

Chief Minister

To Serve Sarawak

Abang Johari in His Own Words

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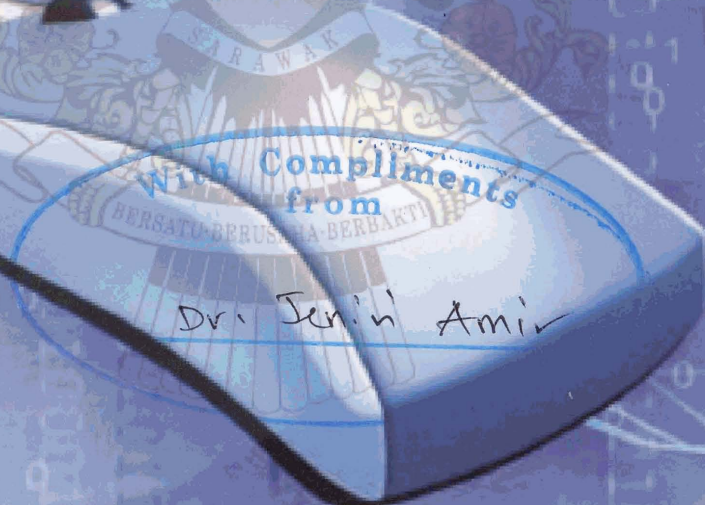
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With Compliments
from

Dr. Jenin Amin

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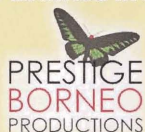
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Preface

Political leaders are remembered not only for their policies, contributions and actions, but also for their statements. Politicians are often regarded as the kings of one-liners as they are often quoted by the media for comments made during press conferences, media interviews or speeches. However, only the best thoughts and the best words are quoted and remembered by the media and the *rakyat*.

In the context of journalism, quotations and sound bites are characterized by succinct, catchy and concise statements and phrases that capture the essence of political thoughts, wisdom, insights, positions, principles and philosophy of a politician. The best thoughts and information, like nectar in a sieve, are condensed using the best words, arranged in the best order, to give the best impact.

Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg has introduced and implemented various pragmatic policies since he was appointed as the Chief Minister of Sarawak on January 13, 2017. He has delivered many speeches, attended media conferences and given candid comments about various issues since then. Abang Johari is the new darling of the media for his eloquent, bold, catchy, and memorable statements and phrases. He puts his messages into his own words.

To Serve Sarawak: *Abang Johari in His Own Words*, published in conjunction with his First Anniversary as the Chief Minister, is a collection of sound bites and quotable quotes that captured the essence of his political thoughts, philosophy, principles and stands related to his policies. Catchy snippets of information are designed to convey his messages in the most effective way and shortest possible time.

The quotations – often candid, hypnotic, powerful and memorable -- published in this book, carefully selected from various sources, reflects the essence of his political journey, political thoughts, and his political position-taking for the last one year. It is pertinent for political leaders, civil servants and the *rakyat* as a whole to understand the political thoughts of the visionary leader who brings much hopes on his journey and endeavors to transform Sarawak towards a more dynamic, vibrant and promising era.

Associate Professor Dr Jeniri Amir
Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
January 10, 2018





Biodata

- Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Abang Haji Openg
 - Born August 4, 1950, Limbang, Sarawak
- President of Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB) and Satok State Assemblyman

FAMILY

Father

Tun Datuk Abang Haji Openg Abang Sapi'ee, first Governor of Sarawak

Mother

Toh Puan Dayang Hajah Masniah Abang Haji Abdul Rahman

Wife

Datin Patinggi Juma'ani Tun Tuanku Haji Bujang

Son

Abang Abdillah Izzarim

Daughter

Dayang Norjihann

EDUCATION

- Merpati Jepang Primary School, Kuching
- St. Joseph Secondary School, Kuching
- Masters in Business Administration, Henley College, Brunel University, United Kingdom

