

The Taib Timber Mafia

Facts and Figures on Politically Exposed
Persons (PEPs) from Sarawak, Malaysia



20 September 2012

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Sarawak, an environmental crime hotspot

Sarawak is the largest of Malaysia's thirteen States and one of two States located on the island of Borneo. Sarawak is located immediately north of the Equator between latitude 0° 50' and 5°N and longitude 109° 36' and 115° 40' E. It stretches some 800 kilometres along the northwest coast of Borneo, covering an area of 124,449.51 square kilometres. The rainforest of Borneo is acknowledged to be among the "worlds most distinct and species-rich", a hotspot of biodiversity. Sarawak is divided into three regions - coastal lowlands comprising peat swamp as well as narrow deltaic and alluvial plains; a large region of undulating hills ranging to about 300 metres; and the mountain highlands extending to the Kalimantan border.¹ The highest point of Sarawak is Mount Murud reaching 2,423 meters. Flora in Sarawak includes roughly 8,000 species of vascular plants, 2,000 tree species, 1,000 orchids, 757 ferns and 260 species of palm. Fauna in Sarawak includes roughly 185 species of mammal, 530 species of bird, 186 species of snake, 104 species of lizard and 113 species of amphibian.²

Sarawak has a population of over 2.4 million and is a multicultural state with at least 27 ethnic groups, the largest of these being the Iban. The people of Sarawak practice a variety of religions including, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, ancestor worship, Baha'ism and animism.³ Unlike the Malaysian states on the Malaysian peninsula, where Islam is the predominant faith, the largest religious group in Sarawak are the Christians.

Despite being described in tourism ads as a "vast wilderness"⁴ Sarawak's lush tropical rainforests are disappearing at an astonishing rate. Former Prime Minister of England, Gordon Brown stated in 2011 that the destruction of Sarawak's rainforest is "probably the biggest environmental crime of our times...Malaysia's once vast pristine jungle has been stripped bare and enormous areas have been planted with oil palm in an environmental nightmare that shows no sign of slowing."⁵ In February 2011, the Dutch NGO "Wetlands International" expressed their concern that "As the timber resource has been depleted, the timber companies are now engaging in the oil palm business, completing the annihilation of Sarawak's peat swamp forests."⁶ Total deforestation in Sarawak is 3.5 times as much as that for entire Asia, while deforestation of peat swamp forest is 11.7 times as much.⁷ The Sarawak State Planning Unit has openly expressed their intention to convert Native Customary Rights land to palm oil.⁸ In 2010, Minister for Land Development, James Masing stated that the government of Sarawak aims to convert a further 1 million hectares (2.5 million acres) of tropical forest to oil palm plantations by 2020 and that there is a need for "a more aggressive development" of Native Customary Rights land.⁹

¹ The Official Portal of the Sarawak Government, www.sarawak.gov.my. Viewed 28.08.12.

² Official website of Forest Department Sarawak, www.forestry.sarawak.gov.my. Viewed 22.03.12.

³ The Official Portal of the Sarawak Government, www.sarawak.gov.my. Viewed 28.08.12.

⁴ Official website of Sarawak Tourism, www.sarawaktourism.com. Viewed 30.08.12.

⁵ Gordon Brown: *Fight for the Borneo rainforest*, in: *The Independent*, 10.03.11.

⁶ Wetlands International Press Release: *New figures: palm oil destroys Malaysia's peat swamp forests faster than ever*, 01.02.11.

⁷ SarVision: *Impact of oil palm plantations on peatland conversion in Sarawak 2005-2010* (Summary Report), 25.01.11.

⁸ State Planning Unit Chief Minister's Department Sarawak: *Development in Sarawak An Aerial Perspective*, Kuching: Penerbit, 2000.

⁹ Jack Wong: *Sarawak to double oil palm plantation area*, in: *The Star* [Malaysia], 30.11.10.

1. The “Stop Timber Corruption” Campaign

On the 18th February 2011, the Bruno Manser Fund launched a campaign to “Stop Timber Corruption”, focused on the Chief Minister of the Malaysian state of Sarawak, Abdul Taib Mahmud (“Taib”). Since 1981, Sarawak has been governed by Taib, an exceptionally powerful and corrupt man, who has abused his public office in a spectacular way to enrich himself and his closest family members.

While Taib and his family members have personally profited immensely from the destruction of the Borneo rainforest through logging and oil palm plantations, Sarawak’s indigenous communities have lost their land, the source of their livelihood and have been increasingly marginalized. IWGIA’s Report *“The Indigenous World – 2012”*, states, „*Taib Mahmud and his family are causing discontent among the indigenous peoples and civil society in general. The Stop Timber Corruption campaign has built up international pressure against the corrupt Taib family and pressure to put a stop to timber corruption in Sarawak.*“

Abdul Taib Mahmud has been Chief Minister of Sarawak since 1981 and is concurrently Finance Minister and Planning and Resources Minister of Sarawak. He has long been criticized for corrupt practices and abuse of office but Malaysian authorities have failed to take action against him, despite an ongoing investigation by the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission (MACC)¹⁰



Taib and his family members have illegally acquired assets worth billions of dollars in Malaysia, Canada, the UK, Australia, the United States and other countries. As part of the campaign, BMF conducted research into Taib business in Malaysia and overseas which uncovered the vast dimensions of the family’s illicit assets. The findings exposed that Malaysian potentate “Taib” and his family have a stake in over 400 companies around the globe and hold illicit assets worth several billion US dollars.¹¹

2. The aim of this report



The aim of this report is to build up international pressure against the corrupt Taib family and provide investigating bodies, journalists, Sarawakians and interested parties with detailed evidence on the Taib financial empire. It aims to demonstrate the financial and political control that Taib has over Sarawak and provide profiles on the Chief Minister and his family members, all of whom have financially benefited from the destruction of Sarawak’s rainforest.

We believe our research is showing merely the tip of the iceberg as many family assets are likely to be hidden overseas or in offshore districts where information is virtually impossible to obtain. The Bruno Manser Fund is therefore calling on anti-corruption and anti-money-laundering authorities worldwide to investigate the

Taib family’s business activities.

¹⁰ The Star [Malaysia]: *Taib Mahmud being investigated, says MACC*, 09.06.11.

¹¹ For details, see http://www.stop-timber-corruption.org/resources/Companies_linked_to_Taib_Mahmud_1.pdf

These assets should be frozen and restituted to the people of Sarawak, and the Taib family and their co-conspirators should be prosecuted for corruption, abuse of public funds, fraud, money laundering, tax evasion and other related crimes.

3. Sources used for this report

Many public sources have been used for this report. Apart from newspaper articles and research papers, this report draws specifically on the following sources:

- Sarawak Report, a campaign website run by British journalist Clare Rewcastle Brown.
- Court depositions by former Taib family employees and business partners:
 - Ross J. Boyert: former Vice President of Taib family-owned Sakti International Corporation in California, US¹²
 - Ting Chek Sii: former owner of now Taib family-controlled Sanyan Sdn. Bhd in Malaysia.¹³
 - Farok Majeed: former business associate of Onn Mahmud in Singapore and Australia.¹⁴
- The late Ross J. Boyert, former Vice President of Taib family-owned Sakti International Corporation in United States.¹⁵
- Official company commission documents from Malaysia (Suruhanjaya Syarikat Malaysia), Australia (Australian Securities and Investments Commission), United Kingdom (Companies House), United States of America (California Secretary of State), Canada (Industry Canada) and Hong Kong (Registrar of Companies, Hong Kong).
- Company Annual Reports.
- David Walter Brown: *“Why Governments Fail to Capture Economic Rent: The Unofficial Appropriation of Rainforest Rent by Rulers in Insular Southeast Asia Between 1970 and 1999”*, ph.D., University of Washington, 2001.
- Michael L. Ross: *Timber Booms and Institutional Breakdown in Southeast Asia*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001.
- Andrew Charles Bernard Aeria: *“Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak, 1970-2000”*, ph.D., London School of Economics, 2002.
- Further literature, video interviews, research reports, newspaper and magazine articles.

4. Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all our supporters and NGO partners in a number of countries who have supported and made possible the “Stop Timber Corruption” campaign, in particular: Sarawak Report (UK), Radio Free Sarawak (UK), Rettet den Regenwald (Germany), Society for Threatened Peoples (Austria), FERN (UK/Belgium), The Borneo Project (US), Rainforest Information Centre (Australia), The Australian Greens (Australia), Huon Valley Environment Centre (Australia), as well as our many friends and partners from Malaysia, particularly from Sarawak.

¹² San Francisco Superior Courts, 06.02.07: *Ross J. Boyert Vs Sakti International Corporation, Inc., A et al.*: Case Number – CGC-07-460255

¹³ High Court of Sabah & Sarawak, Kuching: *Dato Ting Chek Sii v. Datuk Hj Mohamad Tufail Mahmud & Ors* [2008] 7 CLJ 315.

¹⁴ Supreme Court of New South Wales, 13.12.07: *Mohd Farok Abdul Majeed v Dato Onn Mahmud Court Case* [2007] Adj.L.R. 12/13.

¹⁵ Ross J. Boyert was Vice President of Sakti International Corporation, San Francisco, California, U.S from 1994 till 2007. In 2007, Ross took Sakti to court for unfair dismissal. After bringing the case against Sakti, thereby revealing the Taib family business interests in the States, the Boyerts claimed they then faced a relentless, well-funded campaign to undermine their reputation and to destroy them financially. Ross Boyert, aged 60, was found dead in a Los Angeles hotel room in October 2010 in a rare case of suspected suicide. For more information see Sarawak Report: <http://www.sarawakreport.org/2010/10/taibs-former-us-aid-found-dead> and <http://www.sarawakreport.org/2011/03/film-tribute-to-ross-boyert>

5. What is a “PEP”?

There is no single, universally agreed upon definition of a „politically exposed person“ (PEP), a term that has recently become key for international anti-corruption and anti money-laundering efforts. By way of example, the term „*politically exposed person*“ (PEP) has been defined by Swiss authorities in the relevant Anti-Money Laundering Ordinance, as follows:

- Persons holding prominent public positions such as „*Heads of State or Government, senior politicians at national level, senior government, judicial, military or party officials at national level, senior executives of state-owned companies of national importance*“ and
- „*Companies and people identified as having close family ties or personal or business connections to the aforementioned persons.*“¹⁶



Other countries are using similar definitions. It is important to note that not only leading politicians but also their family members or close business associates have to be regarded as PEPs.

6. Specific due diligence requirements for financial service providers when dealing with PEPs



Since the mid-1980s, new rules in dealing with assets of politically exposed persons have consistently been added to the international debate in response to a number of cases that have arisen. Switzerland was the first ever country, in 1998, to introduce concrete rules on how banks are to handle assets of politically exposed persons (PEPs). These rules have since been further elaborated.

Swiss legislation for example does not forbid a financial intermediary from having a business relationship with politically exposed persons or receiving assets from them – provided, naturally, that the assets are not the proceeds of crime, including corruption. The Swiss Anti-Money Laundering Ordinance, however, *imposes strict conditions on handling money from PEPs. It obliges financial intermediaries to treat any business dealings with PEPs as a higher-risk business relationship and to label them as such for internal use.* Therefore, financial service providers, according to anti-money laundering regulations, must clarify their business relationship with PEPs and always classify any such business relationship as higher risk. They must perform additional clarifications, including identifying the origin of

¹⁶ Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority: *Due Diligence Obligations of Swiss Banks When Handling Assets of Politically Exposed Persons*, 10.11.11.

Picture top right – Chief Minister of Sarawak, Taib Mahmud.

Picture middle left – Chief Minister Taib Mahmud's mansion in Kuching. (Sarawak, Malaysia.)

the assets deposited, the origins of a PEP's wealth, the background of larger income payments and other details.¹⁷

If there is a simple suspicion, the financial intermediary is held to report it. Simultaneously to reporting its suspicions, the financial intermediary must freeze the PEP's entrusted assets for five working days. Within this period, the financial intermediary may receive a ruling from the criminal prosecution authorities upholding the freeze. Similar legislations are in force in many countries that are members of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).¹⁸

¹⁷ Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority: *Due Diligence Obligations of Swiss Banks When Handling Assets of Politically Exposed Persons*, 10.11.11

¹⁸ For the FATF, a key international body dealing with the combat against money-laundering, see the FATF website: <http://www.fatf-gafi.org>.

7. The Taib Family

Chief Minister Abdul Taib bin Mahmud („Taib“) is the eldest of 10 children born to Mahmud Abang Yahya and Wan Hamidah in Sarawak, on 21 May 1936.¹⁹ To understand the relevance of Taib's family connections, we need to look at his relationship to the previous Chief Minister of Sarawak. Abdul Rahman Ya'kub, the third Chief Minister of Sarawak is Taib's uncle. It was through this connection that Taib entered politics in 1963 and which ultimately led him to his thirty year grasp of power over Sarawak.

Taib concurrently holds the offices of Chief Minister, Finance Minister, as well as that of State Planning and Resources Minister, which gives him enormous political and economic power. Sarawak's largest private company, large-scale logging and plantation interests and the control of log exports are concentrated in the hands of the Taib family. One of the Chief Minister's brothers, Mohamad Ali, and one of his sons, Sulaiman, have also been involved in politics and one daughter, Hanifah, and a first cousin, Hamed Sepawi, run various media outlets in Sarawak. In 1995, Asiaweek identified nine „political warlords“ in Asia, Taib Mahmud was described as having *“no private army, but he runs the closest thing to a Malaysian political fiefdom. Kuala Lumpur leaves the Sarawak chief minister alone in return for keeping the state sweet at election time”*.²⁰ Taib has recently been described by Singapore-based political scientist Faisal S. Hazis as having *“total control over Sarawak”*.²¹

Despite earning a moderate official salary per year in his role as Chief Minister of Sarawak, MYR 590,000 (USD 194,000), Taib is known for his magnificent wealth and string of assets. He is often seen travelling in a Rolls Royce, sporting a designer suit²², wearing a walnut-sized ruby ring and he is residing in a well-guarded palace-like mansion in Kuching²³. Famously, in 2010 he told rural voters in Sarawak: *“I have more money than I can ever spend.”*²⁴

8. Taib's modus operandi

During his thirty years of iron grip over Sarawak, Taib Mahmud has systematically plundered a country once rich in natural resources, particularly oil, gas and timber. While the proceeds of the oil and gas extraction are mostly benefiting Malaysia's federal government, the Sarawak state government enjoys total autonomy as to the use of the state's forest resources and state lands.

Taib has abused his position as Chief Minister, State Finance Minister, and Planning and Resources Minister, to award his family members vast timber concessions, palm oil concessions, state contracts and directorships in Sarawak's largest companies. In 2009, his three ministries controlled 49.6% of the state's operating expenditure of MYR 1.19 billion (USD 391 million) and 80% of the state's development expenditure of MYR 3.08 billion (USD 1.01 billion), with the other ten ministers sharing the rest.²⁵

Taib's position as Planning and Resources Minister means that he has ultimate control over the granting of timber concessions in Sarawak that are worth several billion dollars. Already in the late 1980s, family members and clients loyal to Taib Mahmud were estimated to

¹⁹ Douglas Mills: *A Soul You Can See*, Kuching: Times Editions, 1996, p. 54.

