, some even to the extent of being kicked out of the house.

"I feel that it is important to keep in mind that without your parents, you would not even be here.

"Today's achievement also stems from sacrifices made by your parents," said Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin, who is USM chancellor, yesterday.

He told the graduates that they could express their gratitude to their parents in many ways of which the best was by providing them love and support.

"Also, pause to remember the teachers you have had in your life and others who have contributed to help you get to this point," he added.

Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin later launched a new USM publication entitled *Decolonising the University: The Emerging Quest for Non-Eurocentric Paradigms*.

The book, which is a collection of some 30 essays from scholars in 16 countries, centres on the effects of Western hegemony on Asian and African universities.

It was edited by USM's legal adviser Shad Saleem Faruqi and noted political activist Claude Alvarez who is based in Goa, India.