

Barisan Nasional
Manifesto 1974



The people's front for happier Malaysia.



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BARISAN NASIONAL

MANIFESTO

I thank you all for the support you have given to the Alliance Government in the past and now I invite you to give your wholehearted support to the Barisan Nasional.

I am ready to shoulder the responsibility of continuing our efforts to:-

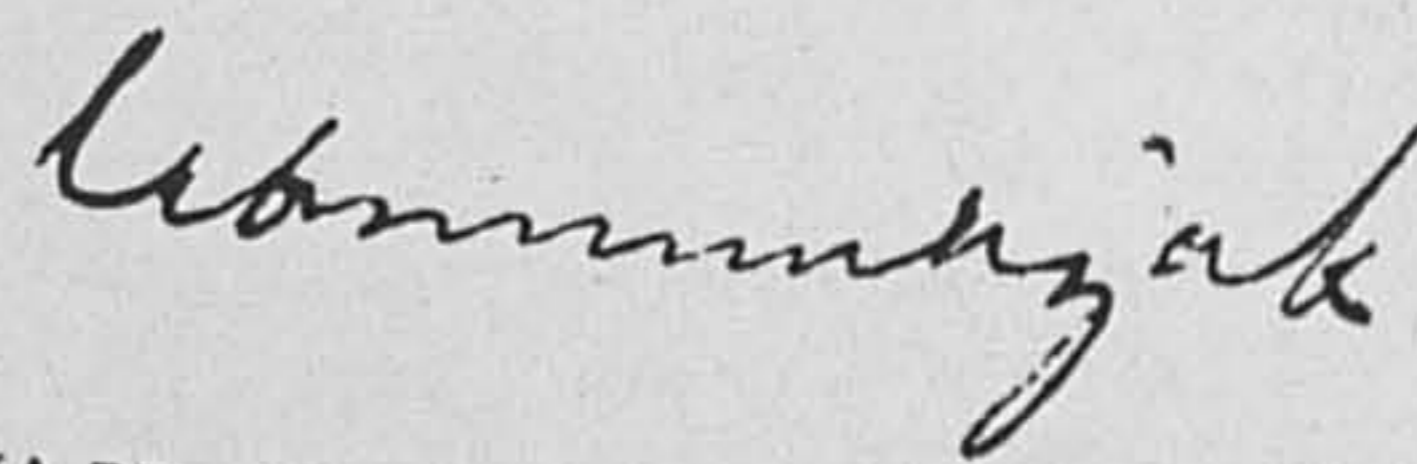
- (i) Maintain peace and security in the country and to protect the lives property and rights of our people.
- (ii) Strengthen and consolidate social and political stability.
- (iii) Ensure the highly respected position of our nation in international relations by pursuing a free, neutral and active foreign policy.
- (iv) Implement fully the New Economic Policy.
- (v) Establish a just, united and prosperous society in accordance with the RUKUNEGARA.

It is clear I shall only be able to attain these five objectives with the support of you all.

Your support is highly appreciated, for which I am extremely grateful to you. Let us unite and continue our forward march in the nation's interest and for our future generations.

BERSATU !!!

25th July 1974



(TUN HAJI ABDUL RAZAK BIN HUSSEIN)
PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA
CHAIRMAN BARISAN NASIONAL

The united front.

Our country has grown politically from strength to strength. The Barisan Nasional is a logical consequence of the growth and development of Malaysian political life. It is yet another milestone in our serious approach to consolidation in national politics. There is no place for the politics of racism and communal polarisation in this country.

At the last general election in 1969 you voted the Alliance Party into power with an overwhelming majority. Today we return to you as a new broader-based organisation — the BARISAN NASIONAL — with DACING or Scale of Justice appropriately as its symbol for a just and united Malaysian society.

The Barisan Nasional is a single, effective political party which reflects a complete spectrum of views on Malaysian politics —

- * Barisan Nasional enables a greater popular representation and greater participation in the Government.
- * Barisan Nasional enables the aspiration of an even greater number of our people to be translated into action.
- * Barisan Nasional enables our total energy to be devoted to the material and moral development of our society.
- * Barisan Nasional enables the national interest and national unity to be placed above party and sectarian interests.

We recognise that political stability is of utmost importance for our survival.

Barisan Nasional — the confederation of nine political parties — i.e.

