



The **Epitome** */i'pitəmi/*

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch

Theme,
**THE POWER OF EXPRESSION",
"REFLECTIONS & REALITIES:**

Volume 1
Issue 5

2025



The
Epitome
/I'pitəmi/

Copyright Page

Copyright© 2025 by Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah Branch. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission from the Rector, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah Branch, 08400 Merbok, Kedah, Malaysia.

The views, opinions, and technical recommendations expressed by the contributors are entirely their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors, the Faculty or the University.

eISSN 3009 – 0075

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
& Mr. Muhammad Shyazzwan Ibrahim Brian

Graphic Designer: Mr. Mohd Hamidi Adha Mohd Amin



APB KEDAH : THE EPITOME

Editorial Board

Advisor



Mr. Azlan
Abdul Rahman

Chief Editors

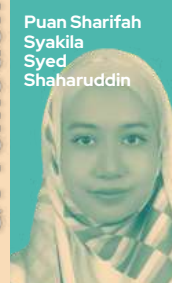


Dr. Nur
Syazwanie
Mansor



Puan
Razanawati
Nordin

Managing Editors & Promotion



Puan Sharifah
Syakila
Syed
Shahrudin

Editors & Content Reviewers



Puan Hajah
Sharina Saad



Puan
Phaveena
Primsuwan



Puan Samsiah
Bidin



Dr. Berlian
Nur Morat



Puan Syazliiyati
Ibrahim



Puan Nor Asni
Syahriza Abu
Hasan



Ustaz Mohd
Zulkhairi
Abd Hamid



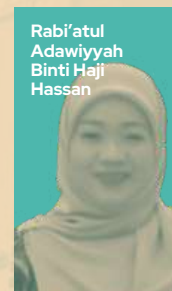
Puan Noor
'Izzati
Ahmad Shafiai



Cik Lee Chai
Cuen



Mr. Mohd Hamidi
Adha Mohd
Amin



Rabi'atul
Adawiyah
Binti Haji
Hassan

Secretaries



Puan Mas Aida
Abd Rahim



Puan Rafidah
Amat



Puan Khairul
Wanis Ahmad

Graphic Designer



Mr. Mohd Hamidi
Adha Mohd
Amin

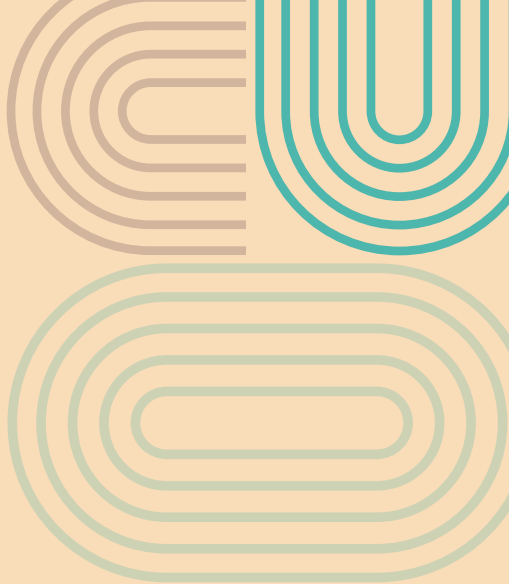
Copy Editor



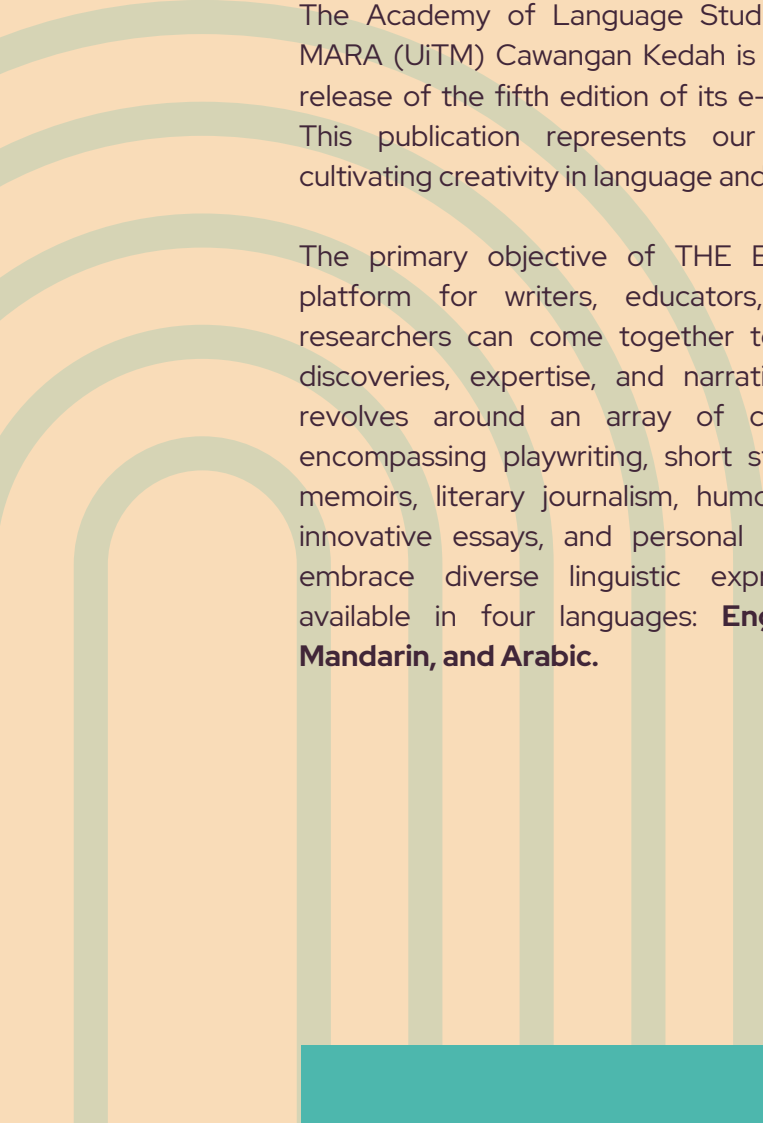
Puan Rafidah
Amat



Mr. Muhammad
Shyazzwan
Ibrahim Brian



Synopsis



The Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Cawangan Kedah is thrilled to announce the release of the fifth 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.**





ents:

21 **'My Journey: A Story of Life's Journey from Childhood to Adulthood'**
by Abd Rahman Jamaan

23 **'Perpaduan Dalam Kesenian'**
by Mohamad Quzami An-Nuur Ahmad Radzi

25 **'Plant Parenthood: Growing Plants, Growing Love'**
by Raja Nur Hidayah Binti Raja Yacob

27 **'Quest For Roti Canai Takes a Surreal Turn'**
by Nur Areena Aqilah Mohd Sapri

29 **'Rani Oh Rani'**
by Angeline Ranjethamoney Vijayarajoo,
Sharina Salmi Azmi & Afni Anida Adnan

31 **'Silap-Silap Tersilap Makna!'**
by Muhammad Luqman Ibnul Hakim Mohd
Saad, & Tengku Mohd Farid Tengku Abdul Aziz

33 **'Terapi Lukisan Kopi'**
by Rohaizan Mat Nashir @ Mohd Nasir

35 **'The Pen'**
by Ayu Haswida Abu Bakar

37 **'What Is Ageing? Does It Mean The End Of The World? Is 'Ageing Gracefully' Even Possible?'**
by Fatmawati Kamal

38 **'Write Now'**
by Ong Elly

39 **'Empowering Young Minds Through English Language Games Via A USR Project'**
by Syazliiyati Ibrahim, Razanawati Nordin &
Azlan Abdul Rahman



The
