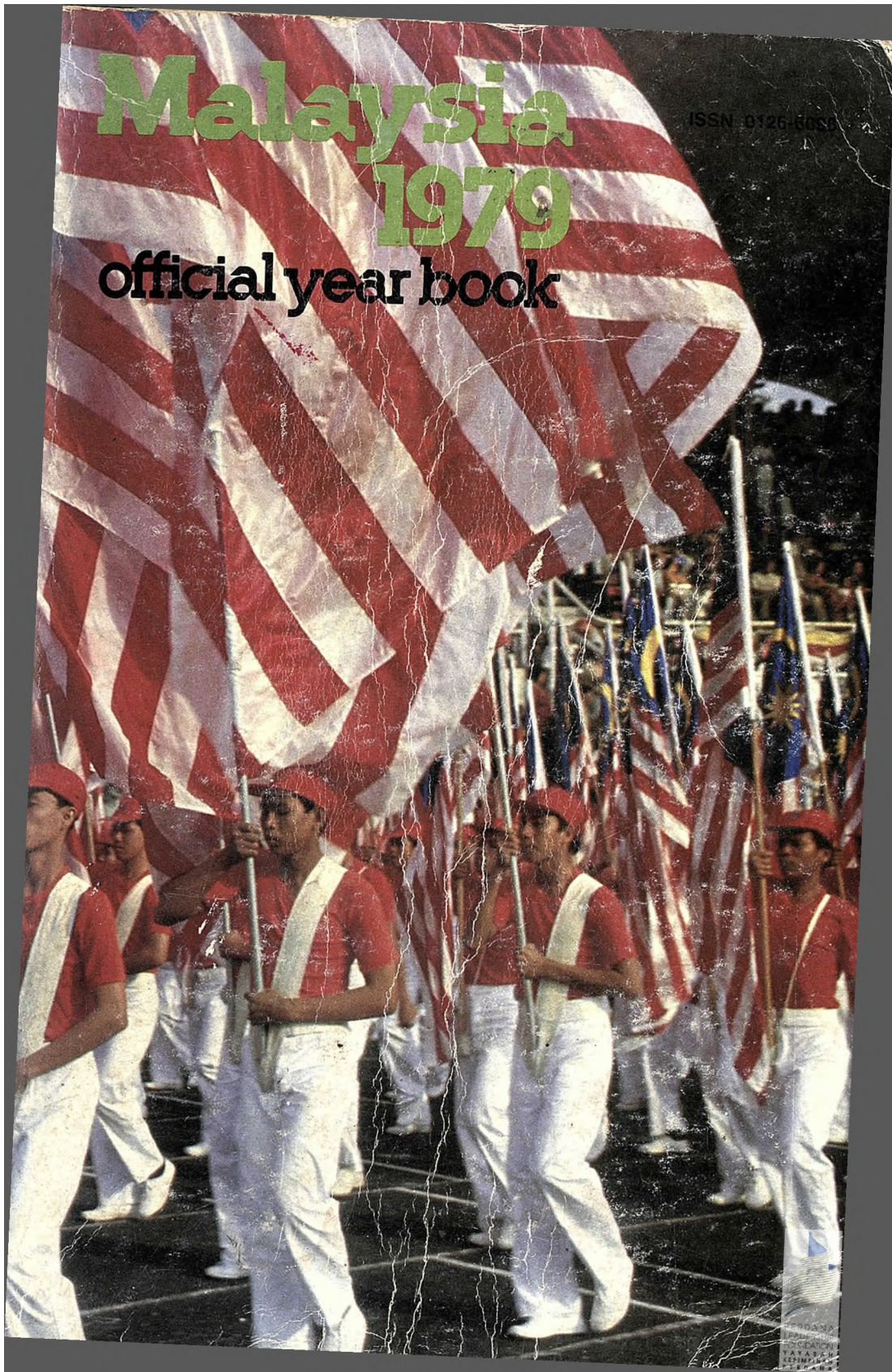


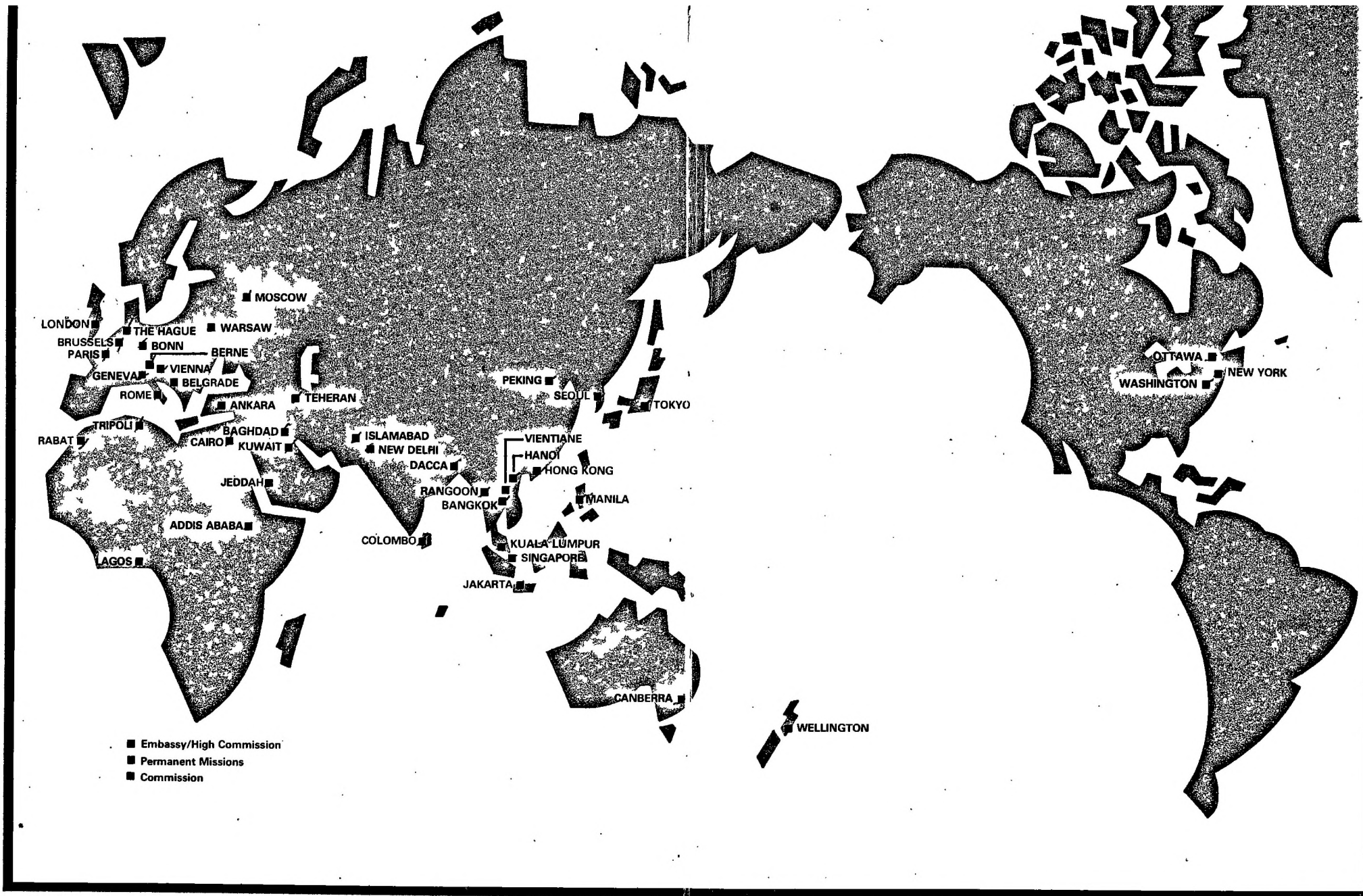
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PERDANA
KABUPATEN
KOTA DATUK
KAYAH
KEDAH
KEMERAN



Malaysia's Missions Overseas



2/84

43

CORRIGENDUM

Colour Plate: Caption on Yang di-Pertua Negeri Melaka.

Line 3 should read “ . . . J.M.N., P.J.K., was born on 11th October 1918 . . . ”

Photo credits inadvertently omitted.

National Parks: Tourist Development Corporation, Malaysia.

Merdeka Tournament: Allsports.