POLITICAL JOURNEY

Elected as State Legislative Council Member for Satok Constituency

1982 Appointed as Chief Political Secretary to the Chief Minister of Sarawak

1984 Appointed as Assistant Minister of Regional and Community Development

1987 Wins state election for Satok constituency in April 1987, appointed as the Minister of Industrial Development

2000 Appointed as the Minister of Tourism Sarawak

2004 Appointed as Minister of Housing, Sarawak, following State Cabinet reshuffle

2011 Appointed to hold two portfolios as Minister of Housing, Minister of Tourism, Sarawak

2016 Appointed as the Deputy Chief Minister

2017 Appointed as Sarawak's sixth Chief Minister

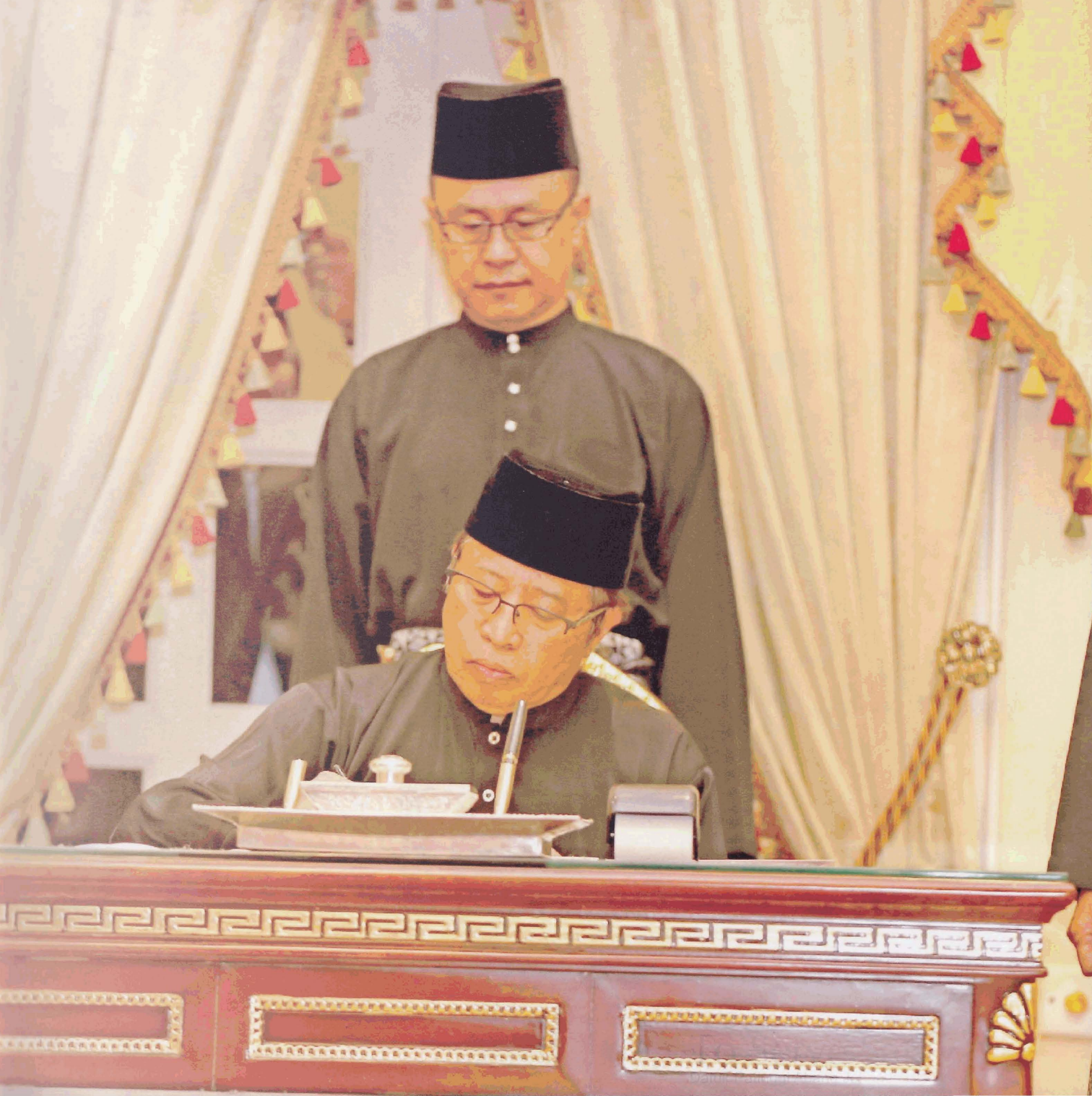
Becoming The Chief Minister

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It was **never my dream** to become Sarawak Chief Minister. All I wanted to do was to serve the state. The circumstances of Tan Sri Adenan Satem's sudden passing had led to my appointment. It happened that Adenan passed away and the leaders of the component parties **asked me to become chief minister**, so I accepted. I am not obsessed with becoming chief minister **because I want to serve.**