- * United Malays National Organisation;
- * Malaysian Chinese Association;
- * Malaysian Indian Congress;
- * Parti Islam Se Tanah Melayu;
- * Parti Gerakan Rakyat Malaysia;
- * People's Progressive Party;
- * Sarawak United People's Party;
- * Parti Pesaka Bumiputra Bersatu; and
- * Sabah Alliance

is the successful culmination of the people's efforts towards political unity which has no precedent in the history of our national struggle.

Economic progress:

Since the launching of the Second Malaysian Plan in 1971, the Barisan Nasional Government has made considerable progress. Up to the end of last year the following has been achieved:-

- * Gross National Product rose from \$4 billion in 1957 to \$16.8 billion in 1973. The forecast for 1974 is an increase of 7% over 1973 in real terms i.e. after discounting inflation.
- * 350,000 jobs have been created which is 58% of the 5 year target. Most of the jobs are in the manufacturing sector. Another 140,000 new jobs will be created this year.
- * 670,000 acres of uncultivated land have been developed out of which 620,000 acres developed by FELDA. As much as 400,000 acres are provided with drainage and irrigation out of which 210,000 acres are utilised for double-cropping. Over 200,000 acres of new land will be developed during this year.

Several major projects are now completed or under way i.e.

- (i) Airport at Senai near Johor Bahru.
- (ii) The East-West Highway linking Kelantan with Pulau Pinang.
- (iii) The bridge linkage between Pulau Pinang with the mainland.
- (iv) New International Port at Tanjong Gelang near Kuantan and a major shipyard and port at Pasir Gudang near Johor Bahru.
- (v) Hydro-electric Dam at Temenggor in Perak and also at Kuala Tahan in Pahang.
- (vi) East-West Highway in Sabah linking Kota Kinabalu with Sandakan.
- (vii) Kuantan-Segamat Highway and new Kuantan-Trengganu Highway through Jabor Valley and Jerangau.
- (viii) New Highway linking Kuching with Miri via Sibul and Bintulu.
- (ix) New harbour at Pending near Kuching.
- (x) Improvements to Kota Kinabalu and Pulau Pinang airports.
- (xi) Kuala Lumpur-Seremban Highway and improvements to Kuala Lumpur-Petaling Jaya Highway extending to Port Kelang.

Although much has been achieved, we are however fully aware that many problems are still with us and some of the basic ones are:

- * Our population continues to increase every year.
- * There is still economic imbalance in our society further aggravated by the current inflation.
- * Our rural sector is still insufficiently modernised.
- * There is still unemployment in parts of the country.
- * There is still identification of racial groups according to their vocation and location.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME

The Barisan Nasional is determined to solve these problems through vigorous and forward-looking national economic and social programme under The New Economic Policy with its two pronged objectives of eradicating poverty and restructuring society.

(i) **Agriculture and Industries**

Modernisation of agriculture will be intensified so as to ensure higher income and self-sufficiency in food through increased productivity. Diverse agricultural products particularly rubber and palm-oil as well as fruits and vegetables will be increased manifold.

With effective reorientation of our research efforts, we shall promote more palm-oil based industries.

We shall continue to promote industrial development with particular attention to agro-based industries.

In the industrial development programmes, care will be taken to impose anti-pollution measures.

We aim at lessening our dependence in the export of primary commodities e.g. rubber, palm-oil which are vulnerable to fluctuating world prices.

We continue to encourage investors to establish in this country industries which process these commodities. These include the manufacture of knocked-down furniture, wood pulp and sophisticated rubber products for diverse medical and engineering applications.

(ii) **Timber Industry**

Our policy on forest industry is to obtain maximum benefit from the extraction of timber resources with better conservation and management. We shall persist in our policy to encourage greater use of timber in local architecture.

Forest exploitation through the formation of integrated timber complexes by government agencies and joint-ventures form the basic of our new policy so as to open opportunities for participation by the people.

(iii) **Petroleum**

The exploitation of petroleum and allied products will be aimed at converting them into developmental assets for the benefit of the people. It is our policy to ensure that the effective control over national energy resources shall remain in our hands and that our national interest shall always be safeguarded. PETRONAS has been established to serve as our agency for this purpose.

(iv) **Malaysian Ringgit**

Our ringgit is one of the five strongest currencies in the world only second to the Deutche-Mark and is used by the International Monetary Fund as one of the currencies for which drawings from the Fund are made. Among Asian currencies only our ringgit and the Japanese Yen are used. Our ringgit is also exclusively used in the transaction of the International Tin Market. We are determined to maintain the strength of our ringgit.

