

# PM's mother laid to rest

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## Abdullah visibly affected but remains poised throughout

**KEPALA BATAS:** Datuk Kailan Hassan, the mother of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, was laid to rest at the Jamiul Badawi Mosque Muslim cemetery here.

She was buried next to her father-in-law's grave, Abdullah Fahim Ibrahim at 3.30pm yesterday.

Buried on the other side of Abdullah Fahim is Kailan's husband Datuk Ahmad Badawi.

Kailan died at 5.1 Opm on Monday at the age of 78, leaving behind four children - the Prime Minister, Datuk Ibrahim, Aminah and Mohd Tahir - 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The funeral preparations started after the arrival of Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail and the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Fauziah Tengku Abdul Rashid at 1.50pm.

The royal couple spent more than one hour with Abdullah and his family.

Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali arrived at 2.35pm.

Abdullah, who was visibly affected by his mother's demise, remained calm.

Others present were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Agriculture Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, MCA president Datuk Seri Ong Ka Ting and his deputy Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy, MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, Gerakan president Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik and Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon.

Parti Keadilan Nasional president Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Ismail, Bagan MP Lim Hock Seng and former Chief Minister Tun Dr Lim Chong Eu were also present.

On Monday, Ong was the first Cabinet Minister to pay his last respects to Kailan.

The Housing and Local Government Minister, who heard of her passing shortly before 6pm that day, took the first available flight to Penang. He

arrived at Abdullah's family home at 9.55pm.

Yesterday, overcast skies and intermittent drizzles added to the sombre mood. Well-wishers paid their last respects up to 2.45pm.

At 3.10pm, Kailan's coffin draped in green cloth, was taken out of the house, and passed downstairs from one well-wisher to another.

The coffin was then carried by pallbearers comprising family members and relatives. Well-wishers joined them in the procession to the mosque about 150m away.

Abdullah joined thousands of other Muslims to perform the *solat jenazah* (prayers for the deceased) led by Jamiul Badawi Mosque Imam Datuk Abdul Rahim Bakar.

Kailan's remains were taken to the burial ground at 3.30pm following which the *talqin* (last rites) was conducted, led by state Mufti Datuk Hassan Ahmad.

Abdullah then led his family members to sprinkle scented water and flowers on his mother's grave.

The burial ceremony ended at 4.50pm. Abdullah then went to the mosque to perform the *Asar* prayers.

He left the mosque about 30 minutes later and thanked those present before returning to his family home.

Later in the night, a *tahlil* was held for Kailan at the family house.