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DICETAK OLEH JABATAN PERCETAKAN NEGARA, KUALA LUMPUR

MOKHTAR BIN HAJI SHAMSUDDIN, S.M.T., K.M.N., P.I.S.

PEMANGKU KETUA PENGARAH

1982



PREFACE

The Malaysia Official Year Book, 1979 is the nineteenth edition in the series prepared each year by the Federal Department of Information, Ministry of Information, Malaysia, with the co-operation of other Government Ministries and Departments as well as national organisations and statutory bodies.

This Year Book is now an established work of reference which is widely used by libraries and Malaysian missions abroad in providing information concerning Malaysia.

The 1979 edition, which covers events up to December 1979 (in some cases up to the time of going to press), gives a factual account of the administration and the national economy of Malaysia. It describes the activities of many of the national institutions, both Government and quasi-Government, and shows the part played by the Government in the life of the community. The contents of this book are intended for easy reference with statistical data, both in the text wherever relevant and in the Appendices. Readers who require more detailed information should consult the Annual Statistical Bulletin and other Bulletins compiled by the Statistics Department, Malaysia.

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The Federal Department of Information, Malaysia wishes to thank all Ministries and Departments as well as other organisations and statutory bodies for having contributed material for this Year Book.

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Edited by

Judith C. de Silva

Designed by

Abdul Rashid bin Ahmad



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Their Majesties





YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG

His Majesty Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mu'adzam Shah, D.K.M., D.K.P., D.K., S.S.A.P., S.I.M.P., D.M.N., D.K. (Perak), D.K. (Johor), D.K. (Kelantan), D.K. (Trengganu), D.K. Perlis, D.K. (Kedah, D.K. (Brunei), S.P.C.M., S.P.M.J., was born, on 24th October, 1930. He ascended the throne of Pahang on 7th May, 1974.

His Majesty was elected the Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong by the Conference of Rulers on 21st September, 1975.

His Majesty was elected as the Seventh Yang di-Pertuan Agong by the Conference of Rulers on 25th April, 1979 and took the Oath of Office on 26th. April, 1979 at Istana Negara.



THE RAJA PERMAISURI AGONG

Her Majesty the Raja Permaisuri Agong, Tengku Hajjah Afzan binti Tengku Muhammad, D.M.N., D.K. (Pahang), S.S.A.P. S.I.M.P. was born on 4th December, 1933 at Kuala Trengganu.

Her Majesty was proclaimed Her Royal Highness the Tengku Ampuan of Pahang on 7th May, 1974 and became the Raja Permaisuri Agong on 26th April, 1979.



**TIMBALAN YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG
(YANG DI-PERTUAN BESAR OF NEGERI SEMBILAN)**

His Royal Highness Tuanku Ja'afar Ibni Al-Marhum Tuanku Abdul Rahman, D.K., D.M.N., D.K. (Brunei), D.K. (Kelantan), was born on 19th July 1922. He ascended the throne on 18th April, 1967. His Royal Highness The Yang di-Pertuan Besar was elected as the Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong on June 19, 1979 and performed the duties of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong from November 29, 1979 to December 29, 1979.

**Their Royal Highnesses
The Rulers
and
Their Excellencies
The Yang di-Pertua Negeri**



THE RAJA OF PERLIS



His Royal Highness Tuanku Syed Putra Ibni Al-Marhum Syed Hassan Jamalullail, D.K., D.K.M., D.M.N., S.M.N., S.P.M.P., D.K. (Selangor), D.K. (Kelantan), D.K. (Brunei), S.P.D.K. (Sabah), D.P. (Sarawak), D.K. (Kedah), D.K. (Pahang). He ascended the throne on 4th December, 1945.

THE SULTAN OF TRENGGANU



His Royal Highness Tuanku Ismail Nasiruddin Shah, D.K. D.K. (M), D.M.N., S.P.M.T., D.K. (Kelantan), D.K. (Selangor), D.K. (Perak), D.K. (Pahang), Ibni AL-Marhum Sultan Zainal Abidin, Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan Bagi Negeri Trengganu Darul Iman serta Jajahan Takluknya, was born on 24th January, 1907 at Kuala Trengganu. He ascended the throne on 16th December, 1945. H.R.H. passed away on 20th September, 1979.