²⁰ David Walter Brown: *Why Governments Fail to Capture Economic Rent: The Unofficial Appropriation of Rainforest Rent by Rulers in Insular Southeast Asia Between 1970 and 1999*, ph.D. University of Washington, 2001, p. 144.

²¹ Faisal S. Hazis: *Domination and Contestation: Muslim Bumiputera Politics in Sarawak*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2011, p. 141.

²² Faisal S. Hazis: *Domination and Contestation: Muslim Bumiputera Politics in Sarawak*, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2011, p. 115.

²³ Andrew Charles Bernard Aeria: *Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak 1970-2000*, ph.D., London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, 2002.

²⁴ A speech made by Taib Mahmud and captured on video at Rh Johnaton Juna, Sungai Aup, Sarawak on 13.05.10 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAAXLRoEnUE>

²⁵ Democratic Action Party Sarawak: *Democratising Sarawak's Economy – Sarawak DAP's Alternative budget 2010*, p.4. Published 06.11.09.

control over 1.6 million hectares of timber concessions in Sarawak. That constitutes more than 10% of the total land mass of Sarawak. Political observer Daniel Lev has described how Taib abused his power over the allocation of timber concessions in Sarawak: *“Timber rent is used by the national ruling party for political expenditures during election time and for financing business objectives of ruling party linked conglomerates.”*²⁶

In 2011, the Bruno Manser Fund released information detailing the Taib family’s connection to over 400 companies in 25 countries and offshore districts.²⁷ These include many offshore finance centers such as the British Virgin Islands, Jersey, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands. Although Taib’s own name is rarely listed as a director or shareholder, it is his family members who are known to act as nominees for the Chief Minister. A 2001 PhD thesis by US economist David W. Brown, states that:

*„While the Chief Minister himself occupies no publicly recorded directorships or shareholdings in any of the timber concessions said to belong to him, the Chief Minister's family members....occupy managerial..positions on the boards of the timber concessions of the top four major Sarawak timber conglomerates.”*²⁸

The Taib family runs a well-diversified financial empire with interests in Sarawak’s largest timber and logging companies (Ta Ann, Samling, WTK, Sanyan), monopolistic control of log exports (Achi Jaya Transportation), plantations (Sarawak Plantation), construction (Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad, Naim Holdings, Titanium Management), electricity supply (Sarawak Cable, Sarawak Energy), property development (Custodev, Kumpulan Parabena) and state media (Cats FM, New Sarawak Tribune) to name a few.

The flagship of the Taib family empire is the largest private company in the state, Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad (CMS), with net assets totalling 2.4 billion Malaysian ringgit (USD 788 million) in 2010. CMS has been awarded some of the state’s largest contracts including the MYR 300 million (USD 98 million) construction of the State Legislative Assembly building in Kuching, a contract over the maintenance of all state roads in Sarawak (4000 kms) and a 15-year concession to maintain 643 kms of federal roads.²⁹ Commonly referred to as *„Chief Minister and Sons“*, the Taib family own over 80% of CMS, but recent annual reports have raised questions over the true beneficiary of the company’s wealth. In 2009, Taib’s first wife Lejla Chalecki died.³⁰ Since 2002, she had been the single largest shareholder of the company, but CMS’ latest annual reports still list her as a major shareholder.³¹ The largest shareholder of CMS is Majaharta Sdn. Bhd. which is jointly owned by Taib’s two daughters, Jamilah and Hanifah.

Since his appointment as Sarawak Chief Minister in 1981, Taib and his immediate family members have transferred considerable parts of their ill-gotten assets overseas to countries including Canada (Sakto group of companies), the United States (Sakti Corporation and related companies), Australia (Sitehost Pty Ltd), the United Kingdom (Ridgeford Properties), Hong Kong (Richfold Investment Ltd.) and to a number of offshore finance centers, namely the British Virgin Islands. While the above-mentioned companies officially name Taib family members as their shareholders or directors, it is believed that many other companies are held through nominees.

Sakti International, a US property development company owned by the Taib family was incorporated in 1987 in California. In a court deposition, Sakti admits that *„beginning September 10, 1987, Sakti’s designated Chief Executive Officer, Secretary and Chief Financial Officer was Mahmud Taib“,* the Chief Minister’s son. Significantly, the deposition also admits

²⁶ David Walter Brown: *Why Governments Fail to Capture Economic Rent: The Unofficial Appropriation of Rainforest Rent by Rulers in Insular Southeast Asia Between 1970 and 1999*, ph.D. University of Washington, 2001.

²⁷ Bruno Manser Fonds Press Release: *EXCLUSIVE: Taib family's illicit billions disclosed!*, 04.12.2011

²⁸ David Walter Brown: *Why Governments Fail to Capture Economic Rent: The Unofficial Appropriation of Rainforest Rent by Rulers in Insular Southeast Asia Between 1970 and 1999*, ph.D. University of Washington, 2001, p. 205.

²⁹ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2008*, p.20.

³⁰ The Star [Malaysia]: *Sarawak CM's wife, Laila Taib, dies*, 29.04.09.

³¹ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*. Company No. 21076-T.

that the shareholders of Sakti are none other than Taib's children and brothers. Whilst it is Taib's relatives who are publicly registered as the official shareholders and directors of the companies, a private agreement ensures that the shares are actually held in trust for Taib. Official documents leaked by a former employee prove that it is a system of private deals that ensures that half of these shares „are held in trust for the Chief Minister.“³² One of Sakti International's early public documents lists the Chief Minister as a director.³³

The Ottawa (Canada) - based Sakto group of companies, mainly active in real estate and property development, is currently run by daughter Jamilah and her Canadian husband, Sean Murray.³⁴ In 2011, Sean Murray stated that „Sakto, Sakti and Ridgeford are not and have never been funded by Mr Taib Mahmud“ but later that year Taib admitted on video that he had given money to his daughter to start the business *“It started 20 to 30 years ago. I gave money to my daughter because I was resigning from Federal Government. I got a gratuity and gave some money to her to start a new business, it thrived... It got successful and from successful they go to do business in London”*.³⁵

³² Action by unanimous written consent of the board of directors of Sakti International, 08.04.88.

³³ <http://www.sarawakreport.org/2010/08/unmasked-taib-the-godfather>. Viewed 15.09.12.

³⁴ Industry Canada – Sakto Corporation (Corporation No. 340439-1)-Form 6: Changes Regarding Directors, 03.04.09

³⁵ A video interview with Taib Mahmud: *The Real Sarawak: Jamilah in Canada* – Posted on youtube 22.03.11. Viewed 06.08.12

9. Portraits of individual Taib family members

9.1 Abdul Taib bin Mahmud (“Taib”)

Birth - 21-05-1936

IC Number - 360521-13-5015

Spouse - 1st wife - Lejla Chalecki Taib
2nd wife - Ragad Waleed Al-Kurdi Taib

Children - (4 Children) Jamilah Hamidah Taib, Mahmud Abu Bekir Taib, Sulaiman Abdul Rahman Taib, Hanifah Hajar Taib.

Principal role - Chief Minister of Sarawak since 1981. Corruption and abuse of public funds to enrich himself, his family and his political allies through land appropriation and destructive logging of the Borneo rainforest.



Global business

Due to his prominent public role, Taib runs his businesses almost exclusively through third parties, initially through his family members and in-laws, during the last years increasingly through other nominees. As his name rarely ever appears, it is extremely difficult to trace the real extent of Taib's global network of corruption and illicit assets.

Official records show him only in the following positions:

Australia: Director of Australian Universities International Alumni Convention Pty Ltd.

Malaysia: Major shareholder of Mesti Bersatu Sdn. Bhd., a parent company for another 10 Malaysian companies with interests in the property, plantation and construction sector.

United States: Former Director of Sakti International Corporation (1987).

As heir to his late wife, Lejla, Taib is interested in another 23 Malaysian companies, including Cahya Mata Sarawak (CMS), and in the Australian company Sitehost Pty Ltd, the operator of the Adelaide Hilton hotel.

Estimated net worth - USD 15 billion

Early Life - Abdul Taib bin Mahmud is an ethnic Muslim Melanau from Miri³⁶. He is the eldest of 10 children of Mahmud Abang Yahya and Wan Hamidah Hj. Ya'akob. Born into impoverished circumstances, Taib's grandfather was a fisherman while his father was a carpenter with Shell Petroleum in Miri.³⁷ Taib was only able to complete his primary and secondary education due to the financial assistance of his uncle (Rahman Ya'kub) due to growing up in „very poor surroundings“. ³⁸ In 1956, he won a Colombo Plan scholarship to read law at the University of Adelaide. Taib married Lejla Chalecki, (the mother to his four children) in 1959³⁹, whom he met while studying at Adelaide.⁴⁰

After graduating, Taib Mahmud worked for one year as a judge associate in Australia before returning to Sarawak as Crown Counsel in 1962⁴¹. Thanks to his uncle's links with UMNO (United Malays National Organisation), West Malaysia's leading political party, he was soon appointed to the state cabinet and later federal cabinet where he spent 13 years in various portfolios. Taib ended his federal career in 1981 and returned to Sarawak to become Chief Minister and President of Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB). It is interesting to note

³⁶ Kris Jatab and James Ritchie: *Taib Mahmud's Politics of Development – Sarawak Awakens*, Kuching: Pelanduk Publications, 1991.

³⁷ Douglas Mills: *A Soul You Can See*, Kuching: Times Editions, 1996, p. 54.

³⁸ Video interview with Taib Mahmud: *How Sarawak Has Changed*. Chief Minister of Sarawak's official website, www.chiefministertaib.sarawak.gov.my. Published 15.12.10 Viewed 23.08.12

³⁹ Official website of the Chief Minister, www.chiefministertaib.sarawak.gov.my. *Pehin Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud - Profile of the Chief Minister*, viewed 06.08.12

⁴⁰ Andrew Charles Bernard Aeria: *Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak 1970-2000*, ph.D., London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, 2002.

⁴¹ Kris Jatab and James Ritchie: *Taib Mahmud's Politics of Development – Sarawak Awakens*, Kuching: Pelanduk Publications, 1991.

here that Taib has been active in the state government since Sarawak became part of Malaysia in 1963.

Scandals surrounding Taib as Chief Minister of Sarawak

In 2007, a scandal exposed by the Japanese tax authorities revealed that tens of millions of US dollars had been paid in secret, illegal kickbacks by Japanese shipping companies exporting timber from Sarawak. The money was paid directly to Hong Kong companies linked to the Chief Minister's brother, Onn Mahmud. The Japanese cartel concluded an agreement in 1981 with Malaysia's Dewan Niaga Sarawak regarding lumber transport. Dewan Niaga is a state-affiliated agency in charge of lumber export control and is headed by Onn Mahmud, one of Taib's brothers.⁴²

In 2008, Indonesian newspaper, *Tribun Pontianak*, revealed that around 30 shipments of illegal Indonesian logs were imported into Sarawak and re-exported to other countries every month. Chief Minister Taib Mahmud was implicated in this timber scam.⁴³ With scarcely 5% of Sarawak's rainforest remaining untouched, Taib is now aggressively pursuing his pet project, the multi-billion dollar "*Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy*" (SCORE), an immense industrialisation project comprising 50 hydroelectric dams, palm oil plantations, smelter plants and mining projects. The projects are being widely opposed by local communities who are against environmental destruction of their land and government-linked corruption.⁴⁴ The dams are set to displace tens of thousands of indigenous people and will ultimately benefit the Taib family and his close political allies.

Taib is regarded by many Malaysians as being the "*Thief Minister*" of Sarawak.⁴⁵ In June 2011, the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) announced that Taib was under investigation for allegations of timber corruption.⁴⁶ The UK, Swiss, German and Australian Governments are now monitoring Taib assets abroad and the ongoing investigation in Malaysia. In 2010, Malaysian opposition party, the Democratic Action Party (DAP), released figures showing that Taib Mahmud had failed to account for a staggering MYR 4.8 billion (USD 1.58 billion) of government expenditure in the previous three years alone.⁴⁷

In August 2011, whistleblower website, "*Wikileaks*", leaked a confidential cable from the US embassy in Malaysia to the State Department, Washington. It noted that "*Taib and his relatives are widely thought to extract a percentage from most major commercial contracts - including those for logging - awarded in the state.*" A source had told the US embassy that Taib appointed "*compliant local leaders*" from various tribes into "*financially rewarding*" government positions as a means to stifle potential opposition. The US embassy's Political Section Chief concluded after a visit to Sarawak's state capital in 2009, that:

"the Sarawak State government remains highly corrupt and firmly in the hands of its chief minister." In November 2009, the US embassy reported to Washington that "*Chief Minister Taib remains unchallenged after 27 years in office, his government doles out timber-cutting permits while patrolling the under-developed state using 14 helicopters, and his family's companies control much of the economy.*"⁴⁸

In the same month, investigative portal, "*Sarawak Report*", exposed how Taib Mahmud had a US\$5million a year contract with the British-based PR company FBC Media to conduct a global media campaign in his favour. The scandal implicated some of the world's most

⁴² The Japan Times – Kyodo News: *Wood carriers allegedly hid 1.1 billion yen income*, 29.03.07.

⁴³ *Tribun Pontianak*, *Penguasaha Kayu Akui Setor Upeti*, 14.08.08, and Tony Thien: *Malaysiakini: Taib implicated in Indon timber scam*, 23.08.08.

⁴⁴ The Borneo Post: *Baram folk gather to seek divine intervention to stop dam project*, 14.06.11, Viewed 06.08.12

⁴⁵ Carol Yong: *Blatant Liar and The Crab Culture*, *Hornbill Unleashed*, 01.02.11. Viewed 27.08.12

⁴⁶ The Star [Malaysia]: *Taib Mahmud being investigated, says MACC*, 09.06.11.

⁴⁷ Democratic Action Party Sarawak: *Democratising Sarawak's Economy – Sarawak DAP's Alternative budget 2010*.

⁴⁸ Wikileaks leaked cable between US embassy Malaysia to the State Department Washington. Labelled - Confidential Section 01 OF 03 Kuala Lumpur 001935. Subject: *Sarawak: Opposition adrift; Indigenous people lack services; police reject criticism*. Classified By: Political Section Chief Mark D. Clark for reasons 1.4 b, d. Published 29.08.11, Viewed 06.08.12

prestigious broadcasting networks including the BBC, CNBC and CNN.⁴⁹ Both CNBC and the BBC have made public apologies since the broadcasts.⁵⁰ Recently, critical reports about Taib Mahmud have been aired by the world's media including ABC, Al-Jazeera, Canadian Global News, Australia's SBS One Dateline, The Independent, Guardian, The Sunday Times, Daily Mail, The Economist and Evening Standard.

