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Mariam Abdul Latif studied in Malaysia, London and Indonesia to obtain degrees specializing in Agriculture, Nutrition, Halal food management and Halal Nutrition.

She began her career in 1979 as a lecturer in agriculture and food processing at the Institute of Agriculture Air Hitam, Kluang, Johore and later at the Institute of Agriculture Serdang, Selangor (1990-1993).

She was with the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) in 1994 as a Food Technologist and established the Office of Codex Contact Point Malaysia in 1996 under the Food Quality Control Division. She was the Chief Secretariat of the National Codex Committee in 1996-1998 and was a Technical Committee Member on Halal Food and Islamic Consumer Goods of the Industry Standards Committee on Halal Standards Malaysia. Being the country Codex Liaison Officer, she had participated in many Codex meetings defending many issues related to food standards, including the adoption of the General Guidelines for Use of the Term 'Halal' in 1997 in Geneva. Specialized in international food standards, she was appointed as a Consultant at the Codex Secretariat, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations based in Rome, Italy in 2001 and 2005.

She headed the Halal certification programme under the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) from 2004 to 2006; developed the halal audit criteria, translated the first Manual Procedure of Halal Certification Malaysia (English), drafted the concept paper for the National Halal Laboratory and published the Handbook of Halal Food Additives.

In 2007, she was appointed as the Vice President (Halal Integrity) of Halal Industry Development Corporation (HDC), Malaysia and established the foundation enablers of the halal industry development through standard, training, research and reference programmes. In the same year, she initiated the first world Halal Industry Training Programme and the World Halal Research Summit under HDC. She had presented more than 200 papers on Halal and Halal industry in Malaysia as well as abroad (China, Australia, France, Netherlands, Thailand, Singapore, South Africa, Taiwan, Kuwait, Indonesia, Philippines, Turkey, Korea, Russia, New Zealand, Iran and Spain).

She was a Fellow Researcher at the Halal Product Research Institute (HPRI), Universiti Putra Malaysia; Panel Expert at the Institute of Halal Research and Management (IHRAM), Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia; Panel Assessor of the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) and is a Board Member of Labuan Halal Hub, Malaysia.

She was retired from the Government in 2011 and currently on contract with Universiti Malaysia Sabah heading the Food Safety and Quality Unit under the Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition, besides lecturing Halal Food, Food Laws and Human Nutrition. She conducts

trainings and consultancy on food safety and halal food for the industry, the regulators and the public. Her research areas are in the Prophet's Diet, Islamic eating practices, Halal nutrition, Halal standards, Halal certification, Halal industry development and halal consumerism.