

## Book Review 'ModulHubunganEtnik' (Malay Version)

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The editor-in-chief of the book, Professor UlungDr.ShamsulAmriBaharuddin forward a new exploration should be made to the study of ethnic relations in Malaysia which has clearly failed to read a long, peaceful life from conflict in Malaysia. The confusion arose because the political perspective has been adopted in many research results of colonial heritage that should have been set aside by the changes in our society today. Evident in today's society, social cohesion is built-in multi-ethnic society, which has led to the building of cross-correlation of social and Malaysia managed to set up a simple and categorized as a developed country.

Professor Shamsul is a social anthropologist who has been conducting research in multi-ethnic society of Malaysia from the village to nation building. His thinking about the dream state and the concept of social cohesion as a basis for analysing the various ethnic communities that once colonized until the country to be able to develop and produce harmony has been adopted in principle in many of his writings, included in this book. On 15 December 2010 he was named the state through the Ministry of Higher Education as Professor Ulung. Professor Shamsul had redevelop InstitutAlamdandTamadunMelayu (ATMA, 1999-2007), founded InstitutKajianOksidental (IKON, 2003), and the newest, InstitutKajianEtnik (KITA, 2007) at UniversitiKebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). Certifying his significant contribution to science and society, he not only was conferred, even awarded the Academic Prize 2008, the Fukuoka Asian Cultural Award from Japan.

Ethnic Relations course was introduced in Institutions of Higher Learning (IPTA) in Malaysia since 2005. To meet the needs of the students, a module has been issued with a view to exposing them to the basic headings covering various fields such as constitutional, political, economic, religion and education. In line with the promise issuers to continue to repair the module for this course continuously and periodically, based on the current development and feedback from various parties, especially lecturers and students, the publisher decided to publish this new book.

This book is different from the previous module in terms of conceptually, orientation and content. If in the previous module, the conceptual framework is based on the paradigm of conflict, but in this book are based on the paradigm of the conceptual framework of social cohesion as an alternative approach to the ethnic relations in Malaysia and complexity inherent in it. This book focuses not only on the definition of the concept of authority, but also the daily definitions. Therefore, the discussion is not only focused on the set of policies and measures envisaged by the government in order to achieve cohesion and solidarity, but also displays how people interact at the grassroots level in various everyday activities. This means that the pattern of ethnic relations in Malaysia are discussed from the perspective of bottom-up and top-down to give a more comprehensive view of socio-political reality that exists in Malaysia.

The book attempts to avoid some of the shortcomings inherent in the previous module in terms of repetition of words and the title that is significant and also the degree of legibility, delivery and processing. The module does not claim to be a definitive, detailed and comprehensive text, but rather as a stimulus for students continuing to explore boundaries of knowledge that may relate to ethnic relations in Malaysia. It is expected that students can make the material in this book to think and examine issues and important things pertaining to ethnic relations because ethnic relations is part of our daily life and experience by all. This book was written by 24 authors from different disciplinary backgrounds, from various institutions, including experts in the field of ethnic relations, political science, constitutional, economic, history, sociology, anthropology, religion and education.

The process of writing and repairs this book has been through various stages that lasted for 14 months. In the early stages, briefing and brainstorming sessions be held to determine and explain the concept of orientation and appropriate use. Then, several writing workshops and further discussions are held for the purpose of purification, before the manuscript was submitted to experts for evaluation. A total of 11 experts have provided critical and constructive comments on the manuscript of this book.

Based on feedback and suggestions from experts, the repairs made to the original manuscript before editing process is conducted. The task of writing a module like this is complex, composite and trivial, and requires precision, concentration and unequivocal commitment by all parties.

In conclusion, this book argues that ethnicity exists in Malaysia, but the experience of living together has given rise to ethnic groups that have exceeded the limits of their ethnicity. Ethnic groups in Malaysia have become increasingly composite and socially differentiated social cohesion built up between them. However, peace perspective taken in this book to analyse ethnic relations in Malaysia is not at all denied the misunderstandings and tensions that could lead to conflict. But life-long social peace was more built-in Malaysian from history of depression conflict. Peace in multi-ethnic society in Malaysia is the result of planning, effort and public policies and involvement of all sections of society to social cohesion built in continuing the work in progress to achieve the ultimate goal of national unity and national integration in one day.

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