

Malaysian Economics and Politics in the New Century

Edited by

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the distinguished Malaysian scholar and economist, Professor Dr Ishak Shari, who passed away on 30 June 2001, at the age of 53 years. Ishak's chapter for the volume was completed just before he became sick, and reflects his abiding concern with social issues and the less well-off in Malaysia.

Ishak was a modest, humorous, brilliant and compassionate man, whose sympathy for the poor was a driving force for most of his life. He was also a person encouraging and illuminating others, and the words of the great scholar Iqbal, which he used in his Inaugural Lecture as Professor of Development Economics at the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia in 1991, especially reflect his character.

Iqbal wrote:

The journey of love is very long, but sometimes with a sign you can cross that vast desert. Search and search again without losing hope. You may sometimes find a treasure on your way.

Ishak often helped provide signs to his students and other friends, including some contributors to this book. He will be sadly missed by all who had the good fortune to associate with him.

May Allah shower His Blessings upon his soul, and may he rest in peace.