

# CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN MALAYSIA

Selected Issues



KHAIRIL AZMIN MOKHTAR

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**EDITOR  
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**HUM Press**

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### **The Right to Health: Guidance from International Human Rights Law and Experience from Other Countries**

*Husna Fauzi*

*It is my aspiration that health will finally be seen not as a blessing to be wished for, but as a human right to be fought for.*

United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan.

#### **Introduction**

Health is a fundamental determinant of quality of life. Health is not just a matter of personal concern, indeed it is very much related to social as well as economic concerns. This is because, physical and mental well being are essential needs for the performance of basic personal tasks in everyday life, expected social participation and more importantly participation in economic activities.

This chapter discusses the right to health from the perspective of the International Human Rights Law. It begins with a brief explanation of the concept of health. This is followed by a general discussion on the link between health and human rights and the right to health from the perspectives of the international and regional human rights instruments as well as the right to health as proclaimed in the selected national constitutions. This chapter will also outline the scope of the right to health and reference to selected decided cases will be made