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**Johore in 1911.**

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## JOHORE IN 1911.

1. The State and territory of Johore are governed by His Highness the Sultan according to the terms of a Constitution granted in 1895 by his father the late Sultan.

2. The State made great progress in 1911 and was exceedingly prosperous, while vast improvements were made in methods of administration, communications, the opening of roads, and increased cultivation.

3. A short account of the country, its natural features and population was given last year by Mr. CAMPBELL, C.M.G. It would seem unnecessary to recapitulate this, but some interesting facts shown by the Census taken on March 10, 1911, may be noted.

### THE CENSUS OF 1911.

4. The total population of the State was 180,412 persons, of whom 122,129 were males and 58,283 females. The density of the population is about 23 to the square mile.

The proportions of the different nationalities in every 1,000 of the population were—

Malays, Javanese, etc.	...	...	605
Chinese	...	...	351
Indians	...	...	31
Others	...	...	13

5. The pure Malay population was 71,315 of whom 35,760 were males, and 35,555 were females.

6. The Chinese population was 63,405 of whom only 6,624 were females.

7. There were 30,904 Javanese: 19,340 males and 11,564 females.

8. The Indians numbered 5,659: males 4,755, females 904.

9. There were 205 Europeans in the country of whom 161 were British.

### FINANCIAL.

10. The revenue of 1911 was \$3,954,901.12, a sum of \$773,107.12 in excess of the estimated revenue and \$631,716 more than the revenue of 1910. This shows a very remarkable advance in prosperity, due partly to improved methods of collection and administration, and partly to the expansion of agricultural industry, chiefly in rubber planting.



11. The total expenditure in 1911 was \$3,469,571.38. This includes \$500,000 repayment of the capital sum advanced by the F.M.S. on account of the Johore State Railway. Without this therefore the ordinary expenditure was very nearly a million dollars short of the revenue.

12. The expenditure also includes \$686,608.86 for the purchase of chandu. It would perhaps be more satisfactory to reckon as revenue only the profit on the Government monopoly, instead of the gross receipts, and omit the expenditure on this account. If this is done the revenue is reduced to \$3,268,292.26, and the expenditure to \$2,782,962.52.

13. Each heading of revenue showed an excess over the Estimates as follows:—

	Estimated Revenue.	Actual Revenue.
	\$	\$
Land Revenue ... ..	79,750	101,652
Customs ... ..	555,400	634,016
Monopolies and Farms ...	2,039,484	2,517,655
Court fees and Stamps ...	53,445	89,434
Post Office ... ..	14,200	17,932
Harbours ... ..	12,500	13,867
Railways ... ..	262,000	366,955
Interest ... ..	3,275	6,341
Miscellaneous ... ..	1,700	34,016
Town Boards ... ..	59,040	63,843
Land Sales ... ..	101,000	109,186

14. The amounts in excess of the Estimates were distributed as follows:—

	\$	cts.
Johore Bahru ... ..	709,619	29
Muar ... ..	45,631	47
Batu Pahat ... ..	17,856	36
Total ... ..	773,107	12

### LAND.

15. The Land Revenue appears comparatively small at present, but it is rising very rapidly. Grants under the Land Enactment of 1910 which is based on the F.M.S. Land Enactment are issued at a small premium with a rental for the first six years of 50 cents an acre, to be raised to \$2.50 an acre. When the higher rate of rent comes into force, the land revenue receipts will obviously show a very large increase.

16. All large blocks of land for the cultivation of rubber or other agricultural purposes, are now alienated in this manner, small native holdings being generally placed on the Mukim Register, the title being an extract from the Register.

17. It is at present impossible to estimate the extent of land alienated or under cultivation in the State. Most of the large blocks are taken up for rubber cultivation and Appendix "A" gives a return of the rubber estates of which particulars could be ascertained, with their area and the amount of rubber which they produced in 1911.

18. A remarkable feature of the rubber industry in Johore is the large amount of land, which has been, and is still being, taken up by Japanese for this form of cultivation. More than 100,000 acres of land are now held by Japanese in Johore for the planting of rubber.

19. There is still a considerable amount of pepper and gambier cultivation under the old "Surat Sungai." These "Surats" authorised Chinese headmen to introduce settlers and open up land in the neighbourhood of certain rivers, and gave them considerable authority and certain monopolies among the population introduced by them. No title to the land was conveyed. In many instances these headmen or "kangchus" are now applying for grants for the whole or portions of the land so occupied by them, and are planting rubber or other permanent forms of cultivation. In 1911 212,386 pikuls of gambier, and 47,512 pikuls of pepper were exported, a considerable decrease from the previous year, and just half the quantity exported in 1903, since which year the amount has regularly decreased, which is by no means to be regretted, the cultivation being a wasteful one, and the system of tenure far from satisfactory.

20. The reduction of pepper and gambier cultivation has been far more than made up for by the extension of rubber growing.

21. There are excellent coconut and areca nut plantations in Muar and Batu Pahat. These are nearly all small native holdings and are in a very flourishing condition.

22. The amount of rice grown in Johore is very small, but a few small areas of land have recently been taken up for wet rice cultivation, which I hope may prove successful.

23. Much trouble is caused to the Land Office and to the holders by various old forms of title, or quasi-title, or permits to open up land, issued in the past, generally without survey. As far as possible these are being replaced by a more satisfactory form of tenure, but it will be a long time before the native holdings generally are placed on a satisfactory footing.

