

Future lawyers show their mettle



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(From left) Gabrielle Nicholas Rohan V. Ravindran, Lily Sabreena Mastura, Nur Aliya Ayob and Hazeeq Fadzli Hasrul Sani of Universiti Malaya, which emerged as first runner-up, with the champions, National University of Singapore students Ryan Kwan Kay Tzen, Fiona Ng, Adeline Tan Mu Shan and Rachel Ang Shu Yien.

THE major prizes at the recent inaugural Tun Suffian International Human Rights Law Moot Competition were won by law schools from Singapore and Thailand.

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It was a happy coincidence that the second day of the competition was the 100th anniversary of Suffian's birthday (Nov 12, 1917).

UM Moot Club vice-secretary Angeline Leow said the foundation has actively promoted the constitutional values advocated by Suffian, a former Lord President of the Federal Court, since it was established in 2002.

"The Tun Suffian Moot Competition seeks to provide a platform for law students to widen their experience as well as improve their mooting skills.

"This year, it reached a historical milestone with participating universities from seven different countries, namely Inter-national Islamic University Malaysia, UM, Universitas Tarumanagara (Indonesia), Thammasat University, Ateneo de Manila University (Philippines), NUS, East China University of Science and Technology (China) and Kyushu University (Japan).

"Being at an international level, this competition has allowed students from different institutions to learn from one another and at the same time, strengthen the ties between universities from different countries," she added.

The final round of the competition was presided by a bench of highly distinguished members of the legal fraternity who are themselves passionate advocates of human rights, said Leow.

They were former Federal Court judge Datuk Seri Gopal Sri Ram and former Court of Appeal judges Datuk Mah Weng Kwai and Datuk Mohamad Ariff Md Yusof.

In honouring the memory of Suffian, Sri Ram described him as a patient listener, a man of fearless integrity, with a sound understanding of the law and the greatest judge Malaysia has ever produced, said Leow.

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