

MALAYSIA

A PICTORIAL HISTORY 1400-2004



The publishers gratefully acknowledge the generous support of the patron of this book:



First published in 2004 by Archipelago Press, an imprint of
Editions Didier Millet, in association with Arkib Negara Malaysia and The New Straits Times Press.

EDITIONS DIDIER MILLET

25 Jalan Pudu Lama
50200 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
<http://www.edmbooks.com>

ARKIB NEGARA MALAYSIA

Jalan Duta
50568 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

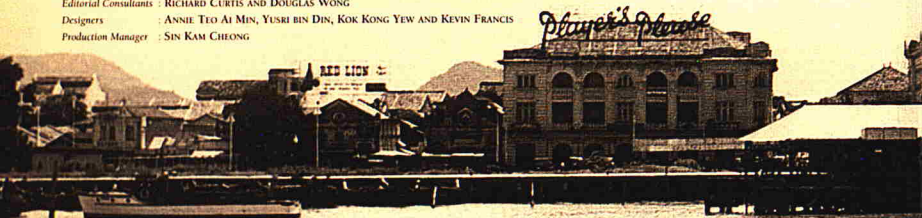
THE NEW STRAITS TIMES PRESS (MALAYSIA) BERHAD

Balai Berita
31, Jalan Riong
59100 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia

*Colour separated by Overseas Colourscan Sdn Bhd.
Printed by Star Standard, Singapore*

ISBN 981-4068-77-2

Editors : DIANNE BUEGER and SHARON HAM
Editorial Consultants : RICHARD CURTIS and DOUGLAS WONG
Designers : ANNIE TEO AI MIN, YUSRI BIN DIN, KOK KONG YEW and KEVIN FRANCIS
Production Manager : SIN KAM CHEONG



PICTURES ON pp. 1-11 AND pp. 16-19

p. 1, A Malay family at a FELDA rural resettlement scheme, 1960 (ANM); pp. 2-3, Weld Quay, Penang, 1962 (NSTP); pp. 4-5, High Street and Foch Avenue, Kuala Lumpur, 1960 (ANM); p. 7, Sultan Abu Bakar of Pahang inspecting a Volunteer Guard of Honour at Pekan, 1933 (ANM); p. 9 Malay police constables on their way to Friday prayers, Kuala Lumpur, c. 1920 (ANM); pp. 10-11, View of Kuala Lumpur from the clocktower at the Secretariat Building, 1938 (ANM); pp. 16-17, Officials and dignitaries at the 1903 Durbar, Kuala Lumpur; pp. 18-19, Floods in Kuala Lumpur, c. 1926 (ANM)

©2004 Editions Didier Millet

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or any information storage and retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from Editions Didier Millet, Arkib Negara Malaysia and The New Straits Times Press.

M
1182606

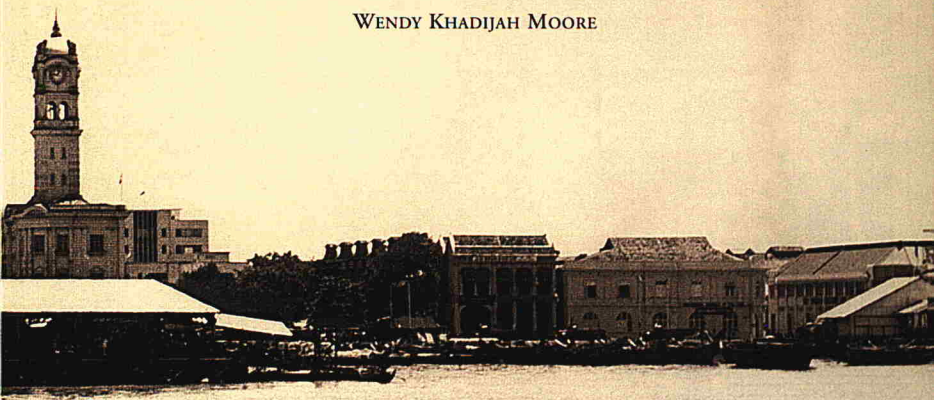
M
450-5
M40

31 MAY 2005
Perpustakaan Negara
Malaysia

MALAYSIA

A PICTORIAL HISTORY 1400-2004

WENDY KHADIJAH MOORE



ARCHIPELAGO
PRESS



 **NSTP**
THE NEW STRAITS TIMES PRESS (MALAYSIAN BRANCH)





CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 6

PREFACE 8

INTRODUCTION

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

12

CHAPTER 1

THE MALAY WORLD 1400-1849

20

CHAPTER 2

CHANGING TIMES 1850-1895

40

CHAPTER 3

COLONIAL JEWEL 1896-1914

82

CHAPTER 4

THE TURBULENT YEARS 1915-1945

164

CHAPTER 5

ROAD TO NATIONHOOD 1946-1969

218

CHAPTER 6

A NEW IDENTITY 1970-2004

282

BIBLIOGRAPHY 334

INDEX 336

PICTURE CREDITS 340

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It may seem a bit unusual to acknowledge those who are anonymous first, but in a book such as this, which relies on historical photography, many of the greatest contributors are unnamed. There are those intrepid early explorers who drew the earliest maps, sketched the first towns, and made watercolours of the landscape and its inhabitants. Of the ones that we know, my thanks to them, especially **Claudius Ptolemy**, the 2nd-century Greek mapmaker, **Manoel Godinho de Eredia**, the Portuguese Melakan of the 16th century, the water-colourist **James Wathen** and artist **William Daniell**. Then there are the first photographers, many of whom were also nameless, who experienced incredible difficulties to produce the earliest photos. My thanks to them and those who are identifiable, **K. Feilberg**, **G. R. Lambert**, **Charles J. Kleingrothe** and **Charles Hose**, amongst others.

I would also like to thank **Gretchen Liu** who was the inspiration for this book and whose *Singapore: A Pictorial History 1819-2000* is a model for this publication.

This book would not have reached fruition if not for the support and encouragement of **Y. Bhg. Dato' Habibah Zon**, the former Director General of **ARKIB NEGARA MALAYSIA (ANM)**, who gave me and **Radin Mohd Noh Saleh**, as photographic researchers, unprecedented access to the Arkib's entire photographic collection—over 45,000 images—in order to find the outstanding collection of images that compose much of this book. Many thanks also to everyone at ANM who helped us, including **Puan Hajah Rahani Jamil**, **En. G. Alphonso**, **Tuan Haji Shamsi Sharif**, **Puan Faridah Ishak** and **Puan Azimah Mohd. Ali**. Special thanks to **Puan Hajah Yatinah Riman**, who always entertained requests no matter how difficult, and **Puan Fazlina Harun**.

Our other co-publishers, **NEW STRAITS TIMES PRESS**, whose contributions were most appreciated for the 20th century chapters, were also tireless in their assistance. My thanks go to all the press photographers, past and present, whose works have been meticulously filed at the NSTP Resource Centre, where **Ms Cecilia Tan** (Manager, Information Services) and **Puan Ramjan Hamzah** (Librarian, Reference & Customer Support) gave invaluable assistance. Also, many thanks to **En. Ramlan Ramli**, **En. Mohd Yazid Jaafar**, **En. Mohd Ismail Rasip** and **Haji Shukor عثمان**.

Although the collections of ANM and NSI comprise the bulk of the book, many others also contributed both photography and assistance. **John Falconer** (Curator of Photographs, The British Library) not only allowed access to his early photographic collection, but also gave freely of his knowledge, which contributed greatly to my understanding of early photography in this region. Thanks also to **Annabel Teh Gallop** (Head, South and Southeast Asia Section of the British Library) and **Elaine Camroux-McLean** at the Foreign Commonwealth Office in London.

My sincere thanks to **Dato' Richard Curtis** whose advice on photo selection and editorial matters proved invaluable. He also gave me access, not only to his superb collection of early Malaysian prints and watercolours, but also to his personal photographic collection. His generosity in allowing these rare gems to be removed from their frames during the production of this book is sincerely appreciated.

I am also grateful to **Tengku Ismail Tengku Su** for graciously allowing access to his family photographs. Others who generously opened their collections include **Yu-Chee Chong**, **Leo Habs**, **Alex Moh**, **Tan Sri Dato' Seri (Dr) Ahmad Sarji bin Abdul Hamid**, **Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad**, the **Perak**, **Sabah** and **Sarawak** museums and **National Archives of Singapore**. Thanks also go to **Dato' Henry Barlow** for his editorial advice.

I am most grateful to **John Bastin**, **PC. Shivadas**, **John Gullick**, **Kay Lyons** and **Bob Reece** for reading the manuscript, (they are, of course not responsible for any factual errors) and **Khoong Hong Chye**, the production manager from **Overseas Colourscan**, who was most helpful throughout the project.

At **EDITORS DIDIER MILLET**, my first thanks to **Didier Millet**, for not only providing great inspiration and help over our long and fruitful working relationship, but also for contributing his personal photographic collection for inclusion in this book. Thanks are also due for his superb eye and taste in ensuring that each page is perfectly designed—a rare gift in today's publishing. Thanks also to **EDM** to **Charles Orwin**, **Dianne Buerger**, **Sharon Ham**, **Tim Auger** and the design team.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank **Radin Mohd Noh Saleh** for sharing this project with me, helping with the ideas and outline, spending weeks on end sorting photographs at both ANM and NSI, meticulously re-photographing collections and contributing many of his own photographs to the book.

Terima kasih semua



PREFACE

It is hard to imagine a project more ambitious than the attempt to document the history of Malaysia pictorially in one volume.

What a story this is, and what changes our nation has seen. The book begins with the Melaka Sultanate of the 15th century, documented mainly by the Dutch and Portuguese colonizers in maps and engravings before the age of photography. By the mid-19th century, the time of the first photographs, life in the Malay Peninsula was already clearly marked by the arrival of the British in their own colonial enterprise. The very early photographs from this time are fascinating in their depiction of a way of life and a natural environment that are changed almost beyond recognition, and students of photography and its history will find much of interest here.

A central theme of the book is Malaysia's progress from colonial status to that of an independent and unified nation. One of the key events depicted in these pages took place on 31 August 1957 when Merdeka was proclaimed, and the Federation of Malaya was born. Just a few years later, in 1963, came the Federation of Malaysia, which substantially defined the nation that we call Malaysia today.

The history of Malaysia in the years that followed has been an achievement on a scale that could scarcely have been dreamed of in earlier decades. These historically important developments have been dramatically documented by photographers of all kinds, including professionals working for newspapers.

Malaysia: A Pictorial History 1400-2004 is also a story of people. Photographs are fascinating social documents too. Here are images of Sultans, towkays, public servants, agricultural and industrial workers, every conceivable station in life. Whether in nostalgic mood or in a spirit of discovery, it is hard not to be entranced by the images here of changing fashions, homes, architecture, occupations, and entertainment, all reflecting the many cultures that make up multi-ethnic Malaysia.

