



MALAYSIA

a multi-racial society

BRIAN KENNEDY



REED EDUCATION

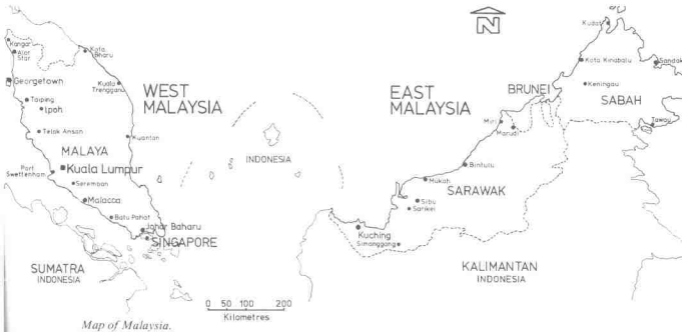
Sydney Wellington London



Which countries could be visited on the way to Malaysia?

What can you tell about the climate of Malaysia from this photo?





Map of Malaysia.

Write down a list of things you know about Malaysia. For example, you may have heard about the rubber plantations there. What different peoples do you think live there?

Malaysia was once a British colony. Do you think that today it could still be described as British or is it likely that the life of the people is more typical of other peoples in South East Asia?

Look at the map on this page. In what direction does Malaysia lie from Australia and New Zealand? Why do people in Australia and New Zealand sometimes refer to Malaysia as part of 'the Far East'?

The average speed of a jumbo jet is 775 kilometres per hour. Can you work out how long it would take to get from your nearest international airport to Kuala Lumpur? Can you find out how much it would cost? Telephone your local travel agent and find out.

Have a look at the geographical position of Malaysia. Would you say that East Malaysia is closer to the equator than the place where you live? What about West Malaysia?

As you might expect, Malaysia has a tropical climate. Coastal temperatures usually remain between 21°C and 32°C . Mountain temperatures are cooler, varying between 13°C and 27°C . Would you expect to find snow on the highest of these mountains?

Malaysia is best described as a hot, humid, rainy country. West Malaysia receives 2,500 millimetres of rain a year and East Malaysia 3,800 millimetres.

How does this compare with the total annual rainfall in your town or city?

The land

When they travel over Malaysia to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia's capital and largest city, visitors fly over thick jungle. Malaysia's closest point to Australia is part of the island of Borneo. Visitors may see Mount Kinabalu, the country's highest mountain. It rises to a height of 4,101 metres. How does this compare with Mount Kosciusko and Mount Cook?

The coastal areas of the Malay Peninsula are swampy. Like Borneo, the Malay Peninsula is mountainous and covered with jungle.

The two parts of Malaysia, East Malaysia and West Malaysia, are separated by the South China Sea. The shortest distance between them is 640 kilometres.

In some ways the two parts are like two different countries. West Malaysia was once known as Malaya when the British ruled it as a colony. It consists of thirteen states on the Malay Peninsula. About three out of every four people in Malaysia live in West Malaysia.

East Malaysia consists of two states—Sabah (formerly North Borneo) and Sarawak on the island of Borneo. These states also used to be British colonies.

When the British gave independence to their colonies in Borneo they brought about the formation of the present country of Malaysia by joining Malaya and the Borneo colonies together in a political federation. Can you think of another former colony where separate parts have been joined to form an independent country?

The states of West Malaysia are Johor, Kedah, Kelantan, Malacca, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Perak, Perlis, Penang, Selangor, and Trengganu. West Malaysia covers 131,588 square kilometres. Its neighbours are Singapore to the south and Thailand to the north.

Malaysia is a land of rivers and dense jungles which grow readily in its hot wet climate.



East Malaysia covers 198,160 square kilometres. It consists of the states of Sabah and Sarawak. It shares its borders with the Indonesian part of Borneo which is called Kalimantan and the small oil-producing sultanate of Brunei which is under British protection.

The whole of Malaysia covers 329,749 square kilometres. How does that compare with the size of the state of Victoria and the South Island of New Zealand?

Malaysia has a total population of more than ten million people. How does this compare with Victoria and the South Island of New Zealand?

What plants and animals are there in Malaysia?

