

British Policy towards Singapore-Malaysia Relations 1959-1969 (Malay Version)

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Received date: April 25, 2016; **Accepted date:** April 26, 2016; **Published date:** April 28, 2016

Citation: Iqbal U (2016) British Policy towards Singapore-Malaysia Relations 1959-1969 (Malay Version). *Arts Social Sci J* 7: 173. doi: [10.4172/2151-6200.1000173](https://doi.org/10.4172/2151-6200.1000173)

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Opinion

This book is mostly using historical documents as the primary source about Singapore, Malaya and British in the National Archives of Malaysia, the National Archives of Singapore and the Public Record Office in London and also using relevant secondary sources as a source of support. This book would not be complete without the resources of the National Archives of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur, Tun Sri Lanang Library at the National University of Malaysia, the National Library in Kuala Lumpur, Public Record Office in London, the National Archives of Singapore and National Archives of Australia.

The book is divided into six chapters about British policy towards Singapore's relations with Malaysia. The introduction of this book provides an overview of British policy in Southeast Asia involving Singapore and Malaysia. The first chapter describes the changes in British policy against Singapore in the early 1950s when the British began to give Singapore the right to self-government. British stance changed because the British do not want a bad experience that occurred in Malaya will be repeated in Singapore. The second chapter touches on British policy in Singapore retains control of the communists and handle problems that occur in Malaya from Singapore. British have involved the Federation of Malaya in blocking the communist activities in Singapore and Malaya. The establishment of the Internal Security Council is a body that acts to maintain the security of the security of Singapore and Malaya from communist or subversive groups.

The third chapter discusses the role of British in proposed merger of Singapore in Malaysia in the Grand Design project. The role and involvement of British officials to influence decisions made by the two leaders, British put a condition to Singapore if it want independent have to join the idea of Malaysia. The fourth chapter analyzes the position of Singapore in Malaysia after a merger between the two countries as well as North Borneo and Sarawak. Singapore's presence in Malaysia is like a thorn in the flesh even more Lee Kuan Yew dishonesty for the sacrifices that Tunku Abdul Rahman had done.

The fifth chapter is the chapter that is considered important because it shows the separation between Singapore and Malaysia in 1965. Separation between the two countries is inevitable after Tunku Abdul Rahman made judgments profusely. This chapter will also emphasize the British view on the decision of Tunku Abdul Rahman in removing Singapore from Malaysia. The sixth chapter shows the implications of

the separation of Singapore from Malaysia mainly involved in matters of security, defense and the economy then discuss the relationship after separation of the two countries. The effect separation of Singapore from Malaysia has changed the political scenario and geography of the two countries.

Conclusion part formulate overall British involvement, either directly or indirectly on Singapore's relations with Malaysia in the last 10 years. The book also gives an overall assessment of British policy in Singapore and Malaysia relationship involving three important conflicts, namely the formation of Malaysia, Singapore in Malaysia and the separation of Singapore from Malaysia. The conflict has created a number of important issues and events that happen to the two countries involving British. Among the problem issues are affecting the safety and the threat of communism, the establishment of Internal Security Council, the role of British officials, the process of establishing Malaysia, Lee Kuan Yew barbarism, Operation Cold Store operation, the effect of the separation of Singapore from Malaysia, ties between Singapore and Malaysia after separation and etc.

British real role can be seen in three conflicts involving relations between Singapore and Malaysia during the formation of Malaysia, Singapore in Malaysia and the separation of Singapore from Malaysia. Practically in all three conflicts, the British were directly involved in the actions and decisions of the two countries. British intervention shows that the British never gave the responsibility to Singapore and Malaysia, although the two countries have been given the status of self-government. British giving more focus and attention to Singapore than Malaysia because British still think Singapore as a British protectorate, British do so to make sure British interests in Singapore in terms of economic and military bases are not affected. This is a British long-term plan to remain a Western power in Southeast Asia.

Relations between Singapore and Malaysia are clearly influenced by British policy mainly involves the safety and interests of the British economy in Southeast Asia. Singapore is a national asset to British power because Singapore has a higher interest rate as compared to Malaysia. Malaysia as a country that used by the British to guarantee the safety and economic aspects of the British in Singapore, that is why when there is an issue that involves Singapore, Malaysia will be accounted for by the British to keep Singapore safe from the threat of communist and aggression from foreign countries.