Epitome
/i'pitəmi/

Preface

Mr. Azlan Abdul Rahman

Head of Faculty
Akademi Pengajian Bahasa (APB)
UiTM Kedah Branch

Welcome to the 5th issue of Epitome. This time, we step into a world where reflections shape realities, and where the simple act of expression holds incredible power.

Our theme, "Reflections & Realities: The Power of Expression," captures the spirit of this collection. It reminds us that every creative work is more than just an arrangement of words – it is a mirror, a window, and a bridge. Within these pages, you will encounter a rich variety of voices, each offering a unique glimpse into personal journeys, dreams, questions, and truths. Together, they form a tapestry that reflects both the world as it is and the world as we imagine it could be.

At Epitome, we believe that creativity is not just about telling stories; it's about giving shape to experiences that might otherwise remain unspoken. Through story that stirs the heart, stories that spark new ideas, and essays that invite reflection, we celebrate the courage it takes to put thoughts into words and share them with others.

This issue is not just a showcase of talent – it is an invitation. An invitation to pause, to listen, and to engage with the many realities presented here. It asks us to look beyond the surface, to find meaning in unexpected places, and to recognize the universal threads that connect us all through the simple yet profound act of expression.

As you journey through this edition, we hope you find pieces that resonate with you, challenge your perspective, and awaken new ideas. May these reflections inspire you to embrace your own realities – and perhaps even to express them in your own way.

Thank you for allowing Epitome to be part of your reading experience. We are honoured to share these voices with you.

Happy reading!



Editor'snote

Presenting the fifth edition of THE EPITOME, a humble yet heartfelt collection of voices that reflect who we are, what we've experienced, and the truths we dare to express.

This publication's theme, "Reflections & Realities: The Power of Expression", embraces the essence of storytelling in all its forms—raw, whimsical, honest, and imaginative. Within these pages, our contributors navigate the labyrinth of identity, nostalgia, struggle, resilience, and creativity. Whether through memoirs, fiction, poetry, satire, or cultural musings, each piece represents a unique lens into the human condition, where language becomes both mirror and window—reflecting ourselves and revealing the world.

In a publication that welcomes expression in three languages—English, Bahasa Melayu, and Mandarin—we are reminded of the richness that lies in linguistic diversity. From humorous tales of online shopping to haunting narratives of secrets and self-discovery, from kampung chronicles to cross-cultural encounters, THE EPITOME offers a space for voices that often go unheard to finally be seen, read, and felt.

