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**Malaysia - II**

**Lead: Emerging from a post-colonial crisis in the 1960s, Malaysia is on track by the mid-21<sup>st</sup> century to be one of the world's great economies.**

**Intro: *A Moment in Time* with Dan Roberts.**

**Content: After World War II, powerful Malaysian nationalist forces began pressing Britain to grant the archipelago its independence. Britain began the process, but beginning in 1948 mostly Chinese rebels led by the Malayan Communist Party conducted a bloody insurrection known as the**

**Malayan Emergency. Commonwealth troops alongside Malayan nationals put down the rebellion, but it took a dozen years. With the end of the uprising Britain's rule was over and a federated state was created which included Peninsula Malaysia, North Borneo, Sarawak and Singapore. Singapore departed in 1965 and the remaining government is a federal constitutionally elected monarchy made up of thirteen states and three federal territories. The capital and largest city is Kuala Lumpur though much of the federal administrative apparatus is located 25 kilometers south in the planned city of Putrajaya.**

**Since independence Malaysia has become something of an economic**

**miracle with GDP growing at an annual average rate in excess of 6% for fifty years, with its only period of serious retraction during the Asian financial crisis of the late 1990s. Historically, the nation was dependent upon agriculture and extractive industries, but beginning in 1980 began an aggressive shift to an urbanized industrial economy based on manufacturing highlighted by enormous public works projects such as Putrajaya, the Petronas Towers, the tallest dual skyscraper in the world, and the Multimedia Super Corridor. Malaysia is well on its way to becoming a highly developed integrated society.**

# **At the University of Richmond's School of Professional and Continuing Studies, I'm Dan Roberts.**

## **Resources**

**Andaya, Barbara Watson. *The History of Malaysia*.  
Honolulu, HI: University of Hawaii Press, 2001.**

**Gullick, J.M. *Malaysia*. New York, NY: Preager, 1969.**

**<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/my.html>**

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