THE SULTAN OF TRENGGANU



His Royal Highness Sultan Mahmud Al-Muktafi Billah Shah D.K.TR., D.K., D.M.N., S.P.M.T., D.K. (JOH), D.K. (SEL), S.P.C.M., Ibni Al-Marhum Tuanku Al-Sultan Ismail Nasiruddin Shah, Sultan dan Yang di-Pertuan Bagi Negeri Trengganu Darul Iman Serta Segala Jajahan Takluknya, was born on 20th. April, 1930 at Kuala Trengganu. His Royal Highness ascended the throne on 20th. September, 1979.

THE SULTAN OF KEDAH



His Royal Highness Tuanku Haji Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Badlishah, D.K., D.K.H., D.K.M., D:M.N., D.U.K., D.K. (Kelantan), D.K. (Pahang), D.K. (Selangor), D.K. (Perlis), D.P. (Sarawak), S.P.M.K., S.S.D.K., was born on 28th November, 1927. He ascended the throne of Kedah on 14th July, 1958.

THE SULTAN OF JOHOR



His Royal Highness Sultan Ismail ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Ibrahim. D.K., S.P.M.J., S.S.I.J., D.M.N., S.M.N., S.P.M.K., D.K. (Brunei), D.K. (Pahang), D.K. (Perak), D.K. (Selangor), D.K. (Kelantan), etc, was born on 28th October, 1894. He ascended the throne on 8th May, 1959.

THE SULTAN OF SELANGOR



His Royal Highness Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Hisamuddin Alam Shah Alhaj, D.K., D.M.N., S.P.M.S., D.K., (Brunei), D.K. (Trengganu), D.K. (Kelantan), D.K. (Perlis), D.K. (Johor), D.K. (Kedah), S.P.D.K. (Sabah), D.P. (Sarawak), the Sultan and the Yang di-Pertuan Negeri of Selangor Darul Ehsan dan Jajahan Takluknya was born on 8th March, 1926 and ascended the throne on 2nd September, 1960.

THE SULTAN OF PERAK



His Royal Highness Sultan Idris Almutawakkil Alallahi Shah Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Iskandar Shah Kaddasallah, D.K., D.M.N., D.K., (Johor), D.K. (Pahang), D.K. (Trengganu), S.P.C.M., S.P.T.S., S.P.M.P., P.J.K., C.M.G., of the State and Territory of Perak and all its Dependencies, Sultan, Yang di-Pertuan and Ruler was born on 17th August, 1924. His Royal Highness ascended the throne on 6th January, 1963.

THE SULTAN OF KELANTAN



His Royal Highness Tuanku Ismail Petra Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Yahya Petra, D.K., S.P.M.K., S.J.M.K., S.P.S.K., D.M.N. The Sultan of Kelantan, was born on November 11, 1949 at Istana Jahar Kota Bharu. He was conferred the title Tengku Mahkota of Kelantan on November 11, 1967 and appointed Regent on the election of his father as the Sixth Yang di-Pertuan Agong on September 21, 1975. He ascended the throne of Kelantan following the death of his father Tuanku Yahya Petra on 26 March, 1979.

THE REGENT OF PAHANG



His Royal Highness Tengku Abdullah ibni Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah, D.K., S.S.A.P., S.I.M.P., was born on 30 July, 1959 in Pekan, Pahang. He was proclaimed Tengku Mahkota Pahang on 23 Oct. 1977.

He was at one time Regent of Pahang when his father Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah carried out the duties of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and again was appointed Regent of Pahang on 14 April, 1979. He was proclaimed Regent of Pahang on 28 April, 1979.

THE YANG DI PERTUA NEGERI PULAU PINANG



His Excellency Tun Datuk Haji Sardon bin Haji Jubir, S.M.N., D.U.P.N., P.M.N., S.P.M.J., S.P.M.K., was born on 19th March, 1917. He was appointed the Yang di-Pertua Negeri Pulau Pinang on 5th February, 1975.

THE YANG DI PERTUA NEGERI MELAKA



His Excellency Tun Syed Zahiruddin bin Syed Hassan, S.M.N./D.U.N.M., P.S.M., S.P.M.P., J.M.N., P.J.K., was born on 11th October, 1981 and appointed Yang di-Pertua Negeri Melaka on 23rd May, 1975.

