

**MAHATHIR
MOHAMAD**

Prime Minister of
Malaysia

MAHATHIR MOHAMAD

Prime Minister of
Malaysia

M. Rajendran



IBS BUKU SDN. BHD.

Published by
IBS Buku Sdn Bhd
B3-06 PJ Industrial Park
Jalan Kemajuan, 46200 Petaling Jaya
Selangor Darul Ehsan
Malaysia.

All Rights Reserved.

Copyright © 1993 IBS Buku Sdn Bhd
Design © 1993 IBS Buku Sdn Bhd

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or by any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission from the Publisher.

Rajendran, M.
Mahathir Mohamad:
Prime Minister of Malaysia/M. Rajendran
Bibliography: p. 181
ISBN 967 950 288 0

1. Malaysia—Politics and government.
2. Malaysia—Economic policy.
3. Mahathir bin Mohamad, Dato Seri, 1925- . I. Title. 320.9595

Printed by
Eagle Trading Sdn Bhd
81 Jalan SS25/32, 47301 Petaling Jaya
Selangor Darul Ehsan
Malaysia.

320.9595

RAJ

676373

15 NOV 1993

Perpustakaan Negara
Malaysia

CONTENTS

ONE	<i>Mabathir Mohamad</i> 1
TWO	<i>Member of Parliament</i> 5
THREE	<i>Becoming the Prime Minister</i> 11
FOUR	<i>The Premier's First Major Crisis</i> 17
FIVE	<i>Mabathir's Next Crisis</i> 25
SIX	<i>A Rift Between The Judiciary and The Executive</i> 35
SEVEN	<i>Mabathir's Greatest Challenge in his Political Career</i> 47
EIGHT	<i>Mabathir's First Ever Electoral Defeat in Sabah</i> 69
NINE	<i>Individual Freedom and Detention Without Trial</i> 79
TEN	<i>Mabathir's Development Policies</i> 85
ELEVEN	<i>Look East Policy: Effects and Implications</i> 91
TWELVE	<i>The Privatization Policy</i> 109
THIRTEEN	<i>The Malaysian Economy</i> 117
FOURTEEN	<i>Clean, Efficient and Trustworthy</i> 129
FIFTEEN	<i>Islam, Malaysia and Mabathir Mohamad</i> 137
SIXTEEN	<i>Mabathir's International Impact</i> 145
SEVENTEEN	<i>Success Through Elections</i> 159
EIGHTEEN	<i>Towards the Future</i> 169
	<i>Bibliography</i> 181

MAHATHIR MOHAMAD



DATUK Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the fourth prime minister of Malaysia, is seen to be the most controversial figure ever to hold this premier position. He is seen by many as the only prime minister who had the audacity to be very blunt and had no fear of "rocking the boat". Malaysians see him as the ultimate survivor as he has managed to remain unscathed crisis after crisis during his leadership.

Mahathir Mohamad was born on December 20, 1925 and was the youngest of nine children. His father was the first Malay headmaster of an English school in Kedah. As a headmaster, his father must have influenced his thoughts and soon the young Mahathir had a strong personality. His family still recalls that he was very determined and always obtained whatever he wanted. At that time, when it was prestigious to obtain admittance into an English language school, he managed to do sufficiently well in the examinations and secured a place in the Government English School.

Mahathir survived the Japanese Occupation when the Japanese Army occupied Malaya in 1942. He tried first to be employed with a Chinese rubber trader but later started a coffee shop business with two of his friends. He was not allowed to sell in the Japanese canteen and had to do his business in the local market. Mahathir later expanded his business. He always felt that it is important to learn the skills before embarking on any