Despite being a devout Muslim, Taib is known to be highly superstitious and is reliant on the spiritual guidance of bomohs (witch doctors). In April 2011, Taib's cousin, Salleh Jaffarrudin, publically chastised one of the Chief Minister's bomohs in front of the Malaysian media. Jaffarrudin stated: *"We want to save Sarawak from being ruled by a leader who has completely succumbed and surrendered, his mental faculties, spiritual and natural physical capabilities to the influence of foreign witchcraft apparatus currently encircling him."*⁵¹

On January 16th 2011, 75-year old Taib married for the second time to Syrian born Ragad Waleed Al-Kurdi, in her late twenties.⁵²

⁴⁹ Sarawak Report: *Taib Paid Out \$5 Million To Attack Sarawak Report!* – International Expose – Published 01.08.11, Viewed 06.08.12

⁵⁰ Findings of the editorial standards committee of the BBC: *BBC World News – Funding arrangements and sponsorship of documentary and feature programmes on BBC World News (a BBC Commercial service)*, November 2011.

⁵¹ Ang Ngan Toh: *Salleh accuses Taib of being surrounded by bomohs*, Malaysiakini, 08.04.11.

⁵² „Along with her brothers Samer and Mohamad, and sister Samar, the family moved to Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) when Ragad was still young“ - Geryl Ogilvy Ruekeith: *A truly glittering wedding reception*, The Borneo Post, 16.01.11.

9.2 Ibrahim Mahmud (“Ibrahim”) - Brother

Birth - 01-03-1943

Death – 02-02-2012

IC Number - 430301-13-5487

Spouse – Datin Seri Hajjah Abdullah

Children – (5 children) Mahmud bin Ibrahim, Yahya bin Ibrahim, Ahmad Ibrahim

Estimated net worth – USD 20 million

Global business – A director of 16 Malaysian companies and a shareholder of another 6 Malaysian companies.



Formerly a policeman, Dato Ibrahim Mahmud joined the Polis Diraja Malaysia on the 12th March 1964 as a constable and rose through the inspectorate and gazetted ranks to full superintendent before his retirement in March 1998.⁵³ During his service in the Royal Malaysian Police, he served as Staff Officer at the Narcotic Criminal Investigation Department, Sarawak, and was officer in charge of police district. He was also seconded to the Anti-Corruption agency, Kuching, as a senior investigation officer. It is not just Taib who has been involved in politics in Sarawak. Ibrahim’s son (Taib’s nephew), Datuk Ahmad Ibrahim, is PBB (Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu) Batu Kawah division chairman and a close friend of the state Minister of Land Development, James Jemut Masing.⁵⁴

Information obtained by the Companies Commission of Malaysia (SSM) has shown that Taib Mahmud secretly handed vast areas of state and native customary rights territory to companies owned by Ibrahim at nominal prices. One such deal, in April 2009, saw Ibrahim and two of his sons receive a large concession of Native Customary Rights land in the Iban community of Pasai Siong, Sungai Retus, for half a million Malaysian ringgit (USD 165,000). They sold it on six weeks later for the dramatically increased sum of seven and a half million ringgit (USD 2.4 million), i.e. fifteen times higher.⁵⁵

Leaked information from the Land and Survey Department of Sarawak shows that Ibrahim’s company Amgreen Gain Sdn. Bhd paid under 2.5 million ringgit (USD 823,000) for land that was then sold on in February 2011 for over 18 million ringgit (USD 5.9 million). Sarawak Pulp Industries Sdn. Bhd., another Ibrahim venture, has been given over 10,000 hectares of oil palm estate, for less than half a million ringgit (USD 165,000) The company was also commissioned to construct the giant Similajau Industrial Park in Bintulu⁵⁶ which is part of the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE).

The Kuching-based radio station, CATS FM, was up until early 2012 controlled by Ibrahim and is still owned by Taib’s daughter, Hanifah Hajar Taib. CATS FM is the only private radio station in Sarawak that Taib, in his capacity as Chief Minister, has agreed to give a licence to.

Ibrahim died in February 2012 of a stroke at the age of 69 at the Kuching specialist hospital and was buried in Demak Jaya Muslim cemetery in Jalan Bako, Kuching.⁵⁷

⁵³ Bursa Malaysia - Change in Boardroom- Frontken Berhad. Reference No FC-120202-34524 – published 02.02.12, Viewed 06.08.12 and KSLE Investor Kim Hin Industry Berhad- Change in Audit Committee. Published 02.02.12. Viewed 06.08.12

⁵⁴The Borneo Post: *Ibrahim Mahmud passes away*, 03.02.12

⁵⁵ Sarawak Report: *Family First, The People Last* – Published 18.01.11. Viewed 06.08.12

⁵⁶ Leaked palm oil concession data from Lands and Surveys Department Sarawak – Published 19.03.11. Viewed 06.08.12 Can be viewed at the following link: <http://map.sarawakreport.org/data.html>

⁵⁷ The Borneo Post: *Ibrahim Mahmud passes away*, 03.02.12.

9.3 Onn bin Mahmud (“Onn”) - Brother

Birth – 02-12-1949

IC Number - 491202-13-5261

Spouse - Halimatun Abdul Ghani

Children - Siti Hajar Hamidah Onn, Omar Yakub Onn



Estimated net worth –USD 2 billion

Global business

Malaysia: A director of 11 Malaysian companies, including Achi Jaya Holdings, his main business outfit, and a shareholder of another 23 companies. Controls all timber exports from Sarawak through Dewan Niaga (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd and Achi Jaya Transportation Sdn Bhd.

Australia: As majority shareholder of Kesuma Holdings Pty, Onn Mahmud controls at least five Australian property and hotel companies.

Canada: Founding director of Sakto Development Corporation, a major Taib family outfit active in the property business.

Hong Kong: Majority shareholder of Richfold Investment Ltd., a sister company of Regent Star Co., which has been used to cash in kickbacks from Japanese shipping companies carrying logs from Sarawak to Japan. Through his Hong Kong business secretary, Shea Kin Kwok, Onn Mahmud is also involved in a number of other Hong Kong companies, some of which are holding stakes in Malaysia.

United States: Founding director and shareholder of the California-based Sakti International Corporation.

Onn Mahmud was educated at Syracuse University, New York, graduating with a B.Sc (Finance) in 1976 and an M.B.A. from St. John University in New York in 1978.⁵⁸

Onn has been involved in Taib family companies since the early 1980s, around the time that Taib assumed office as Chief Minister of Sarawak. In 1983, Onn Mahmud and Taib's children Mahmud Bekir and Jamilah founded the property development company Sakto Corporation in Canada. Since 2000, the company has been involved in some of Ottawa's biggest property deals.⁵⁹ From 1985-1991, Onn Mahmud was a director of Sime Darby Australia Limited, a subsidiary of Sime Darby Berhad.⁶⁰ Sime Darby Plantation is one of the world's largest listed palm oil companies producing 6% of the world's crude palm oil.⁶¹

Onn's main business vehicle in Malaysia is Achi Jaya Holdings, the parent company of Achi Jaya Plantations and Achi Jaya Transportation. A 2011 land deal by Achi Jaya Plantations gives us an idea of the worth of Onn's plantation lands: Achi Jaya Plantations offered to sell 30,000 acres of oil palm land in Johor, Malaysia, for MYR 923 million (USD 301 million).⁶²

Dewan Niaga (Sarawak)'s and Achi Jaya Transportation's monopolistic control of all timber exports from Sarawak has made Onn an extremely powerful and wealthy man. He has thus not only been able to collect systematic kickbacks from timber exporters but the position has also allowed him to manipulate log export figures at his discretion.

In 2007, a scandal was exposed by the Japanese tax authorities revealing how tens of millions of US dollars had been paid in kickbacks by Japanese shipping companies exporting timber from Sarawak. The money was paid directly to companies in Hong Kong owned or controlled

⁵⁸ *Who's Who in Sarawak 2000 - Millenium Edition*: Tamar Media Sdn. Bhd.

⁵⁹ Industry Canada – Sakto Corporation (Corporation No. 340439-1) -Form 6: Changes Regarding Directors, 03.04.09.

⁶⁰ Australian Securities and Investments Commission: *Sime Darby Australia Ltd. Company No. 008666359*, extracted 30.08.11.

⁶¹ Official website of Sime Darby Berhad, www.simedarby.com. Viewed 28.08.12

⁶² Sarawak Report: *Where is Farok Majeed and How Wealthy is Onn Mahmud?*, 18.03.11.

by Onn. When faced with prosecution for not declaring these bribes, the Japanese timber companies explained that the Sarawak government does not allow export permits unless they negotiate with Onn Mahmud's Achi Jaya Transportation.⁶³

In 2007, Onn was taken to court in Australia by former consultant Farok Majeed who was suing Onn for millions of dollars. In the middle of the court case, Farok Majeed went missing and has not been traced since. Majeed's court case⁶⁴ makes plain that he had been engaged by Onn to work on a number of expensive property developments in Sydney. He included in the bill his fees for development and management of Ten Wylde Street in Sydney. Ten Wylde Street is located in the prime Sydney Harbour location Potts Point and was sold for a record breaking AUD 20 million (USD 21 million).

Majeed's court deposition cites 1902, Peach Gardens, as the Onn family home in Singapore and 26 Carrara Road, Vacluse, as their Australian residence. 26 Carrara Road has a cliff top swimming pool looking out over a marine reserve and a view over Sydney harbour.⁶⁵ His family owns the boutique Valentine on George hotel⁶⁶, and the Cafe Kasturi⁶⁷ and Golden Cinnamon restaurants in Sydney. Onn and his family also own the four star Tanjung Sanctuary hotel on the Malaysian island of Langkawi.⁶⁸

Recent court documents also reveal that Onn Mahmud was an original director and shareholder of the US property development company Sakti International Corporation, which was incorporated in 1987.⁶⁹ The court deposition goes on to confirm that Onn is still a shareholder of the company and documents published by Sarawak Report show that half of these shares are held in trust for Taib Mahmud.

⁶³ The Japan Times – Kyodo News: *Wood carriers allegedly hid 1.1 billion yen income*: 29.03.07.

⁶⁴ *Mohd Farok Abdul Majeed v Dato Onn Mahmud Court Case [2007]* Adj.L.R. 12/13: Published by the Nationwide Academy for Dispute Resolution - <http://www.nadr.co.uk/articles/published/AdjLrAunzIndex/Majeed%20v%20Mahud%202007.pdf> - Viewed 06.08.12

⁶⁵ Sarawak Report: *Where is Farok Majeed and How Wealthy is Onn Mahmud?* Published 18.03.11, Viewed 06.08.12

⁶⁶ Australian Securities and Investments Commission: *Valentine on George Pty Ltd – Company No. 105541562*. Extracted 23.08.11

⁶⁷ Australian Securities and Investments Commission: *Cafe Kasturi Pty Ltd – Company No. 092125007*. Extracted 26.08.11

⁶⁸ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *AJ Resorts Sdn. Bhd company profile – Company No. 746486-K*. Extracted 27.03.12

⁶⁹ *Action by unanimous written consent of the board of directors of Sakti International*, 08.04.88.

9.4 Mohd Tufail bin Mahmud (“Tufail”) - Brother

Birth - 28-09-1952

IC Number - 520928-13-5025

Spouse - Suhing Bujang and 1 other.

Children - Anita Hamidah Tufail, Mohamad Farouk bin Mohamad Tufail, Mohammad Yakub bin Tufail

Estimated net worth – USD 600 million

Global business – Malaysia: controlling shareholder of the Sanyan Group; director of 35 Malaysian companies and major shareholder of another six companies. No known business connections outside Malaysia.



Tufail owns and controls one of Sarawak’s largest companies, Sanyan Group, which is active in the timber business.⁷⁰ The conglomerate is worth at least USD 400 million and is headquartered in Wisma Sanyan, Sibul, the tallest building in Sarawak.⁷¹ He is a director of Song Logging Company, a subsidiary of logging giant WTK⁷², shareholder of Taib security firm Dayacop⁷³ and many others in Sarawak. Insiders say that Tufail shares his brother Taib’s belief in black magic.

In 2010, a former business partner of Tufail, Dato Ting Check Sii, took him to court for unfair dismissal. Ting’s revealing court deposition describes how the Taib family employ nominees to disguise favouritism by the Chief Minister in the granting of state licenses and concessions:

“In 1987, I set up Sanyan Lumber Sdn Bhd which was given a timber concession. The shares of the company are held by me (50%) and Draman @ Morshidi bin Omar (50%) as a nominee of Datuk Tufail. Datuk Tufail told me that he needed to use a nominee because his brother was then and still is the Minister for Resource Planning. Datuk Tufail now denies Draman is his nominee, even though Datuk Tufail and I are the only joint bank signatories for the company.”

For 25 years, Ting partnered Taib’s younger brother Tufail Mahmud as the co-owner of Sanyan Wood Industries. Ting confided to third parties that the Chief Minister had personally said to him: *“If you offer my brother more than 50% of the shares, then there will be more concessions for you!”* Sanyan’s first venture in 1983 was Binta Corporation Sdn Bhd. The Ting court deposition explains that this was one of a series of shipping companies, which benefited from contracts with Archipelago Shipping (today Achi Jaya Transportation) to provide transportation services from Tanjung Manis Port. Archipelago Shipping had in turn been handed a monopoly over handling all shipping in Sarawak by the Chief Minister and was entirely owned by brother Onn.⁷⁴

In 2011, Sarawakian civil society activist, Hii Tiong Huat openly questioned the leasing of state land in Sarawak to Tufail Mahmud. He claimed the land was *„the site of a former airfield and was initially used by SUPP (Sarawak United Peoples Party) to set up the United College Sarawak.”* In 2004, the land was mysteriously leased out to Tufail’s company, Espirit Wealth.⁷⁵

⁷⁰ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Sanyan Holdings Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 413109-V*. Extracted 17.09.11

⁷¹ The Borneo Post: *Wisma Sanyan: Enjoy our giant Christmas tree*. Published 26.11.11. Viewed 06.08.12

⁷² Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Song Logging Company Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 106696-K*. Extracted 30.09.11.

⁷³ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Dayacop Security Services Sdn. Bhd. Company Number – 298999-M*. Extracted 30.09.11

⁷⁴ High Court of Sabah & Sarawak, Kuching: *Dato Ting Check Sii v. Datuk Hj Mohamad Tufail Mahmud & Ors [2008] 7 CLJ 315*. Published by Alex Chang & Co - <http://www.alexchangelaw.com/files/DatukTing2.pdf>. Viewed 06.08.12

⁷⁵ Nigel Aw: *Uncle Bersih alleges nepotism by S'wak CM*, in: Malaysiakini, 19.07.11.

Photographs of the Tufails' lavish lifestyle are widespread on the internet. They have been photographed flaunting expensive jewellery and gowns at exuberant wedding parties in Sarawak⁷⁶, residing in a mansion with 27 bedroom suites in Sibu⁷⁷ and taking flights in the Chief Minister's private jet.

