

# Orang Asli sisters out to uplift family

**BANGI:** Two years ago, Zumika Azmi and her younger sister, Sahsa, made headlines when they became the first Orang Asli from Kelantan to represent the nation in a sporting event.

The duo helped the Malaysian cricket team clinch the bronze medal at the 29th Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur.

Now, Zumika, 21, and Sahsa, 19, are determined to emulate that tenacity in their studies. They hope to change the lot of their family.

This was despite having only RM50 as pocket money when they enrolled to pursue their tertiary education at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) yesterday.

The sisters, who are from the Temiar Orang Asli community in Gua Musang, are among 4,139 students who enrolled for UKM's Bachelor's Degree programme.

Zumika said she was thankful to be given the opportunity to further her studies.

She was also thankful to the Orang Asli Development Department (Jakoa) for sending her sibling and her to UKM.

Zumika represented Malaysia in cricket tournaments in Thailand, Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates. The fifth among 10 children is pursuing a Bachelor of Education (Sport and Recreation).

Sahsa is waiting for her appeal for the same programme. Her appeal is now at UKM's senate level. Zumika was enrolled at UKM through a special slot for her excellent performance in sports.

UKM's University Community Transformation Centre is helping the sisters to manage and buy essential items.

Jakoa is helping them obtain aid and scholarships.