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UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA

Playing,
with Words



ANTHOLOGY OF POEMS

**Compilation of Poems:
Universiti Teknologi MARA Kedah Branch**

**PLAYING WITH WORDS :
VOICE OF THE SOUL VOLUME II ANTHOLOGY OF POEMS**

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Shahriza Ilyana Ramli (Editor BM)

Cover Design : Dr Shafilla Subri

Layout : Syahrini Shawalludin
Nurul Atikah Adnan

Certificate/ Logo : Dr Shafilla Subri

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Nor Atikah Adnan

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FORE WORD

Azlan Abdul Rahman
Head of Akademi Pengajian Bahasa
UiTM Kedah Branch



It has been my utmost pleasure to announce the second publication of a poetry book initiated and hosted by Akademi Pengajian Bahasa (APB), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah Branch. I am proud to say that the second poetry webinar entitled Playing with words has resulted in the publication of Playing With Words: Voice of The Soul Volume II Anthology of Poems. As the head of department, I will always support initiatives like this one and will be looking forward to the coming editions of more creative writing books in the future.

The poetry in this anthology are original and well-crafted and I would recommend you to read the poems from various themes and genres the book offer. Poetry is the only form of writing that touches primarily on the emotional spectrum of human experience, rather than communicating via mental constructs. It enables the writer to share her emotional message directly with the reader, without having to rely on the intermediary form of an intellectual argument or a story.

👉 Thank you all of you who have contributed your poems in the second edition of this poetry book. 👉

This is the real art of sharing a book of poems from one creative mind to another. Congratulations to the editorial team and to all contributors.



PRE FACE

Puan Sharifa Birtti Saad
Chief Editor

It is our pleasure to announce the new edition of the poetry book called *Playing With Words: Voice of The Soul Volume II Anthology of Poems* which was originated from a webinar series entitled *Playing With Words: Voice of The Soul Volume II* organized and hosted by Academy of Language Studies and ILD Universiti Teknologi Mara, Kedah Branch early this year. The major purpose of the workshop is to guide writers to write creative poetry for publication. Poetry writing is an excellent practice for strengthening one's writing skills. Through poetry writing, we gain command of language, cultivate a robust vocabulary, master literary devices, and learn to work in imagery. And that's just a small sampling of how poetry improves basic writing skills. Moreover, poetry writing has long been hailed as a deeply therapeutic practice. It imparts a broad range of emotional and intellectual benefits that are useful to personal growth, whether we're working on self-improvement, emotional or psychological coping and healing, developing relationships, and even furthering our careers. Poetry writing and reading is indeed a therapeutic platform because it is both healing and transformative because it allows you to voice out your inner feelings.

Alhamdulillah, we received a tremendous response from the participants, and we extended the invitation to interested lecturers from various campuses all over Malaysia. I am proud to announce that in the anthology we managed to publish 203 poems which were contributed by 156 lecturers and academicians from UiTM and other higher learning institutions. This is in fact the largest collection of poems compiled in one anthology.

The themes include education, emotions, experience, family, life, values, love, nature, patriotism, hobby and religion all written in English language. We have also embarked into publishing 30 poems written in Bahasa Melayu. The poems reflect the poets' inner voices and their own perception on certain issues in life and their environment. It is hoped that readers of this book would benefit personally and professionally. As the chief editor, I observed improvements in the poems published in the anthology where poets have successfully put emphasis on symbolism, metaphor, and imagery.

Finally, this book could not have come into reality without a great deal of assistance and encouragement from many sources. We must acknowledge the great efforts of the contributors of the poems who have penned down their creative juices and diligently wrote their masterpieces. Our hope is that they will continue to write poems in the future because because poetry allows people to express concepts in unique and resonant ways that sometimes survive and continue to inspire readers for thousands of years.

Acknowledgement

Sharifa Bivti Saad
Chief Editor

Inspired by the words from my favourite author Emily Dickinson,
If I read a book and it makes my whole body so cold no fire can ever warm me,
I know that is poetry. – **Emily Dickinson**

From the quote we know how powerful the diction in poetry is. Diction is important part of writing and understanding poetry because each story helps create the poem tone, mood, and all the poetic literary devices. Each word helps the poet to express her train of thoughts to create her story. Poetry writing has given us the opportunity to play with words innovatively and intelligently.

In Robert Frost's words - "Poetry is when emotion has found its thought, and thought has found words"

I would like to personally thank the Rector of UiTM, the Deputy Rector of Academic Affairs, Head of Academy of Language Studies, for the utmost support and to the diligent editorial team for the effort and dedication to the publication of the second edition of the poetry book. My heartfelt gratitude goes to each one of you who has contributed your poems. Keep up the good work and keep writing poems.

