

Recent Books from/on Malaysia – November 2012

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Economics/Development Studies

The New Economy Policy in Malaysia : Affirmative Action, Ethnic Inequalities and Social Justice / Edmund Terence Gomez & Johan Saravanamuttu (Editors)
Malaysia, Singapore : SIRD and: NUS Press & ISEAS Publishing, 2013
xviii. 393p. ; 23cm.
ISBN-13: 9789675832673 (SIRD PB)
ISBN-13: 9789971696696 (NUS Press PB.)
ISBN-13: 9789814414448 (ISEAS Publishing PB)
\$ 32.00 / PB
600 gm.

For more than 40 years the New Economic Policy and its successor programs have shaped Malaysia's socioeconomic development and the allocation of political power. The original policy sought to eradicate poverty and achieve economic parity among the country's various ethnic communities. However, it was based on an apparent paradox—the use of ethnic preference to promote national unity. The policy's core tenet was affirmative action on behalf of the Bumiputra community. Drawing on a wealth of statistical and documentary evidence, this major new book provides a comprehensive and rigorous assessment of the NEP. The contributors show that there have been some positive outcomes, among them a considerable reduction of poverty, greater inter-ethnic equity parity and the emergence of a resourceful Bumiputra middle class. But these partial success have to be weighed against persistent complaints associated with increasing intraethnic Bumiputra income disparities; the emergence of a small, politically powerful and disproportionately wealthy Bumiputra elite; a serious brain drain; and weak human capital. As a result, divisive debates around group rights, ethnic identity and an elusive national unity dominate Malaysia's policy discourse. The New Economic Policy in Malaysia offers a timely and fresh perspective, suggesting that the long-term implementation of racially-targeted policies reinforces stereotypical ethnic identities and hinders the creation of a more inclusive society.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=146678>

A Matter of Risk : Insurance in Malaysia, 1826 – 1990 / Lee Kam Hing
Singapore: NUS Press, 2012

xvi. 647p. ; 23cm.

Includes bibliographical references and index

ISBN-13: 9789971694609

1. Insurance – Malaysia – History – 19th century
2. Insurance – Malaysia – History – 20th century

\$ 42.00 / PB

948 gm.

A Matter of Risk shows how insurance companies established themselves in an unfamiliar environment, marketed new products, responded to diverse demands and safeguarded market share and profit against competition. Local firms faced a major challenge as overseas insurance companies moved from running agency offices to setting up of branches, taking over or collaborating with existing companies, and eventually incorporating themselves as local companies.

The study looks at the role of tariff associations and insurance trade organizations such as the Persatuan Insurans Am Malaysia (Malaysian General Insurance Association) in maintaining order in the industry through self-regulation.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=122153>

Environment

Wild Orchids of Borneo : Brunei Darussalam / Idris Mohd Said & Mahmud Sudin
Sabah: Penerbit Universiti Malaysia Sabah, 2012

xxxv. 311p. ; 27cm.

Includes index

Bibliography: p.

ISBN-13: 9789675224256

1. Orchids – Brunei – Identification
2. Orchids – Brunei – Pictorial works

\$ 120.00 / HB

1060 gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=146679>

History

People Development : A Leader's Journey in the Transformation of Sarawak / Taib Mahmud

Kuala Lumpur: SMR HR Group Sdn. Bhd., 2010

211p. ; 25cm.

ISBN-13: 9789675223068

\$ 45.00 / HB

676 gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=146680>

Literature

Tiger Isle : A Government of Thieves / E. S. Shankar

Selangor: Gerakbudaya Enterprise, 2012

328p. ; 22cm.

ISBN-13: 9789832344087

1. 1. Malaysian fiction (English)

\$ 15.00 / PB

428 gm.

Tiger Isle or Pulipore, the corruption capital of the world that mysteriously emerged from the depths of the waters of South East Asia in 200 CE, spiral towards its tipping point in 2012.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=146224>