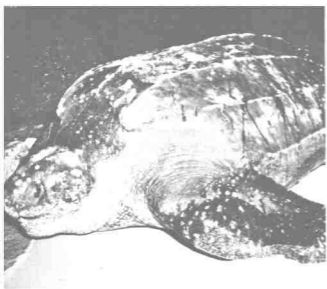
Rafflesia, the world's largest flower, grows in Malaysia. It is an evil-smelling reddish brown flower which measures up to three metres across.

Malaysia, like most of the countries of South East Asia, has dense jungle which grows readily in its hot wet climate. Tall straight trees in these thick tropical rainforests form a barrier high above the ground that is too dense for light to shine through.

As a result, few plants grow on the ground beneath these trees. But many climbing plants wind themselves around the trunks of these trees as they grow towards the light. Do Australia and New Zealand have rainforests? If so, do they resemble the Malaysian jungle?

These entwining snakes on top of a Chinese antique vase are several of a colony of snakes which abound at the snake temple in Penang. This temple was built in 1850 by a Chinese priest, Chor Soo Kong, as a sanctuary for snakes.





Every year from May to September giant 'leathery' turtles make their annual visit to Chendor Beach, Pahang, where they lay their eggs.



Water buffaloes are important farm animals in Malaysia. They are used for pulling ploughs to prepare the ground for planting rice.

The people of Malaysia include the Land Dyaks of Borneo. They are shown in this photo performing the traditional rice dance to celebrate a good harvest.



Bajau horsemen are the cowboys of Malaysia. They live near Kota Kinabulu in Sabah's chief cattle and pony raising area.



A large number of bats and other flying mammals live in the Malaysian jungle. One unusual animal is the flying lemur—an animal about the size of a cat with membranes of skin at their sides, arms and legs that allow it to glide from one tree to the next.

Other animals include bears, deer, wild dogs, rhinoceros, elephants, tigers and leopards. Which of these animals (if any) are also native to Australia and New Zealand?

Several types of monkeys live in the jungle. The largest apes are the orang-utans which live on Borneo. Zoologists are worried that these 'men of the jungle' may die out.

In fact, with Malaysia's rapidly increasing population, conservation is becoming more important and the government has set aside several large areas as nature reserves.

The peoples of Malaysia

Malaysia has a population of more than ten million. They live in what is called a multi-racial society—that is, there are several races living together in the country. The main ones are the Malays, Chinese and Indians.

The Malays are the largest group. About 45 out of every 100 people in Malaysia are Malays, and most of them are farmers. They belong to the Malay-Polynesian group of people and are therefore related to the Maoris of New Zealand. From the pictures in this book, do you think they look like the Maoris?

The Chinese are the next largest group, and about 35 out of every 100 people are Chinese. The Chinese control the economy of the country to a large extent because they own most of the plantations, tin mines and shops.

Indians account for about 10 out of every 100 people. They were brought from India to work on rubber plantations and many of them still work there.

In addition, Malaysia has tribal groups such as the Dyaks who live in Borneo. There are also small groups of Malayan Aboriginals—the original inhabitants of Malaya—who live in the mountain jungles of the Malay Peninsula. In appearance they resemble Negroes or Papuans and may be related to other hill tribes that live elsewhere in South East Asia. They are not related to the Australian Aboriginals.

Does a multi-racial society have special problems?

There is great tension between the various races in Malaysia. Many Malays, who make up the greatest proportion of the population and who are the original inhabitants of Malaysia, resent the fact that the Chinese control most business and industry in the country today.

To compensate for this, the government is now trying to increase the proportion of Malay ownership of business and industry from 1.5 per cent to 30 per cent in twenty years. In addition, Malays are given preference for government jobs. Many Chinese, in turn, resent the fact that the Malays are given this special treatment. This was one of the reasons that Singapore (where most of the people are Chinese) finally broke away from Malaysia in 1965.

Differences in religion and language between races also cause conflict and work against the creation of a united country.

The Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman, had to suspend parliament after rioting broke out between Chinese and Malays in 1969. Parliamentary government was restored in 1971.

But the government passed laws stating that three topics must never be discussed, even by parliament. These are: the laws giving Malays preference for civil service jobs, the position of Malay as the national language and the restrictions on granting citizenship to non-Malays.

Australia and New Zealand both give special treatment to Aborigines and Maoris respectively. Can you compare our racial problems with those of Malaysia?