⁷⁶ Sarawak Report: *Wedding Fever*. Published 21.12.10. Viewed 06.08.12

⁷⁷ Sarawak Report: *Progress and Development. Where did the money go!?* Published 17.02.11, Viewed 06.08.12

9.5 Raziah @ Rodiah binti Mahmud (“Raziah”) – Sister

Birth - 24-11-1955

IC Number - 551124-13-5080

Spouse - 1st husband – Abas Kassim

2nd husband - Abu Bakar Baba

3rd husband - Robert Geneid

Children - (Seven children) Elia Geneid Sutter, Esha Abas Geneid, Amira Geneid, Ewan Saufi Abas, Mo Geneid, Alia Geneid, Aishah Geneid



Estimated net worth – USD 500 million

Global business – Malaysia: Director of 20 companies and shareholder of another 13 companies.

Raziah attended business studies at the University Technology Mara, Malaysia, and is a licensed company secretary. In August 2000, Raziah became The Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland in Sarawak.⁷⁸ She is also on the board of directors for Sarawak Tourism.⁷⁹ Malaysian Tatler has described Raziah as “a frequent traveller, flying around the world to wheel and deal.”⁸⁰ Insiders say that Raziah and her „bomoh“ (witch doctor) have a large influence over Taib.

Raziah has benefited from massive public contracts through shareholdings in construction companies such as Kumpulan Parabena (net assets in 2010: MYR 129 million, USD 42 million), and the Taib family flagship company, Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad. Kumpulan Construction, one of Kumpulan Parabena’s subsidiaries, was granted a MYR 880 million (USD 287 million) loan by Malaysia’s RHB bank in June 2010 despite the company’s comparatively modest annual turnover of MYR 43 million (USD 14 million).⁸¹ On 30th September 2008, Sewerage Services Department Sarawak announced that Kuching’s centralised sewerage project was to be awarded a joint-venture between Raziah owned Kumpulan Parabena and Taib cronies Hock Seng Lee and Japanese company Nishimatsu.⁸² Out of RM530 million handed out from taxpayers’ money to pay for the system, a staggering RM78 million was siphoned off to Raziah.⁸³

Official documents obtained from the Malaysian Companies Commission have also shown that Raziah and her husband control the „Royal Mulu Resort“ in Sarawak’s UNESCO World Heritage Mulu National Park through Borsamulu Resort Sdn, Bhd.⁸⁴ The construction of the hotel was responsible for the forced acquisition of Native Customary land from the indigenous Berawan people of Sarawak.⁸⁵ Raziah’s family own the „Al Amar Lebanese Cuisine“ restaurant in Kuala Lumpur⁸⁶ and the „Miri Marriott“ hotel in Sarawak. Raziah and her brother (Taib) have some interesting connections to the tax haven of Monaco, where it is believed Taib assets may be hidden. In 2008, Prince Albert of Monaco visited the Raziah-owned hotel, the „Royal Mulu Resort“, on a highly publicised visit. Later, in 2010, Raziah and her family attended an Islamic Fashion Show in Monaco along with the Prime Minister of Malaysia and Taib Mahmud. The event was to raise money for the Prince of Monaco’s

⁷⁸ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography for Hajjah Raziah. Viewed 06.08.12

⁷⁹ Official website of Sarawak Tourism Board, www.sarawaktourism.com. Viewed 16.08.12

⁸⁰ Malaysian Tatler: *In the Company of Women* – <http://www.malaysiatatler.com/features.php?id=2304>. Viewed 06.08.12

⁸¹ Sarawak Report: Raziah Mahmud’s RM880,000,000.000 Bank Loan!, 17 October 2010. Accessed 15 September 2012.

⁸² Official Website of the Sewerage Services Department Sarawak – Project Title: Centralised Sewerage System For Kuching City – Package 1 Published 30.09.08 Viewed 20.09.12

⁸³ Sarawak Report – „RM 78 Million from Sarawak’s Sewers – Taibs’ Shitload of Profit!“ Published 09.09.10 Viewed 20.09.12

⁸⁴ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Borsarmulu Resort Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 213014-M*. Extracted 21.10.11

⁸⁵ Andrew Charles Bernard Aeria: *Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak 1970-2000*, ph.D., London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, 2002.” See Chapter 5.6 *The Royal Mulu Resort: A “Rare Jewel in the Jungle”*

⁸⁶ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Al Amar Lebanese Cuisine Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 691912-K*. Extracted 22.03.11

environmental trust, the „*Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation*“, and the Malaysian delegation donated 100,000 Euros to the charity.⁸⁷

Raziah has benefited from being granted thousands of hectares of oil palm plantation in Sarawak from Taib. In a series of deals between 2005 and 2008, Raziah was handed land amounting to roughly 20,000 hectares of forest reserve land. She has also benefited from converting vast amounts of Native Customary Rights land in Sibu to oil palm estate. In another conflict of interest, Elia Geneid, Raziah's eldest daughter, was granted 9,320 ha of palm oil concessions in NCR land in Bintulu.⁸⁸ Elia follows her mother's lavish lifestyle, her 2007 wedding was reported as having „*more chandeliers, tuxedos and estate jewellery than a Cecille B DeMille epic*“.⁸⁹ In December 2011, Quality Concrete Holdings, a company that Raziah has shares in and previously directed, was ordered by the Kuching High Court to pay natives of Sebang 160,000 Malaysian ringgit (USD 52,000) for encroaching on 3,305 hectares of native customary rights land. The natives claim their land was damaged as a result of road construction, extraction of timber and water pollution.⁹⁰

⁸⁷ BDM Television: Video footage of the Islamic Fashion Festival 2010, Monaco. Available on Youtube. Published 13.12.10. Viewed 06.08.12

⁸⁸ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Ikrani Bumi Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 800678-D*. Extracted 13.01.11

⁸⁹ Mansor Tun Abdul Aziz: *It's sizzling in Sarawak*, in: The Star [Malaysia], 11.11.07.

⁹⁰ Joseph Tawie: *Taib's Sister Ordered to Pay Natives*, in: Free Malaysia Today, 16.12.11.

9.6 Arip bin Mahmud (“Arip”) – Brother

Birth - 28-01-1957

Death - 08-05-2005

IC Number - 570128-13-5225

Spouse – 1st wife – Azerina Arip @ Gertie Chong Soke Hoon
2nd wife – Norieda Goh Abdullah @ Kelly Goh Siok Ling
3rd wife - Liyana Abdullah @ Lily Teo



Children - (9 children) Anisa Hamidah binti Mohd Arip, Amalina Hamidah binti Mohamad Arip, Asilah Arip, Mahmud Mohd Arip, Aneesa Arip, Mohd Taib Arip.

Estimated net worth – USD 100 million

Global business

Malaysia: Seven years after his death, Arip is still listed as a director of two Malaysian companies and a shareholder of eleven further companies.

US: Founding director and shareholder of California-based Sakti International Corporation.

Arip was widely regarded as one of Taib’s most trusted siblings and a key business partner. Born in Miri on 28th January 1957, he attended Sekolah Tuanku Abdul Rahman, SC 1970-1974, Taylor’s College Matriculation 1974 and Curtin University of Technology, Perth, Australia (DIP Business) 1994-1996. As of 2000, he was married with 9 children.⁹¹ Arip died in 2005 at the Tan Tock Seng Hospital in Singapore due to lung cancer.⁹²

According to the 1998 report “*High Stakes*” by the World Rainforest Movement and Forests Monitor, Arip Mahmud became a Director of Malaysian logging giant Rimbunan Hijau in 1995. Rimbunan Hijau, one of Sarawak’s largest timber conglomerates, has been destroying the world’s rainforests from Malaysia and Indonesia to Gabon, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, New Zealand and Russia.⁹³ Arip’s former wife Gertie was previously a shareholder of Rimbunan Hijau subsidiary Jaya Tiasa from 2002-2007.⁹⁴

According to a recent California court deposition by former Taib aide Ross Boyert, Arip was an original director and shareholder of the US property development company, Sakti International, when it was incorporated in 1987. Arip’s family also have assets in Australia.⁹⁵ In 2011, the CEO of Greenpeace Australia Pacific, Dr. Linda Selvey, personally wrote to Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard, backing requests by the Bruno Manser Fund for an investigation into the Taib family’s string of investments in Australia. The Taib family is known to control „its wealth through a series of inter-locking offshore trusts.“⁹⁶

A controversial deal, in 2004, saw Arip Mahmud make a 40 million Malaysian ringgit (USD 13.2 million) profit by selling on land given to him by Taib to crony timber company Rimbunan Hijau. Although Arip died in 2005, his family are still benefiting from their close family connection to the Chief Minister. Azerina has shares in the hotel chain „360“, with boutique and business hotels in Kuching and Brunei⁹⁷ and is a director of the company who are managing the „Plaza Merdeka“ shopping complex in Kuching.⁹⁸ Arip’s wife and children have shares in various enterprises in Sarawak through the company Mesti Bersatu. A

⁹¹ *Who’s Who in Sarawak 2000 - Millenium Edition*, Kuching: Tamar Media, 2000.

⁹² Bernama – Malaysian National News Agency: *Sarawak CM’s Younger Brother Dies of Lung Cancer*, 05.08.05.

⁹³ Greenpeace International: *The Untouchables – Rimbunan Hijau’s World of Forest Crime and Political Patronage*, February 2004.

⁹⁴ Jaya Tiasa Berhad: *Annual Reports 2002-2007*.

⁹⁵ Australian Services and Investments Commission: *Newtop Holdings Pty Ltd – Company No. 066588225*. Extracted 03.02.11

⁹⁶ Letter from former Taib employee Ross J. Boyert of Sakti International Corporation to Abdul Taib Mahmud. 20.11.06. The letter has been published by Sarawak Report and can be accessed online under: <https://s3.amazonaws.com/sarawak/Ross-Letter-to-Taib-Mahmud-part-1a.pdf>

⁹⁷ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *360 Hotels Development Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 899859-P*. Extracted 12.04.12

⁹⁸ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Plaza Merdeka Management Sdn. Bhd. Company Number 803360-M*. Extracted 12.04.12

company that the Chief Minister himself has shares in.⁹⁹ Mesti Bersatu has shares in the controversial „*Royal Mulu Resort*“ in Mulu National Park, „*Kingwood Inn Hotel*“ in Kuching, huge palm oil concessions on the island of Pulau Bruit¹⁰⁰, 34,000 hectares of land in Balingian and the company has encroached on reserve forest land in Ensengei, Sarawak.¹⁰¹

⁹⁹ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Mesti Bersatu Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 758849-V*. Extracted 16.08.11

¹⁰⁰ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Delta Padi Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 394460-X*. Extracted 05.09.11

¹⁰¹ Sarawak Report: *Raziah Raids Reserve Forest Lands and Taib Profits – Major Exclusive!* Published 14.01.11 Viewed 27.08.12

9.7 Abdul Hamed bin Sepawi (“Sepawi”) – First Cousin

Birth – 31-05- 1949

IC Number – 490531-13-5129

Spouse – Anne Elizabeth Gordon-Hamed

Children – Abdul Rahman bin Mohd Sepawie

Estimated net worth – USD 175 million (2012 estimate by Forbes Asia)



Global business

Malaysia: Major player in the timber, plantation, construction and energy sector through his 35% stake in Ta Ann Holdings, his 16% stake in Naim Holdings and his role as chairman of the state-owned Sarawak Energy Bhd. Holds a stake in at least 55 Malaysian companies.

Australia: Involved in controversial timber operations by Ta Ann Tasmania. Has an interest in at least four property developers and investment companies (Tiger Estate Pty Ltd., Kingwest Investments Pty Ltd., Helkfay Pty Ltd. and Karmede developments Pty Ltd).

United States: Director of Nevada-based Smartag International Inc.

Abdul Hamed graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur and a Master's degree in Forest Products Utilisation from Oregon State University, United States.¹⁰² Until 2006, Sepawi was director of the Sarawak Timber Industry Development Corporation (STIDC), the statutory body responsible for the development, registration, regulation and promotion of the Sarawakian timber sector. Abdul Hamed bin Sepawi is widely regarded as Taib Mahmud's proxy. He is listed on Forbes Rich List as being Malaysia's 40th richest person. His business ventures span from timber¹⁰³ and palm oil¹⁰⁴, construction and property development¹⁰⁵ to electronics¹⁰⁶ and media. Sepawi also has assets in the United States and Australia.¹⁰⁷ He is director and a major shareholder of *The New Sarawak Tribune*, a newspaper sympathetic with the ruling coalition in Sarawak.¹⁰⁸

Since 2007, Sepawi has been Chairman of Syarikat SESCO Berhad, which is solely responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in Sarawak.¹⁰⁹ SESCO distributes electricity from the controversial Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE). SESCO is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB), a holding company controlled by the Sarawak state government and also chaired by Sepawi. SEB is the driving force behind a controversial dams program that is bound to affect the livelihood of tens of thousands of indigenous people in Sarawak.

Hamed Sepawi founded Ta Ann, one of Sarawak's largest logging and palm oil companies in the mid-1980's (soon after Taib became Chief Minister) and has since been handed vast tracks of logging and plantation concessions in Sarawak. In 2010, Ta Ann held six timber concessions totalling 440,389 ha.¹¹⁰ Being the majority shareholder of Ta Ann, Sepawi benefits greatly from his position. In 2007, the company expanded its business to Tasmania's forests, where activities by Ta Ann have been met with criticism from NGOs and opposition

¹⁰² Bloomberg Businessweek – Executive Profile & Biography – Abdul Hamed bin Haji Sepawi. Viewed 27.08.12

¹⁰³ Ta Ann Holdings Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*.

¹⁰⁴ Sarawak Plantation Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*.

¹⁰⁵ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Custodev Sdn. Bhd Company No. 104266-W*. Extracted 18.10.11

¹⁰⁶ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Smartag Solutions Berhad – Company No. 639421-X*. Extracted 18.03.11

¹⁰⁷ Australian Services and Investments Commission - Helkfay Pty Ltd. Company No. 00863874 Extracted 18.08.11

¹⁰⁸ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Tribune Press Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 719095-V*. Extracted 15.09.11

¹⁰⁹ Official website of Syarikat SESCO Berhad. Viewed 06.08.12

¹¹⁰ Daniel Faeh: *Development of Timber Tycoons in Sarawak, East Malaysia. History and Company Profiles*, February 2011.

MPs.¹¹¹ Sepawi is one of Samling Global's largest shareholders (through his shares in the company Perkapalan Damai Timur¹¹²), a company whose logging activities span the world's forests and whose employees have been accused of violence and rape of Sarawak's indigenous Penan women and girls.¹¹³ He is a director and substantial shareholder of Grand Perfect,¹¹⁴ a company that runs South East Asia's largest Acacia plantation. He is also chairman and shareholder of Sarawak Plantation Berhad. Sarawak Plantation has been given thousands of hectares of native customary rights land by Chief Minister Taib Mahmud.¹¹⁵

Sepawi is also chairman and major shareholder of one of Sarawak's largest construction companies, Naim Holdings.¹¹⁶ Naim has received huge contracts in Sarawak on behalf of Taib. He also owns Custodev, a lucrative property development company in Malaysia. He owns Smartag Solutions Berhad which has recently entered into a two year agreement with the Malaysian government to provide security at customs checkpoints.¹¹⁷

¹¹¹ Huon Valley Environment Centre: *Behind the Veneer: Forest Destruction and Ta Ann Tasmania's lies*, September 2011.

