

Malaysia's
RELATIONS
with
Saudi Arabia
1957–2003





Malaysia's RELATIONS *with* Saudi Arabia 1957–2003

Asmady Idris

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List of Abbreviations

AAPSO	Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization
ABIM	Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (Muslim Youth Movement of Malaysia)
ADF	African Development Fund
ADFAED	Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development
AMDA	Anglo-Malayan Defence and Mutual Assistance Treaty
AMU	Arab Maghreb Union
ANRPC	Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries
ANZUS	Australia, New Zealand, United States Security Treaty
Aramco	Arabian-American Oil Company
ASA	Association of Southeast Asia
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BN	Barisan Nasional (National Front)
CAEU	Council of Arab Economic Unity
CENTO	Central Treaty Organization
CFP	Comparative Foreign Policy
CIEC	Conference on International Economic Co-operation
CREON	Comparative Research on the Events of Nations Project
DAP	Democratic Action Party
EEC	European Economic Community
EIA	Energy Information Administration
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FPA	Foreign Policy Analysis
FPDA	Five Power Defence Arrangements
G-15	Group of Fifteen
G-77	The Group of 77

GATT	General Agreement on Tariff and Trade
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
GSP	Generalized System of Preferences
HICOM	Heavy Industries Corporation of Malaysia
ICCO	International Cocoa Organization
ICO	International Coffee Organization
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
IFED	Iraqi Fund for External Development
IIUM	Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia (International Islamic University of Malaysia)
IKIM	Institut Kefahaman Islam Malaysia (Institute Islamic Understanding of Malaysia)
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPC	Integrated Programme Commodities
IRSG	International Rubber Study Group
ISA	Internal Security Act
ITA	International Tin Agreement
JAKIM	Jabatan Kemajuan Islam Malaysia (Department of Islamic Development Malaysia)
JHEAINS	Jabatan Hal Ehwal Agama Islam Negeri Sabah (Department of Islamic Affairs of Sabah)
KFAED	Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development
LAFTA	Latin American Free Trade Association
LICs	Low Income Countries
LLDCs	Low Least Developed Countries
LMICs	Low-Middle Income Countries
MAKINDOM	Majlis Kebangsaan Indonesia-Malaya (National Council of Indonesia-Malaya)
MAPHILINDO	The Greater Malayan Confederation (for Malaya , the Philippines , and Indonesia)
MAS	Malaysia Airlines System
MATRADE	Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation
MC	Mitsubishi Corporation

MCA	Malaysian Chinese Association [preceded by Malayan Chinese Association]
MIC	Malaysian Indian Congress [preceded by Malayan Indian Congress]
MITI	Malaysia Ministry of International Trade and Industry
MMC	Mitsubishi Motor Corporation
MNLF	Moro National Liberation Front
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NEP	New Economic Policy
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NICs	Newly Industrializing Countries of Asia
NIEO	New International Economic Order
NSC	Nippon Steel Corporation
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIC	Organisation of the Islamic Conference
OPEC	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
PAS	Parti Islam Se-Malaysia (Islamic Party of Malaysia) [preceded by Persatuan Islam Se-Malaya]
PERKIM	Pertubuhan Kebajikan Islam Malaysia (Malaysian Islamic Welfare Organization)
PERSIS	Persatuan Islam
PERTINDOM	Persatuan Tabibah Indonesia Malaysia (Association of Indonesian and Malay Students)
PERWAJA	Perwaja Terengganu Sdn. Bhd.
PETRONAS	Petroleum Nasional Berhad
PLO	Palestine Liberation Organization
PROTON	Perusahaan Otomobil Nasional Sdn. Bhd.

RISEAP	Regional Islamic Organization for Southeast Asia and the Pacific
RTM	Radio Televisyen Malaysia (Radio Television Malaysia)
SAUDIA	Saudi Airlines
SDF	The Saudi Fund for Development
SEATO	Southeast Asia Treaty Organization
SIRIM	Standards and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia
TAB	Technical Assistance Board
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UIAM	International Islamic University of Malaysia
UKM	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (National University of Malaysia)
UMICs	Upper-Middle Income Countries
UMNO	United Malays National Organisation
UMS	Universiti Malaysia Sabah
UN	United Nations
UNCHR	United Nations Commission of Human Rights
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
USIA	United Sabah Islamic Association
YADIM	Yayasan Dakwah Islamiah Malaysia (Islamic Da'wah Foundation of Malaysia)