(v) **Foreign Investment**

Our political stability and the sound position of our Ringgit will continue to attract foreign investment. The benefits arising out of overseas investment in providing more employment opportunities, technology and management together with Malaysian equity participation will always be ensured.

In encouraging overseas investments, Barisan Nasional will continue to see to it that these investments will always be consistent with our national objectives.

The Barisan Nasional is fully aware of the present pattern and extent of ownership and control of our economy by foreign enterprises. We have provided for Guidelines to regulate foreign investments and acquisition of assets in order to avoid foreign domination of our national economy. These Guidelines will be scrupulously adhered to.

Barisan Nasional will continue to develop new growth centres consistent with the objectives of restructuring society and eradication of poverty. To this end, we shall establish more industrial estates, Free Trade Zones and such other projects by providing the necessary incentives to create more employment and provide higher income for our people.

(vi) Roads and Communication

Construction of many more road networks will be undertaken in the next five years to serve the people particularly in the remote areas. Improvement of the existing ports and airports, as well as construction of modern ports of international status will be carried out. Air services will be expanded and the existing railway service is being modernised. Adequate and efficient transportation and communication facilities will be provided for our people as these are vital infrastructures for a developing nation.

A new micro-wave system for the transmission of television pictures from Kuala Lumpur to Sabah and Sarawak will be completed next year. This system can be adapted for colour television pictures.

Today Malaysia has telephone and telex link with all countries and these facilities will be further improved for the purpose of trade and international relations.

(vii) Electricity and Water

Electricity and water supply are vital requirements for industrial progress and rural modernisation. More Power Stations and water supply will be provided to meet the nation's growing requirements. In flood-prone areas, dams will be built to achieve these purposes as well as for flood control and irrigation.

(viii) Fishermen and Farmers

MAJUIKAN will be responsible to uplift the economy of fishermen so that they can enjoy a better standard of living comparable with the other groups.

Farmer's Co-operative is another important machinery to improve the lives of our farmers and a multi-million dollar programme will be implemented to bring our farmers in a single, united body. We will encourage our farmers to modernise their techniques so that they can fully benefit from government assistance.

(ix) Hawkers and Petty Traders

Hawkers and Petty traders will not be neglected as they perform a useful role in our society. A proper scheme will be introduced to assist them to improve their livelihood.

INFLATION

This is a world-wide phenomenon. Many other countries suffer worse inflation compared to us. The anti-inflationary measures undertaken by the Government have shown good results and will be further intensified. Barisan Nasional continues to be deeply concerned with this problem. Over \$500 million a year is now being spent on subsidising various items including special allowance in order to mitigate the burden of inflation on the people, especially the lower income group.

EDUCATION

Within the framework of the Malaysian Constitution, our national education system must be continually geared to and will be constantly reviewed to meet the requirements of national development and the progress in science and technology. The budget on education has progressively increased from \$100 million in 1957 to \$900 million in 1974.

This year an allocation of \$40 million is set aside for the purpose of Text-book Loan Scheme for children of poor families of all races.

Our education system will also prepare individuals who will be sufficiently trained at every stage of leaving school to meet the manpower requirements in our expanding economy.

Social services.

Barisan Nasional is committed to further improve the quality of our health services and provide proper housing schemes for the people with adequate amenities and community services. Urban and regional planning will be intensified for the balanced growth for both the urban and rural areas. Close attention will be given to alleviate hardships associated with dislocation and land acquisition arising from rapid urbanisation and related developments.

Assistance for the weak and the needy, the old and the poor is our responsibility with the object of eradicating poverty and to transform the disadvantaged into self-reliant and gainfully employed citizens.

Barisan Nasional will intensify efforts towards vocational training, sporting and cultural activities especially among the youth with the object of establishing a disciplined and dedicated society, free from today's prejudices and ready to shoulder their responsibility in building a progressive and dynamic Malaysian nation.

RELIGION

Every Malaysian enjoys religious freedom since we achieved independence. Harmony and tolerance is our pride and Barisan Nasional will ensure religious freedom for all. Islam as the official religion will be further enhanced compatible with its status.

The Religious Education System in Primary and Secondary Schools as well as in centres of Higher Learning will be reorganised to meet the requirements of national development.

Foreign policy.

The Barisan Nasional Government has succeeded in putting Malaysia in a highly respected position in international affairs by pursuing a free, neutral and active foreign policy.

Basis of our foreign policy is:

- * Non-alignment with any power bloc.
- * Adherence to the United Nations' Charter.
- * Support for the oppressed peoples in their just struggle everywhere.
- * Friendship with all friendly countries irrespective of their ideology or political system.
- * Active regional and international co-operation.

