

Language and Literature Series

PETALS OF HIBISCUS

A Representative Anthology of
Malaysian Literature in English

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'Petals of Hibiscus: A Representative Anthology of Malaysian Literature in English, is simply a splendid collection, bringing together some of the best writers and works in Malaysian literature in English, in fiction, poetry and drama. Providing a feast of good reading for anyone interested in literature from the country, or willing to dip into the consciousness of a rapidly changing society, standing at the crossroads of culture, this is a long overdue and welcomed collection with a brilliant socio-literary political introduction that explains Malaysian literature in English enclosed in a tradition-bound and yet modernising country. *Petals of Hibiscus*, edited and with an Introduction by Mohammad Quayum and his colleagues, is a magisterial 'must' book for all those interested in a multi-ethnic, multicultural society searching for a holistic national identity.'

- Daniel Walden, Professor of English and American Studies, Pennsylvania State University, USA.

'A wide-ranging anthology of Malaysian writing in English, spanning the major genres and periods of a literature that has yet to secure the recognition it deserves. It complements Quayum's and Wicks's *Malaysian Literature in English: A Critical Reader* and is equally impressive. Essential reading for anyone interested in Southeast Asia.'

- John Thieme, Professor of English, South Bank University, UK & Editor, *Journal of Commonwealth Literature*.

'The writers represented in this book stretch our engagements with some of the most significant issues of our time. History, personality, love, inter-ethnic contact, identity, freedom and outreach are just some of the themes the different writings explore. Professor Quayum's scholarship in the field is undisputed and this book is yet more confirmation of his wonderful literary hand at work! Read it and enjoy - you will not forgive yourself for missing out!'

- Kirpal Singh, writer, academic, Founding Director, Centre for Cross-Cultural Studies, Singapore Management University



inquiry@pearsoned.com.my
<http://www.cikgu.net.my>
<http://www.pearsoned.com.my>

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