



# Mediation in Malaysia: The Law and Practice

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# **MEDIATION IN MALAYSIA: THE LAW AND PRACTICE**

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†Company No 76125-H  
ISBN 978-967-5371-84-4



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Printed in Malaysia by Percetakan Anda Sdn Bhd

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## CHAPTER 22

# PROVISIONS ON *SULH* AND ITS APPLICATION IN THE STATE OF SELANGOR

by

SA'ODAH BINTI AHMAD  
&  
NORA ABDUL HAK

## INTRODUCTION

National seminar on Alternative Dispute Resolution was held on 4 and 5 February 2002 by the Legal Division of the Prime Minister's Department, Putrajaya. One of the resolutions of this seminar was to enhance the use of mediation in all matters. It was suggested that a law pertaining to mediation be enacted and mediation should be introduced at grassroots level.<sup>1</sup> Responding to this resolution and in view of the importance of *Sulh* as an alternative method in settling disputes amicably (particularly in family disputes), an effort has been taken by the Selangor Syariah Courts to introduce *Majlis* in 2002.

Today, Selangor is the most proactive and successful state in Malaysia in implementing the law and procedures on *Sulh* relating to family disputes. The law has been enforced here since 2002. In regards to the effectiveness of *Sulh* in 2003, 90% of cases registered in the Syariah Courts of Selangor were settled through *Sulh*.<sup>2</sup> The previous Chief Minister of Selangor, Datuk Seri