### SURVEY.

24. The major portion of the programme undertaken by the Trigonometrical Branch of the F.M.S. Survey Department was carried out in 1911 and field work involving the fixation of 53 major and minor stations and 120 miles of Railway traverse from Gemas to Johore Bahru was



completed, and a portion of the results sent in. The remainder of the scheme proposed in 1910 involves some 44 miles of road traverse from Johore Bahru to Mawai and some 38 miles of road and railway traverse from Muar to Batu Pahat, and this, it is hoped, will be completed during 1912.

25. Very good work was done by the Revenue Survey Department under Mr. J. GRIFFITHS. A map of the State on a scale of three miles to an inch has been completed, and should be ready for issue before the end of the year. Very good progress was made with the survey of Grants. 250 applications for grants remained to be dealt with at the end of 1910, and 188 applications were received in 1911. 217 grants were issued in 1911.

The work on Mukim survey was less satisfactory. A way will have to be found to stop the separate demarcation of isolated lots and to demarcate whole Mukims. 63 extracts were issued in 1911.

#### MINING.

26. Tin is the only mineral at present mined in Johore. There was not much activity in this direction in 1911. 4,628 pikuls of ore were exported, about 275 tons, on which export duty was paid to the amount of \$27,191.87.

27. There is no doubt that there are considerable areas of tin bearing land in the State. One large field is in the Kota Tinggi district, and this is now being thoroughly prospected, and several mining leases have been taken both by Europeans and Chinese, who have invested a large amount of money in their operations, and appear hopeful of good results.

#### CUSTOMS.

28. The collections under Customs may be classified under their main headings, thus:—

	\$
Export duty on agricultural produce ...	418,616
Do. forest produce ...	20,448
Do. minerals ...	27,192
Do. fish and miscellaneous produce ...	32,591
Import duty on spirits ...	158,358
Total ...	<u>\$657,205</u>

29. The total Customs Revenue in 1910 amounted to \$458,220. The figures for 1911 therefore show an increase of \$198,985 or 43%.

30. With the exception of the import duty on spirits the largest items were \$175,969 export duty on pepper and gambier, \$76,583 export duty on cultivated rubber, \$69,327.93 duty on areca nuts, and \$46,888.66 duty on copra.

31. The cultivation of pepper and gambier in Johore has been already alluded to. These products have been placed on such a curious footing in Johore, and have been and still are so important to the country that I quote in full the remarks of Mr. SIMMONS, the Commissioner of Customs, with regard to them:—

“ I must be excused if my remarks on the subject of  
“ these two products appear somewhat lengthy. Their  
“ cultivation and export have played such an enormous part  
“ in the finances of Johore; and the conditions under which  
“ the industry has been carried on and the export duty  
“ collected are so peculiar, as to merit some special attention.

“ The whole of the gambier and pepper estates in Johore  
“ are owned by China born Chinese traders resident in  
“ Singapore, the majority of whom are Teo Chius.

“ Peculiar titles are issued for the lands occupied, and  
“ as pointed out by Mr. CAMPBELL in his report for 1910,  
“ they are rather in the nature of permits to cultivate, than  
“ of titles conveying ownership. A certain amount of rubber  
“ has been and is being planted through the gardens and  
“ for such land grants under the Land Enactment are issued  
“ on application. Opinions differ as to how far the soil is  
“ exhausted by the cultivation of gambier and pepper; such  
“ rubber as I have seen planted on land formerly under  
“ these products appears to do fairly well, and leads me to  
“ think that they are in this respect not nearly so detrimental  
“ to the soil as tapioca. It must not be forgotten, too, that  
“ they are generally grown on most inaccessible land, which  
“ would otherwise have little or no agricultural value.

“ The Singapore trader selects a planter to cultivate his  
“ land, who, in return for capital and provisions advanced  
“ for this purpose, mortgages the pepper and gambier crops  
“ to the trader, agreeing to sell the produce to him at a  
“ certain fixed price (always below the real market value).  
“ The industry enjoys exceptional facilities in respect of  
“ transport, as the crops can be loaded direct into Twakows  
“ or Tongkangs in the ulu and taken to Singapore without  
“ further handling.

“ Mainly in order to prevent the planters selling the  
“ produce to outsiders, the Singapore gambier and pepper  
“ traders founded, some 40 years ago, a society or ‘Kongkek.’  
“ The word ‘kek,’ I understand, means a ‘board appointed  
“ by Government’ and the traders agreed that the Kongkek  
“ should be controlled by the Johore Government, and that  
“ the late Sultan should appoint its officers. The constitution  
“ was originally a president, secretary, clerk, and a number  
“ of ordinary members, and it remained so until 1893, when  
“ six vice-presidents were appointed, and the office of  
“ secretary merged into that of president.



" In 1897 it was replaced by 'The Gambier and Pepper Society' which was registered in Singapore, and had for some of its avowed objects the promotion and protection of the gambier and pepper trade between Johore and Singapore, the supervision of the import, the prevention of adulteration and maintenance of quality, and the securing of the delivery of the produce to the advancers.

" This is the Kongkek or Society now in existence; it is supported by contributions of varying sums (now 2 cents per bag) on the produce imported into Singapore; and part of its expenditure consists in the payment of monthly sums of \$300 and \$150 to the Tan Tock Seng and the Johore Government Hospitals respectively.

" Its officers inspect every Tongkang arriving from Johore, and should any produce be discharged without the previous permission of the Kongkek, or should it be consigned to any other than the advancer, such produce is liable to confiscation. These, and many other rules, will be found in the Articles of Association of the 12th May, 1897. My reasons for referring to them will be seen later on.