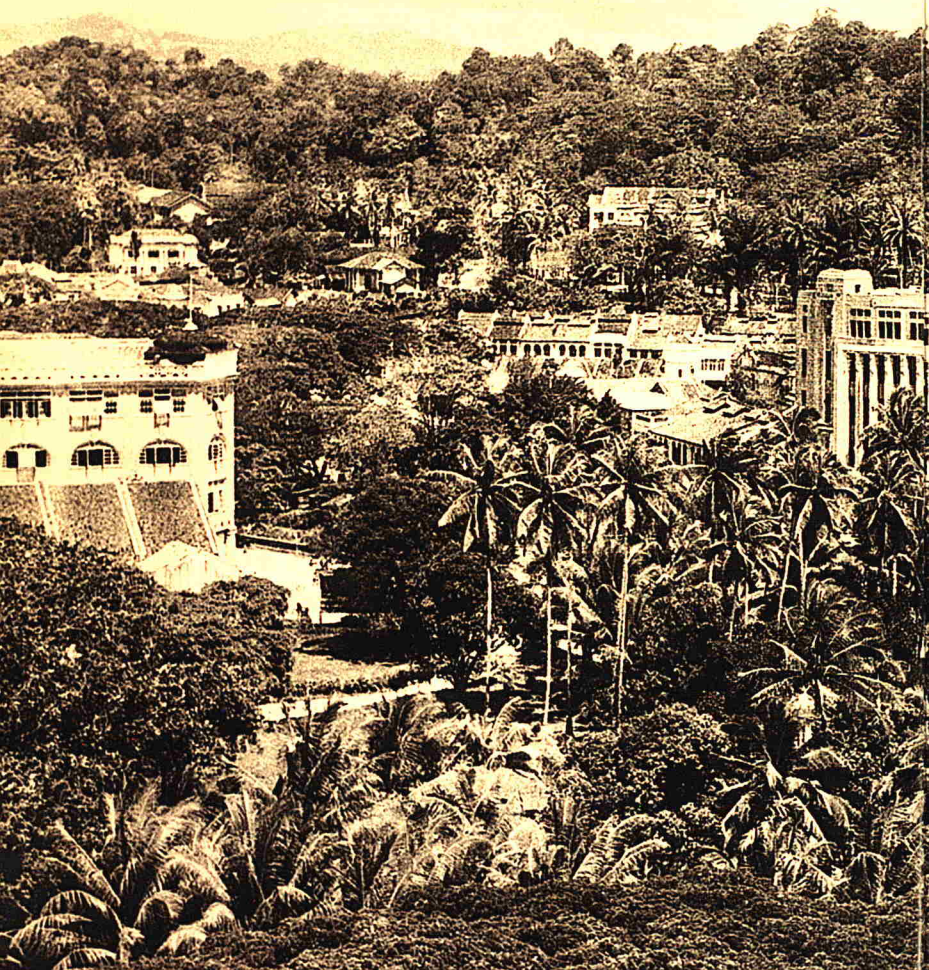
Many people have contributed their images to this book, but the greatest number has been provided by Arkib Negara Malaysia and the New Straits Times Press. I hope very much that by helping to bring this book about, the *New Straits Times* has contributed to the nation's awareness of its own identity. We are what history has made us, and insights such as this book vividly provides will entertain, inform, and foster an understanding of the place occupied by Malaysians in a world full of both challenges and great opportunities.

The *New Straits Times* is in partnership with Arkib Negara Malaysia as co-publishers of this book with Editions Didier Millet. The result of this collaboration is a documentation of Malaysia past and present that will be essential reading for all Malaysians, as well as for all those overseas who would like to know more about our country.

DATO' KALIMULLAH HASSAN

GROUP EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
NEW STRAITS TIMES PRESS









THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

It is said that there are at least two sides to every story. But what about a picture? Many would agree that 'a picture is worth a thousand words', and with Lewis Carroll's heroine, Alice, who asked: 'What is the use of a book without pictures or conversation?' in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

Alice would have loved this book, for there are pictures in abundance—over 1,000—spanning the last 600 years of Malaysia's history. The pictures are mainly in the form of photographs—from the oldest-known prints made from glass negatives to the filmless wonders of digital cameras—and include sketches, lithographs, etchings, aquatints and watercolours. They also tell the story of photography: how it began with a few professionals who were engaged by the well-to-do, and eventually evolved into one of the world's most popular hobbies. Every picture tells its own story, and every viewer sees something different.

It has been said that the past is a foreign country. And indeed, viewing a historical photograph transports us back in time. We wonder about the identity of the sitters, what their thoughts, emotions, desires and fears were; we observe how the fashions have changed in clothes and hairstyles. We marvel at how the skylines and architecture of towns and cities have changed with time. For instance, a panorama of Kuala Lumpur in the 1880s shows a village of thatched roof shanties, while Taiping in the same era had buildings with splendid architecture. Only 20 years later, however, Kuala Lumpur was a grand Moorish-style capital while Taiping had gone into picturesque decline—its early architecture is still recognisable today. Other photographs show the continuity or otherwise of culture: the traditional Malay dress of a century ago has survived with few alterations. However the be-robed, queue-wearing Chinese gentleman has little fashion in common with his Westernised descendants.

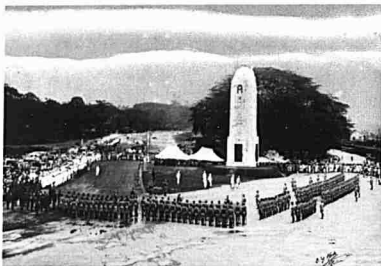
Often, pictures convey a sense of history more evocatively than words. Photographs of grand colonial mansions and their smartly-dressed inhabitants compared to those of early Malayan houses and their poorly clad dwellers reveal the gap that existed between the rich and the poor, and between the different races. The need for a nation to gain independence is perhaps more easily portrayed in photographs than through words.

However, a history in pictures has its limitations and its bias, created by the painter or photographer. Before the invention of photography in 1839, artists could easily eliminate whatever they did not want in their sketch or watercolour. Other elements could be improved upon or even invented. This process was streamlined even further when the original sketch or watercolour was transferred to a form acceptable for printing, such as lithography. It would seem imagination had a more important role than factual representation in the very first images of Malaysia, for the fanciful renderings of Melaka at that time contained details of landscape and town views that allowed the viewer to easily imagine what it was like to live in that ancient port.

With photography, the photographer's control over what appeared in his picture was achieved through the use of different camera angles, although he would have been limited by his equipment. In the earliest photographs from the 1860s, streets appeared deserted, but this was the result of the long exposure times needed—any moving objects either appeared blurred or became invisible in photographs. Then there was the choice of subject. Early photographers usually worked on a commercial basis and therefore chose their sitters and subjects according to what they felt would sell, hence the predominance of Europeans, colonial buildings, picturesque views and posed natives in traditional dress. The exception was the ruling class, the Malay Sultans and their families, who were immortalised in all their



ABOVE: Chinese goldminers, Bau, Sarawak, late 19th century.
FACING PAGE: Malay village in coconut grove, 1920s. (ANM)



Armistice Day at Kuala Lumpur, 1927. (ANMM)

splendour, as well as traders and towkays who were wealthy enough to engage a photographer. The life of the average Malaysian was rarely captured in those early days, and indeed this remained so until well into the 20th century.

It has been said that art for art's sake was originally a European concept. However, archaeologists have discovered drawings of pregnant tapirs and club-wielding hunters by Neolithic artists on the walls of a cliff outside today's city of Ipoh—these drawings date from 3,000 years ago and are believed to be the oldest existing pictorial record in Malaysia. A millennium after those drawings were made, indigenous artists in Sarawak immortalised their ancestors dancing on boats on the walls of the Niah Caves. Because of the severity of the climate, the only indigenous art that has survived from the earliest days of recorded history is on protected cave walls or on inscribed stones. A wealth of Buddhist-

Hindu artefacts dating from the 5th to the 13th centuries has been discovered in Bujang Valley, Kedah, but these are mainly religious relics and reveal little about the land and its people. Likewise for the carved stones found in Sarawak and megaliths in Sabah, Melaka and Negeri Sembilan, the most famous being the trio of standing stones at Pengkalan Kempas that depict a strange assortment of animal motifs as well as the Arabic word for Allah.

In this book, Malaysia's history is conveyed pictorially in six chapters. The first, 'The Malay World (1400–1849)', covers the long period before the invention of photography—from the beginning of the Melaka Sultanate to the approximate date when the first photographers arrived. The year 1400 was chosen because it represents the most popular beginning of Malaysian history (as opposed to pre- and proto-history), coinciding approximately with the creation of the Melaka Sultanate. When the territory converted to Islam, following the lead of other kingdoms in the Malay world, any artistic representations fell mainly under the auspices of Islamic art, which prohibited realistic likenesses. Thus the latter had to wait until the arrival of the first Europeans. It will never be known who was the first to capture a view of Malaysia. Perhaps it was a mariner who sketched the palm-fringed coastline as his barque plied the Strait of Melaka, or a trader who drew a picture of a handsome native woman in his diary. Sketches such as these might have filtered back to Europe to be redrawn as borders on 15th- and 16th-century maps. Portuguese and Dutch records provide the first glimpses of Melaka, but realistic paintings only became widespread when European travellers arrived in Melaka and Penang in the late 18th century.



1937 Indian rubber tappers posing by a rubber tree, 1929. (ANMM)



1931 Chinese goldminers at Batu, Sarawak, late 19th century.



1931 Sultan Alauddin Sulaiman Shah of Selangor (right) with Tengku Musa Fakhri (left). (ANMM)



1930 Sirdi Awa, Raja of Perlis (seated) with Lieutenant Colonel Sir John Campbell on his right and Che Mattin Han Kassim, Chief of Police, on his left. Kota Arau, 1928. (ANMM)



Early Chinese shophouses, Sarawak, 1940.

The second chapter, 'Changing Times (1850–1895)', begins with the first photographs of Malaysia, many of them previously unpublished rarities, which chronicle the early years of British intervention. At the beginning of this era, the colonialists only had footholds in Melaka and Penang, but by the end of the 19th century they were firmly established on the west coast and much of the east coast of the Peninsula and in Sarawak and Sabah. The photographs in this chapter are predominantly of Penang, where some outstanding photographers such as K. Feilberg were based, but there are also unique glimpses of Province Wellesley and other mainland centres, including the first pictures of Kuala Lumpur, and historically valuable images taken along the Perak River just before the so-called uprising when the British Resident was killed—an event that marked a rapid deterioration in Malay-British relations.

The third chapter, 'The Colonial Jewel (1896–1914)', begins with the establishment of the Federated Malay States (FMS) in 1896. It illustrates the boom years of not only the colonial era, but also of the studio photographer, and ends with the outbreak of World War I. Included here are a series of renowned images showing the almost-extinct lifestyle of Sarawak's indigenous peoples, and the portfolios of important photographers who travelled with their cumbersome equipment to record an amazing collection of events, people and places: from the pomp and pageantry of the Malay Durbars to the teeming pits of tin mines; from the wilderness of virgin rainforests to the planned streets of the new Moorish-style capital.

The fourth chapter, 'The Turbulent Years (1915–1945)', spans the uncertain decades between the wars, and includes the Great Depression and the Japanese Occupation and surrender. By then,

photography had become widespread and was more accessible; amateurs had made serious inroads into photographic studio incomes and postcards flooded the market. Press photographers began chronicling not only major events but also everyday life. The sanitised views of the past gave way to social documentary.