THE YANG DI PERTUA NEGERI SARAWAK



His Excellency Tun Datuk Patinggi Abang Haji Muhammad Salahuddin, S.M.N., D.P., S.P.M.P., was born on August 27, 1921. He was appointed Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak on April, 2, 1977.

THE YANG DI-PERTUA
NEGERI SABAH



His Excellency Tun Datuk Haji Mohamad Adnan Robert, S.M.N., S.P.D.K., S.P.M.P, D.P., D.U.P.N., was born on 9th September, 1917. He was sworn in as the Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sabah on 26th June 1978.



PRIME MINISTER
The Honourable Dato' Haji Hussein bin Onn



DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
The Honourable Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad.

Growth in the Malaysian economy accelerated in 1979. The impetus to higher output growth was provided by the buoyant export sector, which was supported strongly by an expansion in aggregate domestic demand especially towards the latter part of the year.

Growth

Output growth in real terms, as measured by the gross domestic product at constant 1970 prices, rose by 8.5 per cent for the year as a whole, compared with 7.6 per cent in 1978. Real income, that is, the international purchasing power of the nation's output, however, rose at a much higher rate of 15 per cent as a result of the marked improvement of about 14.5 per cent in the international terms of trade. On the demand side, expenditure on the gross national produce at current market prices rose by 21.4 per cent, compared with an increase of 12.9 per cent in 1978. Per capita GNP in current prices therefore rose to \$3,184 (US\$1,455) in 1979, an increase of 18 per cent over that of the previous year.

Expansion in the economy during the year was fairly evenly spread out among the various sectors of the economy. Output in the agricultural sector recovered strongly as a result of a return to more normal weather conditions, rising by 4 per cent during the year, compared with the drought-affected growth rate of only about one per cent in 1978. Of particular significance was the strong recovery during the year in the production of palm oil and padi, which expanded by 23 per cent and 17.4 per cent respectively.

Output growth in the mining and quarrying sector accelerated from 13 per cent in 1978 to 15 per cent during the year, mainly because of the rapid expansion of petroleum production.

Growth in the manufacturing sector was also sustained at a high rate of 12 per cent, reflecting rapid rates of growth especially in the export-oriented industries and those producing consumer durables and materials for building and construction. With the continuing strong demand for residential housing, growth of the construction sector was maintained at 14 per cent during the year. Activity in the services industries on the whole kept pace with the overall growth of the economy.

Consistent with the high rate of expansion in the overall economy, total employment rose by 3.6 per cent during the year to 4.7 million at the end of 1979.

An unexpected development in 1979 was the exceptionally strong growth in export earnings. The value of exports of goods and services rose by 38.9 per cent to reach \$26,504 million in 1979, reflecting mainly

the increase in export earnings from primary commodity exports, which exceeded expectations, as well as the increase in exports of crude petroleum and manufactures. In volume terms, exports of goods and services expanded by 11 per cent, compared with 7.5 per cent in 1978.

The rapid expansion in incomes generated by the export sector, together with the expansionary fiscal operations of the Government over the past few years, provided a strong stimulus to the growth in private consumption expenditure, which in 1979 was sustained at a high rate of 15 per cent in current prices and 11 per cent in real terms. Growth in expenditure on private investment accelerated moderately to 24.5 per cent in current prices. In real terms, outlays on private investment, the promotion of which remains a major objective of public policy, rose by 13.2 per cent in 1979.

Excluding investment by the oil industry, private fixed capital formation in real terms expanded by 12 per cent in 1979, compared with 13.4 per cent in 1978. The bulk of the increase in private fixed investment was in machinery and equipment undertaken mainly by existing firms for capacity expansion and for the modernisation of the productive process. Investment in building and construction, in particular residential houses, was also significantly higher during the year.

Reflecting its role in maintaining the growth momentum in the economy, expenditure in the public sector on investment and consumption expanded by 18.5 per cent in current prices and 12.4 per cent in real terms during the year. The growth in public sector expenditure during the year was mainly due to higher outlays on social services and general administration, agriculture and rural development, utilities and defence.

Although domestic output expanded significantly during the year, a large portion of the goods and services generated catered for the export market. This strong dependence on exports market together with the rapid increase in domestic expenditure led to a strong growth in imports in 1979 of all categories of goods and services, which rose by 29.1 per cent in value terms during the year.