" Previous to October, the gambier and pepper leaving Johore was neither weighed nor examined in Johore. On arrival at Singapore, the number of bags in any consignment and the names of consignor and consignee were ascertained. After removal to the consignee's shop the produce was weighed and the weight reported to the Kongkek. On this weight, as reported, duty was paid to the Johore Government, being collected, after much delay, trouble, and importunity, from the individual traders by an officer of the Johore Government who went to Singapore every day for that purpose. This was the system when I was appointed to be Commissioner of Customs; it had been in force since May 1910, previous to which time the right to collect duty was farmed. One obvious objection to the system was that it was impossible to check the weight, and there was little inducement to the trader to make a correct declaration. Another was the difficulty in collecting the duty. On the 1st January 1911, arrears of no less a sum than \$73,628 were thus outstanding, and in spite of the utmost efforts on the part of the Government to come to an arrangement with its debtors to settle their accounts, very little progress was made. Yet another, was the fact that 'basi' or a rebate of 10% was invariably deducted from the total weight of the consignment. Originally an arrangement between the planter and the trader, it eventually crept into the declarations of weight made to the Government with the result that the latter lost 10% of duty owing.

" Accordingly on the 30th September 1911, I laid the whole matter before the Government, who agreed to the alteration of the system, and the subjection of the gambier

" and pepper industry to the same regulations with regard to the payment of duty before export, as those which obtain in respect of all other produce. The new system, in spite of assertions by the traders that the industry would be ruined, was brought into force in Muar, Batu Pahat, and Kota Tinggi on the 15th October, and in the rest of the State during November, and is now working quite smoothly. The planters are benefited, because the real weight of their produce is ascertained, whereas formerly they were at the mercy of the advancers, who seldom credited them with the proper amount. And the Johore Government is benefitted, for, at very little extra expense, it obtains duty, before the produce leaves the country, on the actual amount exported.

" I have mentioned above that the Kongkek was originally and possibly still is, to some extent, a Government 'board.' From what I have written, however, it will now be seen that whatever justification there may have been formerly for interference in its affairs by Government, now that all duty is collected locally, there is none. I understand that the payment of \$150 per month to the Johore Government Hospital is not paid, nor do I know if there is any obligation on the part of the Kongkek to pay it."

32. The export duty on cultivated rubber increased from \$41,000 in 1910 to \$76,583 in 1911. The total amount of rubber exported in 1911 was 1,244,500 lbs. as compared with 613,600 in 1910.

33. Most exports pay a specific export duty. Rubber and coconuts, however, if grown on land held on a title in which annual rent is reserved to the State pay 2½% ad valorem, while if grown on land on which such a rent is not reserved they pay 5%. Most of the leases issued prior to the passing of the Land Enactment reserve this 5% duty in lieu of rent. In many old titles no rent is reserved of any kind, and here 5% duty is charged. This difference in the rate of duty is likely to cause much trouble in future. In some cases companies and individuals have surrendered old rent free titles to be replaced by grants under the Land Enactment in order to get the benefit of the lower rate of export duty. And should this practice become general it would be welcomed by the Government.

#### FARMS AND MONOPOLIES.

34. The greater part of the chandu revenue of the State is collected in Singapore by the Monopolies Department of the Straits Settlements, a very convenient arrangement for Johore, for which it is much indebted to the Government of the Straits Settlements.

35. The price of chandu has been raised in accordance with the price in the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States.



**RAILWAYS.**

36. The railways of the State are at present two :—

(a). "The Johore State Railway" 120 miles in length from Gemas in the North on the border of Negri Sembilan to Johore Bahru in the South, connected with and worked for Johore by the F.M.S. Railway Department in conjunction with the F.M.S. main line and the Singapore Kranji Railway, so that trains (with a break at Johore Straits, which are crossed by launch) run from Prai opposite Penang Island, to Singapore.

(b). A light railway in Muar, which it is hoped eventually to extend to Batu Pahat.

37. The expenditure on the working of the Johore State Railway in 1911 was \$388,091.63, and the earnings \$328,899.94. The first three quarters of the year each showed a loss on working but in the last quarter a profit was made of \$6,863.58.

38. The traffic on this railway is increasing fast, and it may reasonably be expected to pay a direct profit in the near future. It has already proved of incalculable service to Johore in opening up the country.

39. The line was constructed by the F.M.S. Government, the money expended being lent by the F.M.S. to the Johore Government at 3%. During 1911 in addition to payment of interest on the money advanced \$500,000 of the capital was paid off, leaving the debt to the F.M.S. at \$11,168,578.32.

40. The Muar railway, a 2ft. 6ins. gauge, constructed in 1890 through 11 miles of the fertile Padang district again had a prosperous year. The number of passengers carried rose from 117,983 in 1910 to 136,418. 7,138 tons of goods, chiefly copra, betel nut and fruit were carried in 1911 as compared with 6,425 tons in 1910. The total revenue (gross) was \$46,644 as against \$42,618; expenditure however showed an increase from \$29,691 to \$32,498, the excess being chiefly due to the necessity for more rolling stock.

An extension of three miles in a southerly direction, with the eventual object of connecting with Batu Pahat, 28 miles distant, is now in progress, and one more engine and additional rolling stock are on order.

**PUBLIC WORKS.**

41. The total sum of \$568,636.18 was expended in 1911 by the Public Works Department out of \$735,433 provided in the Estimates.