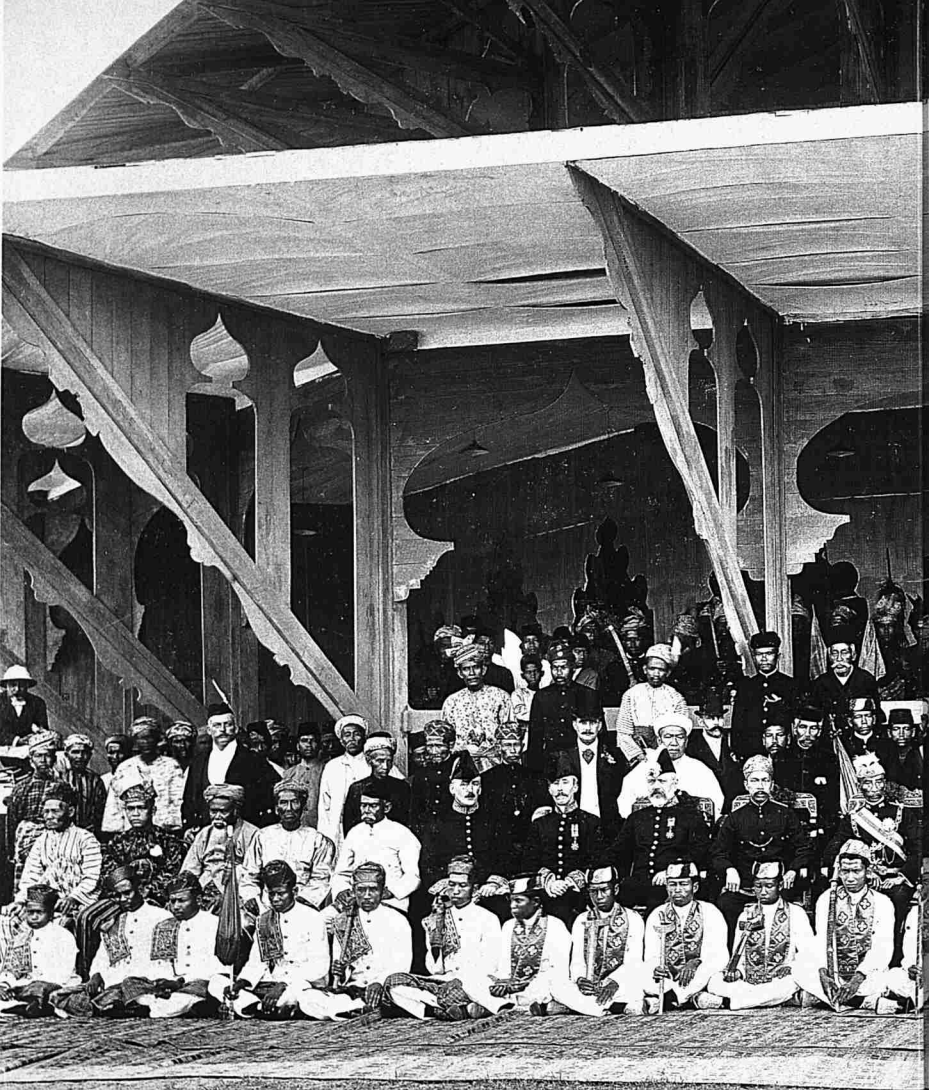
'Road to Nationhood (1946–1969)', the fifth chapter, follows the excitement of the post-war nationalist movements that led to Independence and the creation of Malaysia. Featured here are unforgettable images which were taken as the nation celebrated its freedom and began building a new identity. But it was not all euphoric—an Emergency declared against the Communist guerrilla uprising lasted 12 long years.

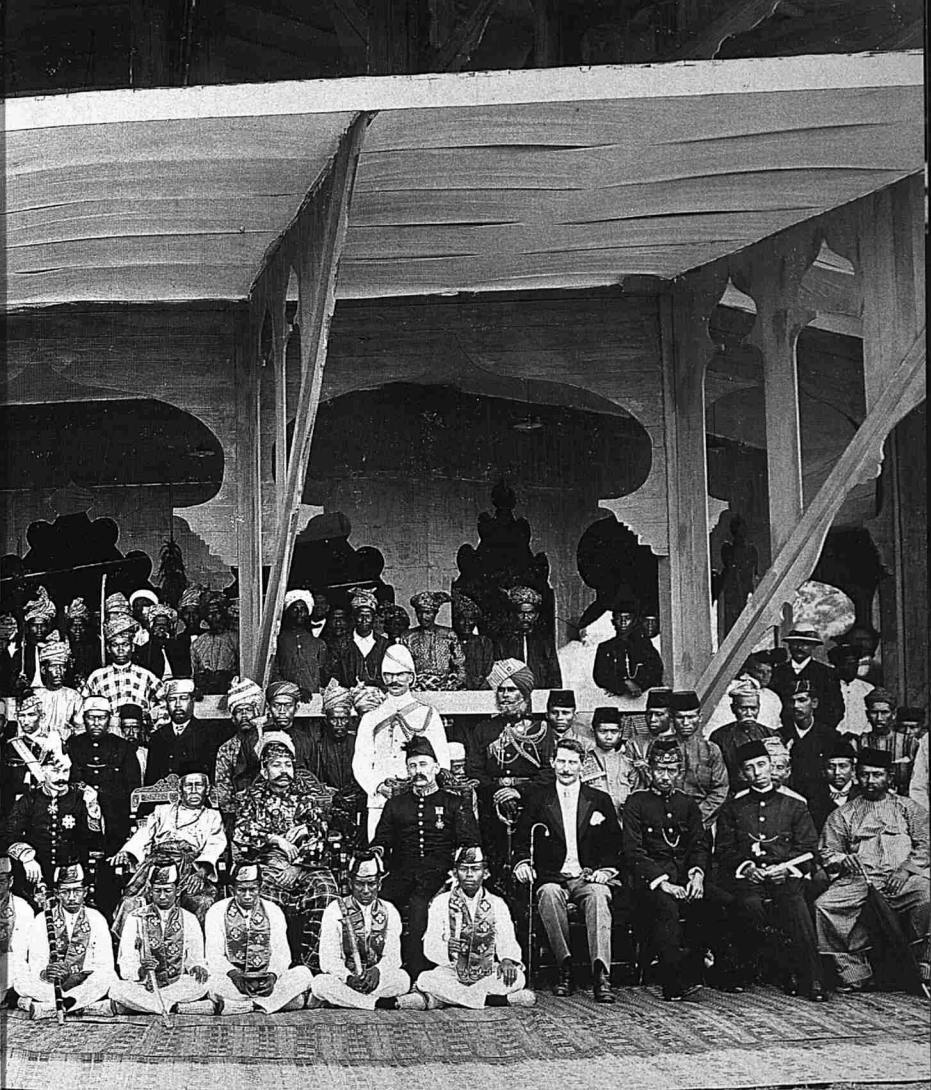
The sixth and final chapter, 'A New Identity (1970–2004)', covers the nation's emergence from the end of the Emergency to what it is today. This chapter is the most familiar, being of the most recent past, and provides a stunning contrast, both in the use of colour photographs as opposed to black-and-white, and in the meteoric changes that the nation has undergone in the last three decades. It is a way of measuring progress, and a vivid reminder that what is real today becomes history tomorrow.

It is a heady journey, through six centuries of Malaysian life. At times it is exhilarating, and other times disquieting. Every image here is thought-provoking, and conveys a potent message, that a nation is ready to call itself mature only when it accepts all of its past, no matter how discomfiting that may be.



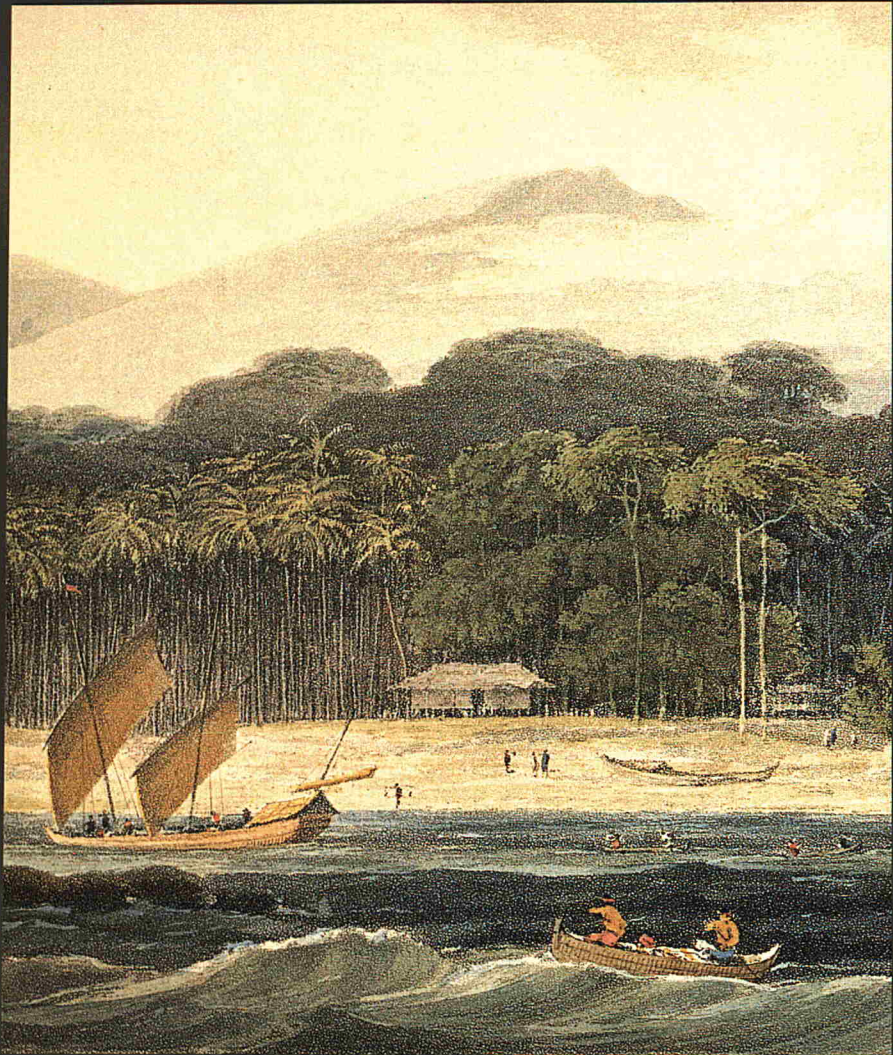
An anti-communist rally in Semenyih, Selangor, late 1950s. (ANM)











THE MALAY WORLD

1400–1849

Our imagination must suffice, for no pictures survive, if indeed they ever existed, of the glorious century of the Melaka Sultanate, of the palace with its seven-tiered copper roof, its mirrored walls and gilded doors, or of the players—the bejewelled sultans with their supernatural aura, the court with all its intrigues, the traders, artisans, scholars and missionaries who created the 15th-century empire that ever since has served as the paragon of Malay culture and success.

Some of the splendour of the Malay courts is captured, however, in an intriguing engraving from the 1600s, entitled 'Carosse Royal de trente roues tire par douze Elephants', which shows a royal party in an unusual canopied carriage pulled by a dozen elephants (see page 23). Which Malay court it depicts is unknown, and in all likelihood it was engraved from a description rather than a personal experience, as were many engravings of the day. However, the party may be that of Admiral Pieter Willemsohn Verhooff, on his way to the Johor court to participate in the joyous celebrations at the end of Ramadan in 1608.

Despite the lack of images, we know of Melaka's glory from two important sources written a century after its demise: the prose masterpiece, *Sejarah Melayu*, the court history of the sultanate (it was recently awarded literary heritage listing by UNESCO), and the *Suma Oriental* by the Portuguese Tome Pires who wrote that Melaka was 'of such importance and profit that it seems to me it has no equal in the world'.