The balance of payments position for 1979 was dominated by a substantial improvement in the merchandise surplus, which increased to \$6,571 million, compared with a surplus of \$3,587 million in 1978. The traditional deficit on invisibles was also markedly higher as a result of large increases in the repatriation of profits and in the payment for freight and insurance. Nevertheless, the current account registered a surplus of \$2,270 million, compared with \$319 million in 1978.

Reflecting largely the favourable developments in the balance of payments, the ringgit strengthened steadily in 1979. For the year as a whole, the ringgit appreciated by 2.8 per cent from its composite par

value, based on a basket of international currencies of the nation's major trading partners. The net international reserves of the Central Bank rose by \$1,863 million during the year. As at December 31, 1979, these reserves amounted to \$9,226 million (US\$4,215 million), sufficient to finance about seven months of retained imports at the 1979 level.

The Yang di-Pertuan Agong

Malaysia mourned the death of the Sixth Constitutional Monarch His Majesty Tuanku Yahya Petra Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Ibrahim on March 29, 1979.

The Sultan of Pahang, His Royal Highness Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mu'Adzam Shah was elected as the Seventh Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia on April 25, 1979.

Foreign Affairs

Developments in Southeast Asia (ASEAN Countries)

With ASEAN and regional co-operation being the thrust of Malaysia's foreign policy for more than a decade, relations with the ASEAN member States were further consolidated during the year. This was more evident after the fall of Kampuchea to the Vietnamese-backed forces of Heng Samrin in January 1979 and the influx of Indochinese refugees into Thailand and the other member States of ASEAN.

On assuming the Chairmanship of the ASEAN Standing Committee for the year 1979/1980, Malaysia played a leading role in co-ordinating the various Informal Meetings of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers in Kuala Lumpur, as the follow-up action to the UNGA Resolution on the "Situation in Kampuchea". The informal meetings, in line with the UN Resolution, called for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign forces from Kampuchea. At the same time it called for global attention to the plight of the famine-stricken Kampuchean.

Relations with Burma and the Indochina States

During 1979, the traditionally close ties with Burma were further consolidated and strengthened and the cordial ties between Malaysia and the Indochina States maintained.

Vietnamese Illegal Immigrants

A major part of Malaysia's diplomatic efforts in 1979 was geared towards contributing to seek a political solution of the Kampuchean conflict and solving the problem of Vietnamese illegal immigrants.

The increasing number of Vietnamese Illegal Immigrants in Malaysia (reaching a peak of 76,000 in June 1979) prompted Malaysia to take firm measures to prevent further arrivals. These measures were conveyed in a written message by the Malaysian Prime Minister to the UN Secretary-General on June 18, whereby, because of the massive exodus

of Vietnamese Illegal Immigrants to Malaysian shores, and the consequent social, economic and political problems faced domestically, Malaysia decided to impose a cordon and prevent any further arrivals of Vietnamese Illegal Immigrants.

Subsequently, Malaysia welcomed the doubling of offers for re-settlement of refugees in Southeast Asia by third countries and also the pledges made by Vietnam at the UN Meeting on Refugees and Displaced Persons in Southeast Asia, held in Geneva in July 1979, to stop illegal departures for a reasonable period and to co-operate with the UNHCR in the Orderly Departure Programme for Vietnamese.

As a result of these preventive measures, increased resettlement efforts by the UNHCR and resettlement countries, and the co-operation of Vietnam, the number of Vietnamese Illegal Immigrants in Malaysia significantly dropped to around 31,000 at the end of the year. However, the Kampuchean problem remained unresolved and Malaysia's contribution in the effort to achieve a political solution based on the UN Resolution on the situation in Kampuchea, continued.

United Nations, Commonwealth and Non-Aligned

During 1979 Malaysia continued to serve on a number of United Nations bodies, notably, the Special Committee against Apartheid, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian people, the *Ad Hoc* Committee on the Indian Ocean and the Committee on Natural Resources. Malaysia was also a member of the Governing Council of the UN Environment Programme, the Commission on Human Settlements, the Statistical Commission and the UNESCO Executive Board.