42. Of the amount spent, \$25,975.54 was for Personal Emoluments, \$243,812.89 for works and buildings, and \$287,763.80 for Roads, Streets and Bridges.

43. As regards Works and Buildings the cost of repairs has been exceptionally heavy, and will be so for some years, as Government property throughout Johore had been allowed to fall into a very unsatisfactory state.

44. Among the most important new Works and Buildings constructed or partially constructed in 1911 were additional military barracks at Johore Bahru, a new operating theatre and surgical ward at Johore Bahru, houses for five European Officers, one at Bandar Maharani, Muar, one at Batu Pahat, and three on Bukit Meldrum, Johore Bahru, Service Reservoir and Roof, Johore Bahru, and a number of Police Stations and Rest Houses. The building of a new Gaol for Muar was also begun, but not much progress had been made at the end of the year.

45. A scheme of roads for the whole State was drawn up. It will take several years to finish, but fair progress was made with one of the most important roads.

46. One main road is eventually to run right across the State from East to West, from Mersing to Batu Pahat crossing the railway at Kluang. The trace of this road for the 34 miles from Kluang to Batu Pahat was finished and 3½ miles of earth work completed and 4 miles more well in hand. Between Kluang and Mersing the trace was run up to the 15th mile, and 2½ miles of earth work was well in hand.

47. The other great projected main road to connect Batu Pahat with the south of the State was not commenced in 1911.

48. A considerable portion of the Kota Tinggi, Mawai and Kesang roads were metalled.

49. Mr. BYRNE took charge of the Department on February 1st, 1911, Mr. F. GLENDINNING returning to the F.M.S. Mr. BYRNE has shown much energy in carrying out his very heavy duties. Mr. W. B. Y. DRAPER, President of the Town Board, has rendered valuable assistance as Architectural Assistant.

**POLICE AND PRISONS.**

50. I fear neither of these Departments is very satisfactory at present. It was arranged during the year that a European Officer should take charge of them in 1912. I have made certain recommendations for the improvement of Prison Administration, most of which have been approved.

**MILITARY FORCES.**

51. These are under the personal command of H. H. the Sultan, who supervises and controls all details with regard to them. The force is exceedingly smart in appearance and discipline. Its presence in Johore Bahru and Bandar Maharani undoubtedly adds to the security of these places.

6/1911



The successful training of the Military Band by Mr. GALISTAN never fails to cause astonishment and admiration to those who are acquainted with the ordinary musical efforts of Malays.

### COURTS.

52. The Criminal Law of Johore is the Penal Code, the Civil Law is such Enactments as have been passed within the last two years, and Mohamedan law.

53. Neither the constitution nor the practice of the Courts are, I fear, entirely satisfactory. No Civil or Criminal Procedure Code is at present in force. Both are being prepared.

### LEGISLATION.

54. The following Enactments were passed in 1910:—

1. The Railway Enactment 1908, Amendment Enactment.
2. The Land Enactment.
3. The Customs Duties Enactment.
4. The Auctioneers Enactment.

And in 1911 the following were passed:—

1. The General Clauses Enactment.
2. The Courts Enactment.
3. The Inventions Enactment.
4. The Pensions Enactment.
5. The Appraisers Enactment.
6. The Revenue Farms Enactment.
7. The Mining Enactment.
8. The Indian Immigration Enactment.
9. The Estate Labourers (Protection of Health) Enactment.
10. The Opium and Chandu Enactment.
11. The Wakaf Prohibition Enactment.
12. The Town Boards Enactment.
13. The Wild Animals and Birds Protection Enactment.

55. These Enactments are drawn up and printed in English, and unfortunately Malay versions of most of them have not yet been produced. The Malay Judges and Magistrates have therefore been placed in a most difficult and unfair position, as they are supposed to follow the provisions of Enactments, which they cannot get in their own language. Steps are now being taken to furnish Malay translation of all Enactments already passed, and to issue a Malay as well as an English Gazette.

### EDUCATION.

56. There are two English Schools in the State, one in Johore Bahru under Mr. ROBERTS, and one in Bandar Maharani, Muar, under Mr. GREY. Both headmasters are satisfactory, but in each case the staff is weak.

57. It is proposed to start an English Boarding School on the lines of the Kuala Kangsar Malay College. This is, I think, exceedingly desirable in view of training Malay youths for posts in Government Offices. The present supply of Malay gentlemen with a knowledge of English, and of English methods is very small, and it is exceedingly difficult to get satisfactory clerks for the offices in which the business is transacted in English.

There are Malay Schools all over the State wherever there is sufficient population to maintain one. The course of instruction is much the same as in the Colony and F. M. S. except that Romanised Malay is not taught. I hope to see this introduced.

### TOWN BOARDS.

58. There are Town Boards for Johore Bahru, Bandar Maharani and Penggaram (Batu Pahat). Mr. W. B. Y. DRAPER, Chairman of the Johore Bahru Board, also exercises a general supervision over the other boards. In all these places considerable improvements were effected in sanitation, control of markets, latrines, lodging houses, etc. The Town Boards Enactment is generally satisfactory.

### HEALTH.

59. The Principal Medical Officer, Dr. WILSON, was absent on leave from the beginning of May 1911 till the end of the year. Dr. GRANT acted for him, and Dr. WEBER was in charge of Muar and Batu Pahat.

60. The early part of 1911 was extraordinarily dry and hot. During this period there was a severe outbreak of smallpox, and a large increase in malarial fever, the latter disease becoming more violent still in the period May—August. The rubber estate coolies are most susceptible to this disease.