Playing With Words : Voice of The Soul Volume II Anthology of Poems is published today because of you. Congratulations and Thank You everyone.

 **When in grief, play with words,**
When in trouble play with words. 

Sharifa Bivti Saad

Poem in Malay Language



Syukur PadaMU

Hasil Nukilan: Noraini Rahim

Tuhanku

Pabila diri dihambat kekesalan

Hati sentiasa terdetik dan terpanggil

Saban hari, tiap masa dan ketika aku tidak pernah jemu memohon dariMu

Kabulkanlah doaku

Moga suatu hari nanti aku dipilih untuk menjadi tetamuMU

Hati sentiasa dibelenggu, gelisah dan bersalah

Masih adakah lagi peluang untukku memohon maaf, menebus dosa yang lalu

Kau Maha Pengasih, Maha Penyayang dan Maha Pengampun

Kau bisa mendengar rintihan dari hambaMu.

Tuhanku,

Saat aku dikhabarkan kepastian untuk ke tanah suci

Aku tidak akan menoleh lagi walau apa sahaja halangan yang menjelma

Niatku yang satu, untuk menjadi tetamuMu

Kau lebih mengetahui apa yang tersirat di hatiku

Hari yang dinantikan semakin hampir

Kegusaran melanda, hati mula berbolak balik

Apakah ujianMu, apakan balasanMu kepadaku

Debaranku makin terasa, namun aku tak pasti

Adakan aku layak untuk berpijak di tanah suci

Aku berserah diri padaMu.

Hatiku sayu, penuh sendu mampukah aku

Ya Allah, permudahkanlah urusanku

Berikanlah peluang untuk aku kembali lagi bersama-sama keluargaku

Tuhanku

Jika itu sudah takdirnya tidak dapat aku ubah lagi
KetentuanMu pasti dan kuberserah segala-galanya kepadaMU
Saat menjejakkan kaki di tanah suci
Tiada dapat aku gambarkan kebesaran Illahi, Maha suci Allah
Betapa kerdilnya aku...daifnya aku...siapalah aku disisiMU
Kumenangis, kuratapi dengan penuh kekesalan.
Tiada perkataan yang mampu aku gambarkan
Air mata berjurai di pipi dan segala yang terbuku dihati terlerai

Tuhanku

Kusyukuri nikmatmu, maafkanlah aku, ampunilah dosa-dosaku
Terbit keinsafan dan menyesali dengan segala kesilapan
Tiada yang lebih baik selain bertaubat dan memohon keampunan dariMu
Hapuskanlah segala dosaku, jernih dan sucikan diriku, moga diberi rahmatMu
Terima kasih di atas segala nikmatMU
Selawat dan Salam ke Atas Junjungan Besar Nabi Muhammad SAW

Translation

My God

My God,
When self is inhibited by regret,
The heart is always ticking and calling,
Every day, every time and when I never get tired of begging from You,
Accept my prayer,
May one day I be chosen to be YOUR guest,
The heart is always shackled, restless and guilty,
Is there still another chance for me to apologize, to atone for my past sins?
You are Merciful, Merciful and Forgiving,
You can hear the moaning of Your servant.

My God,
When I was told that it was certain for me to go to the holy land,
I don't give up even if there are obstacles that appear,
My only intention is to be your guest,
You know better what is hidden in my heart,
The long-awaited day is approaching,
Annoyance hit, heart tossed back and forth,
What is Your test, what is Your answer to me,
My heartbeat is getting stronger, I'm not sure,
Make me worthy to set foot on the holy ground,
I surrender to You,
My heart is sad, full of longing, can I do it?
Oh God, make things easier for me,
Give me a chance to come back with my family.

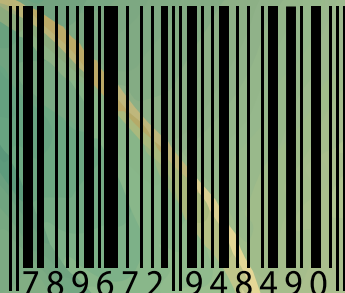
My God

If it's destiny, I can't change it,
Your provisions are certain, and I leave everything to YOU,
When stepping on the holy ground,
I cannot describe the greatness of God, God is holy.
How small I am... how weak I am... who am I in YOUR sight
I cried, I lamented with regret,
There are no words that I can describe,
My tears and my everything that was locked in my heart was dissolved,

My God

I am grateful for your favor, forgive me, forgive my sins,
The emergence of repentance and regret for all mistakes,
There is nothing better than repenting and asking for Your forgiveness,
Erase all my sins, clear and purify me, may I be given Your grace,
Thank you for your favor,
Salutations and greetings to the Prophet Muhammad SAW.

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