

# A solitaire diamond ring and a kiss on the cheek

NST-10/6/2007.

■ By Farrah Naz Karim  
farrah@nst.com.my

**PUTRAJAYA:** Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi was married to Jeanne Abdullah yesterday in a private ceremony attended by their families.

The *akad nikah*, conducted by Putrajaya Mosque imam Abd Manaf Mat, at 2.50pm, was witnessed by Abdullah's son, Datuk Kamaluddin Abdullah, and son-in-law Khairy Jamaluddin, according to a statement issued by the prime minister's family to Bernama.

Abdullah declared his marriage vows at the surau of his official residence, Seri Perdana.

Guests said that after having been formally pronounced as Jeanne's husband, Abdullah slipped a solitaire diamond ring on his wife's left ring finger before kissing her on the cheek.

Jeanne then slipped a wedding band on Abdullah's finger before taking his hands together into hers and kissing them.

After *asar* prayers, the newlyweds and their entourage headed to Precinct 20 to visit the grave of Abdullah's late wife, Datin Seri Endon Mahmood, who died on Oct 20, 2005 of breast cancer.

Abdullah, who had Jeanne seated next to him, led the family in prayers for Endon.

Family members took turns to sprinkle water and strew flower petals on her grave.

Earlier, Abdullah who cut a dashing figure in an off-white baju melayu with matching *sampin*, was all smiles when he greeted reporters who had been waiting since the morning to get a word from him and Jeanne.

As he was about to leave the Taman Selatan Muslim cemetery, Abdullah said: "Praise be to Allah that all went well and the *nikah* went smoothly."

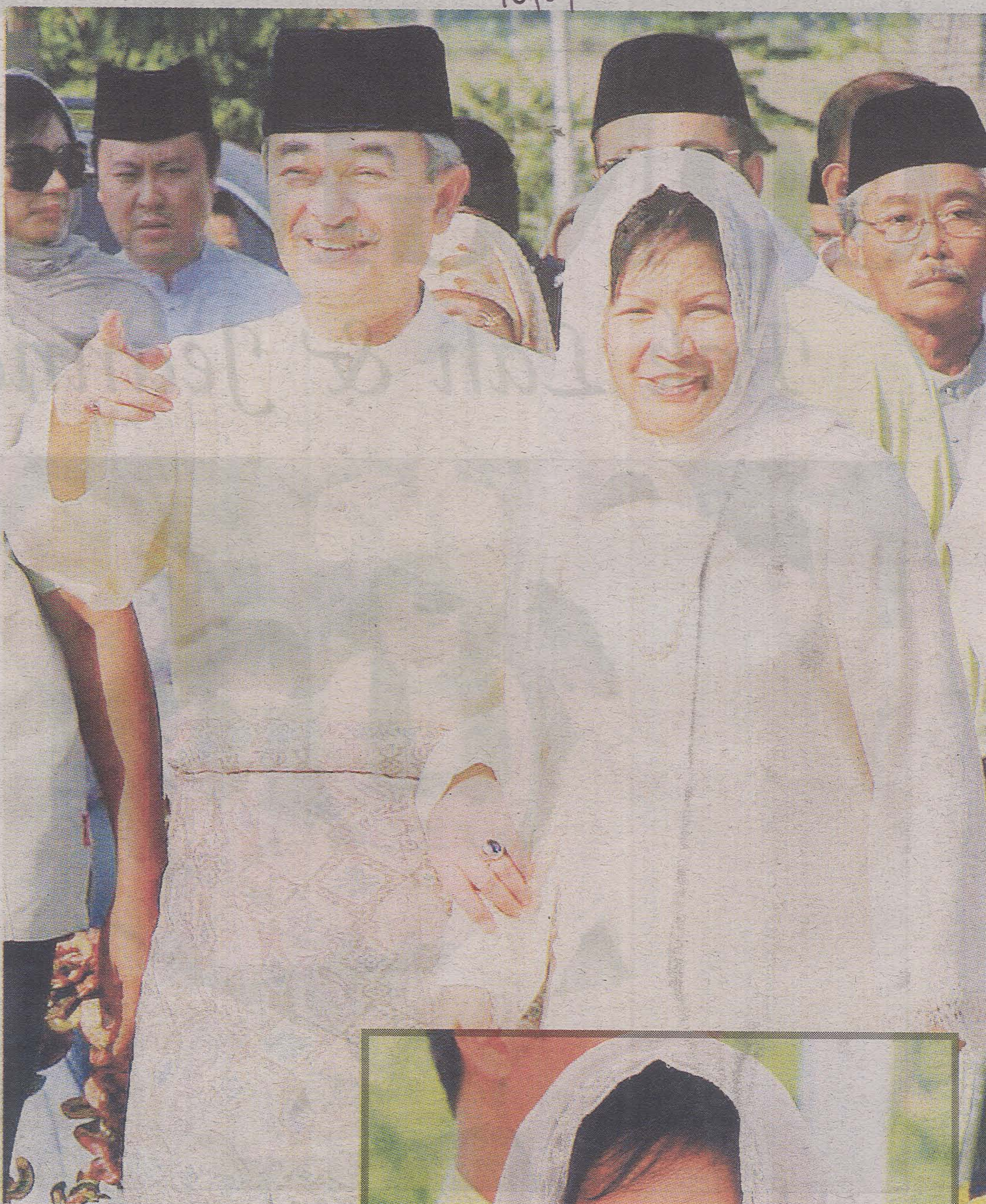
Asked if he managed to utter the *lafaz akad nikah* in the first attempt, Abdullah replied heartily that he did, to the laughter of those present.

Jeanne, who was by his side, was asked to show reporters her wedding ring, which she shyly obliged with a smile.

Among the wedding guests were Abdullah's daughter, Nori, daughter-in-law Azrene Abdullah, his four grandchildren, Jeanne's two daughters Nadiah, 29, and Nadene, 27, and Endon's nine surviving brothers and sisters.

Born in Kuala Lumpur on July 29, 1953, Jeanne received her education at SM Assunta in Petaling Jaya and has vast experience in administration and hotel management.

She was supervisor of the official residence of the deputy prime minister and manager at the Seri



The happy couple on their way to visit Datin Seri Endon Mahmood's grave after the *akad nikah*. (Inset) Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah, looking resplendent in an off-white baju kurung and scarf, showing off her wedding ring after the *akad nikah*.

Perdana complex.

Kamaluddin said he was thankful the ceremony yesterday went well.

Nadene, met as she was leaving the cemetery, said she wished the best for the new couple.

Asked if her mother was jittery during the *akad nikah*, Nadene said: "Yes and no. At first she was calm, until she got to the surau and realised what was happening. But it was all OK in the end."

Nadene said she and her sister had always been close to Abdullah's children as they were cousins of roughly the same age.



PERDANA  
LEADERSHIP  
FOUNDATION  
YAYASAN  
KEPIMPINAN  
PERDANA