61. Malarial fever was rampant in Johore Bahru from May to July.

62. Three cases of blackwater fever were reported, two of the patients being Chinese, and one a European.

63. A considerable number of cases of typhoid occurred during the year; the worst outbreak being in Kampong Pahang, Johore Bahru, where the conditions are insanitary and most of the inhabitants draw their water from surface wells.

64. Two Government vaccinators were appointed in March 1911, and did excellent work during the year.

65. The Principal Medical Officer reports that the sanitation of the town of Johore Bahru showed improvement in 1911 under the direction of Mr. DRAPER, the President of the Town Board. A number of important points have



been dealt with including improvement in town cleansing, markets, inspection of food, latrines, and inspection of bakeries and lodging houses.

66. In November the Estate Labourers (Protection of Health) Enactment was passed. This is similar to the Enactment passed in the Straits Settlements and F.M.S. Power is given to the Government to insist on Estates providing sanitary coolie lines and sufficient hospital accommodation, and improvement should be shown in the health of Estate coolies.

67. The erection at the Johore Bahru hospital of a new surgical ward, and administrative block, consisting of office, dispensary and waiting room, and a new operation theatre was practically completed during the year under review.

68. The Medical staff is insufficient. More assistant surgeons or apothecaries and more dressers are greatly wanted, but they are very difficult to obtain. The Straits Medical School turns out a small number of qualified men yearly, but they do not appear to be enough, and as a rule these men prefer to take up private practice rather than accept a Government appointment in Johore though liberal terms are offered them.

69. It is regrettable that Johore has no students in the Straits Medical School being specially trained for service here. The Principal Medical Officer considers that the Government should provide in the Estimates for 1913 provision for two students at the Medical School, and for six more apprentices to be trained in the Johore Hospitals.

70. The passing of the Estate Labourers (Protection of Health) Enactment throws extra work on the Medical staff, and it will probably be necessary shortly to increase the number of European Medical Officers.

#### MUAR AND BATU PAHAT.

71. The important districts of Muar and Batu Pahat in the north of Johore are to a very large extent administered separately from the rest of the country. A State Commissioner is in charge of each, Dato Abdullah of Muar, and Ungku Ahmad of Batu Pahat. At present communication between Johore Bahru and these districts is by sea only.

#### MUAR.

72. Mr. JELF, Assistant Adviser, Muar, writes:—

“The Muar Division of Johore is situated in the north, west corner of the State and extends, in an east and west direction, from Segamat on the Johore State Railway to the coast at Bandar Maharani, and in a north and south direction from Kesang on the Malacca border to a small river near Batu Pahat. It has a seaboard of about 25 miles

“and a total area of approximately 800 square miles. The population, of over 63,000, forms more than a third of the whole population of Johore, the revenue (allowing for a proportionate consumption of Chandu and Spirits) may now be estimated at a million and a quarter dollars, and the value of the export and import trade for 1911 amounted to almost five million dollars. There is also a small gauge railway which carries 136,000 passengers and 7,000 tons of goods in the year. And lastly there is a fruit trade which, if we may judge from the “Hikaiah” “Abdullah,” has long been famous not only throughout the Malay Peninsula but also in India, whither betel nut is exported in large quantity.

“Owing to absence of internal communications, Muar has for many years been administered practically as a separate State, and pursued a more or less independent policy. When one takes into consideration that in past years the revenue was not too abundant, the results of this separate administration appear eminently creditable to the various holders of the chief office.

73. “A Census of the Muar Division was taken, in common with the rest of the Peninsula, on the night of 10th March 1911, and showed a total population of 63,368, of which 40,059 were males and 23,309 females. Bandar Maharani, the only town in the division, returned a population of 4,976.

“Contrary I think to general expectation, it was found that the Chinese only numbered 16,222, as against 14,659 Javanese and 29,662 Malays. The district of Parit Jawa, in the centre of the coconut and betel nut industry, showed a population of almost 12,000 with a density of 121 to the square mile.

74. “A great feature of the coast districts of Muar is the number of “Parits” which drain the rich populations of coconut and arecanut palm, and the beautiful orchards of durian, mangostin and duku. The indolence of the land holders had resulted in the blocking up of many of these outlets, and a large area of land was in danger of being ruined by flood water. On representations being made to the Government, the appointment of a special inspector was sanctioned, and powers of punishment for noncompliance with the orders issued by this officer were conferred on the collector. This has already resulted in a great improvement.

75. “During the year all the large rubber estates in the Muar Division were visited. Most of them are in an exceedingly flourishing condition. By the courtesy of the various Managers I am enabled to give the following details.

8/1911



“(a) Estates on the Muar River:—

“*Lanadron*.—Area 4,081 acres of which 2,588 acres is cleared and planted. The labour force is 1,279, chiefly Javanese. The output of rubber was approximately 300,000 lbs.

“*Nordanal*.—(Singapore & Johore Rubber Co.), almost opposite Lanadron. Area 3,146 acres, of which 1,370 acres is planted. The labour force is 722. The output of rubber was 247,686 lbs.

“*Tanjong Olak*.—(The Waterhouse Co.—a privately owned Company with headquarters in Honolulu). Area 2,693 acres of which 1,253 acres is cleared and planted. The Javanese and Chinese labour force is 410, and the output of rubber was 13,852 lbs.

“These three Estates justly enjoy an excellent reputation. The coolie lines and hospitals reach a high standard and they have adequate staffs of assistants. Situated on the bank of a deep river, they are healthy and easy of access. Beside the daily river launches which stop at all three estates, they are served once a fortnight by larger steamers which ship the rubber direct to Singapore.

