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A most eventful career

Clarence YK Ngui

Dec 20, 1925 Born to Mohamad Iskandar, a school headmaster, and Wan Tempawan Wan Hanafi in Alor Setar

1930 Early primary school years at Malay School Seberang Perak, Alor Setar

1942-1945 Dabbles in small business selling coffee, fruits and handicraft in Pekan Rabu, Alor Setar, during the Japanese and Thai occupation of Kedah

1945 Completes his Senior Cambridge examinations at the Sultan Abdul Hamid College, Alor Setar

1946 Joins Umno as an ordinary member

1946 Gains admission to the King Edward VII College of Medicine in Singapore. The college later becomes the University of Malaya

1952 Graduates with an MBBS from the University of Malaya in Singapore

1953 Becomes a medical officer with the Kedah State Government.

Becomes the first Malay doctor in Alor Setar

1956 Marries Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, his coursemate at King Edward VII College of Medicine

1957 Sets up his private medical practice, Maha Clinic, with his wife in Alor Setar

1964 Contests and wins the parliamentary seat of Kota Star Selatan in Kedah, defeating Mohd Shaari Abd Shukor of Pas

1965-1969 Elected Umno Supreme Council member

May 1969 Fails to defend his parliamentary seat, which falls to Yusof Rawa of Pas

Sept 1969 Expelled from Umno after attacking the Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, in an open letter alleging neglect of the indigenous Malay community

1970 Writes the Malay Dilemma during his two years in the political wilderness. Its central thesis is that the Malays were marginalised during the colonial era

March 1972 Re-admitted into Umno by Tun Abdul Razak, second Prime Minister of Malaysia

June 1972 Wins an Umno Supreme Council seat with the highest number of votes but loses in the election for vice-president

Dec 1972 Appointed Senator by the Kedah State Legislative Assembly

1974 Wins the parliamentary seat of Kubang Pasu uncontested. The seat becomes his political heartland - he wins easily in all subsequent general elections

1974 Appointed Education Minister by Tun Razak

June 1975 Elected as one of the three vice-presidents of Umno

March 1976 Appointed Deputy Prime Minister by Tun Hussein Onn, Malaysia's third Prime Minister, in addition to his Education portfolio

Dec 1977 Relinquishes the Education portfolio for the Ministry of Trade and Industry

June 1981 Confirmed as Umno's fifth president at the 32nd Umno general assembly when he wins the post uncontested. Datuk Musa Hitam is elected the new deputy president

July 1981 Becomes the fourth Prime Minister of Malaysia, also Minister of Home Affairs

Jan 1982 Introduces the clock-in punchcard system for civil servants

with the aim of increasing efficiency and productivity

June 1982 Cuts his salary by RM1,000 under the government's austerity drive during the global recession

April 1987 Umno members vote for continuity by rejecting a major challenge to Dr Mahathir by Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah. Dr Mahathir wins by 43 votes

Feb 1988 Announces the registration of Umno Baru. The party replaces the old Umno, deregistered in the wake of the High Court's decision declaring it unlawful

Jan 1989 Undergoes coronary bypass operation at the National Heart Institute in Kuala Lumpur

Feb 1991 Launches Sabah Umno and announces the appointment of Umno deputy president Ghafar Baba to the post of liaison chairman

Jan 1994 Tables the Constitution (Amendment) Bill 1993 to limit the legal immunity of the Malay Rulers

Sept 1994 Becomes Malaysia's longest-serving Prime Minister. He completes 13 years, one month and 23 days

Dec 1994 Appoints Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as Deputy Prime Minister, replacing Ghafar Baba who resigned on Oct 15

April 1995 Leads the Barisan Nasional to power in Malaysia's ninth general election

May 1997 For the first time, Dr Mahathir goes on two months' leave. He appoints his deputy Anwar Ibrahim as Acting Prime Minister

Sept 1998 Announces foreign exchange and capital controls.

Sept 1998 Takes over as the Finance Minister after sacking Anwar Ibrahim as Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister

Jan 1999 Hands over Home Affairs portfolio to the newly appointed Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi

Nov 1999 Leads the Barisan Nasional into the 10th general election. BN secures its two-thirds in the 193-seat Parliament

June 22, 2002 Shocks the nation by announcing his sudden resignation from Umno and the Barisan Nasional