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MEMORY

Tok Guru will be sorely missed

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TODAY we mourn the passing of one of the most respected Islamic figures, Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, who passed away on Thursday night after a long illness. He was 84. He will be sorely missed.

Throughout his lifetime, Tok Guru has always been a humble figure.

I visited him once, some years back, at his *pondok* in Kota Baru, Kelantan, when I was an active member of a consumer movement.

We chatted about many things, and I was awestruck that he knew so much about the Sikh religion. He said he had read about the first Sikh Guru, Nanak Dev Ji.

Nik Aziz held the Kelantan menteri besar post for over two decades. He was content to stay in his kampung house and drove around in his old car.

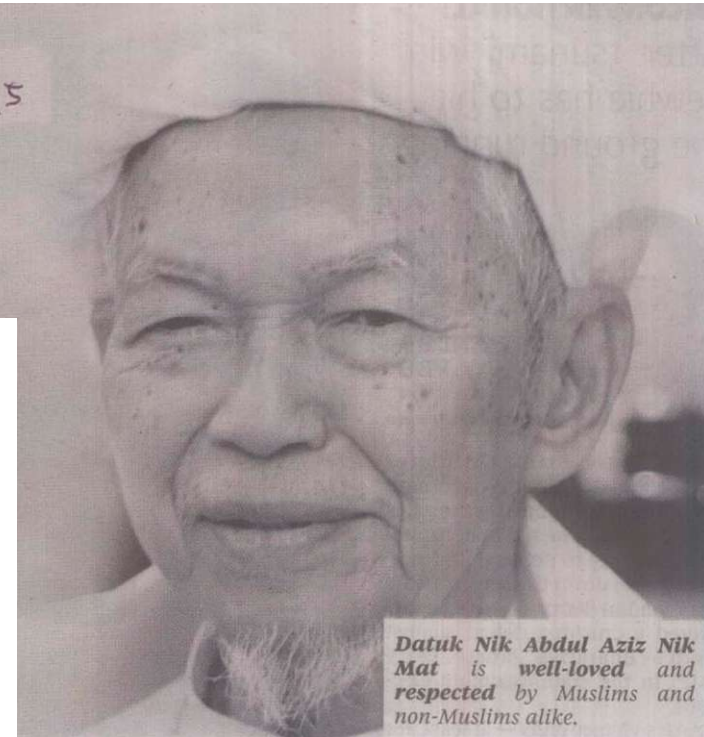
It was Tok Guru who turned Kelantan into the first state to implement the controversial Syariah criminal law. He was also instrumental in turning the

fortune of the party around.

Nik Aziz began his studies in *poridok* schools under the guidance of religious teachers in Kelantan and Terengganu before pursuing his tertiary education at the Islamic University, Darul Uloom Deoband, in India.

He was a great sotil, well-loved and respected by Muslims and non-Muslims. May God bless his soul.

**Bulbir Singh,
Seremban, Negri Sembilan**



Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat is well-loved and respected by Muslims and non-Muslims alike.