“(b) Estates in the neighbourhood of Mount Ophir.

“*Tangkah*.—Area 11,000 acres of which 1,471 acres is cleared and planted. The labour force consists of 360 Chinese and 287 Tamils.

“*Paya Mas*.—Area 6,092 acres of which 850 is cleared and planted. The labour force averages 252, mostly Chinese. Tapping has only just commenced. This Estate, which is privately owned, has excellent prospects under its capable Manager.

“*Tanah Merah*.—Area 1,750 acres of which 560 is cleared and planted. The labour force is 200 Chinese.

“*Sagil*.—(Chinese owned). Area 3,000 acres of which 1,400 acres is cleared and planted. The labour force is between 300 and 400. Tapping has not yet commenced.

“There are also two other large Chinese owned Estates, details of which are not available. All these estates round Mount Ophir were formerly gambier and tapioca positions. Hospital accommodation is practically non-existent at present, but steps are being taken under the recently passed ‘Estates Labourers (Protection of Health) Enactment’ to compel the erection of a ‘group’ hospital on a central site. The produce is exported to Malacca Town, 25 to 30 miles distant.

76. “Some mention must be made here of the very large fruit trade of Muar. At the height of the season an astonishing amount of fruit leaves Bandar Maharani for Singapore, the daily steamers being loaded up to the counter with durians and mangostins. Some idea of the magnitude of the business may be gathered from the fact that during the 1911 season export duty was paid on three quarters of a million durians, 29,000 boxes of dukus, and 23,000 boxes of mangostins. The steamers habitually during this period took away between twenty-five and thirty thousand durians every trip, and the countryside ‘turned up in force all day and every day at the wharves.’

#### BATU PAHAT.

77. Batu Pahat adjoins Muar on the south, but at present land communication between Bandar Maharani and Penggaram, the chief town, is difficult.

78. Mr. HUMPHREYS, the Collector of Land Revenue, writes:—

“For the purposes of land administration the district of Batu Pahat falls into three divisions:—

“(i.) The area of small native holdings extending the length of the coast line to the depth of at least a mile, and along the banks of both Simpang Kanan and Simpang Kiri for about 15 miles from the river mouth.

“(ii.) The area of rubber plantations on the fringe of the native cultivation.

“(iii.) The gambier and pepper area lying still further in from river and sea.

“It will be noticed that the three administrative areas correspond more or less to well defined territorial divisions.

“The occupation of the low-lying land on the coast and river banks is prehistoric. The writer of the *Malay Annals* states that in the days of Sultan Mahmud a man might pass from Malacca to Batu Pahat without a torch; wherever he should stop, there would be houses and men.

“The gambier and pepper planters of the 19th century required the high and dry ground beyond the native cultivation, pushing further inland and upstream with the gradual exhaustion of the primary jungle. Finally came the rubber planters of the last ten years, and occupied either low-lying land as yet uncleared by the small holders, or the abandoned clearings of the gambier planters.

“I will deal separately with the three divisions.



“ The gambier and pepper industry in this district is  
 “ in its decline. Of the 21 kangkar not more than two show  
 “ any signs of health. Their decay is not a matter for real  
 “ regret. The method of cultivation was wasteful of the  
 “ natural resources of the country. The kangchu system,  
 “ while it produced a considerable annual revenue with a  
 “ minimum of cost of collection, broke the first of principles  
 “ of administration by delegating executive powers to the  
 “ agent of a capitalist, with the inevitable abuses.

“ The chief factor in the decay of the gambier indus-  
 “ try was, in my opinion, the opening of the Johore State  
 “ Railway through the centre of the country. The kangkar  
 “ furthest from the river mouth became immediately the  
 “ nearest to both a way of escape for the coolies, and an offer  
 “ of cash wages—an item hardly contemplated by the Chinese  
 “ gambier capitalist. They were soon drained of the labour  
 “ supply; and other kangkars only retained coolies by offers  
 “ of much more favourable terms than had prevailed before.

“ In the month of May I passed up Simpang Kanan  
 “ to the Railway and visited most of the Kangkar; in June  
 “ I made a similar journey up Simpang Kiri. I was plea-  
 “ santly surprised to find how well the country was recovering  
 “ from the gambier exhaustion. In spite of large lalang  
 “ and fern areas reforestation was noticeable in many cases.

“ The gambier and pepper industry is regulated by a  
 “ Johore Office, and is not under the Land Office, Batu Pahat.  
 “ The Johore supervision is naturally slight. The collection  
 “ of the export duty by the Commissioner of Customs is a  
 “ valuable step towards a fuller control. The various pub-  
 “ lished regulations for dealings with abandoned land are  
 “ quite adequate if properly enforced.

“ To turn to the second division, the following are the  
 “ principal rubber estates in this district for which grants  
 “ have been issued :—

“ Penang Sugar Estates, Limited	...	500	acres.
“ Boi Ah Sam	...	1,115	„
“ Naoya Akuzawa (Japanese)	...	3,060	„
“ Sembrong Rubber Estates, Limited		860	„

“ The third and most important division of the district is  
 “ that of the native holdings, an area of not less than 40,000  
 “ acres. A considerable portion of this area has been under  
 “ cultivation for many centuries, as evidenced by the Malay  
 “ Annals and other native works. There is an interesting  
 “ passage in the Hikayat Abdullah which describes how  
 “ during his lifetime the holders abandoned their land and  
 “ fled the district to avoid the depredations of the young  
 “ Johore chiefs after the death of Sultan Mahmud.