Examine this photo of a street scene. What evidence can you see that Malaysia is a mixture of several cultures and that it is a land in transition between east and west and between old and modern methods? How many different languages can you see represented?





Most Malays are Muslims. The umbrella-shaped dome over the hall and the high minaret of the MS10 million National Mosque are the most conspicuous features of Kuala Lumpur's modern skyline. People visiting the mosque must remove their shoes first. Why do you think this custom is observed by Muslims?

The four languages of Malaysia

Around the streets of Kuala Lumpur advertisements and shop signs are written in several different languages. The official language of Malaysia is Malay, which is the same language as Bahasa Indonesia (the Indonesian language). The spellings of the two languages used to differ, but these differences were recently overcome by an agreement between the governments of the two countries.

But because there are three main races there are three main languages — Malay, Chinese and Tamil. Until recently English was the other official language and it is still widely spoken and understood. Why do you think the Malaysian government dropped English as an official language and insisted on having Malay as the only national language?

Try to find out a few Malay words. Do you think it is likely that the British and American governments could ever get together and agree on a standard spelling of the English language in the same way that the Indonesian and Malay governments have done with Malay?

Religion

Because there are three main races there are a variety of religions in Malaysia. The Malays are mainly Muslims. The Chinese are mainly Buddhists, and the Indians follow the Hindu religion. In addition, there are a number of Christians. Try to find out the main beliefs of Islam, the religion of the Muslims.



Many Chinese are Buddhists. The magnificent Ban Hood Pagoda—Pagoda of 10,000 Buddhas—together with the monasteries and temples at its base, is said to be the biggest and most handsome Buddhist monument outside Tibet.

Batik and badminton

As we have seen most Malays are Muslims and their religion is extremely important to them. They are also extremely proud of their arts and crafts. Like the Indonesians, they make batik cloth which can be made into shirts or dresses. They also make batik paintings which visitors can take home.

As the Indonesians do, the Malaysians make batik by coating the cloth with wax and then making a pattern on the cloth by cutting away the wax. The batik makers then dip the cloth in dyes and the dye colours the cloth where the wax has been removed.

Like most people in the world, the Malaysians are fond of sport. They enjoy horse racing, as many Australians and New Zealanders do. Badminton is the national sport of Malaysia and the country has produced world champions in this sport. Soccer is another popular game.

There are also other sports that people do not play in Australia and New Zealand. For example, many adults as well as children enjoy spinning tops and flying kites. These are rather competitive sports in Malaysia, and are very popular.

The Chinese and Indian citizens of Malaysia have also retained many of the arts and crafts of their homelands such as making pottery and wood carvings.



The Malaysians are extremely proud of their ancient culture. The National Museum, a modern building incorporating traditional design, houses a collection of national treasures which can be seen by visitors to Kuala Lumpur.

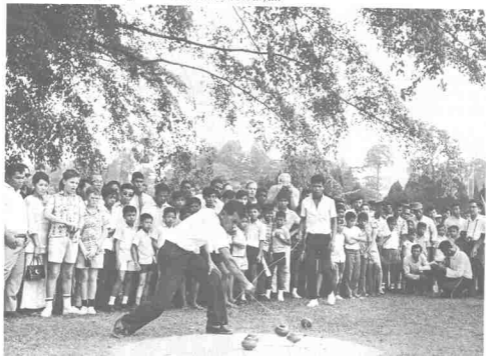


Colourful kites are produced by local craftsmen.



Kite flying is a national pastime for adults in Malaysia.

Top-spinning is also taken seriously as an adult sport in Malaysia. It is a favourite pastime for the locals in the eastern coast of West Malaysia. The tops used are of various shapes and sizes. They are intricately designed and extremely colourful.



How different is Malaysian food from ours?

Malaysia has several excellent styles of cooking.

The main food of the Malays is rice boiled in various ways. They do not eat pork because most of them are Muslims whose religion forbids it. Fish, chicken and beef are eaten. Malays eat hot spicy food like the Indonesians. Satay, meat cooked over a fire on a skewer with hot peanut sauce, is a favourite dish. See if you can find a recipe for it and cook it.

The Chinese and Indians eat the type of food enjoyed by the people in the countries they originally came from. Can you name a typical Chinese dish and a typical Indian dish?

What clothes do people wear?

