Addressing culture in facilitating doctoral writing
'Culture is more important than language'
Malaysia

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This article is about the country. For the biogeographical region, see Malesia.

Malaysia (IPA: /meɪˈleɪʒə/ me-LAY-zhə or /meɪˈleɪʒə/ me-LAY-see-ə) (Malaysian pronunciation: [məле̞jœ]) is a federal constitutional monarchy located in Southeast Asia. It consists of thirteen states and three federal territories and has a total landmass of 329,847 square kilometres (127,350 sq mi) separated by the South China Sea into two similarly sized regions, Peninsular Malaysia and East Malaysia (Malaysian Borneo). Peninsular Malaysia shares a land and maritime border with Thailand and maritime borders with Singapore, Vietnam, and Indonesia. East Malaysia shares land and maritime borders with Brunei and Indonesia and a maritime border with the Philippines. The capital city is Kuala Lumpur, while Putrajaya is the seat of the federal government. In 2010 the population was 28.33 million, with 22.6 million living in Peninsular Malaysia. The southernmost point of continental Eurasia, Tanjung Piai, is in Malaysia, located in the tropics. It is one of 17 megadiverse countries on earth, with large numbers of endemic species.

Malaysia has its origins in the Malay Kingdoms present in the area which, from the 18th century, became subject to the British Empire. The first British territories were known as the Straits Settlements, whose establishment was followed by the Malay kingdoms becoming British protectorates. The territories on Peninsular Malaysia were first unified as the Malayan Union in 1946, which included Malaya and the British IBG States. The Malayan Union was short-lived and was replaced in 1948 by the Federation of Malaya, a self-governing member state of the British Commonwealth with a republican constitution. Malaya was granted independence on 16 September 1957. The Union of Malaya then incorporated the British Borneo territories of Sarawak and Sabah on 1 January 1963 to become the independent nation of Malaysia.
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