During 1979, Malaysia participated in a number of dialogues and meetings of the Commonwealth, the most significant being the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Lusaka, Zambia, in August.

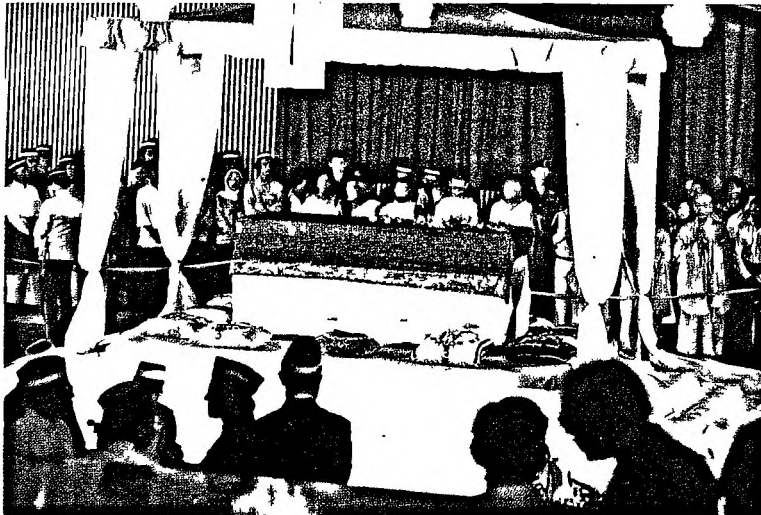
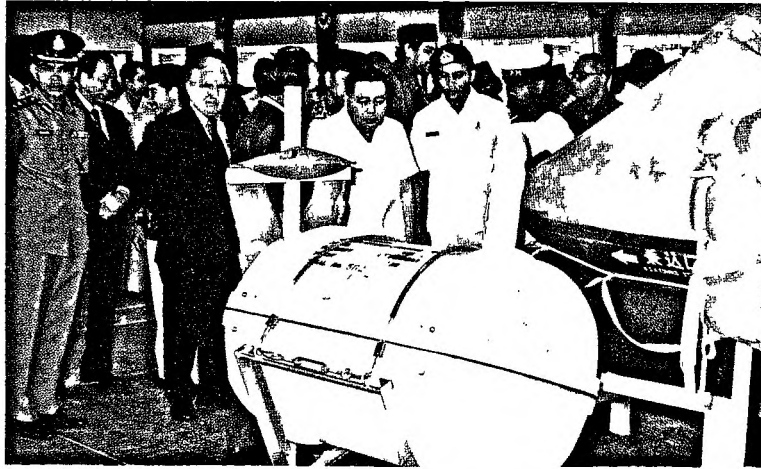
Malaysia is a member of several of the Commonwealth study groups on various aspects of economic development such as the Commonwealth Technical Group on the Common Fund and the Commonwealth Expert Group. Malaysia as the co-ordinator for the Commonwealth regional consultative group on illicit drugs, convened the group's first meeting in Kuala Lumpur in June 1979.

During 1979 Malaysia attended the Ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau held in Colombo in June and also participated in the Sixth Non-aligned Summit in Havana in September 1979. The Malaysian delegation was led by Foreign Minister, Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen. The Havana Summit provided an opportunity for Malaysia and the other non-aligned countries to renew and reaffirm their commitment to the fundamental principles and genuine character of non-alignment, free from military blocs and great power rivalry.



Above: Their Majesties the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong at the official opening of the International Year of the Child celebrations in Kuala Lumpur on 24th February, 1979 and Below: Datin Suhailah, wife of the Prime Minister, speaks at the gathering.