Some of the oldest surviving illustrations of what is now Malaysia appear in the *Description of Malacca, Meridional India and Cathay* (1613), by Godinho de Eredia, who was born in Melaka in 1563, the son of a Bugis princess and a Portuguese. His sketches include the first 'realistic' renderings of a Malay wearing a sarong with his 'Crys' tucked in his waistband, a native boat, and a durian and mangosteen.

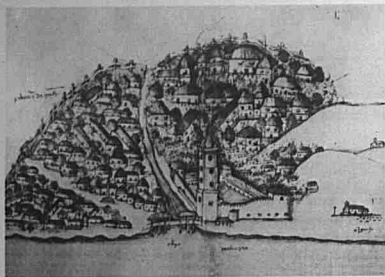
Founded in the late 14th century by Parameswara, a Sumatran prince of impeccable pedigree, Melaka was the last and the most famous of the Malay trading kingdoms that had dominated the Strait of Melaka and the Malay Peninsula since antiquity. Its domination may have only lasted little more than a century (1396–1511), but its fame was such that even in its early years it

received envoys from China and was given a monopoly of Chinese goods, a fact that ensured its success as the premier trading emporium of Southeast Asia. It was from one of these missions that the Wubeizi Chart dates, a sailor's illustrated map indicating tracks of vessels entering and departing the Melaka estuary, together with a stylised illustration of the hill overlooking the harbour (now St Paul's Hill). Many other ports were mentioned, including Terengganu and its seaside hill, as well as a number of east coast islands.

The Malay Peninsula was named the Chersonesus Aurea ('The Golden Peninsula') by Greek astronomer and mathematician Claudius Ptolemy, while the Indians referred to it as the Land of Gold. The oldest surviving map of the Peninsula is the 13th-century *Geographike Huphegesis* ('Guide to Geography') that was based on data collected by Ptolemy in the 1st century. The earliest modern map of Malaya and Sumatra is by Martin Waldseemüller (1470–1518) in 1513. A woodcut reprint (below), edited by Michael Servetus, was printed in Lyon in 1535. It featured some long-forgotten trading posts on an oddly shaped peninsula that would persist on other European maps until the arrival of the Portuguese in the early 16th century. No doubt, though, there were local mapmakers before this, as Afonso de Albuquerque, founder of Portugal's Southeast Asian empire, and the conqueror



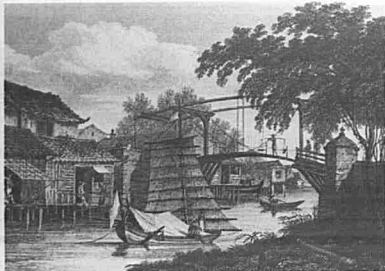
ABOVE Reprint of Waldseemüller's map with several additions, printed in 1535 by Gaspar Thesel. FACING PAGE A coastal settlement near Cape Richards (Tanjung Tuan) near present-day Port Dickson, early 1800s.



This inaccurate though recognisable etching of Melaka, inscribed 'Das Lendas da India' (1515), is one of the earliest surviving views of the port. (ANM)

of Melaka, apparently used Javanese charts that even showed Portugal and Brazil.

When the Portuguese finally conquered Melaka in 1511, forcing the Sultan and his followers to flee to Pahang on the east coast, a series of events eventually led to the end of Malay dominance of the Malay World, an area that is now the Philippines, the Indonesian Archipelago, and the Malay Peninsula, including southern Thailand. Melaka was the heir to the great tradition of trading kingdoms established by Srivijaya in the 7th century; after its demise no other Malay kingdom attained similar economic dominance. When the Portuguese entered the region in pursuit of trade dominance, they paved the way for the



'Draw Bridge at Malacca', engraved by George Cooke, 1811. (ANM)

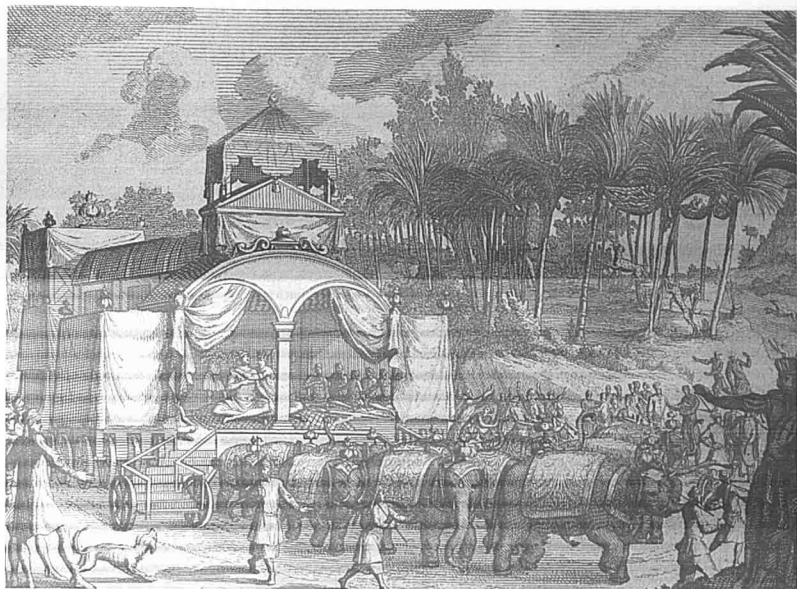
Dutch and later the British, who created their own trading hubs in Penang, Singapore and Batavia. This ultimately led to the economic demise of the Malay-Indonesian commercial kingdoms which had ruled the region for at least a millennium. Political demise followed as the Dutch and British courted different rulers, causing power struggles that proved advantageous to their quest for dominance in the region.

Melaka may have been the most powerful sultanate but there were other important kingdoms such as Kedah, Perak, Patani (now part of Thailand), Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, and later Johor and Selangor. The coastline of Borneo, across the South China Sea, was still controlled by Malay sultanates although the interior—as was much of the Peninsula—was still the domain of indigenous tribes. Other than inscribed stones and coins, however, no pictorial evidence of this time has survived, a result of both the climate and the introduction of Islam in the early 16th century with its tradition of decorative, not realistic, art.

The Portuguese lost no time, when they took Melaka, in destroying the Sultan's palace and the great mosque. Within a year (1512), they had erected their fortress A Famosa (The Famous One), which became the most illustrated structure of the Malay Peninsula of the 16th and 17th centuries. Its walls encompassed a hill (later known as St Paul's), and within the fortifications there were churches, residences, and a hospital. Drawn in naive style, and despite its numerous errors, the earliest illustration, dated 1515 (top left), depicts the fortress on the southern bank of the river, the covered bridge across it, the traders' town on the opposite bank, and the Strait of Melaka



1511 Afonso de Albuquerque, the victor of Goa and Portuguese conqueror of Melaka, c. 1511. (ANM)
 1603-06 Dom Andre Furtado de Mendonça, Governor of Melaka (1603-06). (ANM)



*De Oogstroom beschiedt Kantonen Beteld de vterste torens alle par duince klapplaten in Pionen van des dier
vull, 1755.*

in front—pictorial elements that would survive for centuries as the quintessential image of Melaka.

This is the backdrop to the earliest surviving illustration of a historical event, the unsuccessful 1606 Dutch attack on Melaka by Admiral Cornelis Matelief, that accurately depicts a naval battle being waged in front of the city. Two years later the abortive attempt by Admiral Verhoeff was also illustrated, showing boats putting ashore north of the fortress. Finally, in 1641, after a long siege, Melaka fell to the Dutch. But despite illustrations showing the greatness of 'De Stad Malacka', it had been in decline since the Portuguese takeover when Muslim traders had defected to Sumatran ports. By the time the British arrived to occupy the town during the Napoleonic wars

(1795–1818) it was a ghost of its former self. Then, fearing that the returning Dutch would threaten the trade of Penang, their new acquisition, they hastened Melaka's decay by destroying the fortress in 1807. As Munshi Abdullah wrote in his historic masterpiece, the *Hikayat Abdullah* (1849): 'the Fort was the pride of Malacca and after its destruction the place lost its glory ...' Illustrators of the time reflected Munshi's words, showing a picturesque but decaying town.

Meanwhile, however, British energies, as well as travelling artists, were busy at work in Penang, the island port that was acquired from the Sultan of Kedah by Captain Francis Light for the English East India Company in 1786. There was an illustrator on hand to record the flag-raising ceremony when the island was ceded, and the etching from this drawing by Captain Elisha Hapraud (see bottom left of page 25) records one of the earliest



Melaka and Singapore Strait from Dart N. of Lesonius Halvus' voyages. 1608. This engraving illustrates Cornelis Matheij's attempt to wrest Melaka from the Portuguese in 1600.

attempts at a realistic rendering, showing not only the British officials but also Malay houses in the background, evidence of earlier occupation. Light had spent years convincing the English East India Company to set up a base in Penang where ships could refit instead of depending on Melaka, which was then under Dutch rule. His free port quickly attracted traders from as far afield as China, India and Arabia, resulting in a cosmopolitan population that endures today: Penang's commercial success signalled the beginning of the end for the Malay-run ports, and

when the British took over Dutch-run Melaka and Java during the Napoleonic wars in 1795, their supremacy in the region seemed assured. With the handing back of Dutch colonial possessions after the wars ended in 1815, fears that the Dutch would take over the Malay Peninsula prompted Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles of the English East India Company, Penang, to found the new trading port of Singapore in 1819.

It is with the occupation of Penang that Malaysia's visual history really begins in earnest. Even in the late 18th and early 19th century, the turtle-shaped island off the Peninsula's northwest coast was already developing its enduring reputation

as a destination for visitors. Along with the merchants, adventurers and opportunists flocked to the new free port, such as artists Edward Locker (1805) and James Wathen (1811), whose fine watercolours and sketches depicted Penang's earliest years in accurate, albeit romanticised, detail. As historical documents, these illustrations provide a wealth of material, not only for scholars of history but also for architects. For example, William Daniell's aquatint of Suffolk House (built by Governor Phillips between 1808 and 1811) was studied by conservationists engaged in its restoration to find out what it looked like before renovations obscured its pure Georgian lines.

In the style of the early 19th century, artists were drawn to the Romantic: picturesque waterfalls, sweeping views from the hills, elegant mansions and ordered lawns and gardens. Human interest was minimal: of the 10,000 inhabitants recorded by 1800, only a few tiny figures—Europeans in their Sunday best and exotically attired Asians—featuring as decorative elements. Photographic realism was still a good half-century in the future.

As a result of Dutch concerns about British expansion after the founding of Singapore, the Anglo-Dutch Treaty was signed in 1824, carving up the Malay World for the two colonial powers. A line dividing the Strait of Melaka gave the Dutch influence over Sumatra and all the territories south of Singapore—creating what later became the boundary of Indonesia—while the British were given control over the Malay Peninsula. However, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Terengganu were still nominally under Siamese suzerainty. In 1826 Penang, Melaka and Singapore were grouped to form the Straits



'View of the North Beach from the Council House' depicting the early settlement of Penang, coloured aquatint engraved by William Daniell, 1821.

Settlements, which was a dependency of India until it became a crown colony under the Colonial Office in London in 1867.

