



**Message from the Member of Parliament for P.168  
Kota Marudu and Deputy President of PBS, YB Datuk  
Seri Dr Maximus Johnity Ongkili, JP in conjunction  
with the Independence Day celebration and Malaysia  
Day 2011 at Dataran Merdeka, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

Malaysia has gone a long long way in the last 25 years. In Nov 1985, I organised for ISIS Malaysia a National Conference on Territorial Integration involving political leaders, academics, policy planners, business people and NGO members. It was chaired personally by ISIS Chairman the late Tun Hussein Onn and attended by both CMs of Sabah and Sarawak - Tan Sri Joseph Pairin Kitingan and Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud.

It was hugely successful as a forum to air grouses regarding the federation and identify steps to enhance national integration. Papers and recommendations were published by ISIS in 1986 as a book : Bonding of a Nation. One of the key proposals was to recognise and celebrate nationally Sept 16 as Hari Malaysia. It took 25 years to materialise through persistent reminders and appeals especially by Sabah and Sarawak political leaders including PBS leaders.

Thank you PM Najib Tun Razak - you made it happen through your vision and maxim of 1Malaysia.

Selamat Hari Malaysia.

Datuk Seri Dr Maximus Johnity Ongkili, JP