In the cities, most people wear similar clothing to that of Australians and New Zealanders. Naturally shorts and open necked shirts are popular because of the climate.

The various different groups also have their own national costumes. These are worn mainly on special occasions although some Malay women wear sarongs in the streets, especially in the country villages.

The Chinese women also have cheongsams and some Indian women wear saris. Do you know what they look like?

The changing scene

People in Malaysian cities live in apartments that are not too different from blocks of flats in Australia or New Zealand. Modern apartments have electricity and running hot and cold water just as most homes do in Australia and New Zealand.

But many people live in traditional Malay villages and conditions there are very different. Most villagers use oil lamps and draw water from the nearest river or a well. The traditional Malay houses are built on stilts which are usually about two metres high. Families use the space under the house to shelter cattle or keep chickens.

The floors and walls are made of flattened bamboo. The roofs are thatched with palm leaves.

Most Malay houses have two rooms—a sleeping room and a living room. Most cooking is done on a hearth in the living room, where kettles are boiled on hot stones.



Harvest time in a padi field. Harvesters use a special kind of hand knife called tuai to cut off the stalks of the ripened golden padi plants. Can you guess what these plants are called in English? These two women are wearing the traditional Malay dress called sarongs.



Examine the way these young people are dressed. How many different types of dress can you see?





These houses are built on reinforced concrete over water in Kota Kinabulu in Sabah. This kampong ayer (floating village) is one of many along the coastline of Sabah.

People in cities live in apartments and work in modern office blocks that do not differ greatly from those in Australia and New Zealand. The Moorish-style building with a clock tower was declared open in 1897 by the resident governor, Sir Frank Swettenham. What other buildings can you see that appear different from ours? How are they different?



Malay is now the official language used for teaching in Malaysian schools. How does this school differ from your school?



The Dyak people of Borneo live in 'long houses' which provide shelter for more than 100 families and which are different from most other houses that visitors see in Malaysia.

Controlling disease

Visitors have to take some health precautions before going to Malaysia. As well as having the normal smallpox inoculation, visitors have to take tablets to prevent malaria because Malaysia, like its neighbour Indonesia, has areas where people can catch malaria from mosquitoes. Can you find out something about this disease? Fortunately it is now being brought under control and today less than one per cent of all deaths are caused by it. However, visitors still have to be careful.

The government health programme also includes measures to control tuberculosis and yaws. Can you find out what these diseases are and how they can be controlled? It has also set up country health centres to advise mothers and reduce the number of children who die before they are a year old.

How many of these problems are shared by Australia and New Zealand? Can you think of any other health problems that we have?

Are Malaysian schools different from ours?

The Malaysians consider that education is extremely important for their country both to improve their economy and to develop a sense of national unity among the various peoples who live in Malaysia.

The biggest difference between the Malaysian education system and our own is the use of several languages. The official government policy is to use Malay in all schools with English as a compulsory second language, but at present some primary schools teach in Malay, some teach in Chinese and some in Tamil. What do you think would happen if some of our Australian schools in migrant areas taught in Greek or Italian instead of English, or if all Maoris in New Zealand schools were taught in Maori instead of English? What would be the advantages and disadvantages of an educational system that used several languages?

Apart from the fact that several languages are involved, the subjects taught in Malaysian schools are not too different from ours. Reading,

writing, arithmetic, general science and social studies are given the most emphasis. Students also study art and enjoy other activities such as sports, singing and acting in plays—in fact, the sorts of things that you probably enjoy at school.

Most Malaysian children go on to high school when they are about twelve, and the official school leaving age is fifteen. What is the official school leaving age in Australia or New Zealand?

Students sit for their most important examination in sixth form and if they obtain a good pass they can go to university. There are three universities in Malaysia—the National University and the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur and Sains Malaysia in Penang.

Earning a living

More than half the people who work in Malaysia are agricultural workers. Less than ten per cent of the working population have jobs in industry, and most of these are connected with processing Malaysia's two most important products—rubber and tin. What jobs do most people do in Australia and New Zealand? Would you expect from these figures that industrial pollution would be a big problem in Malaysia? How big a problem is it in Australia and New Zealand?

Rubber

Malaysia's most important crop is rubber. Malaysia is the world's leading producer of natural rubber and supplies more than half the world's annual production.