Over the South China Sea in Borneo, another scenario was being acted out that not only captured the imagination of travelling artists but also eventually led to the jungled island being divided into British and Dutch territories, then consequently Malaysian and Indonesian territories. The end result would hardly have been imagined by James Brooke, an India-born Englishman, who had sailed to Borneo on an exploring expedition. After assisting the Brunei Governor to suppress an uprising by the local Malays against the Sultan of Brunei, who nominally ruled over much of western Borneo, he was granted the first tract of what later became Malaysia's largest state, and in 1841 was given the title Rajah of Sarawak. Much of his later land acquisitions were the result of the so-called Piracy Wars, a British Navy-backed campaign against those Iban and Malays who continued to resist Brooke's authority with the covert support of the Sultan of Brunei. The doings of the 'White Rajah' provided fascinating reading for Victorian armchair travellers who followed his exploits sensationalised in the pages of popular illustrated weeklies.

But in the first half of the 19th century, all these political machinations had little effect on the general population away from the main trading centres. Life in the kampong and the court was still feudal, societies were self-sufficient and independent, though not for long. As Munshi Abdullah remarked when the British destroyed Melaka's fort: 'The old order is destroyed, a new world is created and all around us is change'.



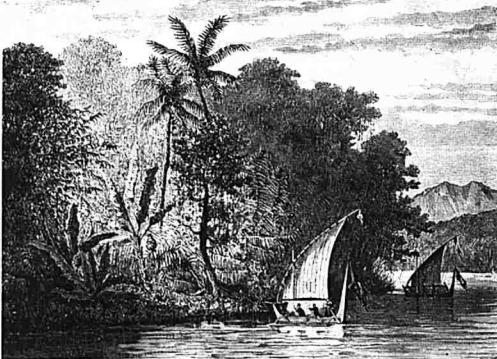
An engraving drawn by Captain Elisha Trapaud inscribed 'View of the North Point of the Prince of Wales Island and the Ceremony of christening it', 1788.

The civilised Malayo natives are honey-coloured and of pleasant appearance – their bodies are well-built: they wear a thin *haju* or short shirt made of muslin, and round the waist a skirt of Chotomandel cloth: this is rolled round so as to leave the right leg uncovered: in the waist they carry a knife two palms long: this is a dagger-blade called a *Crys*.³ So wrote Godinho de Eredia in the late 16th century, on the original inhabitants of Melaka, which at the time was not only the name of the port city, but also the name the Portuguese gave to the entire Malay Peninsula.

As descendants of the legendary ancient mariners who had sailed and settled the islands of the Indian and Pacific Oceans, the Malays lived by estuaries or along major rivers, the thoroughfares of the day. Their lifestyle was invariably connected with the sea. Eredia also listed Malay boats, including those he called 'lancharas', probably similar to the *prau* pictured here (4).

Apart from stick figures painted on the walls of caves over two millennia ago, there are no surviving illustrations of Malayasia's early population before the coming of the first Europeans. An early 19th-century engraving entitled 'Malay Race' (3) depicts Bornean natives and natives of Java, who were all described as Malays. Eredia gives their place of residence as from the Equator to the Tropic of Cancer. A rare view of an early village is seen in William Daniell's 1810 engraving of a Malay village in Penang (6).

There were small cosmopolitan trading communities in entrepôts such as Kedah and Melaka, but the riverine and coastal areas, in both the Peninsula and Borneo, were the preserve of the Malays, while the interiors were peopled by diverse groups, from the Orang Asli of the Peninsula to the dozens of different ethnic peoples of Austronesian background that made up the population of Borneo.



1 'Nanon Pirate' from Frank Marryat's *Borneo and the Indian Archipelago*, London, 1848

2 'Native Malay of Borneo', c. 1820

3 'Natives of Borneo and Indonesia', drawn by A. Huttula, engraved by R. Anderson, Blackie & Son, London, Glasgow, & Edinburgh, c. 1830

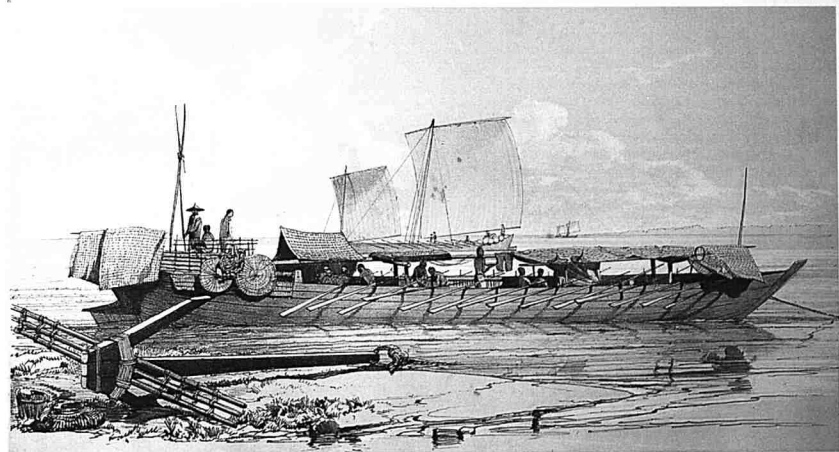
4 'Cabotier Malais nommé Lantcha' from *Detroit de Malacca (Strait of Melaka)*, lithograph, Admiral François-Edmond Paris, c. 1830

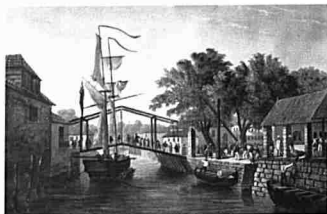
5 'Islands in the Straits of Malacca', c. 1820

6 'A Malaya Village', drawn and engraved by T. & W. Daniell, 1810

7 'Ancre Malaise y Sampan Poucatt au mouillage à la voile' from *Detroit de Malacca*, lithograph, Admiral François-Edmond Paris, c. 1830





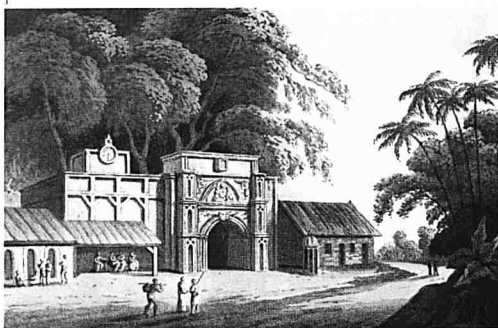
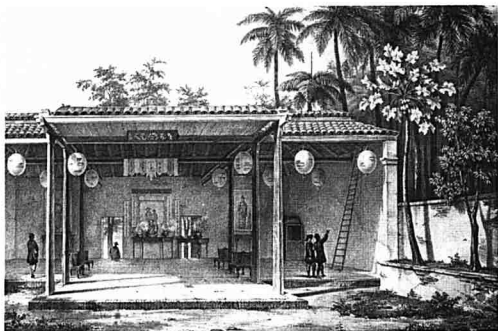


In the early 1800s, globe-trotting artists visited Melaka and recorded their impressions during an uncertain era (1795–1818) when the town was under temporary British rule. At the end of the Napoleonic wars it was returned to Dutch rule but was handed back to the English East India Company on the signing of the Anglo-Dutch Treaty in 1824.

An early view in 1807 (see page 221) shows the Melaka River spanned by a wooden drawbridge and bordered on its northern bank by Chinese-style townhouses. A similar view 30 years later (1) shows a much livelier scene with crowds in the Town Square that include British troops, perhaps brought in for the Nanning War.

James Wathen, an amateur artist, visited Melaka in 1811 and recorded his impressions, such as that of the Porta de Santiago (4), the only remaining gate of the Portuguese fortress *A Famosa* after the British destroyed it five years earlier. The coat-of-arms over the archway was added by the Dutch and remains to this day.

Melaka's most famous view, even today, is its historic Dutch-style Town Square with the Dutch Governor's residence, the *Stadthuys* (1640s) and Christ Church (1753), easily recognisable in August-Nicholas Valliant's *States House, Malacca* (2). But the most unusual engraving of Melaka from this period is that of the Chinese temple in Melaka (3), possibly the Sam Po Kong.



1 *'Debarcadere a Malacca', coloured aquatint by Captain Cyrille Laplace after Barthélemy Lauvergne, from Voyage de la Favourite 1830–32, Paris, 1835*

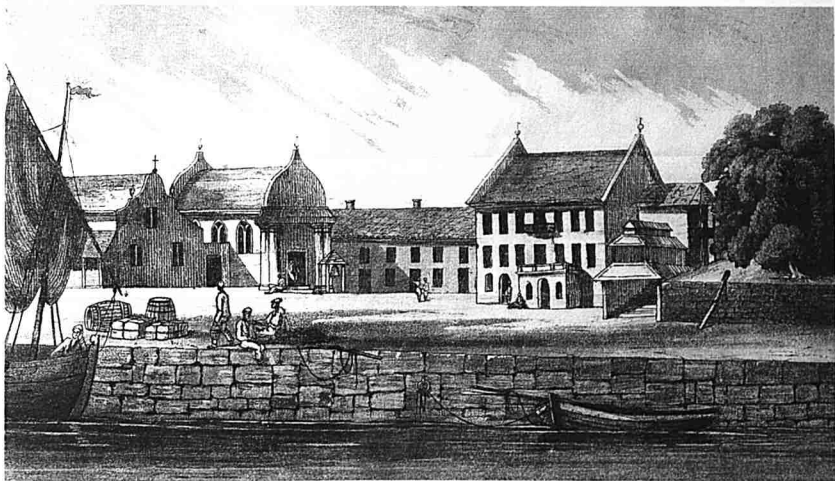
2 *August-Nicholas Valliant's 'States House, Malacca', from Voyage Autour du Monde, 1836–37, Paris, 1845–52*

3 *Chinese Temple, Melaka. 'Intérieur d'une pagode dans un quartier Chinois a Malacca' by J.E.B. de la Toussaine, Paris, 1828*

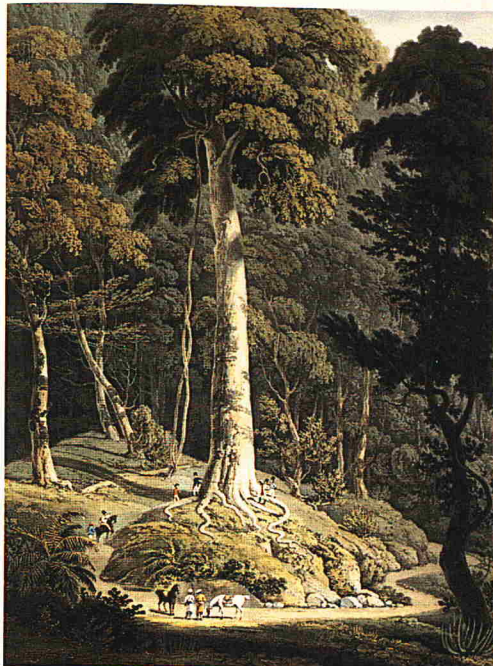
4 *'Ancient Gateway Leading to the Water, at Malacca' by James Wathen, 1814*
5 *'Restes des fortifications Portugaises a Malacca' from Voyage de la Favourite 1830–32, Paris, 1835*

6 *Inscribed 'Ancienne Eglise A Malacca' from Voyage de La Bonite, 1836–37*

7 *'View of the Church and Stad House of Malacca' by Captain M. Poole, 1834*







When artist James Wathen visited Penang in 1811 he remarked that 'the East India Company may abandon the island but it will still be a place of interest to people who voyage'. Almost two centuries later his words ring true, as indicated by Penang's enduring appeal to tourists. In his *Journal of a Voyage in 1811 and 1812 to Madras and China*, Wathen noted the lush rainforest and frolicking whales in the crystal-clear seas of Penang. His 'View, Looking over George Town, to the Quعدة Coast' (3) shows a small settlement of white, Georgian-style buildings, European tall ships and Malay *prau* in the harbour, and the mountains of Kedah in the background. Viewed from a distance, George Town has an unreal air to it, that perhaps sums up the attitude of those gentlemen artists who romanticised everything they viewed.

