

The Middle Path

An Alternative To
The Partisan Madness

anas zubedy

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A

Dear Tun Dr. Siti,

*May all of us guide ourselves with love,
logic and wisdom.*

*Love, because love makes us fair
with our hearts;*

*Logic, because logic makes us fair
with our minds; and*

*Wisdom, because wisdom leads us to
combine our love and logic in the way of
God and for the benefit of Mankind.*

Salam,

Anas

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TUN DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD

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by

anas zubedy



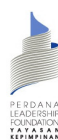
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Dedicated to
Young Malaysians

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	xi
Introduction	xiii
Part 1	
1 Why Choose the Middle Path	3
2 Empathy - The Way to the Middle Path	7
3 The Third Conversation	13
4 Three Good Books	17
5 The Malaysian Indian Poor	33
6 The New Economic Policy - The Good and the Bad	41
7 Can a non-Malay be Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia	57
8 Instead of the Keris	65
9 ' <i>Ketuanan Melayu</i> '?	73

10	Peribahasa as a Way to Unity	81
11	<i>Perkampungan Malaysia</i> - Why Give Tax Breaks to Multiracial Neighbourhoods	87
12	Why Have One-Stream Schools	91
13	One Nation, Two People	95
14	Integration between Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak	105
15	Why and How to Resist Bipolarity	113
16	Unity Initiatives	117
17	Why the Rakyat Must Lead	125
18	The Power of One Vote - Why You Should Believe in Your Vote	133
19	Why Recolour May 13	139
20	Why We Need to Revisit our Social Contract	145
21	Why say 'I am First and Foremost Malaysian'	149
22	Why say 'Sorry' and 'Thank you' to Each Other	155

Separator - Unity Poem

Part 2

23	The Middle Path, Our Shared Value	179
24	'Dear Malaysian Politicians'	185
25	A Middle Path Letter - 'Dear Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng'	189
26	A Middle Path Response	197
27	The Malays are Malaysians too	205
28	Who are the Malays	209
29	Who is the Majority Race in Malaysia?	217
30	Nasi Lemak 2.0	219
31	The Middle Path, Bersih and Malaysian Public Rallies	225
32	The Middle Ground is Not a Fallacy	231
33	Happy Marching, Have a Safe Journey	235
34	General Elections, The Middle Path and ABU - Part 1	239
35	General Elections, The Middle Path and ABU - Part 2	243

36	General Elections, The Middle Path and ABU - Part 3	247
37	A Call to Action: Young Malaysians and The Middle Path	251
38	How to Vote The Middle Path Way	255
39	I Believe, Do You?	259
40	Nurture Young Leaders	263
41	Be Daring, but Don't Be Stupid	265
42	We Want Development, Minus Corruption	267
43	Everything is Not Politics, Politics is Not Everything	269

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let us add value,

anas zubedy
13 May 2012.

Introduction

Since I started speaking and writing about choosing the middle path, many have responded by referring to the middle path as being neutral. A common statement quoted is one by Bishop Desmond Tutu - *'If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.'*

It is a profound and meaningful statement by Bishop Tutu. But taking the middle path is not the same as being neutral. This is a misconception. While being neutral is not making a stand; choosing the middle path is carefully deciding on a position not on the left or right, but which is able to move us forward. While being neutral is shying away from taking action; choosing the middle path is about making decisions and acting based on careful consideration of all factors.

In many instances then, choosing the middle path takes us to a way that is not extreme, but measured on every side. When we balance the right principles with the right pragmatism, we can take steps that move us forward. When we take extreme positions, there is danger of doing things that are expedient in the short term but destructive in the long run. The middle path is a way to keep things in check. Choosing the middle path requires more careful thought, more investigation and deliberation to find an alternative that suggests the best ways to move forward.

Here and today in Malaysia, too often there seems to be only two prominent positions – either us or them, black or white. The extreme has become mainstream; and the intelligent and moderate have been edged to the sidelines. But for a diverse nation like Malaysia, we need to build bridges, not divisions.

Why this book?

In a small way, this book seeks to bring the middle path to the mainstream. Within its pages, it bears a dream – the dream of Malaysia as a shining example of one people with many different cultures and backgrounds, living in Unity because we have found the right formula of compromise through the middle path. A nation that takes the best out of everybody's religion, everybody's tradition, and makes it our practice. A nation that takes the best of humanity and makes it our character.

I dream that our politics will reach a level of maturity where extremes are not played and where certain important issues like education, health, or the economy, are dealt with above and beyond politics. That everything in Malaysia is no longer divided along political partisan lines and our politicians would choose to lose rather than exaggerate, lie, or cheat. Where thinking, middle ground Malaysians come out and insist on the middle path and we always look for an alternative.

This dream can only happen when Malaysians give up being overly calculative and separating and arguing over who

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Choose the Middle Path... but Don't be Neutral

The middle path points forward; the neutral position is at a standstill.
The middle path leads to action; the neutral path accomplishes nothing.

The middle path takes responsibility; the neutral shirks it.

The middle path asks questions; the neutral avoids them.

The middle path requires commitment; the neutral is non-committal.

The middle path sides with justice and truth; the neutral sits on the fence.

The middle path has solid foundations; the neutral is like *lalang*.

The middle path demands integrity; the neutral sways with the tide.

The middle path captures reality; the neutral does not want to face it.

The middle path empathises; the neutral is selfish.

The middle path thinks long term; the neutral cares only about the present.

The middle path uses intelligence; the neutral is unthinking.

The middle path is innovative; the neutral needs no innovation.

The middle path sees right as right and wrong as wrong no matter who does it;
the neutral hides.

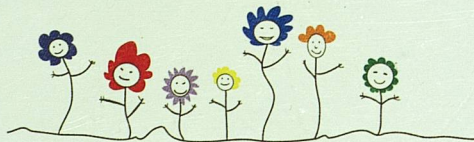
The middle path cares; the neutral does not.

The middle path adds value and contributes; the neutral does not.

The middle path guides us to the right way, in the right measure and at the right time.

It is the path that will lead us to Unity.

Choose the middle path.



many colors, one race

zubyed 

let us add value

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