



The **Epitome** */i'pitəmi/*

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch

Capturing Life Lessons and Moments

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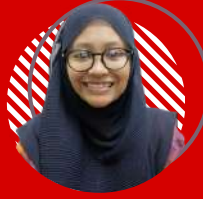


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Synopsis



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

The primary objective of *THE EPITOME* is to offer a platform for 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 the fourth issue of *Epitome*, where creativity and imagination shine brightly. Within these pages, you will discover a rich tapestry of voices and visions—each piece a celebration of the limitless potential of words.

This issue of *Epitome* is more than a mere publication; it is a tribute to the art of storytelling in all its forms. Whether you are captivated by evocative poetry, enthralled by engaging short stories, or intrigued by insightful essays, we aim to present something that resonates with every reader.

We are passionate about the transformative power of literature, and we hope that this collection will inspire, challenge, and delight you. As you explore these pages, may you uncover new perspectives and experiences that enrich your own creative journey.

Thank you for embarking on this literary adventure with us.

Happy reading!





Editor InChief

Dear gentle readers,

Let me welcome you to our fourth edition of e-magazine, where we explore the beauty of life's journey. Our theme, "Capturing Life Lessons and Moments," encourages you to pause, reflect, and celebrate the wisdom that arises from everyday experiences.

Life is a mosaic of moments, each with the potential to teach us something profound, inspire change, or remind us of the surrounding beauty. Within these pages, we have unfolded stories, reflections, and insights that illuminate the lessons woven into the fabric of our lives. From the quiet wisdom found in fleeting moments to the power of life-changing events, this edition pays tribute to the learning that occurs beyond the classroom, in the heart of our daily lives.

Our contributors have poured their hearts into capturing these moments, sharing personal stories that resonate with authenticity and depth. You will find essays exploring the significance of small acts of kindness, articles reflecting on the lessons learned from adversity, and creative pieces celebrating the joy found in simple leisure. Each piece serves as a reminder that life's greatest lessons often emerge from the most unexpected places.

As you flip through this edition, we hope you find inspiration in the shared stories and perhaps discover a mirror to your own experiences. May these pages encourage you to appreciate the moments that shape you, learn from the challenges that test you, and embrace the wisdom that life offers at every step of your journey.

Thank you for joining us in exploring life's lessons and moments. We invite you to take your time, savour each piece, and maybe even gain a new perspective on the experiences that have shaped your own life.

Happy reading!

Warm regards,

Razanawati Nordin
Editor-in-Chief
THE EPITOME



MIKARI LAGI???

Fudzla Suraiyya Abdul Raup & Siti Nur Fatimah Md Aminullah
Akademi Pengajian Bahasa, UiTM Shah Alam & UiTM Sabah, Kampus Kota Kinabalu



Image by Ai generated

Loceng berbunyi, menandakan waktu rehat telah tiba. Seisi kelas melepas nafas sambil mengukir senyum lebar. Selangkah saja kaki Cikgu Zainab di luar kelas, Hana terus mencapai buku teks Sejarah yang elok terdampar atas meja dan ditegakkan menjadi kubu pertahanan. Kepala didaratkan di atas meja. Dia sudah tak ambil pusing keadaan sekeliling.

“Jom. Teman aku. Pergi kantin.” Sarah menolak kerusi sebelum bangun. Hana hanya menggeleng. “Kau sarapan tak, pagi tadi?” Hana angguk dengan mata terpejam. Tangan diangkat dan dihayunkan ke kiri dan kanan, gaya menghalau. Sarah mencebikkan bibir. Kawan aku ni, kalau mengantuk, datanglah ribut taufan sekalipun, dia tolak ke tepi saja. “Kau tidur lambat ke semalam?” Dia terus bertanya. Berani kau halau aku macam tu saja?!” “Dia balik lewat semalam.” Satu suara menjawab dari hujung kelas. Sarah berpaling, dan matanya menyapa susuk tubuh Tasha, yang tengah bersandar di pintu kelas. Tasha, rakan sebilik Hana, yang juga punca utama, Hana selalu bebel pagi-pagi, sebab liat betul nak bangun solat Subuh.

“Aku gerak pergi kantin dengan Tasha, tau!” Senyap. Tiada jawapan langsung, walaupun sekadar anggukan atau gelengan. Sarah ketap bibir sambil angkat siku. Eiiiiii... ini kalau aku siku ni, terbang tulang rusuk. Tasha yang melihat gerakan Sarah, terus ketawa. Terus dia teringat kisah semalam...