The aquatints of artist William Daniell give a much more detailed look at Penang's early settlement. However, Daniell never actually travelled to Penang, and his 'Views in Prince of Wales's Island' (Penang's official title) were engraved after a series of oil paintings by Captain Robert Smith, an engineer-artist stationed on the island in 1814.

Daniell's aquatints also included views of Glugor House (5), the property of David Brown, who was determined to realise Francis Light's vision of Penang becoming a spice-production centre, and panoramic views from Penang Hill, a convalescent retreat for the British serving in India. It was the first of the hill stations that would later be built in India and Malaya.

Penang's inhabitants played a minor role in early artists' renderings although Edward Cree, a naval officer, recorded his naive but vivid impressions of a local society function in his watercolour 'Fitting the Young Ladies for Society' (8).

1 'View of Suffolk House', engraved by William Daniell, aquatint, 1821

2 'Dr Mackinnon's residence, near the Bermah village', drawn by James Wathen, aquatint, 1814

3 'View, Looking over George Town, to the Quعدة Coast', James Wathen, from his *Journal of a Voyage in 1811 and 1812 to Madras and China*, London, 1814

4 'View of Mount Erskine & Pala Ticoose Bay, Prince of Wales's Island', engraved by William Daniell, aquatint, 1821

5 View of Glugor House & Spice Plantations', engraved by William Daniell, aquatint, 1821

6 'View of the Great Tree', engraved by William Daniell, aquatint, 1821

7 'Mr Amey's House and Mill', drawn by James Wathen, aquatint, 1814

8 'Fitting the Young Ladies for Society', Edward Cree, watercolour, 1845





It was one of the most astonishing stories of the 19th century: how a British adventurer named James Brooke became the ruler of Sarawak, a tropical realm almost the size of England. Along with stories of headhunting tribes and bizarre wildlife, Borneo became a favourite topic in English dining rooms, and as a result, travelling artists recorded scenes from the beginning of Brooke rule.

From the early 16th century, the sultanate of Brunei had claimed political authority over most of northwest Borneo. When Brooke sailed into Bornean waters and assisted the Brunei governor Raja Muda Hassim in putting down a revolt, Sultan Omar Ali rewarded him with what was formerly a Bruneian province, the territory from Tanjung Datu to the Sadong River (later to be enlarged with further cessions). After being officially installed as Rajah of Sarawak in 1841, Brooke lost no time in building Kuching, his capital, beside the Sarawak River.

The present Government House, or Astana, is on the site where Brooke built his first house (3). It was similar to 'the abodes of the natives', built on piles with a ladder to enter, but was much larger and 'not without its English comforts of sofas, chairs and bedsteads'. Brooke's second residence was a more substantial bungalow.

The Hall of Audience (4), where he earlier met with Raja Muda Hassim, was described by Brooke as 'nothing but a large shed, erected on piles, but within decorated with taste'. Captain Henry Keppel of the Royal Navy wrote that on one side were Hassim, and behind 'his ministers, warriors, and men-at-arms, bearing spears, swords, shields and other warlike weapons', while on the other side were 'our royal marines, the contrast between the two body-guards being very amusing'.

Various views along the river show the sloping lawns of the Astana, Malay houses on stilts, the commercial town, and the unmistakable profile of Gunung Serapi (2)—elements that still survive (albeit much altered) today.



1 View of Kuching looking eastwards, anonymous watercolour, c. 1860

2 'River Sarawak & town of Kuching, Borneo', 1848

3 James Brooke's first residence, Sarawak, 1846

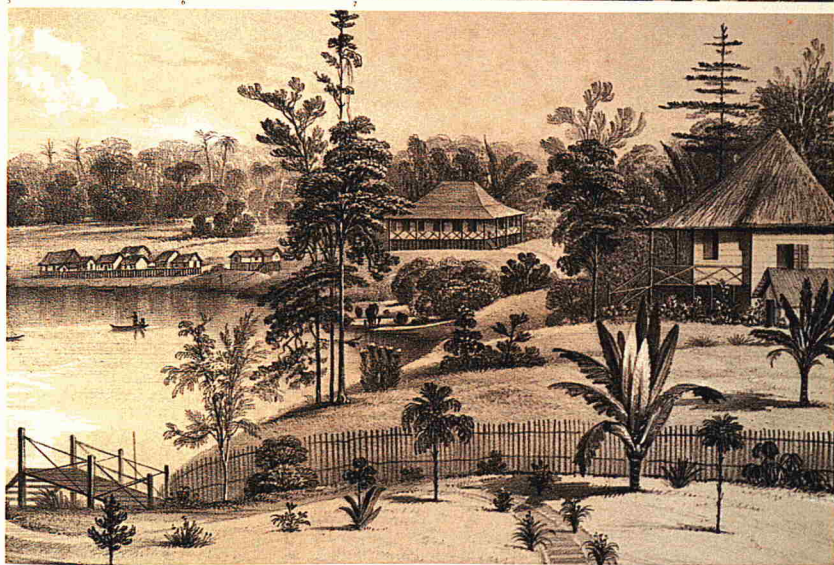
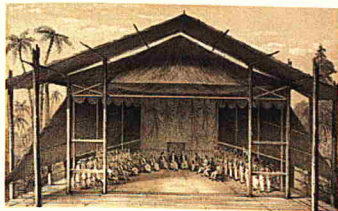
4 Hall of Audience, Sarawak, from H. Keppel's *The Expedition to Borneo of H.M.S. Dido for the Suppression of Piracy*, London, 1846

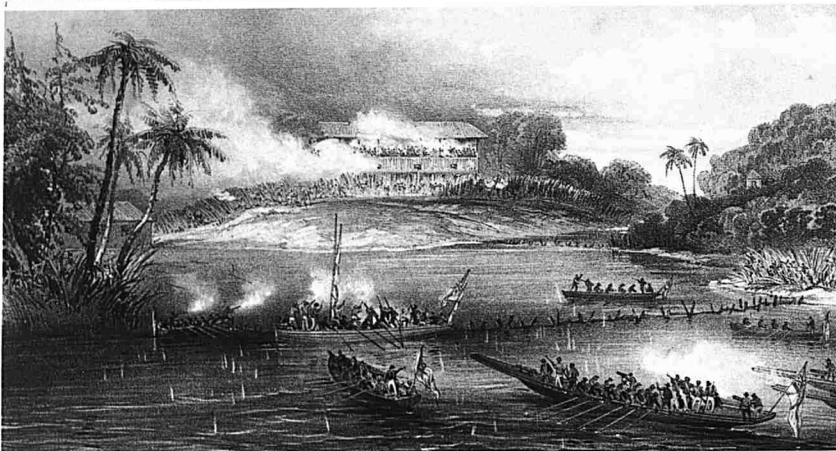
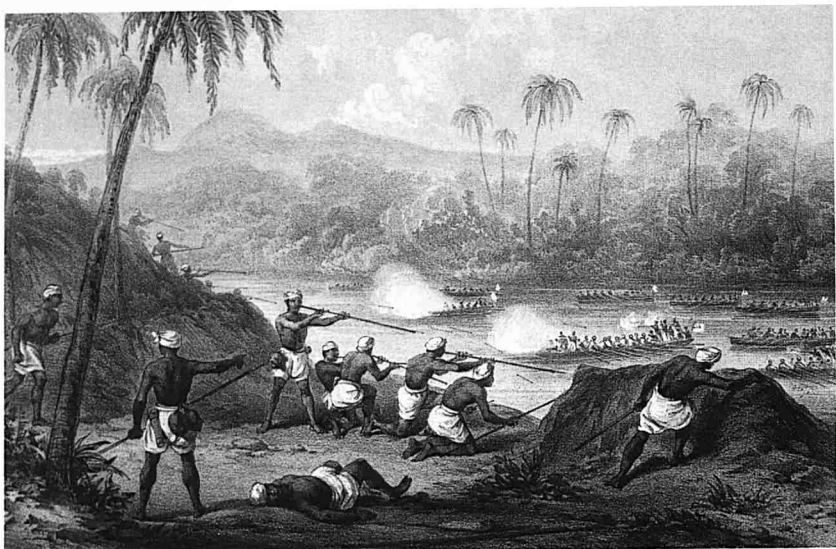
5 Rajah James Brooke of Sarawak, 1848

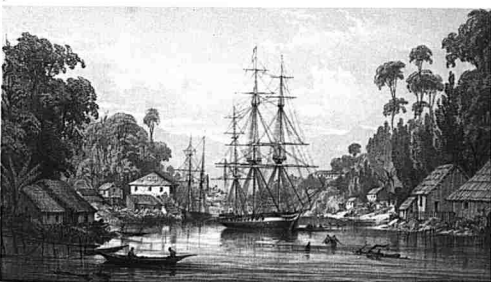
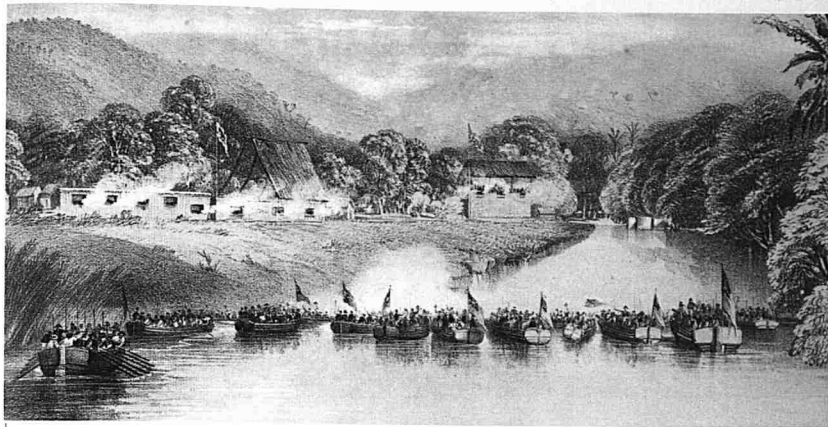
6 The Pagarin Indra Mahkota, James Brooke's principal political rival, c. 1843

7 View from Brooke's bungalow looking upriver

8 James Brooke's bungalow, Sarawak, 1840s







Much of the Rajah of Sarawak's success in gaining new territories was due to his friendship with Captain Henry Keppel, R.N., whose 18-gun H.M.S. *Dido* played a major role in the so-called Piracy Wars against the Iban and Malays who were defiant of Brooke's rule. Whether the issue was that of piracy or politics depended very much on the players. The Iban and Malays of northern Borneo defended their heritage against the Europeans, believing they were reduced to beggary by the monopolisation of trade in the region.

The illustrated papers of the day followed the successful but bloody raids that Brooke and Keppel mounted on the Iban strongholds, making heroes of them both in the Straits Settlements and in Britain. But Brooke did have his critics and the death toll of his opponents raised the ire of some humanitarian parliamentarians who brought charges against him. He was exonerated, although Keppel believed they hastened his death in 1868.

