

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dato' Dr **OOI Kee Beng** is Executive Director of Penang Institute, before which he was Deputy Director of ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute (2011–17). He is founder-editor of the popular magazine *Penang Monthly*, and the policy briefs *ISSUES* (at Penang Institute) and *ISEAS Perspective* (at ISEAS). He is also the long-time editor of *Trends in Southeast Asia* (at ISEAS), and a regular columnist for *The Edge Malaysia*.

His bestselling book, *The Reluctant Politician: Tun Dr Ismail and His Time* (2006), won the “Award of Excellence for Best Writing Published in Book Form on Any Aspect of Asia (Non-Fiction)”. *Continent, Coast, Ocean: Dynamics of Regionalism in Eastern Asia*, a co-edited volume with Ding Choo Ming, was named “Top Academic Work” in 2008 by the ASEAN Book Publishers Association (ABPA).

Other noted works include *Yusof Ishak: A Man of Many Firsts* (2017); *The Eurasian Core and Its Edges: Dialogues with Wang Gungwu on the History of the World* (2015); *Young and Malay: Growing Up in Multicultural Malaysia* (2015); *Lim Kit Siang: Defying the Odds* (2015); *The Right to Differ: A Biographical Sketch of Lim Kit Siang* (2011); and *In Lieu of Ideology: An Intellectual Biography of Goh Keng Swee* (2010).

His translations of Chinese war strategy such as *Sunzi's Art of War*, *Wuzi's Art of War* and *Weiliaozi's Art of War* are the first from

classical Chinese into Swedish, and are used in leadership training courses at the Stockholm Military College. He represented Sweden in the First Wushu World Championship held in Beijing in 1991, and was the silver medallist in the Taijiquan Form Competition at the 1991 European Wushu Championship held in London.

In 2017, he was awarded the *Darjah Setia Pangkuan Negeri (DSPN)* by the Governor of Penang State, for services rendered to his home state of Penang, which carries the title of “Dato”.

He is Adjunct Professor (2019–) at Taylor’s University, Malaysia, and was Visiting Associate Professor at the Department of Public and Social Administration, City University of Hong Kong (2009–12) and Adjunct Associate Professor for the Southeast Asian Studies Programme at the National University of Singapore (2009–11).

His most recent books include *Catharsis: A Second Chance for Democracy in Malaysia* (2018), his seventh compilation of commentaries and analyses on Malaysia and the Southeast Asian region, and *Month by Month: A Compilation of Editorials by Ooi Kee Beng* (2019).

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