



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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### **PNB Scholarships Fulfill 23 Students' Dreams** *PNB main CSR focuses on global scholarship awards*

**Kuala Lumpur, 11 September 2020:** Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) today feted 20 recipients of PNB Global Scholarship Award and three recipients of the Yayasan Tun Ismail Mohamed Ali (YTI) Premier Scholarship Award who will be pursuing undergraduate studies at several leading universities in the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States of America (US). These students from the 22<sup>nd</sup> batch (2018 intake) have been doing their preparatory studies at the Kolej Yayasan UEM (KYUEM) in Lembah Beringin, Perak for two years and have obtained excellent results in their A-Level examinations.

PNB's global scholarship programme is the main focus of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities under the Education pillar. First introduced in 1996, the PNB Global Scholarship Award provides an opportunity for students who excel in the SPM examination to further their studies at leading universities in the UK, the US and Australia. The scholarships are awarded to deserving students to undertake studies in disciplines related to PNB's business portfolio such as accounting, finance, law, mathematics, actuarial science and engineering.

Meanwhile, the YTI Premier Scholarship Award was introduced in 2000 specifically for top scorers in the A-Level examination, or equivalent, who have secured places in leading universities such as University of Oxford, University of Cambridge, Imperial College London, University College London and London School of Economics and Political Science in the UK or Harvard College, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and the University of Chicago in the US.

PNB President & Group Chief Executive, Ahmad Zulqarnain Onn, said, "This initiative under the educational pillar of PNB CSR aims to provide access to high quality education to outstanding students in the aim of developing a skilled workforce to support PNB's future

growth. It also supports the objective of grooming future leaders of high calibre for PNB as well as the country. We are indeed honoured to be able to provide these opportunities for the students to achieve their educational goals and life aspirations.”

One of the scholarship recipients, **Mohamed Aqil Azmi**, a former student of Sekolah Agama Menengah Tinggi Tengku Ampuan Jemaah, Shah Alam, who was selected to further his undergraduate studies at Harvard College, US, in the field of Mathematics and Philosophy, expressed his gratitude for the success of getting a place at this prestigious university together with other outstanding students from all over the world.

“All my hard work has paid off; and I wouldn’t have been able to do it without the prayers and blessings from my parents. I thank PNB for providing me the opportunity and facilitating my journey to achieve my higher education goals and dreams. I am determined to return this invaluable favour by serving and contributing to PNB with the knowledge gained after my graduation,” said Mohamed Aqil who is the first PNB scholar selected to pursue a bachelor’s degree at Harvard College.

Another scholarship recipient, **Muhammad Taufiq Afifi Saidi**, a former student of Maktab Rendah Sains MARA (MRSM) Kota Putra, Besut, Terengganu, said his unflagging efforts, sustained by the support and encouragement from the family, have paid off when he received the offer to study Economics at the London School of Economics and Political Science, UK.

“My family and I are grateful that the PNB scholarship will cover the tuition fees and living costs, especially since the cost of living in London is higher,” he said. “God willing, I will make full use of this opportunity and honour my obligation as a PNB scholar to study hard and achieve success.”

Realising the stiff competition to secure a sponsorship to study abroad, **Amira A’Iya Shaharim** is elated to be selected as a PNB scholar. “I vow not to waste this opportunity because I know that there are many other outstanding students out there who want to get the same opportunity.” Born in Kampung Olak Lempit, Banting, Selangor, this former student of MRSM Tun Ghafar Baba, Jasin, Melaka has chosen to study Civil Engineering at University College London, UK, because she believes this field has bright prospects for her future career.

Also pursuing engineering is **Afiq Nor Kamil**, who has chosen to specialise in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Manchester, UK. The former student of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Damansara Utama, Petaling Jaya, expressed his happiness for being able to realise his dream and that of his family to further his studies abroad. “I am proud to be

sponsored by PNB which is the country's leading investment institution. I am also happy that apart from getting the sponsorship, I will have the opportunity to serve PNB after graduation," added Afiq.

Since the launch of the PNB Global Scholarship Award in 1996, and the YTI Premier Scholarship Award in 2000, PNB has sponsored a total of 425 students with a scholarship value of almost RM159 million.

Apart from the Education pillar, PNB CSR activities also focus on three other pillars namely Financial Literacy, Community Upliftment and Knowledge Sharing Initiative, which aim to meet the needs of the community and society in PNB's efforts to deliver social objectives.

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**About Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB)**

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is one of the largest fund management companies in Malaysia with assets under management (AUM) exceeding RM300 billion. PNB's portfolio covers strategic investments in Malaysia's leading corporates, global equities, private investments, and real estate. For more information, please visit [www.pnb.com.my](http://www.pnb.com.my).

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