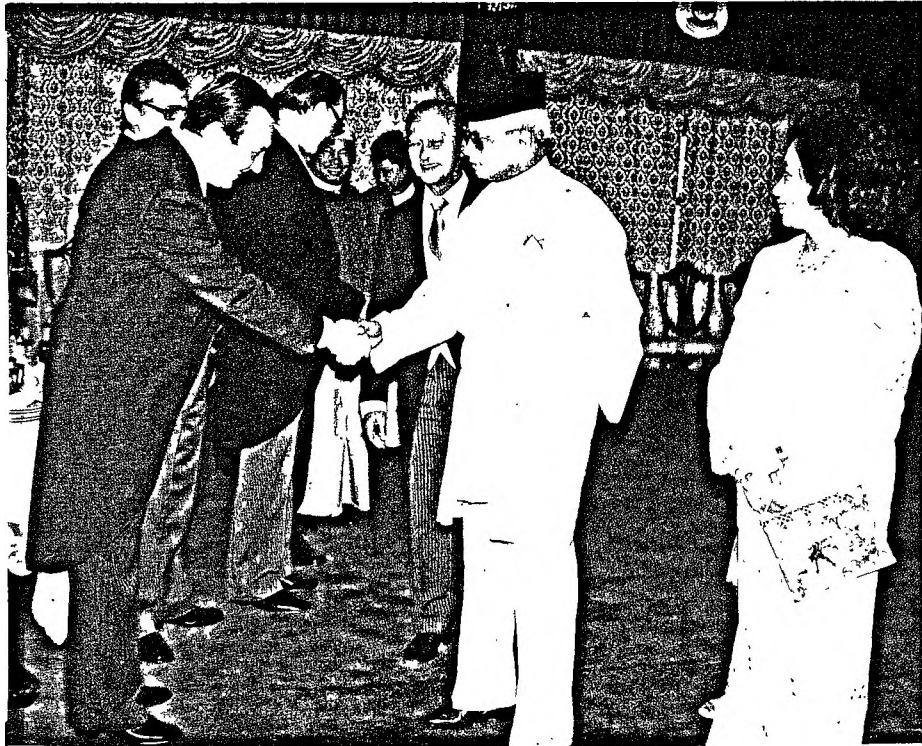
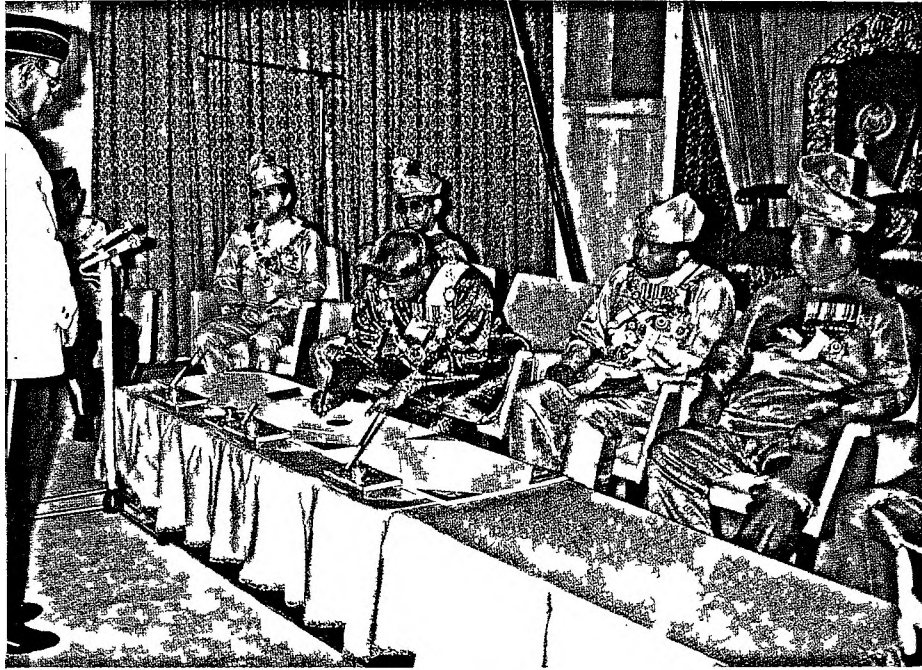




Top: His Majesty Tuanku Petra Ibn Al-Marhum Sultan Ibrahim tours the Maritime Training Centre in Melaka on 21st February, 1979. (Above) His Majesty who passed away on 29th March, 1979 was laid to rest in his home state Kelantan. The laying in-state was held in Parliament House.

Top Right: His Majesty Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta in Billah Ibn Al-Marhum Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mu'Adzam Shah who was elected the Seventh Yang di-Pertuan Agong on 25th April, 1979, signs the Oath of Office the following day at Istana Negara and Right: His Majesty receives in audience Foreign Ambassadors, High Commissioners and their wives on the occasion of His Majesty's Birthday (4th June, 1979).







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