Rubber trees are grown either on large plantations called estates or smaller ones called smallholdings. The estates are usually owned by

A rubber tapper at work. Make a list of all the things made from rubber that you can think of.





These workers are plucking tea shoots on one of the tea estates in the Cameron Highlands. The cool climate of the highlands is ideal for tea cultivation. Tea was first planted in 1926 at the experimental agricultural station at Tanah Rata and its cultivation has expanded steadily ever since. Most Malaysian estates sell their tea at auctions in London.

large companies, while smallholdings are owned and run by farmers and their families.

Rubber estates range in size from 40 to 4,000 hectares, and produce more than half of Malaysia's rubber.

Work on estates starts early in the morning. Workers called tappers go from tree to tree and make cuts in the bark of each tree that is to be tapped. The tapper places a cup beneath the cut, and rubber in the form of a milky fluid called latex drips from the cut bark and collects in the cup. The tapper collects the latex in buckets three or four hours later, and generally one tapper can collect latex from about 450 trees a day.

Buckets of latex are processed by factories on the estate. It is poured into tanks where it is mixed with water and acid and then left to stand. By the next morning it has formed into a kind of junket called a coagulum. The coagulum is passed through rollers which squeeze it into sheets of rubber. The sheets are dried in warm smoky air and then pressed into bales ready for export.

Rice

Malaysia's next most important crop is rice which is the main food of most people. The main rice-growing areas are in north-eastern and north-western Malaysia.

Most of the rice is grown in small fields called paddies. Farmers flood the fields when the young rice plants are a few centimetres high and keep the soil covered with water until the grain begins to ripen. They then drain off the fields so that the soil can dry by harvest time.

Can you suggest two important Australian and New Zealand agricultural products that occupy the same importance for export and local food as rubber and rice do in Malaysia?

Copra and palm oil are two other important agricultural products. Can you find out what these products are made from and what they are used for?

Pineapples and pepper are also produced in Malaysia and timber is another important export.

Tin mining

Tin is the country's most important mining industry and the country produces about a third of the world's tin. About half the tin is produced by dredges owned by large European companies. Most of the rest is produced by a method called gravel-pumping which is owned and controlled by local Chinese. This method involves running water over the tin-bearing gravel to separate the tin from the gravel. Do you think that this method of obtaining tin could cause pollution in the rivers used by the tin miners? Can you name some uses for tin?



The people in this picture are washing for tin with pans in much the same way as people wash for gold.

Dredges owned by large European companies produce more than half Malaysia's tin, the country's most important mineral export.



With what countries does Malaysia trade?

Rubber and tin account for more than half of Malaysia's total earnings from exports. The other main exports are timber and palm oil.

Other metals exported include some iron ore and bauxite (which is used to make aluminium). Other agricultural exports include pepper, pineapples, sago, flour and tea. Malaysia's main customers are Japan, the United States, Britain, Russia and Australia.

Look around your local shops and see if you can find any goods imported from Malaysia. What things do you think we could import from there?

Malaysia needs to export goods to pay for food because it cannot grow enough for itself and must import about three-fifths of the food that the people eat. About a third of the money spent on imported food goes on rice.

Other essential imports are heavy machinery and transport equipment.

The main suppliers are Britain, Japan, China and the United States. What kinds of goods do you think come from Britain?

Australia has become an important trading partner since World War II and Australian firms have invested large sums of money in Malaysia's industries. What Australian goods do you think would be on sale in Malaysia?

By taxi to Penang

People travel fairly easily by car or bus around the Malay Peninsula because Malaysia has the best road system in South East Asia. It has more than 14,000 kilometres of roads and about half are sealed.

The Malay Peninsula has two main trunk roads. The western one follows the route taken by the railway, while the eastern one follows the coast. Two east-west roads link the two main trunk roads. Sabah and Sarawak have comparatively few roads but the government is pushing ahead with an extensive programme of building roads through the jungles of Borneo. What are some of the problems you think might be involved?

Instead of travelling by road, some visitors prefer to travel by Malayan Railways' train, the Golden Blowpipe. Tourists can travel by train all the way from Singapore to the border of Thailand and beyond into other countries of South East Asia if they wish to.

Communications

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting is responsible for major matters of policy in Malaysian broadcasting. The day-to-day operations are under the director-general of Radio-Television Malaysia (RTM). It broadcasts in four main languages—Malaysian, Chinese, English and Tamil.