“ But there has been a steady immigration of settlers  
 “ and an extension of the cultivated area during the adminis-  
 “ tration of the Dato Bentara Luar, 1895-1911.

“ Until his arrival the administration of the holdings  
 “ was almost entirely in the hands of the Penghulus, who  
 “ prepared rough titles, transfers and other documents. The  
 “ development of the district has made it undesirable to  
 “ retain this portion of their services.

“ Areas of 800 acres at Senangar and 500 acres at  
 “ Senggarang have been granted, rent free for 3 years, for  
 “ wet rice cultivation.

“ Generally speaking the future of Batu Pahat rests  
 “ not with the gambier industry, which is in decay, nor with  
 “ the rubber estates, which do not, in my opinion, promise  
 “ well, but with the native holdings and coconut cultivation.  
 “ The holders are Javanese, Malay and Banjarese—a popu-  
 “ lation of 18,000 to 19,000. Their security and permanent  
 “ prosperity should be the first object of Government.

#### EUROPEAN STAFF.

79. The number of European officers was considerably  
 increased. Mr. M. H. WHITLEY was appointed Legal Adviser  
 on December 25th, 1910, Mr. A. S. JELF, Assistant General  
 Adviser and Collector of Land Revenue, Muar, on January  
 1st, 1911, Mr. J. W. SIMMONS, Commissioner of Customs  
 on December 21st, 1910, Mr. J. GRIFFITHS, Superintendent of  
 Surveys in September 1910, Mr. J. L. HUMPHREYS, Collector  
 and Magistrate, Batu Pahat on February 12th, 1911, Mr.  
 H. E. BYRNE, Chief Engineer, on February 1st, 1911, and  
 Mr. W. B. Y. DRAPER, President Town Board on May, 1911.

80. Of these Mr. HUMPHREYS is from the Straits Civil  
 Service, all the others from the Federated Malay States.

81. All without exception have done admirable work,  
 and the State of Johore has every reason to be thankful for  
 their services.

82. The Honour of the Companionship of St. Michael and  
 St. George was conferred on Mr. D. G. CAMPBELL, who held  
 his post as General Adviser to the Government throughout  
 the year. He went on long leave on January 29, 1912. His  
 absence is a great loss to the State.

#### GENERAL.

83. No regular trade returns have been hitherto kept.  
 Mr. J. W. SIMMONS has now undertaken this work in addition  
 to his duties as Commissioner of Customs.

84. No estimate can be given of the labour staff on  
 estates, the Census returns not assisting in this. I see that  
 the Planters Association estimated the Estate population



of Johore at 3,771, but it is undoubtedly very much larger than this. The estates in Muar alone employ about this number, and those in Johore Bharu and round Segamat must have far more.

85. Tamil labour is not so popular in Johore as in some other States, but the average number of Tamil estate labourers was about 3,000.

86. I have not yet heard complaints as to difficulties in securing labour, but I fear these are bound to come. Javanese labour which is very popular at present must, I fear, become increasingly difficult to procure.

87. I cannot close this report without expressing thanks to His Highness the SULTAN for his unvarying courtesy and the immense assistance he has rendered to both Mr. CAMPBELL and myself.

J. ELCUM,  
Ag. General Adviser to the  
Government of Johore.

## RETURN OF RUBBER ESTATES

IN THE  
STATE OF JOHORE,  
1911.

This return only includes Estates of which particulars are available.

No.	DISTRICT.	NAME OF ESTATE.	TOTAL AREA.	Area under Rubber.	Area under other Culture.	Total Cultivated Area.	Approx. Export dry Rubber 1911.	MANAGER.	AGENTS.
			ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	LBS.		
1	Johore Bahru	Ulu Ayer Molek	1,593	1,359	...	1,359	35,872	H. Chilvers	Katz Bros., Ltd.
2	"	Passir Plangie	1,232	988	...	988	26,688	G. A. Greaves	Do.
3	"	Tebrau	6,000	4,000	...	4,000	53,000	E. D. Bryce	
4	"	Pandan	1,066	1,066	...	1,066	21,500	Otto Ulrik	East Asiatic Co.
5	"	Mount Austin	2,732	2,712	...	2,712	77,500	A. Vesterdal	Do.
6	"	Orient	2,500	2,500	...	2,500	1,500	V. Gulstad	Do.
7	"	Kangka	1,837	1,837	...	1,837	...	O. Ulrick	Do.
8	"	Adda	628	628	...	628	25,000		Do.
9	"	Plintong	2,808	2,808	...	2,808	...	H. Anthon	Do.
10	"	Bintang	1,000	1,000	...	1,000	...	H. L. Coghlan	Coghlan & Co.
11	"	Mount Alma	1,500	1,300	...	1,300	...		W. H. Macgregor.
12	"	Permas	1,343	1,300	...	1,300	10,000	G. V. L. Scott	Barlow & Co.
13	"	Utara Rubber	1,500	...	...	...	...		East Asiatic Co.
14	"	Rosely	280	280	...	280	...	H. L. Coghlan	
15	"	Majedie	2,300	1,000	...	1,000	6,000	E. Wickham	Barlow & Co.
16	Kota Tinggi	Kota Tinggi	5,000	1,000	...	1,000	...	Yeo Bian Chuan Poay Keng Seng	Katz Bros., Ltd.
17	"	S. Charek Batu Tiga.	650	78	...	78	...	T. E. Edmett L. R. Edmett C. W. Edmett	
18	"	Harimau	1,030	410	...	410	...	W. Zollner	
19	"	Kota Tinggi Rubber Estate.	1,115	670	...	670	15,000	J. A. Le Doux	H. Carpmael.
20	"	Coombe	2,000	1,000	...	1,000	...		W. H. Macgregor.
21	"	Pelepah Valley	3,000	1,500	...	1,500	14,500	W. N. Gawler	H. Carpmael.
22	Gemas	Gomali	4,532	1,100	...	1,100	...	D. G. Oaklay	
23	"	Gemas	4,773	500	...	500	...	P. H. Hecker	
24	"	Jementah	7,240	2,314	...	2,314	75,000	J. Gilbert	F. W. Barker & Co.
25	"	Johore Rubber Lands.	35,000	4,500	...	4,500	2,000	H. E. Burgess	Harrison and Crosfield.
26	"	Muar River	2,649	1,597	...	1,597	10,000	J. A. Brown	Barlow & Co.
27	Batu Anam	Segamat Estate	4,935	1,412	...	1,412	...	H. M. Mackay	Harrison and Crosfield.
28	"	S. Senarut	5,000	1,893	...	1,893	5,000	A. L. Buyers	Do.
29	"	Batu Anam	1,236	586	351	937	...	R. J. C. Jewitt	F. W. Barker & Co.
		Total ...	106,479	41,338	351	41,689	378,560		



