Teacher leaked exam paper, says ex-student

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KOTA KINABALU: An English teacher who was sued by his three former secondary students in Kota Belud for refusing to teach the English subject to the students five years ago, had allegedly leaked exam questions for the subject to the students. Nur Natasha Allisya Hamali, 21, informed High Court Judge Leonard David Shim, that "JJ" (teacher) gave them the leaked exam questions of the English subject to them even though he did not turn up in class to teach them. According to Nur Natasha, she knew about the leaked exam questions was provided by "JJ" because during the exam her classmate Suriana and others entered their class and showed the paper of the leaked questions to them.

She informed the court that the leaked exam questions provided by "JJ" were the same with the questions online. To a question by counsel Sherzali Herza Asli who defended Nur Natasha, on why "JJ" provided them the leaked exam questions for the English subject and she said maybe "JJ" did not want to enter their class and teach them. "'JJ' gave us the leaked questions so that we can answer the questions on the English subject and we will score high in the subject. "However, I failed in the exam for English subject as I did not answer the leaked questions and only answered the questions that I knew," she said. She added that even with the leaked questions, she still not understand the answers of those leaked questions, in particular the prescribed format in providing the answer because 'JJ' did not teach about the format. Nur Natashah is the second plaintiff in the suit against the teacher (first defendant), Hj Suid Hj Hanapi (in his capacity as principal of the SMK Taun Gusi)(second defendant), Director General of Education Malaysia (third defendant), Minister of Education Malaysia (fourth defendant) and Government of Malaysia (fifth defendant).

She, together with third plaintiff Calvina Angayung, 21, and first plaintiff Rusiah Sabdarin, among others, claimed that the teacher failed to turn up in class to teach the subject for seven months in 2017 while the other defendants took no reasonable action despite being notified of the matter. Nur Natasha further testified that they had sent the leaked exam questions for English subject to one Cikgu Norhana, who was the English Committee Teacher. In her witness statement, Nur Natasha said she and her friends filed the suit because she wanted to ensure that the children go to school and get high quality of education and healthy interactions between teachers and students. She also said that the clean education system is a dream of the people of this country and that her dream too. "We also hope that the teachers who have abusive behaviours will be removed immediately and not transferred to another school," she said.

Meanwhile, during cross-examination by Federal Counsel Fazrul Fardiansyah Abdul Kadir, Nur Natasha said she had mentioned about sexual harassment in her witness statement and it was actually not related with the suit but she said there are a lot of cases where students were raped by teachers. Nur Natasha disagreed with Fazrul that she lied in court. To a question by Fazrul, Nur Natasha said she and her classmates (witnesses) were in the class every time JJ was not in class and Rusiah also would record it down.

Trial continues.