



The
Epitome
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Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch

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Published by:
UiTM Cawangan Kedah,
Pn. Razanawati Nordin, Chief Editor,
UiTM Cawangan Kedah, Kampus Sg. Petani, 08400 Merbok, Kedah
Email address: razanawati@uitm.edu.my
Contact No: 044562421

Copy Editor: Ms. Rafidah Binti Amat & Ms. Nor Asni Syahriza Abu Hassan
Graphic Designer: Mr. Mohd Hamidi Adha Mohd Amin



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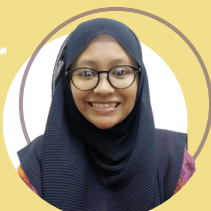
Puan Khairul Wanis Ahmad

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Puan Nor Asni Syahriza Abu Hasan



Miss Nurfarisyah Hafiz

Assistant Copy Editor



synopsis

The Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Cawangan Kedah is thrilled to announce the release of the third edition of its e-magazine, The Epitome. This publication exemplifies our steady dedication to fostering creativity in language and literature.

The primary objective of THE EPITOME is to offer a platform where writers, educators, scholars, poets, and researchers can come together to exchange their ideas, discoveries, expertise, and narratives. Our special focus revolves around an array of creative writing genres, encompassing Playwriting, Short stories, Songs, Speeches, Memoirs, Literary Journalism, Humour writing, Lyric essays, Innovative essays, and Personal essays, with a goal to embrace diverse linguistic expressions, with content available in four languages: English, Bahasa Melayu, Mandarin, and Arabic.

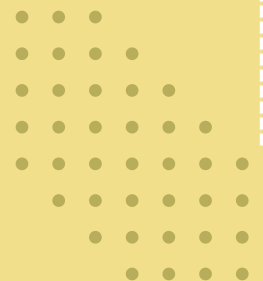




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Preface



Mr. Azlan Abdul Rahman

Head of Faculty
Academy of Language Studies
UiTM Kedah Branch

Welcome to Epitome, the 3rd Issue – a collection of thoughts, reflections, and stories that encapsulate the essence of an academic's journey. As the pages unfold, you will embark on a thoughtful exploration of the human experience, woven through the threads of joy, sorrow, and everything in between.

In designing this compilation, our intention is to offer readers a mirror to their own experiences, inviting moments of reflection and connection. Epitome is not just a creative publication; it is an invitation to pause, reflect, and find quality in the shared tapestry of our existence.

Through these pages, the reader may encounter familiar landscapes of the heart and perhaps discover a transformed perspective on the beauty and complexity of academic life. Each piece within Epitome is a humble contribution to the ongoing dialogue of what it means to be human.

I extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who have been a part of this journey – especially to all the contributors and the esteemed Epitome Editorial Team. Your involvement and presence surely added depth and meaning to this publication.

May Epitome serve as a companion, provoking thought and sparking moments of connection and collaboration.

Thank you for embarking on this literary voyage with us.

Editor-In-Chief



Creativity is intelligence having fun

Dear Epitome Community,

We are back for the third issue and enthusiastic to share with all of you the collection of creative writings crafted by dedicated and imaginative writers. In this third issue, we present a variety of articles ranging from playwriting to lyric essays, each offering a unique tone and style of writing. Thanks to all the creative and talented writers, we hope these pieces can inspire you in various ways.

We would like to extend our congratulations to all the inspiring writers for their valuable contributions and unwavering support. Many of these names are familiar to us, as some have been submitting their work since our first volume. Additionally, we would like to express our gratitude to the dedicated committee and reviewers for their time and expertise.

Thank you for being a part of our Epitome community.

Till the next volume,

Dr. Nur Syazwanie Mansor
Editor-in-Chief,
The Epitome

In the Embrace of Memory: The Journey of Loss, Love and Legacy

Mashita binti Abdul Jabar

Universiti Teknologi MARA Cawangan Melaka

My memories of our last encounter are still vivid. She looked at me with a loving grin on her face while she lay pale and ill on the hospital bed. My mother's passing was one of the hardest things I have ever gone through. The pain of her absence remains in my life, even though I was not prepared for her death. I had to witness my mother suffer, thus this was one of the worst things I have ever had to go through.

I remember picturing my mother's thin frame in that hospital bed, her once-vibrant skin now pale. But as she met my gaze, even in her frail state, she exuded a kind, compassionate affection. There was a lifetime of meaning in her smile. Even though I was feeling a lot of grief at the time, I could still sense the strong relationship between a mother and her child. It was one of the hardest things I've ever had to do - say goodbye to her. I didn't feel ready—how could one ever be ready?—but we managed to find the inner strength. The minutes ticked down as we chatted about past experiences and her wishes for me.

When my mother passed away, I felt as though I had lost a part of me. She was not just my best friend but also my confidante and inspiration. She served as my mentor as well. She was the one who taught me how to laugh, love, dream, and live. It was she who gave me life lessons. I felt lost, empty, and alone without her. It felt like I was a ship at sea, lost and without a compass in a storm. My mother served as my moral compass, using her wisdom to always point me in the direction of what was good and right. After she was gone, I had a terrible time getting by and felt completely lost in a never-ending void of grief and suffering. Easy chores turned into challenging ones. I distanced myself from my loved ones. She had extinguished the light in my universe, leaving me to fend for myself in the dark.

My mother's death was a life-changing event for me. This event taught me to cherish every second I spend with the people I love, to cherish the memories we make together, and to express my gratitude and admiration in the right ways. It not only made me more resilient and sympathetic, but it also made me more upbeat. It taught me to live in the present and welcome the future, in addition to teaching me to respect the past. It made me see that life is a valuable, sensitive, and uncertain experience, and I should make the most of it. Following my mother's passing, I became more clear-eyed about the kind of life I want to lead. I started expressing my gratitude to my family and friends at every opportunity. Focusing on the positive memories helps me be optimistic even on the worst of days. And since our time here is precious and brief, I make every effort to really enjoy the present while simultaneously making plans for the future. My mother gave me a wealth of life lessons, and her passing further deepened my understanding of the frailty and preciousness of life.

I had to go through the painful experience of losing my mother, which humbled me. It was the most devastating loss I have ever experienced in my life. I will always carry my mother's memories with me, and time will never be able to ease the pain she left behind in my heart. I keep waking up in the morning feeling as though she is here, but then I understand it was all a dream. I feel empty on the inside as a result of this loss. There will always be a void in my heart after her passing. I catch myself reaching for the phone to give her an update on my day, only to realise she's not there. I still cry at night, lamenting the passing of my mum, who was a major influence on who I am. I'm aware that pain might never completely go away. However, thinking back on her essence, her insight, her hug, and the deep love she left on my spirit is comforting. Even in the depths of my sadness, that love endures. And even though I'm in grief, I believe she would want me to work every day to uplift others by bringing that love into the world. I, therefore, make it my goal to pay tribute to her memory by leading a life that is fulfilling.

The End.



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