Press conference in conjunction with first 100 days in office in Kuching, The Star Online, April 23, 2017

”





Adenan A Great Loss To Sarawak

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The passing of **Tan Sri Adenan** is without doubt a **great loss to Sarawak** and the nation. The immense outpouring of grief from all walks of life is a testimony of the tremendous respect and honour that the people are affording him for all that he had done...**As an outstanding leader**, he left a legacy that all Sarawakians are proud of and provided us the direction to follow in the years to come.

Chinese New Year Message
The Star, January 28, 2017

”



The Chief Minister Of The Sarawakians

“

I will fight for all Sarawakians as the Chief Minister, regardless of race. I'm the chief minister of the Sarawakians, the Sarawakians' interests are my top priority and concern.

Speaking at the Chinese New Year dinner host by the Association Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Sarawak, Kuching, *NST*, February 17, 2017

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Sarawak's Vision

“

You mark my words. When I work, I mean business. And I will not spare any effort to accomplish **our vision for a prosperous Sarawak.**

100 days in office as the Chief Minister
NST, April 22, 2017

”



Never Obsessed With Power

“

I was asked to join politics by the late Tun Abdul Rahman Ya'akub and I have thought all the while, **for the past 33 years**, that I would just serve the people, because **I was never obsessed with power.**

But because God is great, so here I am as your Chief Minister.

Chief Minister's Special Session'100 Days and Beyond
April 22, 2017

”





Same Lifestyle

“

In terms of lifestyle it's the same.

Becoming the Chief Minister has not changed my life. You are focused on your job, you have to identify the direction of the state and you must be people-centric. **My wife and family have become used to it.** You know, I became a member of the state assembly at the age of 30 and continuously after the 1983 election, I've been a member of the state Cabinet. They can understand that **my time** is not much their time, it's **also public time.** I think they are prepared for that, though my daughter and son both complained that I did not spend much time with them. But what **I do to compensate** is to have **family time together when we go for holidays, so that keeps us together.**

The Star, July 2, 2017

”



Serving The People

“

To me it's natural, there's no specific style. **Maybe it's because of my family background, we are used to serving the people. My father used to serve the people.** During the colonial days, positions like district officer and Resident were usually reserved for the *orang putih* but my father was one of the few locals who got this high position. **Later he became Governor. To me it's nothing new, it's natural.**

The Star, July 2, 2017

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A Family Man

“

I was only 30 and I wanted to focus on my family. At the time, I was sceptical about one's future in politics. So, I told Tun Abdul Rahman Yakub I needed a night to deliberate on the matter. Little did I know, he had already spoken to my late mother, **Toh Puan Dayang Masniah Abang Abdul Rahman**. The following day, I met my mother and told her about Rahman's offer. My mother at once told me to ***jangan melawan orang tua*** (don't argue with older people). So, I had no other option but to **accept the offer...**

I am not obsessed with positions. If the time comes and God wants me to become the Chief Minister of Sarawak, so be it.

Chief Minister's Special Session'100 Days and Beyond, April 22, 2017

”



Head Of State: Our Constant Guide

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Our Head of State is an institution which is not separate from our effort in pursuit of development in Sarawak. **Our Head of State has been our constant guide and counsel in our continuous pursuit of progress and advancement.** The institution of our **TYT has played no small role** in bringing about unity, harmony and prosperity to Sarawak.

Speech at Yang Di-Pertua Negeri Sarawak Tun Abdul Taib Mahmud's 81st birthday parade and rally at Celebration Square, Jalan Stadium, Petra Jaya, September 9, 2017

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