During the 1840s there were four major expeditions against rival chiefs and their followers who were opposed to Brooke, although Brooke also had strong contingents of both Malays and Iban. The first expedition, with the boats of *Dido* up the Seribas River, saw Brooke and his followers destroy the strongholds of Padek (Paddi) (2), Paku and Rimba; the second, a year later, with the addition of the armed paddle-steamer *Phlegathon* and a squadron of Malay prau, wiped out the Iban strongholds along the Batang Lupar; the third, which took place at Marudu in North Borneo (now Sabah) against the Illanun (3), totally crippled them; while the fourth, the most notorious in terms of carnage, was waged at the estuary of Batang Lupar at Beting Marau against a resurgent force.

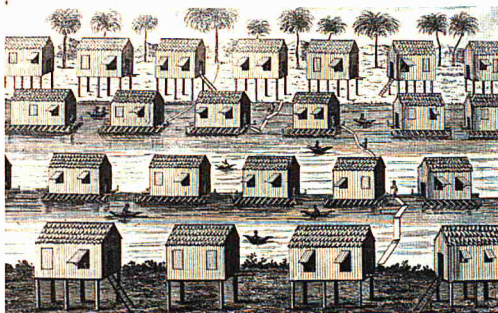
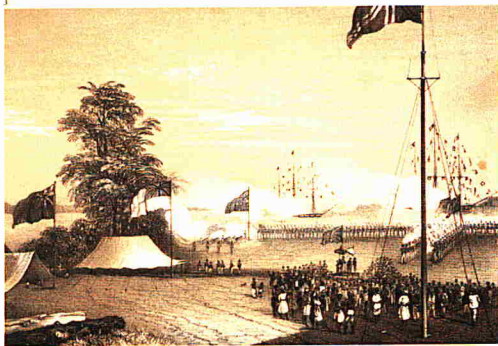
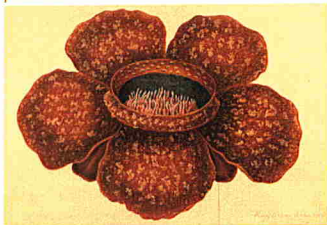
1 'Dyak attack with poisoned arrows', 1848

2 'The attack on Paddi by the boats of H.M.S. *Dido*', 1846

3 'Cutting the boom at Malludu', 1840s

4 'Night attack on the Panglima's Prahu', 1840s

5 'H.M.S. *Dido* at Sarawak', 1846



During the first part of the 19th century, North Borneo (now Sabah) was still free of colonial intervention, with the Sultan of Brunai and the Sultan of Sulu having nominal control over the coast. It was probably still very much as it had been in 1521 when Magellan's expedition, the first Europeans to visit Borneo, sailed past on its epic voyage around the world.

The Malays, Bajau and other seafaring Muslims lived along the coasts, while the inland was the preserve of the agricultural Kadazandusun. The picturesque beaches and bays were often remarked on by early commentators, but visiting artists were invariably enthralled by Mount Kinabalu, the spectacular 4,101-metre-high peak that is still Sabah's greatest attraction.

A correspondent of *The Illustrated London News*, who attended the official flag-raising ceremony at Labuan (4) with James Brooke, the first governor. Brunei leaders and local chiefs, conjectured that the small island off the northwest coast of Borneo, was 'destined to rival Singapore in importance' and that 'Labuan will be as familiar to the British public as the island of Bombay'. It was thought that the coal seams that had been discovered would contribute to its wealth, but they proved of little value, and traders were disappointed as shipping bypassed the island. Forty years after its cession to Britain, Labuan's population only numbered around 6,000 of 'chiefly Malays, Hindoo coolies, and natives of Borneo, with some 20 Europeans'.

1 The flowers and pitchers of a *Nepenthes* sp., insectivorous flowering plants

2 A *Rafflesia* flower, the largest flower in the world

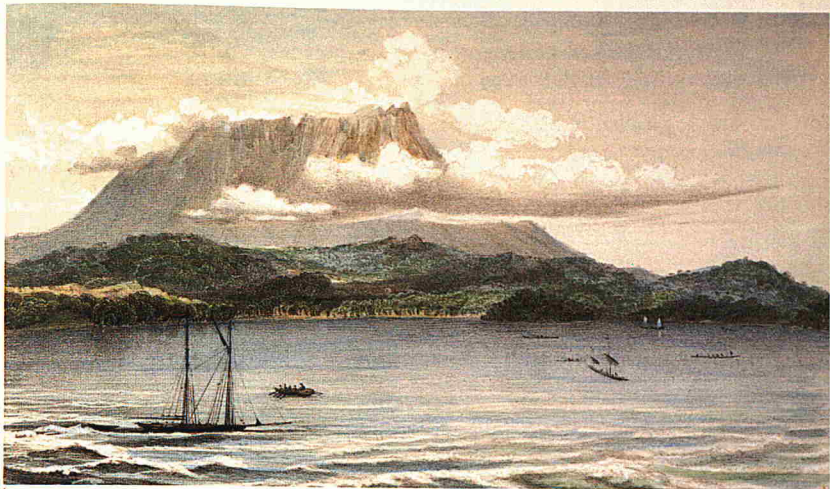
3 'View of a coal seam on Labuan', 1840s

4 'Ceremony of Hoisting the British flag on Labuan', 1848

5 'Bornean Town Upon a River', 1700s

6 'Kinabalu Mountain, North Coast of Borneo, alt. 12,000', 1840s

7 'Flag Staff Point, Labuan', 1840s





CHANGING TIMES

1850–1895

If one word could sum up the second half of the 19th century, it would be 'discovery'. There was a feverish need-to-know that extended not only to new inventions but also to new lands and peoples. Imperialist powers were scouring the world for prospective colonies, tourism was beginning, and at the same time the invention of photography provided the perfect medium to document the era, with its amazingly precise image of the world as it had never before been seen.

In 1839, Frenchman Louis Daguerre announced his invention of the daguerreotype, which stunned the world by its extreme clarity and sharpness, and although it became immediately popular, it had its shortcomings—each picture was unique (only a single copy could be made), in reverse and on a metal plate. The photograph as we know it, with a negative producing any number of positives, was invented by Englishman William Henry Fox Talbot in 1840. He had been experimenting since 1834, contemporaneously with Daguerre, and although his calotype was nowhere near as sharp and clear, and patents restricted its use, his process would eventually spell the demise of the daguerreotype.

Despite the lengthy voyage by sailing ship from Europe to Asia, ensuring a lapse of several months before the news of photography's invention reached the Straits Settlements, as well as a distinct lack of well-heeled customers for this expensive new process, the first practitioners arrived relatively speedily. According to photographic historian John Falconer, French artist Gaston Dutronquoy arrived in Singapore in 1839 and travelled to the Malay Peninsula. By 1843 he had advertised himself as a daguerreotypist, although nothing of his work survives. In 1844, the renowned French daguerreotypist Jules Itier stopped over in Singapore en route to China and his view of the town is the oldest surviving photograph of the Straits Settlements. Other daguerreotypists visited Melaka and Penang, but to date none of their works have come to light. Among these was American, J. Newman, who advertised his services and opened a studio in Singapore in 1856. The following year, *The Straits Times* reported his trip to Melaka by steamer and noted that while there, 'he met with unbounded success'. Newman's trip was 'one of the first recorded instances of photography on the Malayan mainland'.

The daguerreotype was on the way out, however, by 1855, when it was superseded by Englishman John Archer's discovery of the wet collodion process which used glass plate negatives, thus paving the way for any number of prints on paper, and the viability of the commercial photographer. That year also saw the first travel photographers arrive in Malaya, including John Thomson, who found renown with his celebrated documentation of China from 1862 to 1872. In 1862, Thomson spent 10 months photographing in Penang and Province Wellesley, an occupation he describes in his travel account, *The Straits of Malacca, Indo-China and China* (1875) as 'a congenial, profitable, and instructive occupation, enabling me to gratify my taste for travel and to fill my portfolio'.

However, the first in-depth photographic documentation of what is now Malaysia probably only took place in 1862 when K. Feilberg and his partner Hermann Sachtler set up a photographic firm, Sachtler & Feilberg, in Penang's Beach Street. These photographs constitute one of the earliest surviving collection of photographs of Malaysia today.

Much of this chapter is illustrated with Feilberg's photography of Penang, Province Wellesley and Melaka, including some works that no doubt formed part of his exhibition of 15 Penang and



ABOUT 'Butterworth, view to Penang', probably taken by K. Feilberg in the 1860s.
FACING PAGE: Tobacco estate in North Borneo, 1890s.



'Libera Coffee', plantation in Province Wellesley, 1870s.

Ceylon views at the Paris International Exhibition in 1867. Among his historic works shown here are perhaps the first Malaysian attempts at news photography, when he immortalised the street barricades during The Great Penang Riots of 1867, and recorded the celebrations for the arrival of the Duke of Edinburgh in 1869. Photography's ability to record history is particularly evident in the ten-part panorama that Feilberg took from a tower in Light Street, which shows a bird's-eye view of the town in the 1860s when many public buildings were still Georgian in style. The streets are almost eerily empty, but this was due to moving objects becoming invisible through long exposure times of several seconds. This was also a problem with portraiture, evidenced by the stiff poses of many sitters, and the blurred countenances of those who could not keep still long enough. But their inconvenience was nothing compared to the difficulties faced by travelling photographers who had to develop their photographs on the spot. They had to carry an entire laboratory with them, including flasks of chemicals, a darkroom tent, basins, glass plates, distilled water, tripod and a camera which in itself weighed over 10 kilograms. Later in the century, dry plates were introduced, which meant that the glass negatives could be transported back to the studio for development, but this process did not catch on in the East until well into the 1890s.

Although these early photographs offer a Eurocentric view of early Malaya, with the tiny European community well represented, even playing a starring role, and the Asian population relegated to the sidelines, they still mirror some of the realities of life in the second half of the 19th century. They are also

representative of the spread of British intervention, which began in the Straits Settlements and then as the decades rolled on, permeated the Malay states.

Up till the 1850s, Malaya was a collection of traditional societies ruled by various sultans. There were Chinese, Indian and other small ethnic enclaves in the main trading ports, but apart from these, much of the Malay Peninsula and Borneo was peopled by the indigenous populations with Malays living in the coastal areas and a wide variety of inland peoples including the Kadazan in Sabah and Iban in Sarawak. With increased British intervention towards the second half of the century, however, traditional lifestyles began to change. By the end of the 19th century, many rulers had lost much of their power to the British Residents, demographics were changing with huge influxes of Chinese workers working in tin mines and plantations, and villages had become bustling towns with a burgeoning merchant class and European-style streetscapes. The Straits Settlements—Penang, Melaka and Singapore—had attracted a wide variety of immigrants and traders. George Town port was crammed with *prau*, junks and steamers bringing with them Malays, Chinese, Tamils, Burmese, Javanese, Arabs, Sikhs and Madrassees: the ancestors of today's cosmopolitan population. As the end of the century drew near, it became increasingly apparent that the Malays tended to remain in the countryside and Chinese in the towns. The Chinese's plentiful supply of labour and capital, and their sense of business organisation had ensured their success.

Initially, Penang and Melaka both suffered trade losses when traders were attracted to Singapore and the Dutch port of Batavia (Jakarta) at the other end of the Strait. However, a resurgence in



(left) Kap. Ah Loy, Kapitan Uda (head of the Chinese community) of Kuala Lumpur, 1868–85. (ANM)
(right) Tok Joo (1847–1917), Selangor's most successful revenue farmer. (ANM)

shipping resulted when the Suez Canal opened in 1869, making the route across the Indian Ocean to Penang the fastest way to the East. Melaka scarcely benefited, however, as its port had silted up and the historic port town was bypassed. Penang thrived as an entrepôt for the lucrative tea and opium trade between India and China and the tin trade in nearby Perak. Many Straits merchants also made their fortunes from the rapid success of the tin industry in Perak as demand for tin rose with European industrialisation.

