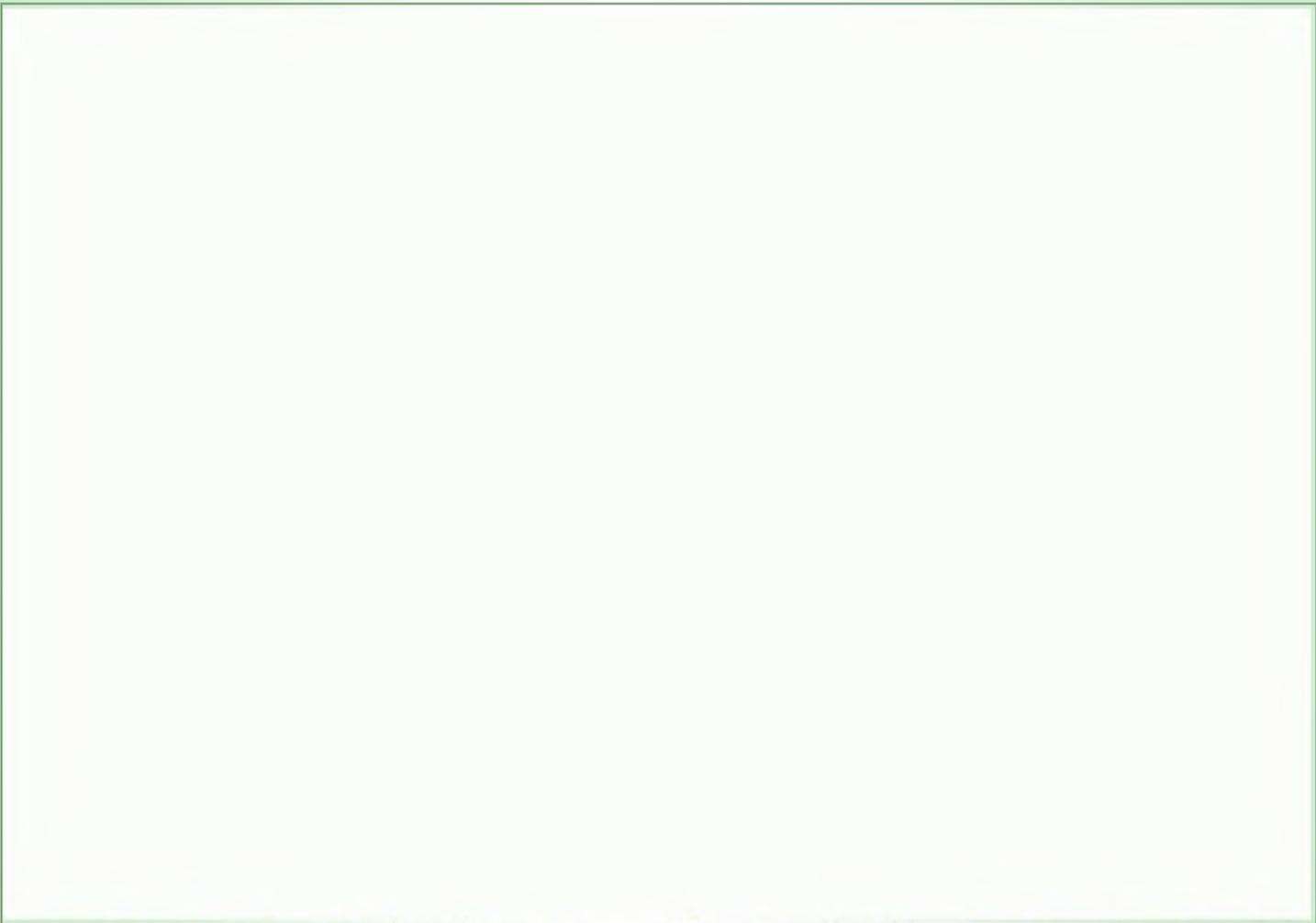


Lecturer's Contribution



Remembering Adibah Noor

by Nazima Versay Kudus & Suzana Ab Rahim

The demise of Adibah Noor on June 18, 2022 was a great shock to the nation. She was a multi-talented individual, held multiple roles during her lifetime - singer, actor, talent show judge and host (corporate events, television and radio). As a trained English language teacher and a public figure, she was never short of advice in the media on how good language should be used whether in the Malay or English language. She was never afraid to comment on the grammar, pronunciation and enunciation of a news anchor, minister and fellow entertainers. Adibah was a fellow TESL student, together with the authors, 35 years ago. Here, we would like to share some snippets of what kind of a person she was to us:

Note by Nazima - Dib, as I used to call her, was an easy-

going and fun classmate. We sat next to each other during our TESL matriculation. Matriculation year was rigorous. Classes were about polishing our grammar and other language skills before we moved on to our undergraduate programme. As Adibah's English was impeccable, she was the person that I always turned to for help during class. She was never showy in class, only answering questions when asked by the lecturers and friends. She always got along well with our classmates, never sticking to a group of people, always adaptable to just anybody. The rest of us always felt comfortable with her presence. Her participation in 'Suara 90an Nescafe' was not a total surprise because she had shown interest in music, playing electronic keyboard during TESL events. I never realised that she could sing, very well for that matter. Before

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WhatsApp came into picture, the TESL fraternity kept contact via a group email - and Adibah would occasionally respond to some of our woes and joys about life. The TESL fraternity is always proud of her achievements, we always identify ourselves with her - "I am so-and-so, Adibah Noor's TESL classmate". Though she had left teaching for a long time, she was always a teacher at heart. Throughout her life, she continued to contribute back to our alma mater and the programme many times, whether as a speaker, event judge or an entertainer. Farewell Dib, may Allah place you among the righteous.

Note by Suzana - The vivacious ever laughing 'Dak debok' or 'Dak gemuks' as she often amicably nicknamed herself was someone whose lively nature towards life is something I truly admire. Dibah and those days being an Adee La Cruise was common amongst the TESL coursemates because she was smitten with Tom Cruise. We would cheer our TESL team and oh boy, we had real fun back then. The very thing about her appearance would be her lips that would always have to be freshly applied with the usual red lipstick and this was obvious in her reels, videos on Tik Tok or Facebook posts. Dibah was gregarious and humorous when it came to being amongst us but she was very generous when it came to her darling cats and kittens. I am lucky to have had

her attention too where the auto wheel chair is concerned, as I was informed she was very instrumental in getting me mobile. In fact, Dibah upon an invitation to UiTM Penang for a talk session with the staff, refused to be given any form of payment as according to her, she was doing me a favour being a TESL fraternity. The crowd was entertained with her motivational input encouraging them to embrace learning English positively. There will never be another Adibah Noor as she will always remain irreplaceable. A loving person who is multi-talented, will be forever etched in our memory.

