

MALAYS **forget** **easily**

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

THIS BOOK is a reproduction of a speech delivered by the Prime Minister of Malaysia and UMNO President, Dr Mahathir Mohamad, at the 55th UMNO General Assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on June 21, 2001, where he spoke his mind by imploring the Malays to overcome their weaknesses, defy stereotyping and never ever forget the history of their struggle and strength. In one of his bluntest wake-up calls to the Malays, he also called on the Malays to attain excellence in education and information technology. Otherwise, they will only remain a name in history.

MALAYS FORGET EASILY

IN this turbulent regional political and economic scenario, Malaysia is still calm and able to overcome relentless assaults on its politics and economy from outsiders as well as their friends internally.

Not so long ago, many Malaysians, too, craved to organise what they called *reformasi*, apparently to correct the situation in Malaysia. They were inspired by what had happened in another country. Without taking into account the different situation in that country, they tried through irresponsible means to force the government to give in to their demands, including to overthrow the government. Their leaders had gone abroad to seek assistance so that the street violence they planned could be implemented. They knew that Malaysians were not interested in committing violence even though they were paid. That was why foreigners were needed.

Unfortunately for these perpetrators of street violence, the leadership of the foreign country concerned felt that it was enough that chaos occurred only in his country. They did not want to see chaos