“Baru balik?” “Astaghfirullah...Terkejut aku!” Hana melabuh duduk di sisi Tasha, yang sedang membaca nota subjek Sejarah, bertemankan lampu koridor. Ini mesti malas nak turun bilik bacaan ni. “Wahhhh...kau baca nota Sejarah pagi-pagi buta macam ni? Boleh masuk Misteri Nusantara ni. Jangan biarkan hidup anda diselubungi...misteri.” Dia menggiat, sambil meniru gaya Zainal Ariffin Ismail. Tasha menjulangkan mata ke atas. “Lewatnya balik bilik. Buat apa?” Sekilas matanya memandang Hana yang dah terbaring di sebelah sebelum kembali fokus pada nota di tangan. “Aku jumpa senior.”



“Sebab?”

“Ada perbincangan sikit tadi.” Hana sengih. Kalau Tasha tahu dia balik lambat sebab tengah bincang untuk ‘spotcheck’ malam esok, mesti dia terkejut. “Aku tidur dulu. Penat. Good night.” Hana bangun menapak menuju katil. Tasha angguk sambil kerut dahi. Bincang apa sampai pagi? Mengalahkan menteri. Dia sekadar menjongket bahu. Malas mahu menyambung perbualan.

“Tashaaa...” Hana memanggil dari atas katil.

“Hmm...”

“Jangan tidur lambat. Esok susah nak bangun.”

Dia menghentikan bacaan. “Kenapa? Kau dah bosan kejut aku?”

“Tak lah.”

“Habis tu?”

“Esok sarapan nasi lemak.” Hana menjawab dari atas katil. “Turun awal jom, esok.”

Tasha sengih sambil angguk. Dia tahu. Sebenarnya, Hana tak mahu dia lambat lagi. Sebab dalam minggu ni saja, dah 3 hari berturut-turut dia lambat ke perhimpunan. Hana pula jadi tukang catat nama, sebab dia Exco Disiplin Asrama Puteri. Disebabkan mandat besar yang Hana pegang, memang Hana tak pernah lewat. Lambat macam mana sekalipun dia tidur, dia akan tekan loceng tepat pada masanya. Pukul 7 pagi untuk loceng pertama, dan 7.10 pagi untuk loceng kedua. Betul-betul ‘qudwah qabla dakwah’.

“Satu lagi...”

“Tidurlah Hana. Aku nak fokus ni.”

“Kau dah habis hafal Al-Mulk kan? Sarah cakap, semalam kau tasmi’ dengan dia.”

“Dah.”

“Alhamdulillah. Meletup kebaboom kau punya performance. Outing nanti, aku belanja mi kari.”

“Al-Kahfi, aku dah hafal sampai ayat 5.” Tasha menjawab dengan nada mendatar. Terus Hana bangun duduk.

“Ini dah nak lawan aku. Tak aci. Tak ajak pun.”

“Helloooo... kau kan dah habis hafal satu surah tu.”

“Alaaa...ajak je lah, ulang hafalan sama-sama. Aku nak tumpang pahala juga.”

Tasha melepas nafas. Mana dia cerita Aminuddin Baki dalam nota Sejarah yang aku baca tadi? Hilang terus. Bertuah punya member! “Tidur.Hana...aku.nak.fokus.” Satu-satu dia menyebut, dengan nada rendah dan tegas. Tadi cakap mengantuk. Banyak mulut pulak dia.

...

“Mengelamun...” Sarah petik jari depan muka Tasha. Terkejut dia. Hampir tersadung wayar di depan kantin. “...dah sampai Antartika ke tu?” Sarah cuit bahu Tasha. “Minggu depan, aku nak tasmi’ Al-Kahfi ayat 1-10 dengan kau. Jumaat la kot. Boleh tak?”

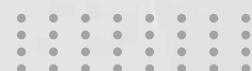
Sarah berhenti melangkah. Tangan Tasha ditarik ke dalam gengaman. “Mestilah boleh! Dah habis 10 ayat nanti, aku belanja mi kari.”

Tasha menjulangkan mata ke atas.

“Mi kari lagi? Exco Disiplin yang tengah tidur dalam kelas pun nak belanja mi kari, yang muka teruja sebelah aku ni pun nak belanja mi kari juga! Perlu ke aku puasa minggu ni?”

...

“Seseorang itu bergantung kepada agama sahabatnya. Kerana itu, perhatikanlah setiap seorang di antara kalian dengan siapa dia bersahabat.” (Hadis riwayat Abu Dawud).





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