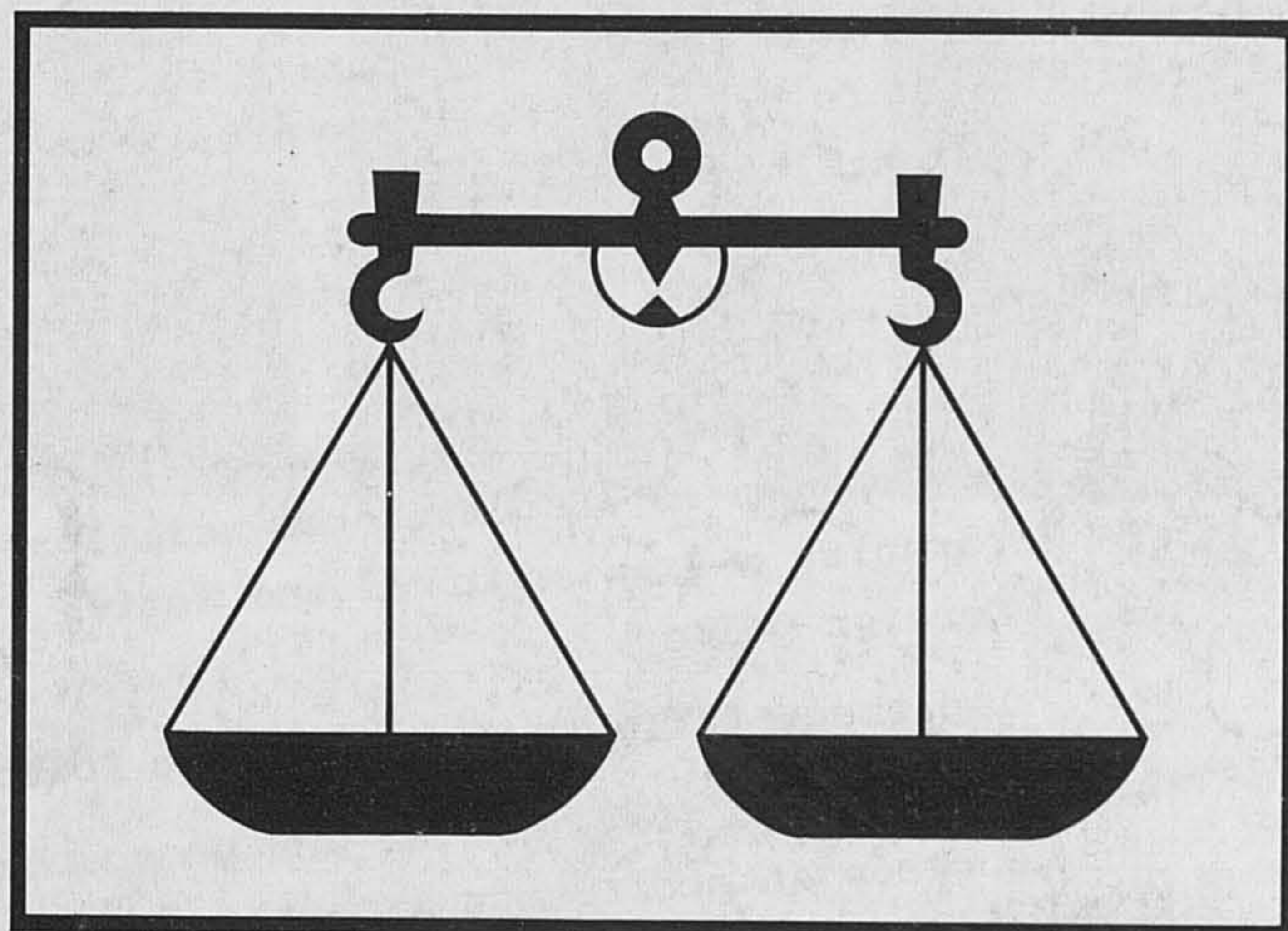
Our foreign policy has not only enhanced the prestige of the nation but also brought about the immense benefits in terms of widening trade relations and further contributed to the maintenance of political stability internally as well as in Southeast Asia.

The implementation of this manifesto is the only guarantee to establish the modern Malaysian society which is just, united and prosperous as envisaged in the RUKUNEGARA.

BERSATU!

Remember!

The right choice:



Barisan Nasional