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# MALAYSIA: CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES

Essays in Honour of Syed Husin Ali



# MALAYSIA: PANDANGAN KRITIS

Esei Penghargaan untuk Syed Husin Ali

*Editors*

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## PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**T**his book is dedicated in honour of Syed Husin Ali, formerly a professor at the University of Malaya and President of the Malaysian Social Science Association. Work on this book began several years ago, but for several reasons — not all of which were due to any one of the editors — was held up several times. Even so, the final responsibility is ours, particularly where the questions addressed by some of the authors may now seem a little dated.

No particular theme was advised to the contributors since they were each doing different things. The first five of the ten essays in this book addressed a related set of questions pertaining to the middle classes and the state. The five remaining essays are diverse in terms of focus, but share, with the first five, critical attitudes towards the subjects they address. This is what binds the book and our bond with Syed Husin Ali. It is a tribute to his contributions toward a more critical social science in Malaysia.

The editors would like to thank Ishak Shari for his kind support, as then President of the Malaysian Social Science Association, for the book. We would also like to thank Foo Ah Hiang for his patience with laying out and redoing several drafts. The final responsibility is ours.

Muhammad Ikmal Said  
Zahid Emby