

The background of the cover is black. At the top, there are several white, stylized silhouettes of people's heads and shoulders. Below these, a white banner contains the title in red, distressed, hand-painted style letters. Underneath the banner, there are more white silhouettes of people, some holding flags. The flags are colored blue, red, and yellow. The overall aesthetic is graphic and political.

THE ROAD TO REFORM

Pakatan Rakyat in Selangor

Edited by Tricia Yeoh

The Road to Reform

Pakatan Rakyat in Selangor

Edited by
Tricia Yeoh



SIRD

Strategic Information and Research Development Centre,
Petaling Jaya

Copy no:	11242211
Initial:	SAA
Date:	27/2/12
Location:	MAIN /PJ /ISTAC /NILAI /K /K2 /IIBF

Editorial copyright © 2010 Tricia Yeoh

Individual chapters copyright © 2010 Individual authors

Published in 2010 by

Strategic Information and Research Development Centre

No 11, Lorong 11/4E, 46200 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

Email: sird@streamyx.com

Website: www.gerakbudaya.com

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

The Road to Reform: Pakatan Rakyat in /edited by Tricia Yeoh.

Includes Index

1. Selangor—Politics and government.

2. Selangor—Economic conditions.

I. Yeoh, Tricia.

959.5115

ISBN 978-967-5832-03-1 (Pbk)

ISBN 978-967-5832-07-9 (Hbk)

Cover design and layout by Janice Cheong

Printed by Vinlin Press Sdn Bhd

2, Jalan Meranti Permai 1,

Meranti Permai Industrial Park,

Batu 15, Jalan Puchong,

47100 Puchong, Selangor, Malaysia.

Contents

<i>List of Tables and Figures</i>	ix
<i>Abbreviations</i>	xi
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xv
<i>List of Contributors</i>	xvii
<i>Foreword by Anwar Ibrahim</i>	xxiii
<i>Preface by Abdul Khalid Ibrahim</i>	xxv

Introduction	1
<i>Tricia Yeoh</i>	

Part I • Politics

1	Law, Constitution and Governing	19
	<i>Yeo Yang Poh</i>	
2	Understanding Selangor's Constitution	27
	<i>Abdul Aziz Bari</i>	
3	Dismantling the One-Party State and Affirming Federalism: Achievements, Omissions and Failures	35
	<i>Wong Chin Huat</i>	
4	Selangor: Where Socio-Economic Shifts Meet Political Inertia	53
	<i>Ooi Kee Beng</i>	
5	Creating Conditions for a Genuine Two-Party System to Emerge: Successes and Challenges	61
	<i>Mavis Puthucheary</i>	

6	Local Government: Managing Expectations <i>Andrew Khoo</i>	73
7	Political and Administrative Challenges for Selangor <i>Syed Husin Ali</i>	81
8	The Realities of Governing Selangor: Realising Pakatan Rakyat's Mandate <i>Tricia Yeoh</i>	93

Part II • Economics

9	Water for <i>Rakyat</i> <i>Tony Pua</i>	111
10	Environmental Issues Under Pakatan Rakyat in Selangor: Successes and Challenges <i>Gurmit Singh K.S.</i>	127
11	The Economic and Industrial Sector in Selangor <i>Barjoyai Bardai</i>	137
12	Business and Industry in Selangor: Reform Measures in Improving Business <i>Yong Poh Kon</i>	157
13	Improving Freight Logistics Services for Economic Growth <i>Sieh Lee Mei Ling</i>	167
14	Talam's Debt Recovery Exercise Revisited <i>Dzulkefly Ahmad</i>	183

Part III • Society

15	The Pakatan Rakyat Government's Social Policies <i>Khalid Samad</i>	193
----	------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

16	Tapping into the Youth: Selangor's Prized Asset <i>Fahda Nur Ahmad Kamar</i>	203
17	Will to Power: Women's Political Empowerment and Democratisation in Selangor <i>Abigail de Vries</i>	211
18	Political Will and the Resolution of the Orang Asli Problem <i>Colin Nicholas</i>	221

Part IV • Culture

19	Media Freedom in Selangor <i>Mustafa K. Anuar</i>	231
20	Selangor's Educational Achievements <i>Ong Kian Ming</i>	241
21	Political Islam: Trajectory and Discourse <i>Ahmad Farouk Musa</i>	251
22	^{History of Islam} Many Faiths, One State: Can the Selangor Government Model be the Way Forward? <i>Sivin Kit</i>	269
	<i>Index</i>	281

2

Understanding Selangor's Constitution

Abdul Aziz Bari

Introduction

In any modern democracy the constitution is the backbone of the governance and the nation as a whole. The constitution provides the framework within which all branches of government have to operate. This is crucial in order to put the ideal of democracy – particularly the notion of limited government which is important to protect citizens' rights – into practice. The State Constitution, namely the Laws of the Constitution of Selangor 1959, needs to be understood within the framework of the Federal Constitution of Malaysia which is the supreme law of the land. The starting point for the operation of a fully-fledged democratic system took place in 1959. Although the country attained her independence in 1957 it was only two years later that the Federation of Malaya became truly democratic when parliament and all the state legislative assemblies came into being. The existing state constitution revoked two earlier constitutions, originally laid down in 1948 and 1950. Those earlier constitutions were part of the commitments undertaken by the Malay rulers who had signed the Federation of Malaya Agreement of 1948. As it happened this agreement formed part of the foundations for the Federal Constitution of Malaya which came into force on 31 August 1957.