Examine the television programs listed in this Malaysian newspaper. Which would you expect to see on your own television stations? Which are different? What does this tell you about the degree to which Malaysian culture has been changed by the influence of films and programs in English? Notice the different languages in use. What problems do you think this would cause? Compare the Malaysian program with a typical day's television in Australia or New Zealand. What programs are broadcast in languages other than English in Australia and New Zealand? What are these languages?

On your TV this week

TODAY: The Movie of the Week, isn't it Show-Aids as the young spirit of a sleek New England town who comes up against a very ingenious killer whom he investigates a series of clues of closely parallel. Also starring are Edmund O'Brien and Lloyd Nolan (10:40 NI).

Star Soccer: The Downland Show and Deputy Dwyer are cancelled for a regular schedule — the 46th Malaysian Open (12:10 NI).

Foreigner Lamp: guests in **Fun For Your Life** (drama The Sex Clock about the cases of two husbands hunting New York career girls who chase Laine and Brian on their business trip off Mexico (9:50 NI)).

Sally the Seal and his friend Tom find an Indian food lunch team, lose it to a sea-

out and find it again (6:10 NI).

Gomer Pyle cooks a simple reconnaissance mission when the plotline is on sea maneuvers, and captures a submarine (8:35 NI).

MONDAY: Sports Action Profile spotlights Ron Lyle, boxer (5:25 NI). **Kanak** finds a lead in his search for a missing million in a betty girl photograph who happens to be on the scene when the money disappears, in **A Million Here** (10:20 NI).

Arvid Palmer plays Tony Jackson in the second part of the series, **The Best of My Luck** in **Bulala** (9:45 NI).

TUESDAY: Chief Alan Prentiss, star of this

stumped by a series of high-rise burglaries, a clever, check-up on a case and the grisly murder of a Lane Doe, and has to cope with pressure from her department on top of all that in **The Desperate World of Lane Doe** (10:50 NI).

WEDNESDAY: Nightclub entertainer Danny Williams becomes an impossible step mother in **The Silvery Linda** when he grows her for her TV debut — until she decides she would rather be a water boy for her brother's football team, in **Make Room for Daddy** (6:10 NI).

Kajak investigates a mild-mannered accountant whose boss and subordinates are systematically killed by a sniper in **Acts of Deceit** (Men (9:55 NI)).

Dickie has a new girlfriend and so the delight of the fastidious Felix, decides to

go on a needless kick to win her, based on **The Old** **Creole** starts **Deception** of Next to Impossible (9:30 NI).

THURSDAY: The Cannons Gets met Red-beard the Pirate (L), the Caribbean Kook when they get a job to perform on a luxury Caribbean liner — and find all their audience locked away in the dilapidated (10:30 NI).

FRIDAY: Detective Cannon makes his last appearance for this series with **Death is a Double Cross** (9:45 NI).

SATURDAY: Mickey Rooney plays the lead role in the **Afternoon** **Miss Andy Hardy** Gets Spring Fever, a 1939 comedy. He falls for an older woman, **Andy Hardy**, and wants to leave school to support her, but is deterred (2:50 NI).

A moonlighting waiter is the sole witness to a mob murder in **Secret Witness on Maxwell** **Face-Off**. Escaping from the killers, who spot him he drops his library book, and becomes a mark of man (8:10 NI).

YOUR SUNDAY TV & RADIO GUIDE

TV Malaysia

NETWORK ONE

- 2.45 P.M.** Programme Summary
2:47 Toto Defo
2:50 Tennis special — 4th Malaysian Open
3:59 Weather
4:10 Sally — Price of Freedom
6:40 Majallah Wanita
7:10 Bintang-Bintang
7:40 Khasanah Rina
8:00 Programme Summary
8:17 Potret Pekerja
9:00 News
9:30 Weather
9:31 Peristiwa
9:42 Fun For Your Life
10:32 Movie of the Week
11:42 Late News
11:53 Weather
11:55 Close.

NETWORK TWO

- 4:00 P.M.** Programme Summary
4:45 Tamil Film
6:55 Programme Summary
7:00 News in Tamil
7:15 DaGoo
7:30 Rescue 8
8:09 News in Mandarin
8:15 Daling
8:30 Toto Results
8:32 Gomer Pyle
9:00 News in Bahasa Malaysia
9:21 Peristiwa
9:45 HAZI AL HARBI
10:08 The Game Game



Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney in a 1939 picture. They co-star in **Andy Hardy Gets Spring Fever** (NI Saturdays).