¹¹² Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Perkapalan Damai Timur Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 191239-M*. Extracted 04.10.11

¹¹³ FORUM-ASIA and Asian Indigenous Women's Network (AIWN): *A Wider Context of Sexual Exploitation of Penan Women & Girls in Middle and Ulu Baram*. An independant fact-finding mission by Penan Support Group, Published by SUARAM Komunikasi, 2010.

¹¹⁴ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Grand Perfect Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 414194-V*. Extracted 12.09.11

¹¹⁵ Leaked palm oil concession data from Lands and Surveys Department Sarawak – Published 19.03.11. Viewed 06.08.12 Can be viewed at the following link: <http://map.sarawakreport.org/data.html>

¹¹⁶ Naim Holdings Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*.

¹¹⁷ Kamarul Yunus: *Smartag security system at Customs checkpoints*, in: Business Times [Malaysia], 14.06.12. Viewed 06.08.12.

9.8 Jamilah Hamidah Taib-Murray (“Jamilah”) – Daughter

Birth - 19-09-1960

IC Number - 600919-71-5044 (Malaysia); holds also the Canadian citizenship¹¹⁸

Spouse - Sean Patrick Hisham Murray

Children - Laila Jane Murray, Jeffery Malek Murray, Omar Patrick Murray

Estimated net worth –USD 1 billion

Global business

Malaysia: Director of four companies and shareholder of at least another 86 companies.

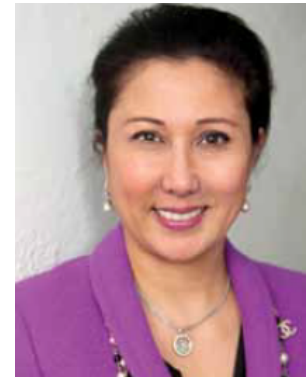
Australia: Major shareholder of Sitehost Pty Ltd which operates the Taib family-owned Adelaide Hilton hotel.

Canada: Director and presumably the controlling shareholder of the Ottawa-based Sakto group (Sakto Corporation, Sakto Development Corporation, City Gate International Corporation and related companies) (www.sakto.com).

United Kingdom: Company Secretary and presumably the controlling shareholder of the Ottawa-based Citygate International Corporation, the parent company of Ridgeford Properties (www.ridgeford.com) in the UK.

Born in Adelaide, Australia, she is the oldest of Taib’s four children. Jamilah studied Business Management at Carlton University in Ottawa, Canada, and met her husband Sean Murray whilst studying there. Jamilah married Sean in 1987 in Kuching and gave Taib his first grandchild Jeffery Malek Murray in May 1990. As alumnae parents, Sean and Jamilah have donated at least \$10,000 to Elmwood School, Canada.¹¹⁹ Jamilah is co-chair/founder of creative learning at Ashbury College, Canada. As founders of „Creative Learning“ at Ashbury College, Sean and Jamilah have provided the college with \$100,000 - \$249,000.¹²⁰ Jamilah and Sean love to display their wealth and are frequent guests at Ottawa’s high society parties. They reside in a mansion in Rockcliffe Park, Ottawa, which was named the city’s second most expensive house in 2009, estimated at 9.6 million Canadian dollars. The house is known to be lavishly clad in marble, with chandeliers and cathedral-like ceilings.¹²¹ Jamilah attended the annual Independence Day celebration on the grounds of the US Ambassador’s residence in Ottawa, July 2012.¹²²

Official company documents from Canada show that Jamilah was an original director and shareholder of Canadian property developer Sakto Development Corporation which was set up in 1983. A number of companies from the Sakto group are still being directed by Jamilah and her husband Sean.¹²³ Sakto’s British sister company, Ridgeford Properties, in London, is being managed by Jamilah’s husband and in-laws.¹²⁴ Jamilah’s family have hired top lawyers in the UK to declare that “*Sakto, Sakti and Ridgeford are not funded by Taib Mahmud.*”¹²⁵ But in 2011, Taib contradicted these claims in a video statement that was posted online. In



¹¹⁸ Malaysian laws do not allow the country’s citizens to hold double citizenship but for well-connected Jamilah, an exception seems to have been made: <http://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/nation/2011/12/12/canadian-citizen-but-voter-in-swak>, Published 12.12.11, viewed 15.09.12.

¹¹⁹ Elmwood School: *2010-2011 Report to the Community*, viewed 27.08.12.

¹²⁰ Official website of Ashbury College – SPARK: *Learning through Creativity*. See Community Support and Campaign Leadership. Viewed 27.08.12

¹²¹ Michael Prentice: *Rockcliffe ‘palace’ Ottawa’s No. 2 home*, The Ottawa Citizen, 19.01.09.

¹²² Jean Levac: *U.S. Ambassador hosts annual fourth of July Celebration*, The Ottawa Citizen, 04.07.12.

¹²³ Industry Canada – Sakto Corporation (Corporation No. 340439-1) -Form 6: Changes Regarding Directors, 03.04.09.

¹²⁴ Companies House, United Kingdom: *Ridgeford Properties Limited. Company No. 03268801*. Viewed 06.08.12

¹²⁵ Legal Statement by Jamilah’s lawyer, Mishcon de Reya, to Global News Canada 29.11.11.

the video, he states: “*It started 20 to 30 years ago. I gave money to my daughter...I got a gratuity and gave some money to her to start a new business, it thrived....it is a property development company....it got successful and from successful they go do business in London.*”¹²⁶ Jamilah was an original director and is currently still a shareholder of US property development company, Sakti International Corporation, which was incorporated in 1987.¹²⁷

In December 2011, Canada’s Global News television ran an investigative piece in their prime-time 16x9 show focusing on Jamilah and Sean’s property portfolio in Canada, USA and London. Despite being approached by the show, the couple refused to be interviewed.¹²⁸ Jamilah is also a director and shareholder of the Hilton hotel in Adelaide, Australia.¹²⁹ In late 2011, Sakto lawyer J Bruce Carr-Harris acknowledged that Jamilah Taib has “*some passive investments in Malaysia.*”¹³⁰ The Bruno Manser Fund has discovered at least 90 companies that Jamilah is connected with in Malaysia. She has shares in the Royal Mulu Resort, logging giants WTK and Samling Global,¹³¹ and is a major shareholder of Sarawak’s largest company, Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad.¹³² Jamilah also owns Malaysia’s fashion and lifestyle magazine, “*Tell*”.¹³³

¹²⁶ Video Interview with Taib Mahmud – March 2011. Video can be viewed here http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkd6JdIyt_w Published 22.05.11 Viewed 27.08.12.

¹²⁷ California Secretary of State: *Business Entity: Sakti International Corporation. Entity Number – C1195976*. Extracted 12.02.11.

¹²⁸ Global News Canada: *Family Trees*, Aired 02.12.11 - <http://www.globalnews.ca/pages/story.aspx?id=6442534421>.

¹²⁹ Australian Securities and Investments Commission: *Sitehost Pty Ltd – Company No. 005169328*. Extracted 25.03.10.

¹³⁰ Global News Canada: *Family Trees*, Aired 02.12.11 - <http://www.globalnews.ca/pages/story.aspx?id=6442534421>.

¹³¹ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Plieran Sdn. Bhd. Companies Commission of Malaysia – Company No. 120985-K*. Extracted 21.10.11.

¹³² Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Majaharta Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 244011-X*. Extracted 04.04.11

¹³³ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Tell Media Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 728021-W*. Extracted 14.10.11

9.9 Mahmud Abu Bekir Taib (“Bekir”) – Son

Birth - 03-11-1963

IC Number - 631103-13-5057

Spouse - 1st wife - Shahnaz Abdul Majid (divorced 2011)
- 2nd wife - Russian with two children

Children – Raden Murya Abdul Taib Mahmud, Celestia Lulua Mahmud Abu Bekir (died 2009)

Estimated net worth –USD 1.5 billion



Global business

Malaysia: Major player in the Sarawak construction, property and energy sector. A director of 17 companies and a shareholder of another 67 companies.

Australia: Major shareholder of Sitehost Pty Ltd, the owner of the Adelaide Hilton hotel.

Canada: Founding director of Ottawa-based Sakto Development Corporation.

United States: Founding director and shareholder of the California-based Sakti International Corporation.

Mahmud Abu Bekir studied at Ashbury College in Ottawa, Canada, before a degree course in Finance at the University of San Francisco, US.¹³⁴ In 2010, The [Malaysian] Star named Mahmud as one of „Sarawak’s Shakers“¹³⁵

In May 2011, Mahmud Abu Bekir divorced his wife, Datin Shahnaz Abdul Majid, after the couple had not lived together for 11 years.¹³⁶ Shahnaz is claiming for assets of 400 million Malaysian Ringgit (USD 131 million).¹³⁷ During a teary court tribunal Shahnaz described how she was subjected to emotional and physical abuse from her husband.¹³⁸ Shahnaz claims that she and Bekir own thousands of hectares of land in Sarawak, and land in Bukit Tunku in Kuala Lumpur. They also have at least seven luxury cars that include Lamborghini, Ferrari, Bentley and Maserati models. The couple also possess assets in the form of savings, money in the Employees Provident Fund and Amanah Saham Bumiputera units.¹³⁹

Mahmud is Group Deputy Chairman and major shareholder of Sarawak’s largest private company, Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad.¹⁴⁰ CMS has received some of the state’s largest contracts including the construction of the State Legislative Assembly building in Kuching¹⁴¹ and maintenance of Sarawak’s roads for fifteen years.¹⁴² At the age of 24, Mahmud was a founding director of Sakti International Corporation, a Taib family U.S property development company which was founded in 1987.¹⁴³ He has shares in Australia’s prominent company, Sitehost Pty Ltd, whose holdings include the five-star Adelaide Hilton hotel.¹⁴⁴ The Bruno Manser Fund has identified at least 84 companies in Malaysia that Mahmud Abu Bekir is associated with either as a director or shareholder.¹⁴⁵

Between 2009 and 2011, Mahmud Abu Bekir has been handed over 70,000 hectares of Native Customary Rights land in Sarawak, totalling the size of Singapore, for no payment

¹³⁴ Siva Kumar G.: *Taib: Vision for Sarawak, Kuching*: Jacamar, 1991

¹³⁵ The Star [Malaysia]: *Sarawak’s Shakers*, 27.03.10.

¹³⁶ Bernama – Malaysian National News Agency: *Taib’s son Abu Bekir divorces wife Shahnaz Abdul Majid*, 11.05.11.

¹³⁷ M. Mageswari: *Wife seeks RM400mil from Taib Mahmud’s son*, The Star [Malaysia], 10.03.11.

¹³⁸ Hafiz Yatim: *Taib’s son told to list assets within seven days*, Malaysiakini, 12.03.12.

¹³⁹ Aidila Razak: *Taib to be summoned in son’s divorce case*, Malaysiakini, 17.10.11.

¹⁴⁰ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*.

¹⁴¹ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2009*.

¹⁴² Michael Backman: *Being well connected goes a long way for some in Malaysia*, in: The Age, 15.05.03.

¹⁴³ Action by unanimous written consent of the Board of Directors of Sakti International Corporation, 08.04.88

¹⁴⁴ Australian Services and Investments Commission: *Sitehost Pty Ltd. Company No. 005169328*. Extracted 25.03.10

¹⁴⁵ See http://www.stop-timber-corruption.org/resources/BMF_Research_Companies_linked_to_Malaysian_Taib_family.pdf.

whatsoever.¹⁴⁶ In 2000, the Sarawak cabinet approved a state contract worth RM551 million (USD 181 million) directly to Mahmud's company, Titanium Management. This contract allowed Titanium to „*repair or replace 384 old bridges in the state over 7 years.*“¹⁴⁷ With a cost overrun of 72% from the original cost, the Malaysian 2006 Auditor General's report stated that the terms in the contract favored the contractor.¹⁴⁸ Mahmud has shares in logging giants WTK and Samling Global, is chairman and shareholder of Sarawak Cable Berhad¹⁴⁹, former shareholder of UBG Berhad and was a founder of Sarawak Securities, the first stock-broking company in Sarawak.¹⁵⁰ He is rumoured to stand in the next election for parliament as part of his father's political party, Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB).¹⁵¹

¹⁴⁶ Sarawak Report: *As Much As You Want For Free My Son!*, 05.02.11.

¹⁴⁷ Joseph Tawie: *Taib's son awarded millions in govt contracts*, Free Malaysia Today, 07.11.11.

¹⁴⁸ Jabatan Audit Negara Malaysia: *Activiti dan Kajian Khas Kementerian/Jabatan/Agensi Kerajaan Negeri Sarawak Tahun 2006*

¹⁴⁹ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Sarawak Cable Berhad. Company No. 456400-V*. Extracted 14.10.11.

¹⁵⁰ Director Profile for Y Bhg Dato Sri Mahmud Abu Bekir Taib on Cahaya Mata Sarawak Berhad website. Viewed 06.08.12

¹⁵¹ Free Malaysia Today: *Taib's son or a local for Kota Samarahan?*, 18.04.12.

9.10 Sulaiman Abdul Rahman Taib (“Sulaiman”) – Son

Birth - 31-05-1968

IC Number - 680531-13-5169

Spouse - Anisa Hamidah Chan

Children - yes

Estimated net worth –US \$ 300 million

Global business

Malaysia: Director of two companies and shareholder of another 60 companies.



United States: Chairman of Wallysons Inc., a single asset company that owns the Abraham Lincoln Building in Seattle, Washington state, the seat of the FBI's Seattle field office. Long-term director and shareholder of Sakti International Corporation.

Australia: Major shareholder of Sitehost Pty Ltd., Adelaide.