No.	DISTRICT.	NAME OF ESTATE.	TOTAL AREA.	Area under Rubber.	Area under other culture.	Total Cultivated Area.	Approx. Export dry Rubber 1911.	MANAGER.	AGENTS.
			ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	ACRES.	LBS.		
		<i>Brought Forward ...</i>	106,479	41,338	351	41,689	378,560		
30	Muar	Lanadron	4,000	2,588	...	2,588	335,000	F. C. Harrison	F. W. Barker & Co.
31	"	Nordanal	3,146	1,310	...	1,310	250,000	James Giles	Do.
32	"	Tanjong Olak	2,693	1,253	...	1,253	14,000	F. G. Wallace	The Waterhouse Co.
33	Tangkah	Paya Mas	6,061	850	...	850	...	C. W. Edwards	J. Snodgrass.
34	"	Tanah Merah	1,718	420	223	643	1,500	A. N. Wyld	F. W. Barker & Co.
35	"	Tangkah Rubber Estates.	11,000	2,134	450	2,584	4,570	C. Wilkins	Guthrie & Co., Ltd.
36	Gunong Pulai	Gunong Pulai	1,604	804	...	804	15,600	E. S. Spencer	
37	Kukob	Sungei Peradin	5,035	935	390	1,325	...	C. J. Schirmer	Behn Meyer & Co.
38	"	Sungei Burong	10,000	1,222	100	1,322	...	A. Resasco	Do.
39	"	Kukob Rubber Estate.	12,788	500	1,837	2,337	40,000	B. Petrie	F. W. Barker & Co.
40	Labis	Melville	510	251	...	251	...		J. Buckley.
41	"	North Labis	5,000	1,240	...	1,240	...	J. S. Willes	Harrison and Crosfield.
42	Sedenak	Sedenak Rubber Estate.	6,000	3,000	2,300†	3,000	...	W. R. J. Hawtrey	
43	"	Poontian (Malay) Rubber Co.	4,832	350	...	350	...	R. S. Nelson	
44	Renggam	Malay General	13,491	3,000	...	3,000	...	W. R. J. Hawtrey	
45	"	Sungei Sayong	5,000	500	...	500	...	W. Jack	Katz Bros., Ltd.
46	Kluang	Mengkibol Rubber Co.	10,000	770	...	770	...	R. A. Blair	
47	Tanjong	Tanjong Langsat	6,600	2,500	30	2,530	...		
48	Mersing	Mersing	8,103	790	...	790	6,000*	J. R. Watson.	Boustead & Co.
49	Johore Lama	Pengerang	2,140	2,050	20	2,070	10,000	M. Tsuda	D. Kimura Sango Koshi.
50	"	" No. 2	1,500	200	...	200	...	Do.	Do.
51	"	Santi	2,500	...	...	...	...	Do.	Do.
52	Batu Pahat	Batu Pahat No. 1	14,000	3,000	...	3,000	...	S. Katoh	Do.
53	"	" No. 2	13,500	...	...	...	...	Do.	Do.
54	"	Banang	1,700	1,250	...	1,250	...	M. Sasaki	
55	Johore Lama	Mitsui Gomei Kaisha.	5,000	750	...	750	...	S. Kawakami	M. B. K. & Co., Ld.
56	"	Nanyo	2,000	500	...	500	...	Y. Gotoh	Address Navy Hotel
57	"	Nanyo Planting	1,000	500	...	500	...	O. Nagnoa	" Tokumaru
58	"	Panchor	1,000	400	...	400	...	Yamakawa	" Dr. Nakano
59	"	Nanah	6,000	...	...	...	...	M. Inouye	" Navy Hotel
60	"	Lintang	2,000	500	...	500	...	S. Suzuki	" Tokumaru
61	"	Asahi	1,000	...	...	...	...	Yoshida	Do.
62	"	Mr. Hayami's	1,000	300	...	300	...	S. Hayami	Do.
63	"	Fuji Tagumi	3,500	...	...	...	...	O. Watanabe	Do.
		Total ...	281,900	75,205	5,701	78,606	1,055,230		

\* Estimated.

† Tapioca Catch Crop.