Preface

This book is based on my research while pursuing PhD at University of Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom in 2006. It focuses on Malaysia's relations with Saudi Arabia from 1957 until 2003. The main reason for choosing Malaysia and Saudi Arabia as the case study is because both countries have significant characteristics which they largely share with most of the other small states such as the overwhelming dominance of one single political party and the idiosyncratic element that govern the administration of these two countries (Barisan Nasional – led by UMNO party for Malaysia and the Al-Saud family for Saudi Arabia), the dependent position (as peripheral states) in the international political economy, and also sharing co-ideological affiliation of Islam. These shared characteristics, in some ways, could indirectly give alternative answers to the analysis of small states' foreign policies or their behaviours, and also to some extent, it will lead for this study to presume that the degree of Malaysia's relations with Saudi Arabia is intimately closer.

Upon the employment of the multi-level approach with the incorporation of the empirical textuality, I have identified four key-determining factors that largely influence Malaysia's relations with Saudi Arabia. Those factors are: the nature of state and political governance interests, economic determinants, religious affiliation, and membership in small states' organizations. Throughout the discussion in the following chapters of this book, however, the study has found that the four key-determining factors do not uniformly indicate that the character of Malaysia's relations with Saudi Arabia is intimate. Instead, the relations are variable according to the four-determining factors discussed.

I believe that this study has supplied two main original contributions for the development of knowledge in the international relations field. Firstly, the analysis of Malaysia's relations with Saudi Arabia can be considered as a 'pioneering study', and secondly, the employment of the multi-level approach with the incorporation of the empirical textuality may encourage other researchers to evaluate any bilateral relations between two countries, specifically those originating from different regions, by concentrating both domestic and international factors, and also the question of small states' autonomy in shaping their own foreign policies, in order to understand better the foreign policy or the behaviour.

