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Abidin (fifth left) with the other guests and dignitaries cutting anniversary anniversary cake

CM: Indian community contributes a lot to Sabah

KOTA KINABALU: The Indian community has made great contributions to Sabah, said Chief Minister Datuk Seri Hajiji Noor.

He said the Indians came to the state to work as teachers, doctors, engineers, traders and businessmen after the federation of Malaysia was formed.

"Many of us fondly recall being taught by Indian teachers in school, being treated by Indian doctors in hospitals and so on, up to this day," he said in his speech at the Sabah Indian Association 75th anniversary celebration at the Sabah International Convention Centre here on Sunday night.

The speech as delivered

by Assistant Minister to the Chief Minister, Datuk Abidin Madingkir.

In expressing his gratitude to be invited as the guest of honour and be part of the celebration, Hajiji said Indians had made great contributions to early infrastructural, healthcare and educational development in Sabah, among many other areas.

"They continue to do so in various aspects of the economy and nation-building.

"These contributions will never be forgotten and Sabah is so much the better for their presence," he said.

In appreciation, he said the Sabah government would continue to support the community in any way possible.

Earlier, event organising chairman Datuk Dr G. Mohan Gopal urged the community to continue standing together, supporting one another and providing services to society and the needy.

"As always, we are committed to provide the best service possible to society and the state with our hospitality," he said.

Also at the event was Indian High Commissioner to Malaysia, BN Reddy who was impressed by the impact of Indian teachers in the local education system, and was certain they were proud of their students' successes in varied professions.