My deepest appreciation goes to the writers who have entrusted us with their stories, the editorial and design teams whose passion has brought this issue to life, and our readers who continuously support this platform as a space for creative and reflective exploration.

May this edition inspire you to reflect, to connect, and most of all—to express.

Warmly,
Dr. Nur Syazwanie Mansor
Chief Editor
THE EPITOME 2025



Rani Oh Rani

Angeline Ranjethamoney Vijayarajoo, Sharina Salmi Azmi, & Afni Anida Adnan

Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA,
Cawangan Negeri Sembilan, Kampus Seremban, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia
angierv@uitm.edu.my, shari179@uitm.edu.my, afnia424@uitm.edu.my,

Rani was a resourceful young woman, not conventionally beautiful but attractive through her cheerful demeanor and radiant smile. She always dressed well and maintained a clean, welcoming home. Like many Indian families, her marriage was arranged by her parents, a custom she accepted without question. After completing her teacher training course, she worked and awaited her parents' decision to marry her off.

Her groom, Jega, came with a traditional village wedding. Though Rani's family had limited resources, the villagers came together to ensure the event went smoothly. Rani even contributed five months of her salary to help with expenses.

Rani and Jega had two children, whom she adored. However, her joy turned to sorrow as she discovered Jega was an alcoholic. He lost his job, demanded money for drinking, and grew violent when she refused. Despite her best efforts to hide this, neighbors noticed, and word reached her parents, who, bound by tradition, urged her to endure.

Determined to improve her life, Rani enrolled in a university program and attended weekend classes. As her children grew more independent, Jega's abuse escalated, extending to the children. Unable to bear it, Rani sought help from a kind colleague, Mrs. Maha, who offered her a small living space. One night, while Jega was out drinking, Rani left with her children, supported by her neighbors, who ultimately drove Jega out of the village.

Rani transferred to another town, completed her degree, and secured a higher teaching position. Though life was hard—balancing a housing loan and a second-hand car—she persevered. Her children thrived, with her daughter excelling in academics and her son completing a diploma with her support.

One memorable birthday, her children surprised her with a vacation to Bangkok, her first holiday and flight in 47 years. During the trip, she met Gabriel, a kind man from Finland. Their mutual attraction grew into a long-distance relationship, despite her initial hesitation. After three years of visits and careful consideration, Rani married Gabriel.

They honeymooned in Paris, and Gabriel, an architect, supported her family generously, even sponsoring her son's further education in London.

Rani retired early and moved to Finland, though she frequently visited Malaysia. Her children married for love, unlike her arranged marriage, and thrived in their own lives. Rani felt content and fulfilled, thinking, "What more do I want?"

However, tragedy struck when Gabriel passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack at 58, leaving Rani devastated. Yet, true to her resilient nature, she found purpose again. Within a month, she began teaching at a local school and soon became the Head Teacher of English and Environmental Studies.

Rani also initiated community projects, including activities for the elderly and after-school programs for children to nurture creativity and resourcefulness. With the local government's support, these programs flourished, bringing joy and purpose to many lives.

Now settled in Finland, Rani continues to visit Malaysia and welcomes friends and family to her new home. Her story is one of courage, perseverance, and inspiration—a testament to overcoming adversity and creating a meaningful life despite immense challenges.

Rani, oh Rani, remains an enduring symbol of strength for women trapped by cultural and traditional constraints.

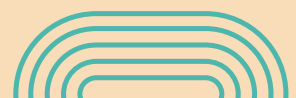


Biodata of author(s)

Angeline Ranjethamoney Vijayarajoo is an Associate Professor at the Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Negeri Sembilan, Seremban Campus. She holds a doctoral degree in education from the University of Malaya. Her interests lie in the teaching and learning of English for Communication purposes. She has written and published more than 25 books for schools and colleges. She has a deep interest in innovative teaching methods and inclusive learning. Angeline has worked on several projects but of late focussing on connecting and collaborating with universities abroad. Her work is driven by a passion for fostering inclusive education and promoting the potential of every learner.

Sharina Salmi Azmi is currently a senior lecturer at the Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Negeri Sembilan, Seremban Campus. She has taught various English proficiency courses such as academic writing, listening, critical reading skills, and oral presentations. She completed her undergraduate studies in English Language and Literature and pursued her graduate studies in Applied Linguistics at Universiti Putra Malaysia. She has more than 17 years of teaching experience. Her research interests include sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, and discourse analysis.

Afni Anida Adnan is a senior lecturer at the Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Negeri Sembilan, Seremban Campus. Her interests include writing poems and designing card-based English language games. She is also involved in UiTM's in-house training of newly appointed lecturers. Besides that, she occasionally gives training as well as assists in the writing and refining of English language modules for various institutions in Malaysia.





UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA

The
Epitome
/i'pitəmi/

eISSN 3009-0075



9 773009 007004