Radio Malaysia

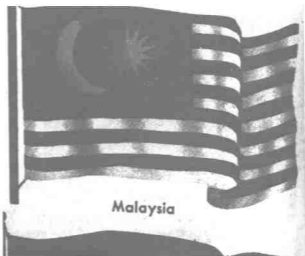
NATIONAL NETWORK

- 6:00 A.M.** News; 6:05 Lagu-lagu Mar; 6:20 Nayadi; 6:30 Lagu-lagu Bersejarah; 6:43 Harga Getah Harian; 6:45 Sinar Pembangunan; News; 1:0 News Headlines; 7:13 Gemilang RIA; 7:28 Reunings; 8:00 Berita Laju; 7:30 Dendang dan Lagu; 8 News; 8:30 Doktor Di Radio; 8:45 Sajak Hari; 9 Summary; 9:02 Dari Kampus Ke Kampus; 9:30 Cukai; 10 Rampalan Pahlawan Keselamatan; 10:30 Berita Matabah; 10:45 Mari Kita; 11:15 Berita; 11:30 Dendang Aali; 11:15 Berbalas Pantun.
12 NOON Summary; 12:05 Peristiwa Berbalas; 12:30 Samsat; 12:45 Gambia; 12:44 Bang Waktu Zohor; 12:49 Selam

- Saatie Facts and Fancies; 10:30 Young World; 11 Famous Melodies; 11:30 Hiburan Hiburan IRI.
12 NOON P.M. Playhouse; 12:30 Salim Mesra; 12:45 Interlude; 12:49 Dalam Meryu; 1:30 News; 1:40 Musik Tengah Hari; 2:00 Rencoi; 2:30 About Story; 2:45 Ikhlas Samudra; 3:00 Tamar; Kana-kana; 3:30 From Campus to Campus; 4:00 Sunday Tea Time; 4:30 Deep-Deepment in Perspective; 5 News; 5:10 Musical Medley; 5:30 Deeply's Choice; 6:00 News; 6:10 Twilight; 6:30 News; 6:40 The light Time; 7 Summary; 7:02 Interlude/Race results; 7:10 Peristiwa Dunia; 7:30 Calling All Hospitals.
8 News; 8:10 Usahan Minggu



Malaysian coat of arms.



Malaysia

The Malaysian flag is a yellow crescent and star on a blue background in the upper left hand corner. The yellow is the colour of royalty and the blue stands for the unity of the Malaysian people. The crescent represents Islam. The star's fourteen points and the flag's fourteen red and white stripes symbolise Malaysia's fourteen original states.

How is Malaysia governed?

The government of Malaysia is more like the government of Australia than that of Britain, although the British originally set up the institutions of government that became state Parliaments after independence was granted in 1957.

The official head of the government is a non-political figure called the Yang di-Pertuan Agong (king).

Parliament consists of two houses. The Dewan Ra'ayat is the Malaysian House of Representatives, and its members are elected by the various states. All Malaysian citizens over the age of twenty-one have the right to vote, but voting is not compulsory.

The Dewan Negara is the Senate or upper house of the Malaysian Parliament. Over half its members are elected by the thirteen state Parliaments. The rest are appointed for periods of six years by the Yang di-Pertuan Agong on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. The Dewan Negara reviews laws that have already been passed by the lower house. In theory it can delay bills for a year, but it usually passes them.

The main power is in the hands of the Prime Minister who is normally the leader of the political party that gets the most votes at elections. He appoints ministers to his cabinet and these men carry out most of the work of government in Malaysia. The state Parliaments' powers are

limited by the constitution and their most important functions include controlling land administration and local government, providing low cost housing and running the fire service. Can you find out how Australia and New Zealand are governed?

The official heads of the thirteen states that make up Malaysia are the rulers, most of whom are called Sultans. The legislative assemblies are the Parliaments of the states.

Local government is not highly developed in Malaysia and some areas have no local government at all. Unlike cities in Australia and New Zealand, Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia, does not have a city council. The city is governed by a commissioner and a body of advisors.