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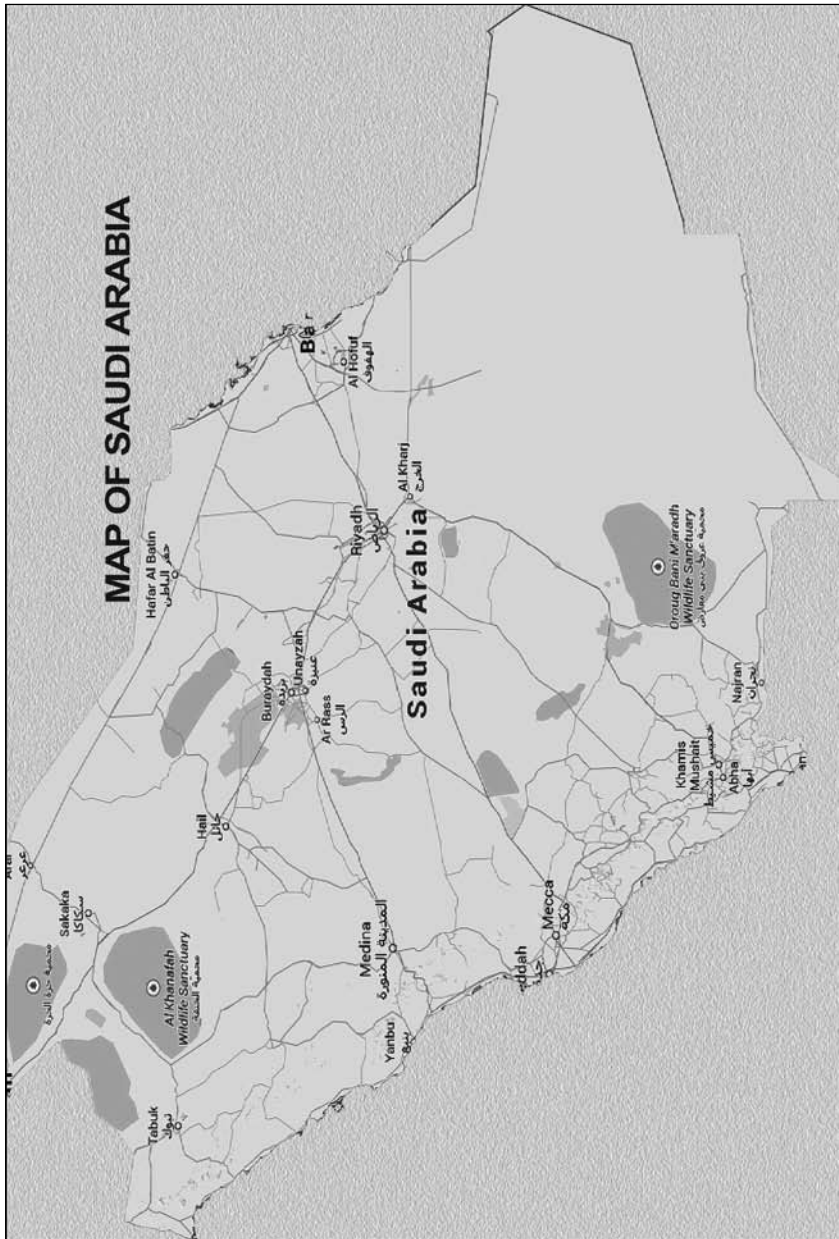
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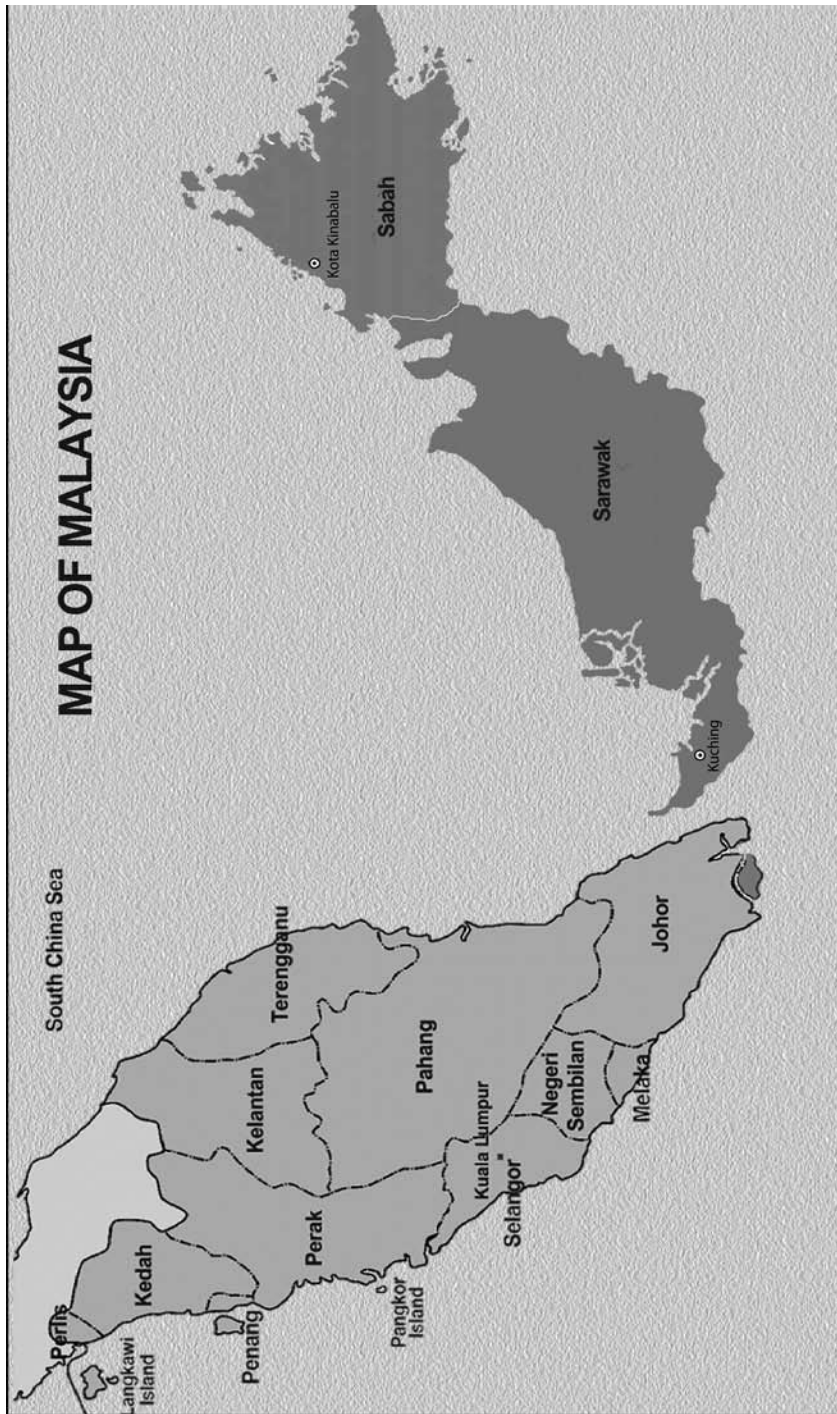
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