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## Ensuring Equal Access to Education

FOR the fourth time since 2017, Tunku Abdul Rahman University College (TAR UC) and Bodhi Meditation Malaysia Berhad (BMMB) have come together to provide financial aid to needy and underprivileged students.

At a virtual award presentation ceremony held on Jan 25, some 20 TAR UC diploma and bachelor's degree students received the financial aid, known as the TAR UC JinBodhi Bursary, amounting up to RM400,000. They join 128 students who have received RM2.4 million worth of the financial assistance to date.

In his speech, BMMB representative Ling Shan expressed hope that the students would cherish the bursary and study hard to realise their dreams of completing their tertiary studies.

“It is our founder Grandmaster JinBodhi’s humble wish that all young children are given an opportunity to pursue education. He believes that education is the key to changing lives, especially those of the next generation. We hope that the young will obtain better opportunities in education to overcome poverty,” he said.

TAR UC president Prof Dr Lee Sze Wei is grateful for BMMB’s continued financial support for the tertiary students, especially during this unprecedented time.

“The past year was not easy, considering the difficulties we had to go through, but I am proud that this bursary still continues,” he said.



Bursary award recipient Kishern Asok Kumar said he was elated to have received the financial aid for the second time.

“I first received it during my diploma programme. It gave me peace of mind. With this second award, I don’t have to work part-time and I don’t have to worry so much about my mother, who is a single parent supporting my sister, ” said the Bachelor of Business (Honours) in Logistics and Supply Chain Management student.

Another recipient, Ong Kai Jing, shared that she started working part-time when she was in secondary school in order to save up for her tertiary studies.

“I got 9As in my SPM and obtained a full scholarship from TAR UC to study my programme. But during the pandemic, I faced some technical problems studying online. My grades dropped, which affected my scholarship, ” said the Bachelor of Finance and Investment (Honours) student.

She then looked for financial aid options available for TAR UC students, which led to her receiving the TAR UC JinBodhi bursary.

“With that, I could focus on my studies. I made it to the Dean’s List and President’s List in the first two semesters of my degree programme, ” she said.

Also present at the virtual award presentation ceremony were BMMB representatives Zhi Guang and Xu Te, as well as TAR UC vice presidents Assoc Prof Dr Ng Swee Chin, Assoc Prof Say Sok Kwan, Assoc Prof Dr Chook Ka Joo, and Assoc Prof Dr Oo Pou San.

