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ROYALAWARD: Tuanku Abdul Halim (right) presents the awards to cadets during the Royal Passing-out Parade and Commissioning of the UPMN Cadet Officers. — Bernama photo

Agong wants UPMN to become a top and respected university

KUALA LUMPUR: Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah hopes that the Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia (UPNM) will become a top and respected university.

The King also wanted UPMN to become an academic institution that was progressive, famous in its knowledge and intellectual traditions, flexible in terms of environmental changes as well as possessing strong values.

Tuanku Abdul Halim said the UPMN must be able to churn out national warriors who had extraordinary courage and who were ready to defend the religion, race and country.

"I believe our country is capable of churning out young leaders who

are smart, knowledgeable and with integrity to lead the Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM) that are modern and sophisticated.

"I believe the modernisation of the ATM can only succeed if they are supported by properly trained human resources," he said at the Royal Passing-out Parade and Commissioning of the UPMN Cadet Officers, here yesterday.

Also present at the event were Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Hajah Haminah and the Tunku Panglima Besar of Kedah who is also UPMN Pro-Chancellor, Datuk Seri Tunku Puteri Intan Safinaz Tuanku Abdul Halim.

The King also said that attention should be given to the young leaders of the ATM who should be prepared to face whatever threats

to national security.

"Although our country is now enjoying peace and prosperity, whatever challenges and crisis that cropped up should be given serious attention," he said.

"The global economic and financial crisis, international conflicts, terrorist threats and environmental disaster will all have an impact on the people and country.

"Truly, the most noble sacrifice is to serve the nation in defending the religion, country and the people that we love," said the King.

At the ceremony, 297 cadet officers were commissioned consisting of 168 army officers, 51 navy officers and 78 officers for the air force. — Bernama