Malaysian Political Values Survey 2010
Public Opinion Poll

Highlight of Findings

January – April 2010
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Methodology

- 3141 randomly selected respondents aged 19 and above were interviewed through telephone.

- Respondents were selected via random stratified sampling method along the lines of state, ethnicity, gender and age.

- Survey was carried out between January and April 2010 in three separate polls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Survey Period</th>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>21st Jan – 14th March 2010</td>
<td>Peninsular Malaysia</td>
<td>1060</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1st March – 18th April 2010</td>
<td>East Malaysia</td>
<td>1040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9th April – 26th April 2010</td>
<td>Peninsular Malaysia</td>
<td>1041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>3141</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Survey margin of error estimated at 1.75%

Note: Total percentages presented may or may not add up to 100% due to rounding up of figures. Data is weighted by state.
Profil responden pt. 1

**Ethnicity**
- Malay: 51%
- Chinese: 26%
- Indian: 7%
- Muslim Bumiputra: 9%
- Non-Muslim Bumiputra: 7%

**Gender**
- Female: 51%
- Male: 49%

**Level of Education**
- No formal education: 2%
- Primary school: 15%
- Secondary school: 50%
- Diploma & equivalent: 20%
- Degree & above: 13%

**Age**
- 19-30: 33%
- 31-40: 16%
- 41-50: 21%
- 51-60: 17%
- > 61: 13%

**Setting**
- Rural: 42%
- Urban: 58%

**Religion**
- Islam: 61%
- Buddhism: 17%
- Hinduism: 6%
- Christianity: 12%
- Taoist: 2%
Profil responden pt. 2

Total monthly household income

- < RM1,500 per mth: 40%
- RM1,501 – RM3,000 per mth: 25%
- RM3,001 – RM5,000 per mth: 14%
- > RM5,000 per mth: 13%
- Don’t know: 5%
- No response: 2%

Region

- Eastern: 33%
- Central: 18%
- Northern: 14%
- Southern: 15%
- East Malaysia: 20%

Access to internet

- At home: 28%
- Workplace / school: 6%
- Other location: 5%
- Mobile internet: 2%
- No internet access: 53%

Ethnic composition in your neighbourhood

- Dominated by one ethnic group: 51%
- Majority made up of one ethnic group: 24%
- Mixed in which no ethnic group forms a majority: 24%

Occupation

- Management: 4%
- Self-employed: 11%
- Professional: 9%
- Executive: 5%
- Non-executive: 18%
- Student: 9%
- Unemployed: 8%
- Homemaker: 24%
- Retired: 12%
Values that split:

Direction of National Unity
Trust in Government and Policies
National Unity

Malaysians are split over the direction of national unity

In your opinion, are Malaysians today .....?

- More united: 48%
- More divided: 43%
- Don't know: 8%
- No response: 1%
National Unity

In your opinion, what are the issues that divide the people?

Top ten

- **Political instability: Bickering among politicians & parties** 13%
- **Racial issues: Lack of understanding/ respect & unity between races** 9%
- Others 6%
- **Political differences: ideology & affiliation** 5%
- **Usage of "Allah" by the Christian community** 5%
- **Unfair treatment / racial inequality** 5%
- **Lack of understanding / unity between different religions** 5%
- **Racial/ religion issues being politicised** 4%
- **National policies: segregate & discriminate against certain groups** 4%
- **Racial sentiment & religious issues in general** 3%
Interest in politics

Young people are apathetic towards politics

How interested are you in politics?

- 72% youth aged 19-24 are not interested in politics
- 52% of people over 50 years old express interest in politics

Interest in politics:

- Interested: 35% (41%)
- Not interested: 36% (58%)
- Don't know: 1%
Trust in government

Split but overall low trust in public spending

How strongly do you agree or disagree that the government is spending public money prudently?
Now, I am going to read two statements to you. After you hear each one, please tell me which one is closer to your opinion.

Government programs typically benefit ordinary people

Government programs generally benefit the rich and politically connected

Trust in government

Malay/ Bumiputra exclusive question

48% 45%

Almost equally split

48% 45%

0% 20% 40% 60%
Now, I am going to read two statements to you. After you hear each one, please tell me which one is closer to your opinion.

**Malay/ Bumiputra exclusive question**

1. People should be treated and accorded the same rights in Malaysia regardless of race or religion (40%)

2. As the original inhabitants of this country, Malays / Bumiputra should continue to be accorded with special rights and privileges (59%)

**Government policies**

1. 23%
2. 43%
3. 17%
4. 40%
5. 16%
6. 1%
7. 0%
8. 1%
9. Total

**Year:** January – April 2010
Now, I am going to read two statements to you. After you hear each one, please tell me which one is closer to your opinion. The concept of One Malaysia introduced by the government is...

A sincere effort to unite all races in Malaysia

A political agenda to win non-Malay votes.

Non-Malay/ non-Muslim exclusive question

1. A sincere effort to unite all races in Malaysia
   - 39%
   - 19%
   - 20%

2. A political agenda to win non-Malay votes.
   - 46%
   - 16%
   - 30%

Total

16% 13% 16% 2%
Values that unite:

Democratic participation
Economic security
National integrity
Affirmative action
Regarding the issues mentioned above, how capable do you think you are in bringing about the changes?

People are united in their sense of powerlessness
I am going to read you a list of issues that people feel needs to change, please tell me the top 2 which are the most important for you. Please also let me know if there are other issues in your mind than the ones I am reading to you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Making the country more democratic</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making our education system world class</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing the income gap between the rich and the poor</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving the income of ordinary Malaysians</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fighting crime</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making our public servants more efficient</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making the courts more independent</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fighting corruption</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Democratic participation is important to the public.
Malaysian Political Values Survey
January – April 2010

Now, I'm going to read two statements to you. After hearing each one, please tell me the one that one is closer to your own view:

1. You have more than you need to make ends meet
2. Making ends meet is a struggle for you these days

People generally feel making ends meet is a struggle
Do you feel that your (and your family members') job is secure a year from now?

But at the same time they are secure with their jobs.
Now, I'm going to read two statements to you. After hearing each one, please tell me the one that one is closer to your own view:

- It is inexcusable to expect assistance from friends and relatives in high positions in government as that would be tantamount to abuse of power
- It is okay to expect some assistance from friends and relatives in high positions in government as every one does it

65% chose option 1, while 22% chose option 2.
Affirmative action

Malay/ Bumiputra exclusive question

Now, I am going to read two statements to you. After you hear each one, please tell me which one is closer to your opinion.

Assistance such as the NEP doesn’t help Malays/ Bumiputra in the long run as it makes them dependent

Malays/ Bumiputras need all the help that they can get to move ahead so programs like the NEP should be welcomed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Percentages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Affirmative action</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malay/ Bumiputra exclusive question</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How confident or not confident are you that the federal government's aid programs can really reach the needy?
Now, I am going to read two statements to you. After you hear each one, please tell me which one is closer to your opinion. **The main threat to Malay/Bumiputra political position is...**

- Corruption among its leaders: 70%
- Demands made by other races in the country: 26%

Other options:
- National integrity: 44%
- 22%
- 10%
- 12%
- 7%
- 1%
- 6%
- DK/NR: 1%
Now, I'm going to read two statements to you. After hearing each one, please tell me the one that one is closer to your own view:

1. The corruption problem in this country is too serious and cannot be fixed.
2. The corruption problem in this country is serious but it can be fixed.

- The corruption problem in this country is too serious and cannot be fixed: 26%
- The corruption problem in this country is serious but it can be fixed: 38%
- DK/NR: 9%

Total:
- 69%