The main kinds of local authorities in Malaysia are municipalities, town councils, town boards, rural and district councils and local councils. Municipalities with large populations are responsible for things like public health, electricity, water supplies, fire brigades, public works, public transport, building and traffic control.

Make a chart of the government institutions of Malaysia and then one of Australia or New Zealand. Which institutions are similar and which are different? What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of a system like that of Australia or Malaysia? Compare it with a system like that of Britain or New Zealand.

Defence

Malaysia has a growing army, navy and air force to defend itself. It has both regular forces consisting of full-time professionals and volunteer forces consisting of part-time volunteers. In addition, Malaysia has received help from other countries. There are two fighter squadrons of the Royal Australian Air Force based at Butterworth in northern Malaya.

What was Malaysia like in the past?

Archaeologists believe that there have been people in Malaysia for thousands of years. The oldest human skull so far discovered is one found in the Niah Caves, and archaeologists think it is at least 35,000 years old.

They believe that people like those who now live in New Guinea inhabited Malaya about 10,000 years ago.



The Porta di Santiago, symbol of the state of Malacca, is all that remains of the sixteenth century fortifications built by the Portuguese. Do you know what part Portuguese explorers played in the early European discoveries of Australia?

Traders visited the Malay Peninsula with goods including textiles, tin, pottery and precious stones. Indian traders brought their religions of Buddhism and Hinduism, and various Hindu and Buddhist kingdoms struggled for control of the peninsula.

Arab traders who were Muslims brought their religion Islam to the Malay Peninsula and Indonesia from about 1300AD onwards. The prince of Malacca, a kingdom on the south-west coast, became a Muslim, and his kingdom grew powerful during the fifteenth century and gradually gained control over much of the area. As a result Islam spread rapidly, and has remained the main religion of Indonesia and Malaysia to this day.

Apart from the mosques there is not much to remind visitors of the Malacca Sultanate, as the kingdom was called. But in some houses can be seen the influence of the Portuguese who captured Malacca in 1511.

The Dutch took Malacca from the Portuguese in 1641, and during the late eighteenth century the British began to set up trading ports in the area.

In 1826, they formed a colony made up of Malacca, the island of Penang and the island of Singapore, and called it the Straits Settlement. During the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the British gradually gained control over Sabah and Sarawak on the island of Borneo, together with the states that now form the Federation of Malaysia.

Japan conquered Malaya during World War II (1939-45).

The separate colonies were formed into the federation of Malaya in 1948 and Malaya gained its independence in 1957. From 1948 to 1960 the communists tried to take over Malaya's government. The communist forces were small but knew the jungle well and launched surprise attacks. The government finally defeated them.



The ancient palace of the Sultan of Perak is a relic of the unique old Malay architecture.

In 1963 the states of Malaya combined with Singapore and Sabah and Sarawak to form the Federation of Malaysia. The main common link of the separate neighbouring states was that they were all former British colonies and though this seemed like a good idea at the time, in practice it created more problems than it solved.

Even before the countries joined together, differences of language, culture and economics had caused tension between the Malays and the Chinese. Lee Kuan Yew, the leader of Singapore, which is mainly Chinese, protested against the privileges given to the Malays by the Malaysian government. On the other hand some Malays felt that the Chinese had too much control over the economy of the country.

These differences finally caused the Federation to break up. Riots broke out in Singapore in 1964 and although the Singapore government soon stopped them, the arguments between the Singapore and Malaysian governments became worse. Finally the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tunku Abdul Rahman, asked Singapore to withdraw from the Federation in August 1964. Lee Kuan Yew reluctantly agreed, and Singapore left Malaysia and became an independent country.

Malaysia's neighbours, Indonesia and the Philippines, were not pleased that Sabah and Sarawak were included in the new state of Malaysia. President Sukarno of Indonesia opposed Malaysia and troops fought along the borders of Indonesian and Malaysian Borneo. The dispute did not end until 1966.

In 1969 Tunku Abdul Rahman suspended parliament following riots between Malays and Chinese. He resigned in 1970 and named Tun Abdul Razak as his successor. Parliamentary government resumed in 1971. Razak died in 1976 and Datak Hussein Onn became Prime Minister.

What problems do you see for Malaysia in years to come? Do you think that such a multi-racial society will be able to live together in harmony?

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WACANA PENGAJIAN MELAYU

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