Sulaiman studied at the University of San Francisco, U.S, majoring in International Studies and Economics. He met his wife Anisa Chan whilst studying there and they married in Quebec in 1990.¹⁵² Anisa is the daughter of the former deputy Chief Minister of Sarawak, George Chan. In 2008, Sulaiman took over his father's seat as Kota Samarahan MP but was rarely seen in parliament or by the public. He is the former deputy tourism minister of Malaysia but resigned his post in 2009 for “*personal reasons*” Sulaiman has been frequently spotted in England, and was last spotted at the Taib family residence in London, the grandiose „*Hampshire House*“ one of London's most expensive addresses overlooking Hyde Park.¹⁵³

In Kuala Lumpur, in 2003 a police report was lodged by Malaysian TV personality Avaa Vanja Ramli against Sulaiman for allegedly being kicked in the abdomen, punched and strangled by him. Despite a police report being made, there was a news black-out in Malaysia. This is not the only accusation of assault against the Chief Ministers son, it is widely reported that Sulaiman has assaulted his former wife Anisa.¹⁵⁴

Sulaiman's lavish lifestyle has been frequently reported. In 2010, a former college friend stated that he “*had a new car every few weeks,*” including an old K-type Mercedes Benz worth over a million US dollars, an SL Gullwing, Ferrari 355 spider, Rolls Royce Corniche and Maserati Kamsin“. ¹⁵⁵

When US property development company, Sakti International Corporation, was incorporated in California in 1987, Sulaiman was just 19 years old but was appointed director and shareholder nevertheless.¹⁵⁶ He later went on to succeed his brother, Mahmud, as sole officer of the company. Sulaiman is Chairman of Wallysons Inc. in Washington state, US, and in 2008 was listed as a shareholder of the company. Wallysons' portfolio includes the Abraham Lincoln building which houses Seattle's FBI counter terrorism unit and demands full security clearance to enter the facility. In 2011, US-based NGO, The Borneo Project, launched an online petition to “*Stop the FBI from Supporting Corruption In Sarawak*”,¹⁵⁷ but to date the FBI has yet to respond.

¹⁵² Siva Kumar G.: *Taib: Vision for Sarawak, Kuching*: Jacamar, 1991.

¹⁵³ Sarawak Report: ‘*Hide Park*’! – *The Taibs*’ London Bolthole, 14.11.10.

¹⁵⁴ Malaysiakini: *Sarawak CM's son may be charged with assault*, 30.04.03 Viewed 06.08.12

¹⁵⁵ Kevin C. Limjoko: *The Bugatti Review – The Philippines' Lost Opportunity* – Volume 7, Issue 4 [undated].

¹⁵⁶ *Action by unanimous written consent of the Board of Directors of Sakti International Corporation*, 08.04.88.

¹⁵⁷ The Borneo Project. Online petition to Laura M. Laughlin, Special Agent in Charge of FBI Seattle Division: *Stop the FBI from Supporting Corruption in Sarawak*. Petition launched 2011

Sulaiman has further assets in Australia through the Taib family company Sitehost Pty Ltd which owns the five-star Hilton hotel in Adelaide.¹⁵⁸ The Bruno Manser Fund has identified at least 68 companies that Sulaiman is connected to in Malaysia.¹⁵⁹

Among other roles, he is former non-executive director and current shareholder of Sarawak's largest company, CMS, has shares in logging giants WTK and Samling and battery manufacturer ABM Fujiya Berhad.¹⁶⁰ He became the youngest former chairman of RHB Bank before being mysteriously removed from his post in 2005.¹⁶¹

¹⁵⁸ Australian Services and Investments Commission: *Sitehost Pty Ltd. Company No. 005169328*. Extracted 25.03.10

¹⁵⁹ http://www.stop-timber-corruption.org/resources/BMF_Research_Companies_linked_to_Malaysian_Taib_family.pdf.

¹⁶⁰ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *ABM Fujiya Berhad. Company No. 628324-W*. Extracted 25.03.10

¹⁶¹ Stephanie Phang: *Bank Negara rejects second term for Sulaiman as RHB chairman*, Bloomberg, 03.08.05.

9.11 Hanifah Hajar Taib-Alsree (“Hanifah”) – Daughter

Birth - 28-08-1972

IC Number - 720828-14-5126

Spouse - Syed Ahmad Alwee Alsree

Children - yes



Estimated net worth – USD 400 million

Global business

Malaysia: Director of 16 companies and shareholder of another 90 Malaysian companies. Exerts influence over the press in Sarawak.

Australia: Major shareholder of Sitehost Pty Ltd.

Hanifah is the youngest child of Taib Mahmud. She studied at St. Teresa's Secondary School, Kuching, Sarawak, and the Universiti Teknologi Mara, Malaysia, before pursuing an undergraduate programme in Singapore.¹⁶² She is a member of the Lim Kok Wing University Sarawak Governing Council.

In August 2000, Hanifah married Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree, a former lawyer from Singapore. 3,000 guests attended the “lavish” affair in Kuching, which was named “wedding of the year”¹⁶³ Hanifah's husband Syed Ahmad has greatly benefited from his marriage into the Taib family. He has been a director of Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad since 2006 and deputy chairman at UBG Berhad and Loh and Loh Corporation Berhad since 2008. He became director of K&N Kenanga Holdings Berhad in 2009.¹⁶⁴ Hanifah is a shareholder of the Taib family company Sitehost Pty Ltd in Australia whose portfolio includes the five star “Adelaide Hilton” hotel.¹⁶⁵

She is a major shareholder of Sarawak's largest company Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad, which has been granted some of Sarawak's biggest state contracts. These include the 195 million Ringgit (USD 64 million) construction contract for The Borneo Convention Center¹⁶⁶, huge benefits from “The Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy” (SCORE) and is widely regarded as having a monopoly on cement and other construction materials in the state.¹⁶⁷ Hanifah is a director of Premier Cottage Sdn. Bhd. which is in a joint-venture with CMS to develop the “Kuching Isthmus”, one of Sarawak's most lucrative property developments.¹⁶⁸ The Bruno Manser Fund has identified at least 106 companies that Hanifah is associated with in Malaysia.¹⁶⁹

In a state where the media are strongly controlled, Taib has taken care to ensure his family have a strong influence over all aspects of mainstream media. Hanifah is a director and shareholder of the only private radio station in Sarawak, CATS FM,¹⁷⁰ and is a director of the New Sarawak Tribune newspaper, which is owned by Taib's cousin, Hamed Sepawi.¹⁷¹ In 2010, it was reported that Hanifah responded viciously when former editor of the paper, Paul Si, published an article on the front page about the possibility of Taib stepping down. The Malaysian Insider stated, “Hanifah has now taken editorial control of the paper and is now personally approving all the stories”.¹⁷² Si was subsequently suspended and later sacked as a result.

¹⁶² Siva Kumar G.: *Taib: Vision for Sarawak*, Kuching: Jacamar, 1991.

¹⁶³ Letitia Samuel: *Sarawak's Wedding of the Year*, New Straits Times, 14.08.10.

¹⁶⁴ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography - Tuan Syed Ahmad Alwee Alsree

¹⁶⁵ Australian Services and Investments Commission: *Sitehost Pty Ltd. Company No. 005169328*. Extracted 25.03.10

¹⁶⁶ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2009*, p.14.

¹⁶⁷ David Walter Brown: *Why Governments Fail to Capture Economic Rent: The Unofficial Appropriation of Rainforest Rent by Rulers in Insular Southeast Asia Between 1970 and 1999*, ph.D. University of Washington, 2001.

¹⁶⁸ Joseph Tawie: *All contracts on Isthmus went to Taib's family*, Free Malaysia Today, 06.02.12; Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Premier Cottage Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 677270-V*. Extracted 12.10.11

¹⁶⁹ http://www.stop-timber-corruption.org/resources/BMF_Research_Companies_linked_to_Malaysian_Taib_family.pdf.

¹⁷⁰ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Kristal Harta Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 279832-U*. Extracted 29.09.11.

¹⁷¹ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Tribune Press Sdn. Bhd Company No. 719095-V*. Extracted 15.09.11.

¹⁷² The Malaysian Insider: *Taib's family suspends New Sarawak Tribune Editor*, 02.09.10.

Hanifah has shares in luxury watch manufacturer Cortina Watch (Sarawak)¹⁷³, Royal Mulu Resort, Miri Marriott hotel and the Kuching Isthmus development project.¹⁷⁴ She also has shares in logging giants Samling Global, WTK and Sanyan.¹⁷⁵ She is a shareholder of the industrial gas supplier, SIG Gases Berhad, whilst her husband is a director of the company.¹⁷⁶ Hanifah was previously a major shareholder of investment company UBG Berhad.¹⁷⁷

9.12 Mohamad Ali bin Mahmud (“Ali”) – Brother of Taib

Birth – 21-12-1950

IC Number - 501221-13-5343

Spouse – Fatimah Mohamad

Children - Latifah Mohammad Ali, Liza binti Mohd Ali

Estimated net worth – USD 20 million

Global business

Mohamad Ali Mahmud is Sarawak (BN-PBB) State Assemblyman for Muara Tuang. He is also Supreme Executive Council Member (Bumiputera/PBB) for 2010/2013.¹⁷⁸ In 2007, Mohamad Ali was given 5,000 hectares of land in Sri Aman for palm oil plantation from his brother Taib. The company granted land was Tabaruk Abadi Sdn. Bhd.¹⁷⁹ His wife has 13,000 shares in the company, whilst the address is the same as Mohamad Ali Holdings Sdn. Bhd, his family company.¹⁸⁰ Mohamad Ali Holdings has shares in at least twelve Taib family ventures in Malaysia.¹⁸¹

9.13 Amar Hajar Fredahanum Mahmud (“Fredahanum”) – Sister of Taib

Birth – 25-12-1953

IC Number – 531225-13-5380

Spouse – Abdul Aziz bin Haji Hussain

Children – Faizal bin Abdul Aziz, Khairul Arifin bin Abdul Aziz

Estimated net worth – USD 10 million.

Global Business – Malaysia: Director of six companies and major shareholder of another four companies.

Fredahanum Mahmud is a director of Achi Jaya Transportation Sdn. Bhd. (formerly known as Archipelago Shipping and CMS Transportation), which controls shipping exports in Sarawak.¹⁸² She is married to Abdul Aziz bin Haji Hussain who is the former Sarawak state secretary and former CEO of Sarawak Energy Berhad.¹⁸³ Fredahanum is personally connected to at least ten companies in Malaysia through her position as director or shareholder.¹⁸⁴

¹⁷³ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Cortina Watch (Sarawak) Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 82359-H*. Extracted 30.09.11.

¹⁷⁴ Sarawak Report: *Sean Murray's Kuching Construction Connection*, 04.11.11.

¹⁷⁵ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Sanyan Wood Industries Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 222248-T*. Extracted 19.09.11

¹⁷⁶ SIG Gases Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*.

¹⁷⁷ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *UBG Berhad. Company No. 240931-X*. Extracted 22.09.11.

¹⁷⁸ Sarawak Page: *Dato' Seri Mohamad Ali Mahmud (N.15 Muara Tuang)*, 28.03.11. Viewed 06.08.12

¹⁷⁹ Leaked palm oil concession data from Lands and Surveys Department Sarawak – Published 19.03.11. Viewed 06.08.12. Can be viewed at the following link: <http://map.sarawakreport.org/data.html>

¹⁸⁰ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Tabaruk Abadi Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 330809-K*.

¹⁸¹ http://www.stop-timber-corruption.org/resources/BMF_Research_Companies_linked_to_Malaysian_Taib_family.pdf.

¹⁸² Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Achi Jaya Transportation Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 108302-X*. Extracted 15.12.10.

¹⁸³ See profile of Abdul Aziz bin Haji Hussain.

¹⁸⁴ http://www.stop-timber-corruption.org/resources/BMF_Research_Companies_linked_to_Malaysian_Taib_family.pdf.

9.14 Aisah Zainab Mahmud (“Zainab”) - Sister of Taib

Birth – 05-01-1947

IC Number – 470105-13-5320

Spouse – 1st – Adenan Satem, 2nd – Unknown, 3rd – John Fairbairn, 4th and current - Ruhanie Ahmad

Estimated net worth – Unknown

Global businesses – Malaysia: Director of 5 companies and shareholder of another 9 companies.

Australia: Zaleha and her husband, John Fairbairn, held a holding company, Furness Holdings Pty Ltd., which has been deregistered.

9.15 Zaleha Mahmud (“Zaleha”) – Sister of Taib

Birth – 19-09-1949

IC Number – 490919-13-5416

Spouse – Salleh Abdullah

Estimated net worth – USD 10 million

Global businesses – Director of four companies and shareholder of another four companies in Malaysia.

9.16 Sean Patrick Murray (“Sean”) @ Mohammad Nor Hisham Murray – Son-in-law of Taib – Husband of Jamilah Taib-Murray

Birth – 17-01-1963

Passport Number – BC200065 (Canada)

Spouse – Jamilah Hamidah Taib-Murray

Children – Laila Jane Murray, Jeffery Malek Murray, Omar Patrick Murray

Website: <http://www.sean-murray.org>



Estimated net worth - USD 10 million

Global businesses

Canada: President and CEO of the Ottawa-based Sakto Corporation (www.sakto.com) and a number of its associated companies.

United States: Managing director of six known Taib family-owned US property companies. President of Wallysons Inc., a single asset company that owns the FBI Seattle field office premises.

Australia: Director (but not shareholder) of Sitehost Pty Ltd., the owner of the Adelaide Hilton hotel.

United Kingdom: Chairman of Ridgeford Properties Ltd. (www.ridgeford.com), a London developer with significant properties in central London.

Sean Murray is a Canadian National of Irish origin from Ottawa.¹⁸⁵ Sean studied at Ashbury College, Canada, before studying at Carleton University, Canada¹⁸⁶ where he met Jamilah. Sean married Jamilah in 1987 in Kuching.¹⁸⁷ Sean lives with his wife, Jamilah, in a mansion in Rockcliffe Park, which was named “*the city’s second most expensive house in 2009*.”¹⁸⁸ Sean and Jamilah are often seen partying with Ottawa’s elite, including Ottawa Mayor Larry O’Brien and his wife.¹⁸⁹

“Sean began his real estate career in 1986”,¹⁹⁰ shortly before he married Jamilah. In 1983, Sakto Development Corporation, a property development company was set up by Taib’s brother Onn Mahmud, son Mahmud Abu Bekir and daughter Jamilah in Canada.¹⁹¹ Sean is now President of Sakto and a number of associated companies in Canada and the UK.¹⁹² Taib family members set up Sakti International Corporation in the United States in 1987. Sean took over the management of US property developer, Sakti International from Taib’s son Sulaiman in 2005.¹⁹³ Leaked documents from former Sakti International Vice President, Ross Boyert, are showing that it is a separate, private deal that ensures that half of Sakti’s shares „are held in trust for the Chief Minister“.¹⁹⁴ Sakto’s sister company in the UK, Ridgeford Properties, was set up in London in 1996 and is managed by Sean and family members.¹⁹⁵

In 2011, Sean and Jamilah hired top lawyers in the UK to declare that “Sakto, Sakti and Ridgeford are not funded by Taib Mahmud.”¹⁹⁶ But in 2011, Taib contradicted these claims in

¹⁸⁵ Andrew Aeria: *Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak 1970-2000*, ph.D., London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, 2002.

¹⁸⁶ LinkedIn profile for Sean Murray. Viewed 03.09.12

¹⁸⁷ Siva Kumar G: *Taib: Vision for Sarawak, Kuching*: Jacamar, 1991.

¹⁸⁸ Michael Prentice: *Rockcliffe 'palace' Ottawa's No. 2 home*, The Ottawa Citizen, 19.01.09.

¹⁸⁹ *An Emerald Evening Cocktail Reception 2010*. Hosted by Sean and Jamilah at their Ottawa mansion. <http://www.siegelproductions.ca/ottawarocks/emerald2010.htm>.

