DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this thesis is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged.

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A CRITICAL STUDY OF THE TOTAL DEFENCE CONCEPT IN MALAYSIA - SINGAPORE RELATIONS

ABSTRACT

The defence strategy for Singapore was focusing on deterrence action against external aggressor and Total Defence for internal defence. In the event of conflict or war, not only military defence will be used but also deploying all the available resources of the states to defend the country. Total defence is the most suitable defence concept for this situation. In Southeast Asia, Singapore is one of the countries where it was successful in adopting concept of total defence since 1984. Total defence being arguable intend to improve readiness in matters related to the defence and national security of the countries from any aggression. Singapore's defence strategy has created unhealthy atmosphere between Singapore and her neighbours especially Malaysia. It's being 28 years since Singapore's used it and the bilateral relations between these two states still not as friendly as other relations in this region because the defence posture that being indoctrinate in the mind of Singaporean populations. In order to ensure the survival of his peoples, Singapore's protects their sovereignty and territorial integrity. Singapore had used the total defence concept in their national agenda so this also provides an impact on perception towards bilateral relations issues. The research revealed that the impact of total defence on bilateral relations can be analyzed based on military defence, economic defence and social defence components. That's way bilateral relations issues that involved security and defend can't be resolved until now such as disputes on Pulau Batu Puteh and Pulau Pisang, land reclamation, water pricing, Keretapi Tanah Melayu (KTM) land and patrol activities in Malacca Straits. This total defence component played a vital role for Singapore's to determine the outcome of bilateral negotiations. This will be continued by Singapore because in his National Defence Policy (NDP), total defence still is being used as overall objective of defence posture. This situation that impacted unresolved bilateral relations will be continues until Singapore satisfies that he achieve his aim that is to protect sovereignty and territorial integrity of Singapore.
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