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Mothers of substance

Four receive recognition for outstanding achievements in their careers

FOUR distinguished women with exceptional achievements in their careers were honoured by Avon Cosmetics (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd in conjunction with Mother's Day at an event aptly called *My Mother, My Inspiration*.

Datuk Dr Nor Ashikin Ahmad Mokhtar, Datuk Maznah Hamid, Datuk F.R. Bhupalan and Tan Tong Leng were named Mother of Careers, Mother of Entrepreneurs, Mother of Community and Mother of Inspiration - Avon Dealer respectively.

The children of the four presented bouquets and paid moving tributes to their mothers during the event.

Held at the KL Hilton, the event was graced by Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Nur Zahirah, who presented the awards to the four mothers.

Also present were Deputy Women, Family and Community Development Minister Noriah Kasnon, Avon Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam

»My mother made me feel that I could do anything that I wanted«

ANDREA JUNG

and Indonesia president Mansoor Wan Abdullah, Deputy Human Resources Minister Datuk Noraini Ahmad and Avon Products Global chairman and chief executive officer Andrea Jung.



Honoured: (From left) Tan, Maznah, Nor Ashikin and Bhupalan sharing a light moment. - Photo by Bernama.



Contribution towards women's health: Tuanku Nor Zahirah (second from left) presenting the mock cheque for US\$100,000 to USM medical campus director Prof Datuk Dr Mafauzy Mohamed (right) while Mansoor (left) and Jung look on. - Photo by Bernama.

According to Jung, who flew in from New York for the occasion, Avon is proud to be part of the celebration of Malaysian motherhood.

"Around the world, Avon is nothing more or less than millions of mothers who've joined hands in mutual support, working to create better lives for themselves and their families," said Jung.

She added that mothers were a symbol of inspiration and success to the next generation.

Born to immigrant parents in Canada, Jung recalled how her chemist mother never let her feel second to her brother.

"My mother made me feel that I could do anything that I wanted. She's a great inspiration and support to me and she is definitely my role model," said Jung, who has two children of her own.

To commemorate the occasion, Avon Foundation made a donation of US\$100,000 to Hospital Universiti

Sains Malaysia (HUSM) to support its work in caring for women in Malaysia.

The funds will be used to buy a new mammography workstation, biopsy test system and other equipment and to help set up a Breast Cancer Resource Centre.

At the event, Avon also launched its latest fragrance, "Today. Tomorrow. Always. In Bloom", as a symbol of love and dedication to all mothers.