

> Graduates included Namibia's Minister of Education

ASIA e University (AeU) held its fourth convocation ceremony at the Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur recently.

Graduates from around the world as well as several ambassadors and representatives from foreign embassies, particularly from the 33 Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) countries, were present at the event.

More than 1,200 graduates received their scrolls and celebrated their success with their families and friends.

Twelve of them received their Doctor of Philosophy and two received their Doctor of Business Administration. The rest graduated at different levels: Master's, Bachelor, Graduate Diploma, Executive Master's, and Professional Bachelor.

Of these graduates, about 300 were international students

AeU's fourth convocation

from Namibia, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and other ACD countries.

The highlight of the convocation was the conferment of Doctor of Philosophy degree to Dr David Richard Namwandi, Minister of Education of the Republic of Namibia.

A notable figure who has received many awards for his efforts in advancing higher education systems in Namibia, Namwandi believes wholeheartedly in equality and quality education for all Namibians.

He has been a PhD student with AeU since 2007 when he did his thesis on

"Implementation of the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Education and Training and its Impact on Economic Development: A Case Study of Namibia and Zimbabwe".

"The programme has changed my outlook in life. I have learned a great deal during my studies at AeU, particularly about research in

education administration that I find very useful.

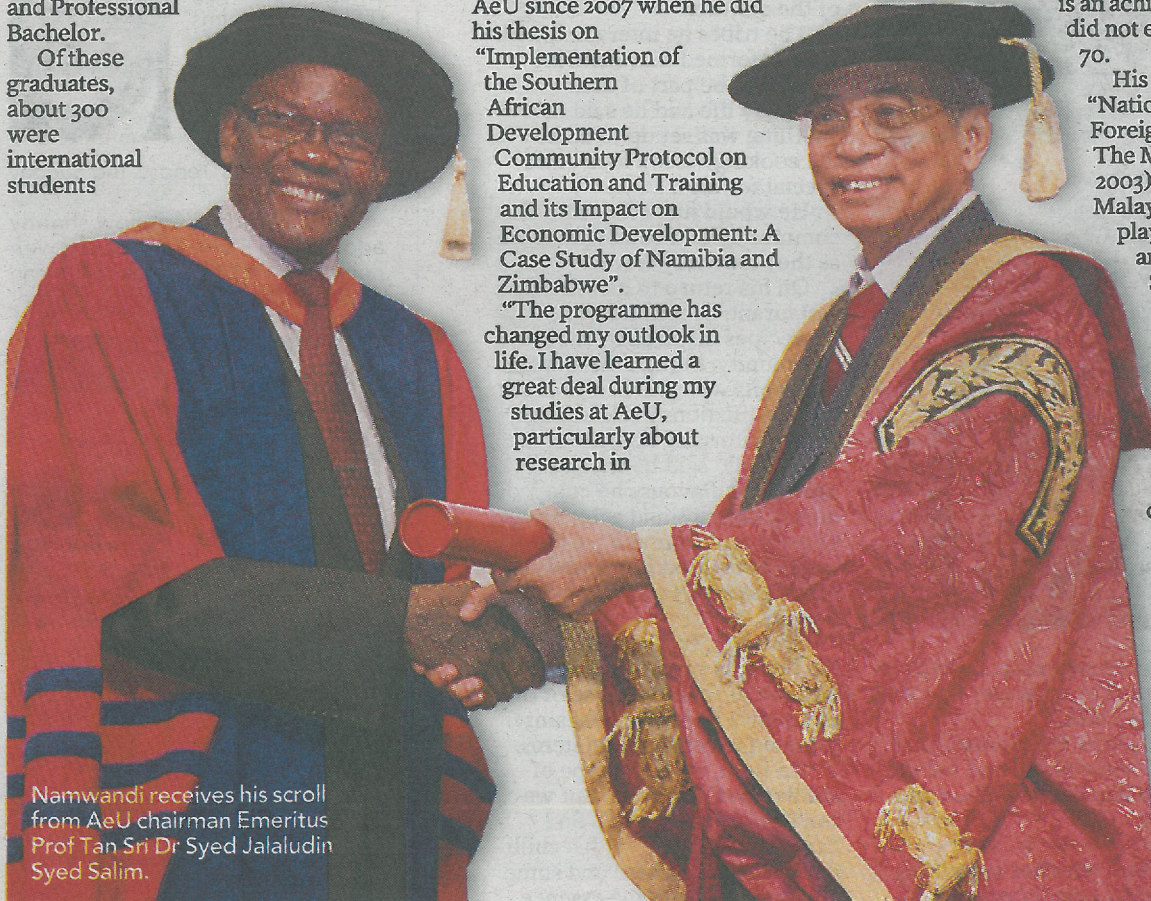
"Always give yourself a chance to pursue a lifelong learning experience, and find a balance between your work, study and family. The outcome may be more than meets the eye, like it did for me," Namwandi said.

Another recipient of the Doctor of Philosophy was Tan Sri Dr Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar who has been a student at AeU since 2011. He believes that the PhD degree has given him a

"better intellectual insight", and is an achievement which he did not expect at the age of 70.

His thesis entitled "National Interest in the Foreign Policy of Malaysia: The Mahathir Era (1981 - 2003)" showed how Malaysia was allowed to play a leadership role amongst the South-South countries, Islamic Ummah and East Asia (including Asean). His research findings indicate that domestic factors had influenced the Foreign Policy of Malaysia.

As a leading provider of open and distance learning in Asia, AeU provides working adults with the opportunity to further their studies from diploma to postgraduate level through a flexible mode of learning.



Namwandi receives his scroll from AeU chairman Emeritus Prof Tan Sri Dr Syed Jalaludin Syed Salim.