

PRIME MINISTERS OF MALAYSIA



Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad

**(1981 - 2003;
2018 - Current)**

CHRONOLOGY

1925: Born on 10th July in Alor Star, Kedah, to Mohamed bin Iskandar and Wan Tempawan binti Wan Hanafi
 1931: Attended the Seberang Perak Malay School
 1933: Attended Sultan Abdul Hamid College
 1942 - 1945: Japanese occupation of Malaya. Dropped out of school to sell food in Pekan Rabu to support the family
 1946: Opposed the Malayan Union and joined UMNO
 1947: Studied medicine at King Edward VII Medical College
 1953: Graduated and served as Medical Officer in the Alor Setar General Hospital
 1956: Married Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Hj Mohd Ali
 1957: Left government service to set up Maha Clinic in Alor Setar
 1964: Stood for elections in Kota Setar Selatan and won
 1965: Elected to the UMNO Supreme Council
 1969: Stood for elections in Kota Setar Selatan but lost to a PAS candidate
 1969: 13th May - Racial riots broke out in KL
 1969: Wrote a letter criticising the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tunku Abdul Rahman. Expelled from UMNO
 1970: Wrote "The Malay Dilemma"
 1970: Tunku Abdul Rahman resigned as Prime Minister, and Tun Abdul Razak Hussein became Malaysia's second Prime Minister
 1972: Tun Mahathir returned to UMNO, and was appointed Senator
 1974: Won the Kubang Pasu parliamentary seat unopposed, and was appointed Minister of Education
 1976: Tun Razak passed away and Tun Hussein Onn became Prime Minister
 1976: Appointed as Deputy Prime Minister
 1981: Tun Hussein Onn resigned as Prime Minister
1981: July 16 - Became the fourth Prime Minister of Malaysia
 1998: Became Finance Minister upon the sacking of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister
 2003: October 31 - Stepped down as Prime Minister. Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi became Malaysia's fifth Prime Minister
 2003: Appointed Honorary President of Perdana Leadership Foundation
 2009: 3 April - Dato' Sri Najib Tun Razak becomes Malaysia's sixth Prime Minister
 2016: Left Umno in protest against Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's leadership
 2016: Set up Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (PPBM)
 2017: Re-entered politics as leader of the Pakatan Harapan coalition
 2018: Stood for elections under Pakatan Harapan in the Langkawi parliamentary seat for the 14th General Election
2018: Pakatan Harapan won the elections, and on 10th May 2018, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad became the seventh Prime Minister of Malaysia

IN BRIEF

Tun Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad was appointed as the fourth Prime Minister of Malaysia on 16th July 1981. He served the country for 22 years, becoming Malaysia's and South-East Asia's longest-serving Prime Minister.

He led the country through a fast-paced modernisation drive that earned Malaysia international recognition as an industrial powerhouse. Under his leadership, several mega infrastructure-projects took place, notably the Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC), Petronas Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) and Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC). Tun Dr Mahathir opened Malaysia to foreign investments, reduced international trade barriers, privatised government services, as well as established world-class physical infrastructure.

During Tun Dr Mahathir's tenure as Prime Minister, Malaysia became one of the most prosperous and dynamic economies in Southeast Asia, with a thriving industry, growing middle class, and increased quality of life. Malaysia also played a more active role in the international arena, acting as a voice for developing countries in Asia and Africa. Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad is also remembered for Vision 2020, a framework for making Malaysia a developed nation by the year 2020. For his achievements, he is regarded as Malaysia's "Father of Modernisation".

But his role in government did not end in 2003. In 2016, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad set up a new political party to challenge the National Front. In 2018, making a stunning political comeback at the age of 93, the coalition he led won the general elections and he became Malaysia's 7th Prime Minister.

FAMILY

Wife: Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Hj Mohd Ali, one of the earliest Malay women who qualified as medical doctors.
 Children: Datin Paduka Marina, Mirzan, Melinda, Tan Sri Mokhzani, Dato' Seri Mukhriz, Mazhar, Maizura.