¹⁹⁰ LinkedIn profile for Sean Murray. Viewed 03.09.12

¹⁹¹ Sarawak Report: *Exclusive! Taib's Foreign Property Portfolio*. Published 15.06.10 Viewed 03.09.12

¹⁹² Industry Canada: *Sakto Corporation* (Corporation Number – 340439). Extracted 2011

¹⁹³ San Francisco Superior Courts, 06.02.07: *Ross J. Boyert Vs Sakti International Corporation, Inc., A et al.*: Case Number – CGC-07-460255

¹⁹⁴ *Action by unanimous written consent of the Board of Directors of Sakti International Corp.* 08.04.88 Signed by Onn Mahmud, Arip Mahmud and Mahmud Taib.

¹⁹⁵ Website of Ridgeford Properties Limited, www.ridgeford.com. Viewed 03.09.12.

¹⁹⁶ Legal Statement by Jamilah’s lawyer, Mishcon de Reya, to Global News Canada, 29.11.11.

a video statement that was posted online, in the video he states; “*It started 20 to 30 years ago. I gave money to my daughter...I got a gratuity and gave some money to her to start a new business, it thrived.... it is a property development company.... it got successful and from successful they go do business in London.*”¹⁹⁷ In December 2011, Canada’s Global News television ran an investigative piece in their prime-time 16x9 show focusing on Sean and Jamilah’s property portfolio in Canada, USA and London. Despite being approached by the show, the couple refused to be interviewed.¹⁹⁸

Sean is also a director of Taib family-owned Sitehost Pty Ltd in Australia¹⁹⁹ whose portfolio includes the five-star *Hilton* hotel in Adelaide. Sean is a director of Premier Cottage Sdn. Bhd²⁰⁰, which has been granted one of Sarawak’s most lucrative property developments, the “*Kuching Isthmus*”.²⁰¹ The sole shareholder of Premier Cottage is a foreign company, “*Pioneer City Enterprises Limited*”, which supplies no profile or country address, despite having been awarded a significant public project.²⁰²

On his website, Sean Murray also mentions that he has built a hotel in Poznan, Poland, in the early 1990s. Hitherto, we have not been able to identify the aforementioned hotel which is likely to be owned by the Taibs.²⁰³

¹⁹⁷ Video interview with Taib Mahmud, March 2011. The video can be viewed here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zkd6JdIyt_w Published 22.05.11. Viewed 27.08.12

¹⁹⁸ Global News Canada: *Family Trees*, aired 02.12.11 - <http://www.globalnews.ca/pages/story.aspx?id=6442534421>

¹⁹⁹ Australian Services and Investments Commission: *Sitehost Pty Ltd. Company No. 005169328*. Extracted 25.03.10

²⁰⁰ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Premier Cottage Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 677270-V*. Extracted 12.10.11

²⁰¹ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Joint Venture Agreement*, Bursa Malaysia General Announcement, 01.10.12.

²⁰² Sarawak Report: *Sean Murray’s Kuching Construction Connection*, 04.04.11 Viewed 03.09.12

²⁰³ <http://www.sean-murray.org/about-sean-murray>. Accessed 15 September 2012.

9.17 Robert Geneid – Brother in-law of Taib – Husband of Raziah Mahmud

Birth – 21-12-1954

IC Number – 541221-83-5039

Spouse – Raziah @ Rodiah binti Mahmud

Children – Elia Geneid Sutter, Esha Abas Geneid, Amira Geneid, Ewan Saufi Abas, Mo Geneid, Alia Geneid, Aishah Geneid

Website: www.robertgeneid.net



Estimated net worth – USD 10 million.

Global businesses

Malaysia: Director and shareholder in a number of companies active in the property and tourism sector, together with his wife Raziah.

Australia: Director and major shareholder of Geneid Holdings Pty Ltd and Ostgro Australia Pty Ltd, an ostrich farm operator in West-Australia that is believed to be secretly owned by the Taib family.

Robert Geneid was born in Sydney, Australia, and is a permanent resident of Malaysia. He graduated with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from the University of New South Wales, Sydney and with a Bachelor of Law from the same university. Robert Geneid was appointed to the board of directors for Tourism Malaysia in August 2009.²⁰⁴ Robert has also acted as advisor to several multinational corporations seeking investment opportunities in Sarawak.²⁰⁵ He is a director of the Sarawak Convention Bureau.²⁰⁶ Insiders have revealed that the Chief Minister's spiritual medium, Karleen Tashman (also known as "Stella"), is the cousin of Robert Geneid.²⁰⁷ Robert Geneid is also responsible for introducing Taib to his second wife, Ragad Waleed Al-Kurdi. In a wedding speech Taib's eldest son Mahmud Bekir stated, "It was Robert's cousin Iqbal who introduced Puan Sri to my father."²⁰⁸

In 2005, Robert Geneid and his wife Raziah were handed 12,000 ha of land in Mukah and Ulu Balingian, Sarawak. The land for palm oil plantation was granted to Raziah/Robert owned Miracle Harvest Sdn. Bhd.²⁰⁹ three weeks before the company had even been incorporated. Robert Geneid is the managing director and a major shareholder of "Royal Mulu Resort"²¹⁰ and the "Miri Marriott Resort & Spa" in Sarawak. The construction of the "Royal Mulu Resort" was responsible for the forced acquisition of Native Customary land from the indigenous Berawan people of Sarawak.²¹¹

Geneid is Executive Director and a major shareholder of Kumpulan Parabena Sdn. Bhd.²¹², which has received large construction contracts on behalf of Taib.²¹³ He is a director and shareholder of CMS Premix (Miri),²¹⁴ a subsidiary of the Taib flagship company, Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad. He is a director and shareholder of "Al Amar Lebanese Cuisine"²¹⁵ in Kuala Lumpur and holds stakes in the companies Geneid Holdings Pty Ltd and Ostgro Australia Pty Ltd²¹⁶ in Australia.

²⁰⁴ Official website of Tourism Malaysia, www.tourism.gov.my. Viewed 06.08.12

²⁰⁵ Media release by the Director, Communications & Publicity Division, Tourism Malaysia: *Two new members for Tourism Malaysia Board of Directors*, August 2009.

²⁰⁶ Official website of Sarawak Convention Bureau, www.sarawakcb.com. Viewed 06.08.12

²⁰⁷ Sarawak Report: *Bomoh Stella is Robert Geneid's Cousin – Exclusive on Mahmud Family Crisis*, 13.04.11 Viewed 16.08.12.

²⁰⁸ Geryl Ogilvy Ruekeith: *A Truly Glittering Wedding Reception*, The Borneo Post, 16.01.11.

²⁰⁹ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Miracle Harvest Sdn. Bhd. – Company No. 700310-A*. Extracted 17.08.11.

²¹⁰ Andrew Aeria: *Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak 1970-2000*, ph.D., London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, 2002. See Chapter 5.6 *The Royal Mulu Resort: A "Rare Jewel in the Jungle"*

²¹¹ Andrew Aeria: *Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak 1970-2000*, ph.D., London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, 2002. See Chapter 5.6 *The Royal Mulu Resort: A "Rare Jewel in the Jungle"*

²¹² Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Kumpulan Parabena Sdn Bhd. Company No. 92963-U*. Extracted 17.08.11

²¹³ Sarawak Report: *Taib's Entrepreneurship in Miri – Corruption Revealed!*, 25.02.11. Viewed 04.09.12

²¹⁴ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *CMS Premix (Miri) Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 218541-T*. Extracted 26.09.11.

²¹⁵ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Al Amar Lebanese Cuisine Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 691912-K*. Extracted 22.03.11

²¹⁶ Australian Services and Investments Commission: *Geneid Holdings Pty – Company No. 087759751*. Extracted 21.09.10 and *Ostgro Australia Pty – Company No. 094721070*. Extracted 21.09.10.

9.18 Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree – Son in-law of Taib – Husband of Hanifah Hajar Taib

Birth – Unknown

Passport Number – E2481206C (Singapore)

Spouse – Hanifah Hajar Taib

Children – Yes

Estimated net worth – USD 20 million

Global businesses

Malaysia: As a director of Cahya Mata Sarawak (CMS) and K&N Kenanga Holdings, Syed Ahmad is a major player in the Sarawak construction sector and the Malaysian finance industry. No known recent business activities outside Malaysia.



Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree holds a Bachelor of Law degree from National University of Singapore. He was a Partner at Messrs Billy & Alsree Advocates & Solicitors from 1999 to 2003, at Messrs Alsree Rudy & Chan Advocates & Solicitors from 1997 to 1999, and at Messrs Billy Ng Chua & Partners Advocates & Solicitors from 1996 to 1997.²¹⁷

In August 2000, he married Hanifah Taib.²¹⁸ Malaysian media named him as one of “Sarawak’s Shakers” in 2010, alongside Taib’s son, Mahmud Abu Bekir.²¹⁹

Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree joined the Taib family flagship company, Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad, in 2004, where he served as Group General Manager of Human Resources. In 2006 he became Deputy Group Managing Director and is currently Executive Director of the company.²²⁰ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad is at least 80% owned by the Taib family²²¹ and is widely regarded as having a cement monopoly over the state.²²² CMS has been awarded some of the state’s largest contracts including the construction of the State Legislative Assembly building in Kuching.²²³ He serves as a Director at CMS Foundation, CMS Global (BVI) Ltd., CMS I-Systems Berhad, CMS Works International Ltd., and CMS Works International (China) Ltd. and as Chairman and Non-Independent Director at CMS Trust Management Berhad.²²⁴

Alwee-Alsree has been Deputy Chairman of K&N Kenanga Holdings Berhad since 2009, a company, which CMS has major shares in.²²⁵ He is also a director of KKB Engineering Berhad, which has received vast contracts from the Sarawak government including the proposed infrastructural works at Samalaju Industrial Park, Sarawak.²²⁶ He is a director of industrial gas supplier SIG Gases Berhad, which his wife Hanifah has major shares in.²²⁷ He is also the former Deputy Chairman of UBG Berhad²²⁸ and Loh & Loh Corporation Berhad²²⁹, both companies that the Taib family previously had shares in. He is a former director of RHB Bank,²³⁰ a company where Taib’s son Sulaiman was previously chairman.

²¹⁷ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography – Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree. Viewed 04.09.12

²¹⁸ Letitia Samuel: *Sarawak’s Wedding of the Year*, New Straits Times, 14.08.10.

²¹⁹ The Star [Malaysia]: *Sarawak’s Shakers*, 27.03.10.

²²⁰ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography – Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree. Viewed 04.09.12

²²¹ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*.

²²² Andrew Aeria: *Politics, Business, The State and Development in Sarawak 1970-2000*, ph.D., London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, 2002. “See Chapter 5.4 “Cahya Mata Sarawak Bhd.: The Financial and Infrastructural Conglomerate of Sarawak and beyond”

²²³ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2009*.

²²⁴ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography – Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree. Viewed 04.09.12

²²⁵ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *K&N Kenanga Holdings Berhad. Company No. 302859-X*. Extracted 06.09.11

²²⁶ CIDB Directories: *List of contracts given to KKB Engineering Berhad in Malaysia*.

http://www.cidb.gov.my/directory/local_contractor_details.php?cont_id=45719 Viewed 04.09.12

²²⁷ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *SIG Gases Berhad. Company No. 875083-W*.

²²⁸ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *UBG Berhad. Company No. 240931*. Extracted 22.09.11.

²²⁹ Loh & Loh Corporation Berhad: *Annual Report 2009*.

²³⁰ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography – Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree. Viewed 04.09.12

9.19 Abdul Aziz bin Haji Husain (“Aziz”) – Brother-in-law of Taib Mahmud and husband of Amar Hajah Fredahanum Mahmud

Birth- 18-07-1950

IC Number – 500718-13-5141

Spouse – Amar Hajar Fredahanum Mahmud

Children – Faizal bin Abdul Aziz, Khairul Arifin bin Abdul Aziz

Estimated net worth – USD 20 million.

Global business – Malaysia: Director-cum-shareholder of plywood producer Eksons Corporation Bhd. and at least two further Malaysian companies. No known foreign business activities



Abdul Aziz bin Haji Husain holds a Bachelor of Economics in Business Administration from University of Malaya, Malaysia, and a Master of Business Administration in Finance from Syracuse University, USA. Husain has been appointed to some of the most powerful job positions in Sarawak thanks to his brother-in-law, the Chief Minister. Abdul Aziz is the former State Secretary of Sarawak (2000-2006) Previous positions include; Permanent Secretary of Ministry for Infrastructure Development, Deputy Chairman of Sarawak Economic Development Corporation (SEDC) and Assistant Secretary of State Planning Unit.²³¹

According to US economist David Walter Brown, Masba Holdings Sdn Bhd, a company owned by Aziz Hussain and Taib’s sister, Fredahanum, held a 5% share in Achipelago Shipping (documents obtained in 1996).²³² At the time, shipping of all Sarawak’s timber exports went through Archipelago Shipping. The company has since changed its name to CMS Transportation (becoming part of the Taib flagship company Cahya Mata Sarawak) and finally to Achi Jaya Transportation Sdn Bhd. To date, Fredahanum Mahmud is a director of the company and Onn Mahmud is the sole shareholder.²³³

Abdul Aziz Husain served as the CEO of Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) from 2007-2009.²³⁴ Prior to this, he acted as SEB company director from 2005. SEB controls the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity throughout the whole of Sarawak.²³⁵ Sarawak Energy Berhad is not only responsible for electricity generation and transmission but also for the development of highly controversial hydroelectric dams in Sarawak which are set to displace tens of thousands of Sarawak’s indigenous peoples.²³⁶ The sole shareholder of SEB is the State Financial Secretary,²³⁷ an official who reports to Taib Mahmud as Minister of Finance.

Abdul Aziz has been director of Eksons Corporation Berhad since 2007 and is a major shareholder of the company along with two of Taib’s nephews.²³⁸ According to their website, Eksons is the “largest manufacturer of tropical thin plywood in the Asia Pacific region” The company has a plywood mill in Sibul, Sarawak, and in the neighbouring Malaysian state of Sabah. The Eksons Group also has investments in property development and property holding. Abdul Aziz is also director of MLabs Berhad,²³⁹ a publically listed software company in Malaysia, and Borneo Housing Mortgage Finance Berhad.

²³¹ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography - Amar Haji Abdul Aziz Bin Dato Haji Husain. Viewed 06.08.12

²³² David Walter Brown: *Why Governments Fail to Capture Economic Rent: The Unofficial Appropriation of Rainforest Rent by Rulers in Insular Southeast Asia Between 1970 and 1999*, ph.D. University of Washington, 2001, p. 205.

²³³ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Achi Jaya Transportation Sdn. Bhd. Company No. 108302-X*. Extracted 15.12.10.

