# The Wit And Wisdom Of Dr Mahathir Mohamad

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Prime Minister of Malaysia: Globalisation and the new realities *Mahathir bin Mohamad Mahathir bin Mohamad* 

malaysia s longest serving and most outspoken prime minister dr mahathir mohamad has been politically active for more than 60 years as a young doctor he agitated for independence from the british and promoted the rights of the malays and his long political career culminated in his 22 year term as prime minister during which malaysia s rapid development his forthright words and singular policies thrust the country into the eyes of the world throughout his career dr mahathir has spoken and written in a frank and uncompromising manner and he has continued to do so since retiring from the premiership in 2003 he remains a controversial figure to this day the wit and wisdom of dr mahathir mohamad is a collection of nearly 600 quotations spanning his time in government and beyond the quotations are arranged by topic including those as varied as leadership race relations the media economics and development colonialism international relations including israel and palestine and malaysia itself

dr mahathir mohamad governed malaysia for 22 years 1981 2003 during which he wrote and received many letters from many world leaders the letters presented in this volume by dr mahathir tony blair bill clinton lee kuan yew fidel castro and saddam hussein among others argue the contrasting positions on bilateral and joint relations globalisation as well as wars and conflicts dr mahathir writes directly in his own distinctive voice and style the correspondents were transparent solid informative and sometimes robust

the planned retirement in october 2003 of dr mahathir mohamad prime minister of malaysia since july 1981 has occasioned many instant assessments of the mahathir legacy in contrast this book takes a hard look at the long term social transformation behind the dramatic politics of the mahathir era it ranges over issues of political economy ideology interethnic relations the challenge of islam and the complexities of leadership transition khoo boo teik explains how the mahathir regimes s mid 1990 s asian values triumphalism was replaced by the turn of the millenium pessimism and the spectre of a second malay dilemma he aims to bring to life mahathir s predicaments the contradictions in anwar ibrahim s chequered career and the cultural imperatives behind the historic rise of the alternative front s rainbow coalition the result is an informed lay reader s guide to the momentous disturbing and even inspiring events which overturned easy assumptions about ethnic politics in malaysia tested the regime s economic management revealed the vitality of cultural revolt and raised fundamental questions about the directions of the country post mahathir

the seventy one letters by dr mahathir bush chirac blair thatcher and prince charles among others are unique as they interpret and argue their contrasting positions on terrorism globalisation economic and diplomatic relations and war and conflicts the correspondence presents a less than ideal world for the reader to inhabit their correspondence was transparent solid informative and sometimes strong the

memories they and their words leave behind are always startling dr mahathir writes directly in his own recognisable voice and style a unique correspondence by a remarkable malaysian former prime minister an excellent book to be enjoyed on many different levels by all who love politics diplomacy and international relations never before published these letters are written in a clear and easy to understand style

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