

UniFiji Holds Fiji Day Celebrations

The University of Fiji held a celebration to mark the 48th year of Fiji's Independence on October 9, 2018 at its Saweni Campus. The theme for this year's celebration was "Unity for a Better Fiji."

The Chief Guest at the event, Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Narendra Reddy stated that Fiji Day celebration was the idea of reconciliation, progress and unity.

"The betterment of our nation, its progress, peace and prosperity depend on each and everyone who lives here. Fiji is a multi-racial society, consisting of people from different culture, religion, background. The contribution of each sector of our community, whatever large or small must be acknowledged, appreciated and accepted," he said.

Professor Reddy, while addressing the need to have a harmonious multi-racial society, mentioned that Fiji Day celebrations needed to be organized by a central body at UniFiji as opposed to being organized by the iTaukei Students Association.

"When the people of a country are united, they move towards peace and development. Working together as equals on the basis of common citizenry is how we Fijians can take Fiji forward. Students are urged to work in harmony; keep life balanced. Maintain a healthy balance amongst the study, social and personal life. Maintain the peaceful environment. Love and be kind to your surroundings and above all, respect the difference," he stressed.

Conclusively he quoted famous American President, John F. Kennedy "ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country". He explained that doing small things such as picking up the rubbish and being actively engaged in community work would have positive impacts on the country's economy.

The celebration was attended by staff and students of the University.