²³⁴ Bloomberg Businessweek: Executive Profile & Biography - Amar Haji Abdul Aziz Bin Dato Haji Husain. Viewed 06.08.12

²³⁵ Official website of Sarawak Energy Berhad, www.sarawakenergy.com. Viewed 06.08.12

²³⁶ See BMF’s Stop Corruption Dams campaign website for more information- <http://stop-corruption-dams.org>.

²³⁷ Companies Commission of Malaysia: *Sarawak Energy Berhad. Company No. 7199-D*. Extracted 01.09.11

²³⁸ Eksons Corporation Berhad: *Annual Reports 2007-2011*.

²³⁹ Official website of MLabs Berhad, www.mlabs.com. Viewed 06.08.12

9.20 Richard Alexander John Curtis – Taib key helper

Birth – 20-11-1951

IC Number – 511120-07-5547

Estimated net worth – USD 20 million

Global business – Malaysia: Key figure of the Taib family business empire through his role as group managing director of Taib family-controlled Cahya Mata Sarawak (CMS) and director of financial services provider K&N Kenanga Holdings.



British lawyer Richard Curtis is the Group Managing Director of the Taib flagship company, Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad. Taib's dead wife, sons and daughters own over 80% of the company,²⁴⁰ which is said to be the largest private company in the state. Richard Curtis is also a director of K&N Kenanga Holdings Berhad and Kenanga Investment Bank Berhad, which Taib's family have major shares in, and are considered to be a joint venture between the Taib family and Deutsche Bank.

Curtis was appointed to the Board of CMSB on 4 September 2006. He graduated with a Bachelor of Law (LL.B.) degree from University of Bristol, UK, and is a Sloan Fellow of the London Business School. He was Chief Executive Officer of The Melium Group, a leading Malaysian retail company, from 1997 to 2000.²⁴¹ He served as Solicitor, working initially with top international law firm, Norton Rose, in London and latterly in-house with Jardine Matheson & Co. in Hong Kong.²⁴²

Richard Curtis is mentioned in this report as he plays a key role as aide of the deeply corrupted Taib family. It is highly likely that Richard Curtis has key inside knowledge on the Taib family's illicit assets and the Taibs' modus operandi. CMS has a track record of receiving untendered public contracts worth millions of dollars and holds a monopoly over cement and other construction materials in Malaysia's largest state. The company has also massively benefited from the Bakun dam construction which has been labelled by Transparency International as a „monument of corruption“²⁴³. Richard Curtis has been named by the Bruno Manser Fund on a blacklist of „Taib's foreign helpers.“

²⁴⁰ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad: *Annual Report 2011*.

²⁴¹ Cahya Mata Sarawak Berhad website, www.cmsb.com.my, viewed 06.08.12

²⁴² Bloomberg Businessweek: *Executive Profile Richard Alexander John Curtis*, viewed 15.09.12.

²⁴³ Press release by the Bruno Manser Fonds: *British Taib aide slams his Malaysian master*, 11.11.11.

Appendix 1: Campaign Timeline

- **18-02-2011** - The Bruno Manser Fund launch the „**Stop Timber Corruption**“ campaign with an online and paper petition asking the international community to *freeze Taib's foreign assets*

- **20-02-2011** - BMF release a “*black list of Taib's secret foreign assets*” comprising 49 companies in 8 countries (Malaysia, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, United States, British Virgin Islands and Jersey)

- **28-02-2011** - Stop Timber Corruption demonstrations take place outside the Taib family-owned property developers **Sakto Corporation** in Canada and **Ridgeford Properties** in London.

- **03-03-2011** - A Stop Timber Corruption demonstration outside the Taib family-owned **Abraham Lincoln Building** in Seattle, United States. The property houses the **FBI's** Northwestern regional headquarters.

- **08-03-2011** - “*Development of global timber tycoons in Sarawak, East Malaysia - History and Company profiles*” report released by Bruno Manser Fund.

- **09-03-2011** - A „Stop Timber Corruption“ demonstration is held outside the Taib family-owned property development company **Sakto International** in San Francisco, United States.

- **15-03-2011** - Adelaide University's Vice Chancellor and President **James McWha** is asked by BMF to step down for accepting large donations on behalf of the University from Chief Minister Taib Mahmud.

- **21-03-2011** - Demonstration outside the Taib family-owned „**Valentine on George Street**“ boutique hotel in Sydney, Australia.

- **25-03-2011** - Demonstrations at the “*Taib Mahmud - Chief Minister of Sarawak Court*” at **Adelaide University**, Australia and at the **Malaysian Embassy in Berne**, Switzerland. The BMF handed over 21,000 signatures to the embassy urging the government to launch a graft probe against the Chief Minister and family.

- **26-03-2011** - Taib celebrates his 30th consecutive year as Chief Minister of Sarawak. A demonstration at the Tasmanian office of Taib family-owned logging company **Ta Ann** marks the event.

- **12-05-2011** - Swiss President Micheline Calmy-Rey alerts Switzerland's money-laundering watchdog FINMA (Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority) over suspected assets of the Chief Minister in Switzerland.

- **10-06-2011** - The Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (**MACC**) announce a graft probe into Sarawak Chief minister Abdul Taib Mahmud over allegations of timber corruption.

- **20-06-2011** - A letter is sent by three NGOs including the Bruno Manser Fund to German Chancellor Angela Merkel asking the government to investigate Taib's close business ties with **Deutsche Bank**.

- **22-06-2011** - With growing public pressure, Taib publically denies having secret Swiss bank accounts during a speech in the Sarawak State Assembly.

30-06-2011 - BMF calls on the Monaco ruler **Prince Albert II** to pay back a controversial 100,000 Euro donation received from Malaysian PM's wife Rosmah Mansor. The fund believes the cheque may have been sponsored by Taib Mahmud who retains close ties with the Prince.

- - **08-08-2011** - BMF and the Australian Greens leader, Senator Bob Brown, call on the **WWF** to suspend the Taib linked **Ta Ann** group's membership in the WWF's Global Forest and Trade Network.

- - **24-08-2011** - In a letter to **FBI** Director Robert Mueller, the BMF and San-Francisco based Borneo Project call on the FBI to cut ties with Taib owned Wallysons Inc. The NGO's ask the American federal police to suspend the rental contracts for the Abraham Lincoln building in Seattle.

- - **11-09-2011** - Germany's Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (**BaFin**) confirms in a response to BMF that it has launched an investigation into **Deutsche Bank** on account of its business relations with the Malaysian Taib family.

- - **15-09-2011** - A letter written by the BMF to Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper is received by several top Canadian politicians. The Department of Justice responds by saying that "those who commit serious capital markets fraud offences will be discovered, investigated, prosecuted and incarcerated"

- - **25-10-2011** - The Bruno Manser Fund names "**Taib's foreign helpers**" Thirty individuals from 9 countries are named and shamed for being business partners, proxies or other helpers of Taib Mahmud.

- - **14-11-2011** - The British government confirm they will be monitoring the Malaysian Anti Corruption Commission's investigation into Taib and have started looking into alleged Taib family money laundering in the UK and British offshore financial centres.

- - **04-12-2011** - The Bruno Manser Fund releases an updated list of Taib-linked companies with **400 companies in 25 countries** holding illicit assets worth several billion US dollars. The assets of the largest 14 companies in Malaysia total **US\$1.4 billion dollars**.

- - **12-12-2011** - Letter written by a coalition of 13 NGOs to Malaysia's Attorney General (AG), the Chief Commissioner of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) and the Inspector General of Police requesting the immediate arrest and prosecution of Taib, his four children, eight siblings and first cousin. A collection of 16 exhibits are sent out and made available online. Copies are sent out to many people including the Prime Minister of Malaysia Najib Razak, US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, Interpol, FBI's Director Robert Mueller, banks and the media worldwide.

- - **17-01-2012** - Leaked land registry records show that companies linked to the Chief Minister have been given close to 200,000 hectares of land for palm oil concessions in Sarawak. The BMF challenges the MACC to take decisive action against the Taib family or they would lodge a complaint against Malaysia with the United Nations.

04-06-2012 - An official complaint is made to the **United Nations** against Malaysia. In a letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, 21 NGOs from nine countries (including the Bruno Manser Fund) call on the United Nations to impose sanctions against Malaysia for the country's systematic breach of its obligations under international anti-corruption and anti-money-laundering treaties.

Appendix 2: Taib Family Overview

No.	Name	Date of Birth	IC/Passport	Relationship
1	Abdul Taib bin Mahmud	21.05.36	360521-13-5015	Chief Minister
2	Lejla Taib Chalecki	01.03.41 (died 29.04.2009)	410301-71-5096	1st wife of No. 1
3	Ragad Waleed Al-Kurdi	1982		2nd wife of No. 1
	Siblings			
4	Ibrahim Mahmud	01.03.43	430301-13-5487	Brother of No. 1
5	Aisah Zainab Mahmud	05.01.47	470105-13-5320	Sister of No. 1
6	Zaleha Mahmud	19.09.49	490919-13-5416	Sister of No. 1
7	Onn bin Mahmud	02.12.49	491202-13-5261	Brother of No. 1
8	Mohamad Ali Mahmud	21.12.50	501221-13-5343	Brother of No. 1
9	Mohd Tufail bin Mahmud	28.09.52	520928-13-5025	Brother of No. 1
10	Amar Hajar Fredahanum Mahmud	25.12.53	531225-13-5380	Sister of No. 1
11	Raziah @ Rodiah binti Mahmud	24.11.55	551124-13-5080	Sister of No. 1
12	Arip bin Mahmud	28.01.57 (died 05.08.05)	570128-13-5225	Brother of No. 1
	In-laws			
13	Hajjah Abdullah			Wife of No. 4
14	Ruhanie Ahmad	12.06.47		4th Husband of No. 5
15	Adenan Satem			1st Husband of No. 5
16	John Fairbairn	07.04.49	B456932 (British)	3rd Husband of No. 5
17	Salleh Abdullah			Husband of No. 6
18	Wira Hajah Halimatun binti Abdul Ghani	03.03.50	500303-04-5478	Wife of No. 7
19	Fatimah Mohamed			Wife of No. 8
20	Suhing Bujang			Wife of No. 9
21	Abdul Aziz bin Haji Husain	01.04.36	360401-01-5473	Husband of No. 10
22	Abu Bakar Baba			2nd Husband of No. 11
23	Robert Geneid	21.12.54	541221-83-5039	3rd Husband of No. 11
24	Liyana Abdullah @ Lily Teo	02.06.68	680602-13-5642	3rd Wife of No. 12
25	Norieda Goh Abdullah @ Kelly Goh Siok Ling	22.04.70	700422-13-5202	2nd Wife of No. 12
26	Azerina Arip @ Gertie Chong Soke Hoon	07.04.61	610407-13-5408	1st Wife of No. 12
	Children and their partners			
27	Jamilah Hamidah Taib Murray	19.09.60	600919-71-5044	Daughter of No. 1
28	Mahmud Abu Bekir Taib	13.11.63	631103-13-5057	Son of No. 1
29	Sulaiman Abdul Rahman Taib	31.05.67	680531-13-5169	Son of No. 1
30	Hanifah Hajar Taib-Alsree	28.08.72	720828-14-5126	Daughter of No. 1
31	Sean Patrick Hisham Murray	17.01.63	BC200065 (Canada)	Husband of No. 27
32	Shahnaz binti Abdul Majid	03.09.63	630903-10-6460	1st Wife of No. 28
33	Anisa Hamidah Chan	13.04.71	710413-13-5074	Wife of No. 29
34	Syed Ahmad Alwee-Alsree		E2481206C (Singapore)	Husband of No. 30
	Other Relatives			
35	Abdul Hamed bin Sepawi	31.05.49	490531-13-5129	1st Cousin of No. 1
36	Anne Elizabeth Gordon-Hamed	08.09.53		Wife of No. 35
37	Mahmud bin Ibrahim			Son of No. 4

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38	Yahya bin Ibrahim	25.12.74	741225-13-5001	Son of No. 4
39	Ahmad Ibrahim			Son of No. 4
40	Siti Hajar Hamidah binti Onn	28.12.79	791228-10-5540	Daughter of No. 7
41	Omar Yakub bin Onn	11.03.84	840311-13-5407	Son of No. 7
42	Liza binti Mohd Ali			Daughter of No. 8
43	Latifah Mohammad Ali			Daughter of No. 8
44	Anita Hamidah Tufail	07.11.72	721107-14-5614	Daughter of No. 9
45	Mohamad Farouk bin Mohamad Tufail	03.04.75	750403-13-5093	Son of No. 9
46	Mohammad Yakub bin Tufail	22.08.77	770822-13-5467	Son of No. 9
47	Faizal bin Abdul Aziz	03.04.75	750403-13-5085	Son of No. 10
48	Khairul Arifin bin Abdul Aziz	25.05.80	800525-13-5561	Son of No. 10
49	Elia Khadijah binti Abas Geneid	11.01.80	800111-10-5792	Daughter of No. 11
50	Ewan Saufi Abas	16.04.78	780416-10-5309	Son of No. 11
51	Esha Noor Iziah binti Abas Geneid	13.10.82	821013-14-6287	Daughter of No. 11
52	Amalina Hamidah binti Mohamad Arip	08.12.86	861208-52-5338	Daughter of No. 12
53	Anisa Hamidah binti Mohd Arip	25.05.88	880528-52-5090	Daughter of No. 12
54	Jeffery Malek Murray	10.05.90		Son of No. 27
55	Omar Patrick Murray	09.03.92		Son of No. 27
56	Laila Jane Murray	20.10.94		Daughter of No. 27
57	Raden Muyra Abdul Taib Mahmud	11.12.93		Son of No. 28

Appendix 3: The Bruno Manser Fund

The Bruno Manser Fund is committed to maintaining the threatened tropical rainforests with their rich plant and animal life, and to campaigning, in particular, for the rights of the peoples who inhabit the rainforests. Given that Bruno Manser, our founder and president for many years, spent several years living with the Penan in the Malaysian federal state of Sarawak on the island of Borneo, our commitment is focused primarily on this people and on protecting the forests of Sarawak.

During his lifetime, Bruno Manser, one of the founders of the Bruno Manser Fund and its president for many years, was the best-known Swiss activist campaigning for the protection of the rainforests and the respect for human rights. Between 1984 and 1990, he lived in Sarawak with the Penan, one of the world's last nomadic peoples still inhabiting the primeval forests. Confronted with the rampant destruction of the rainforest by the timber industry, he helped the Penan to resist further intrusion by the loggers and became the international mouthpiece for the threatened people of the primeval forest. He disappeared without trace after his last journey to Sarawak in May 2000. Several search parties failed to find him. On 10 March 2005, the cantonal civil court of Basel-Stadt officially declared him missing and presumed dead.



It was thanks to Manser's commitment that the issue of tropical timber was placed on the political agenda in Switzerland, and his campaigns focused public attention on the catastrophic ecological and social consequences resulting from the clear cutting of the rainforests. The Penan and other indigenous groups are still waiting for the recognition of their rights to the land in the forest areas they have traditionally inhabited. In May 2012 the Bruno Manser Fund celebrated its 20th year.