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Embracing Innovation and Discourse: A Message from the Rector



Esteemed colleagues, students, and friends of UiTM Kedah Branch,

I am pleased to announce the launch of the second edition of the **RMU4U E-Bulletin**. This publication showcases the intellectual energy and a wide range of expertise that have bloomed within our esteemed university.

The 38 articles presented in this issue exemplify a remarkable spectrum of scholarly inquiry. From insightful legal studies to captivating cultural reflections, from thought-provoking discussions on business and finance to explorations of the ever-evolving technological landscape, the **RMU4U E-Bulletin** offers a glimpse into the minds that are shaping the future. This e-bulletin is more than just a collection of articles; it is a platform for discourse, a springboard for critical thinking, and a catalyst for innovation. By engaging with the diverse perspectives presented here, we can cultivate a deeper understanding of the complex issues facing our world today.

I am particularly heartened by the focus on the transformative power of technology. Discussions on Industrial Revolution 5.0 and the integration of AI serve as crucial reminders of the need to embrace innovation and equip ourselves with the skills to navigate the rapidly changing landscape. The articles on learning methodologies, from self-directed learning to mobile-assisted language acquisition, further underscore UiTM Kedah's commitment to providing our students with the tools and resources they need to thrive in the 21st century.

To our esteemed contributors, I extend my sincere gratitude for sharing your valuable insights and expertise. Your dedication is what fuels the intellectual engine of our university.

To our readers, I encourage you to delve into the articles, engage with the ideas presented, and later share your perspectives. Let this e-bulletin be the spark that ignites lively dialogues and fosters a culture of continuous learning within our university community.

Together, let us leverage the power of knowledge and innovation to shape a brighter future.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Rohima Sa'id

Rector, UiTM Kedah



A Message from the Chief Editor

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the second issue of the RMU4U E-Bulletin from UiTM Kedah. I am excited to present 38 insightful articles that showcase the diverse academic interests and expertise within our university. Each article brings a unique perspective, contributing to a rich array of knowledge and ideas.

In this issue, our contributors have explored a wide range of subjects. We have compelling legal studies on topics such as home-schooling and child marriage, alongside cultural reflections that delve into the Semai heritage and contemporary Malaysian art. These pieces highlight the importance of preserving and understanding our cultural and societal norms.

Our business and finance section offers fresh insights into the gig economy, the integration of AI in accounting, and the nuances of tax compliance. These articles provide a closer look at the evolving economic landscape and the challenges and opportunities it presents.



Technological innovation is another prominent theme, with discussions on Industrial Revolution 5.0, the critical role of information professionals, and the integration of AI in education. These articles underscore the rapid pace of technological change and its impact on various sectors.

We also feature thought-provoking pieces on self-directed learning, mobile-assisted English learning, and the transformative power of social media in libraries. These articles explore the intersections of technology, education, and communication, offering valuable insights into modern learning environments. Our goal with this e-bulletin is to foster a deeper understanding and spark meaningful conversations among our readers. We hope that the knowledge and ideas shared here will inspire and engage you.

A heartfelt thank you to all our contributors for their hard work and dedication. And to our readers, thank you for your continued support and interest in the RMU4U E-Bulletin.

Happy reading!
Warm regards,

Dr Azyyati Anuar
Chief Editor, RMU4U E-Bulletin



MEMORIES OF VIOLENCE AND ATROCITIES: NO DRAM OF MERCY

Bawani Selvaraj

Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA,
Cawangan Kedah, Kampus Sungai Petani, Kedah, Malaysia
wani190@uitm.edu.my

Violence, fear, atrocities are common recurrent themes to characterise Japanese occupation in Malaya between 1942 until 1945 (Nair & Musa, 2020; Cheah, 2012; Wang, 2000). The literature on imperial power in Malaya is indeed overwhelming, however, the atrocities committed towards women in Malaya by the Japanese remains at the periphery. War is a controversial event to be remembered especially in South East Asia – it is always a question of who remembers and what it was remembered. It is also crucial to note that memory is a contested terrain. Memory is selective and historians are reluctant to rely on it. Individual memories are said to be biased and not representative (Wang, 2000; Cheah, 2000; Abu Talib, 2000).

This essay subscribes to Dwyer's (2011) argument that memoirs are personal narratives and should not be read as factual accounts. *No Dram of Mercy* by Sybil Kathigasu is viewed as a linguistic document thus making it a personal narrative. It illustrates the brutality and horrors inflicted upon a civilian woman, making this memoir an 'invaluable testimony' and one of the very few written accounts of a woman's suffering during Japanese occupation in Malaya (Wong, 2012). Kathigasu's recount can also be seen as a psycho-social approach in her attempt to seek justice for herself as a victim and for the public to know the truth. It gives the author a new meaning in reasserting her own subjectivity.

Kathigasu is a Malayan of Eurasian origin who considered herself a colonial subject and resisted the imperial power.



Image Source : Canva

She was a trained midwife who rendered medical services and treated wounded members of the Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army (MPAJA) in small quaint town known as Papan. Violence takes centre stage in *No Dram of Mercy* when Kathigasu was subsequently arrested and suffered physical and mental torture at the hands of Japanese Kempetai, Sergeant Yoshimura. She was brutally beaten – "My beatings continued until I could scarcely stand but hung limp in the bonds which tied me to the pillar" (Kathigasu, 2006, p.138). Her faith and courage never wavered as she refused to divulge any information to Yoshimura and that came with a price – "As I reeled and staggered under the force of his infuriated violence, a severe blow caught me squarely on the spine. I felt an acute spasm of pain throughout my body, and fell to the ground in a dead faint" (Kathigasu, 2006, p.145).



Her trials and tribulations are often compared to that of Edith Cavell who supported the Allied Force during World War 1- "men and women of all races and all walks of life attended her funeral, paying respect to Malaya's 'Nurse Cavell' "(Kathigasu, 2006, Epilogue, p.183). Her spirit of resistance against oppression and injustice is not merely confined to Malaya but is universal and found wherever people are free (Wong, 2012).



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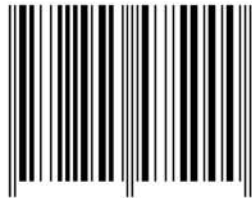
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Biodata of author

Bawani Selvaraj is a Senior Lecturer at Academy of Language Studies, UITM Kedah.



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