



MALAYSIAN CHINESE

Recent Developments and Prospects

EDITED BY
LEE HOCK GUAN • LEO SURYADINATA

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PREFACE

On 10 July 2008, the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) and Chinese Heritage Centre (CHC) jointly organized an international seminar on the Chinese in Malaysia. It was the second one in the series on “Ethnic Chinese Communities in Southeast Asia”.

The first joint seminar was held in 2007 on “The Ethnic Chinese in Indonesia in the Era of Globalization”. In this second seminar, we chose the topic, Malaysian Chinese, as there had been new developments in Malaysia, especially after the momentous outcome of the March 2008 general election, when the ruling coalition lost its two thirds parliamentary majority for the first time since Malaysia attained Independence. This seminar, therefore, was topical and timely. We invited leading scholars on Malaysia to discuss “Malaysian Chinese: Recent Developments and Prospects”. We selected most of the papers from the seminar and put them together as a book so that they can reach a wider audience. We would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the writers for their kind cooperation in revising their papers for publication.

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