But with the growing demand for tin in the mid-19th century, the official British government policy of non-intervention came to an end. Influential merchants who had invested in the rich mines of Perak, Selangor and Negeri Sembilan began pressuring the government to intervene in order to protect their interests. The sudden wealth and conflicting ambitions of the Malay chieftains who controlled the mines boiled over into drawn-out disputes, while fights between rival secret societies broke out between the Chinese miners. With investments and exports threatened, and fearful of rival colonial powers getting a foothold on the Malay Peninsula, the British decided to reverse their previous policy and intervene. As a result, the Pangkor Treaty was signed in 1874, imposing a British Resident who would advise the Sultan of Perak on all matters except those regarding Malay religion and custom. Later that year agreements to similar effect were made with Selangor and Sungai Ujong, part of what later became Negeri Sembilan. The ultimate reason for the appointment of an adviser was to 'civilise' the rulers, which meant the adoption of British laws and way of life. It was a culture clash from the beginning, with the new colonial representatives impatient for change.

Only a year after the treaty signing at Pangkor, the first Resident of Perak, James W.W. Birch, was murdered when he tried to implement widely opposed social changes. The resulting war there and later disturbances in Selangor and Negeri Sembilan did little to stem the tide of British imperialism. By 1887 Pahang had also been persuaded to accept a Resident but the new regime caused resentment with other chiefs who mounted a four-year long rebellion from 1891. In reality, the Residents were the ones who ruled while the rulers advised—the Malay rulers were aware of British military might and had to compromise for their political survival. Some rulers, however, held out much longer and others were beginning to adapt to the changing times. For instance, under Temenggong Daeng Ibrahim and his son Abu Bakar, Johor became a modern state with a new capital, while Kedah's sultan built a thriving economy based on rice production.

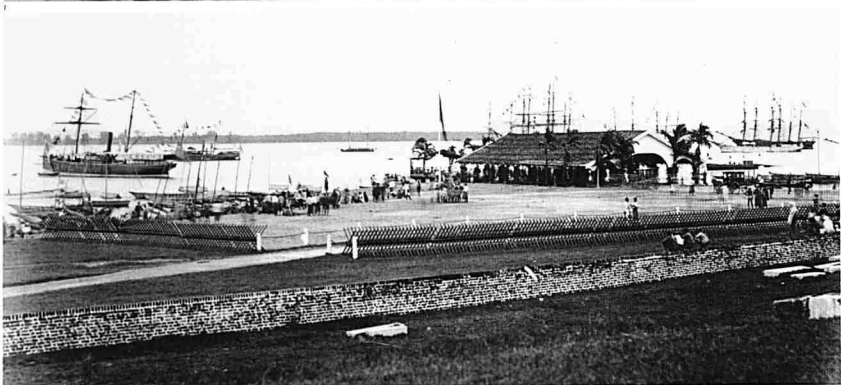


One of the earliest views of Ipoh before it was rebuilt as the administrative centre of Perak, inscribed High Lane Street, Ipoh, from Post Office, 1894. (ANM)

Photographs of some of the major players in these dramas have survived, and although they were probably taken by amateurs and the print quality is poor, they provide a rare window into the Malay Peninsula in the days when few roads existed and travel was by boat or elephant. Considering the difficulties involved in photographing and developing prints at these remote upriver locations, it is surprising that these pictures still endure. Even more surprising is that some of the Perak series were taken by the unfortunate Birch a year before he was murdered.

The 1880s saw the arrival of what became the most famous and longest-surviving of the region's photographic firms—G.R. Lambert & Co. Although the firm was based in Singapore, its photographers travelled extensively throughout the Malay Peninsula, Borneo and Sumatra. Among the early Lambert photographs that have survived are the oldest images of Kuala Lumpur, including a remarkable four-part panorama in the 1880s, when it was just a lawless, backwater village of thatched huts. The firm also acted as official photographers for many important events, including the meetings of the various sultans of the Malay states, which are of enormous historical and social value, documenting in detail not only the famous personages of the era, but also their traditional costumes and regalia.

As with the sanitised and romanticised landscapes that preceded photography, these new views of the Malay world also focused on a select viewpoint. Practitioners were keen to show the 'civilising' aspect of colonialism, and it probably never occurred to them that intervention could have been regarded negatively by the locals. Through the lens, they created their own Malaya, and narrow as that focus was, it still provides a fascinating insight into the life and times of the second half of the 19th century.





As sailors had known for centuries, if you hoisted sail with the trade winds from India and headed east, Penang would be the first port of call. Situated at the northern end of the Strait of Melaka, it was a perfect place to outfit ships before they headed across the Indian Ocean or continued on to the Far East. Penang was also, until the second half of the 20th century when air travel took over, where travellers had their first Malaysian experiences.

On his arrival in Penang in 1861, the photographer John Thomson expressed his initial disappointment because his preconceived vision came from romanticised coloured engravings. 'As we run up the channel, George Town rises,' he wrote, '—a long line of red tiles, with a solitary cocoa-nut tree sticking up here and there—descriptions that match the photographs here. They anchored 'close to a pillared jetty, and a fort shaded by umbrageous trees'. At that time, Penang had yet to reap the harvest of the tin trade in Perak and the increase in travellers after the opening of the Suez Canal at the end of the decade. Trade in 1860 was valued at £350,000 but two decades later it had tripled.

Although sailing ships still predominated, steamships began to appear in the Strait. H.M.S. *Galatea* (2) was not only the most celebrated vessel to arrive, it was also captained on its world tour by one of the most important personages who visited Penang, the Duke of Edinburgh (Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's second son), in 1869. As *The Illustrated London News* related: 'The town burst out in decoration. Triumphant arches, from the gorgeous silk-draped structure of the Chinese to the humble but pretty erection of the Kling, arose in every direction ... while all the bunting that could be found ... was rummaged up for banners and flags'.

Fort Cornwallis dominated the promontory, and Beach Road, as its name suggests, ran along the waterfront before land reclamations later in the century. It was known to the Malays as *Jalan Gedung* (Street of Godowns) and these warehouses can be seen to the south of the jetty (4). Ocean-going ships anchored off the port in the deeper channel, while the shallower draft native craft were moored by the jetty. Ships also anchored off Green Hall Beach (3), with the idyllic northern shores fringed by coconut palms, in contrast to the towering apartments that line Gurney Drive today.

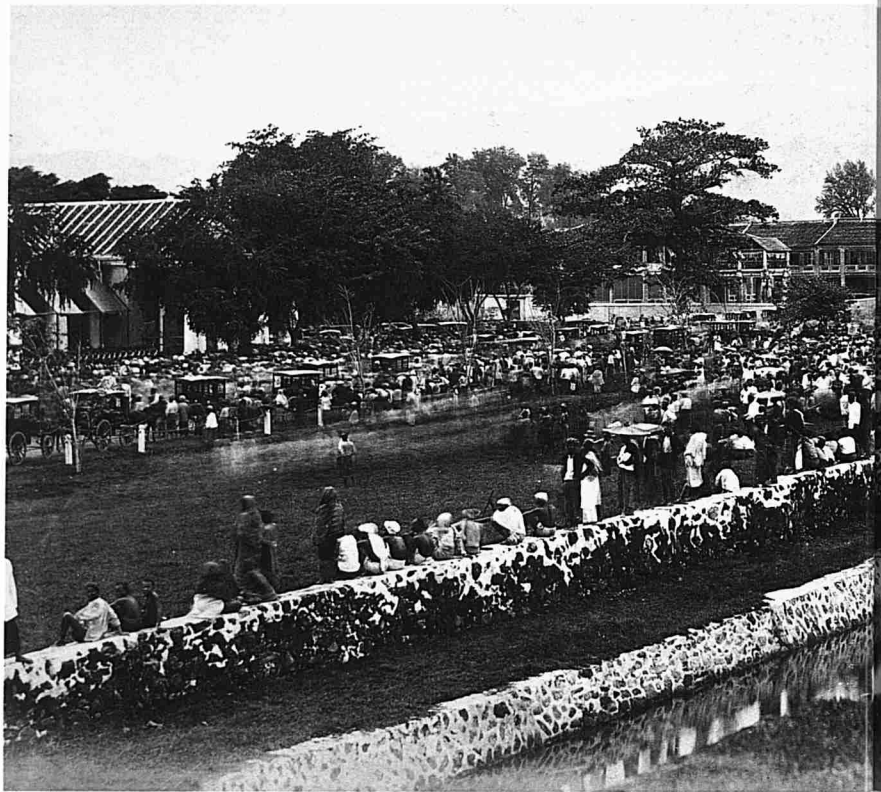


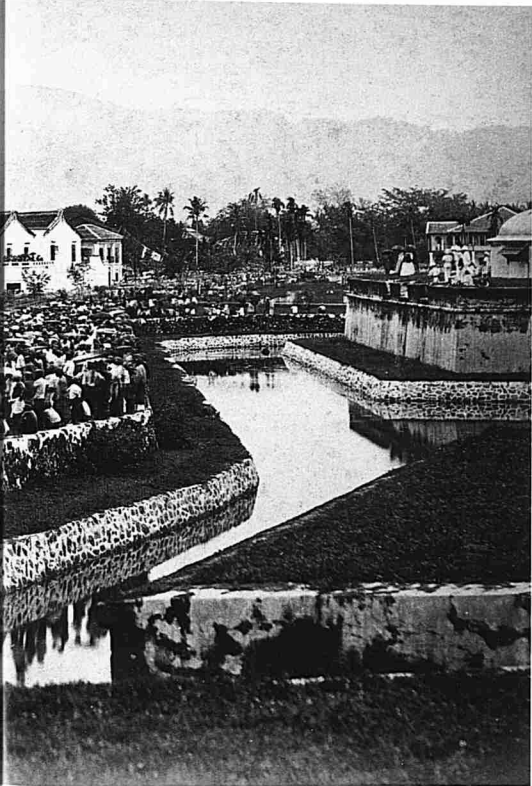
1 A two-part panorama of Penang Port showing the waiting hall at the jetty and Fort Cornwallis at right, 1860s (ANM)

2 Penang jetty decorated in honour of H.R.H. Duke of Edinburgh, who travelled to Penang in 1869 on H.M.S. *Galatea* (far left)

3 Green Hall Beach, Penang, c. 1867 (ANM)

4 Warehouses line *Jalan Gedung* beside Penang Port, 1860s (ANM)





Evidence of what George Town looked like in the 1860s comes mainly from K. Feilberg, who photographed a series of panoramas from a tower atop a mansion that stood at the site of the present Dewan Sri Pinang (see Penang: Official Life).

Dominating the cape, star-shaped Fort Cornwallis, built by Francis Light, housed barracks and military offices and was originally surrounded by a walled moat known as the Levee (1). It provided a convenient viewpoint for locals to catch a glimpse of the Duke of Edinburgh when he visited the Court of Request during his stopover in Penang in 1869. The courts and the police station were originally housed in what is today the State Assembly Building on the corner of Beach and Light Streets, the latter named after Penang's founder.

Light Street, Penang's first thoroughfare, originally began at the waterfront and was the hub of the government quarter where Anglo-Indian architecture, combining Georgian and tropical styles, was predominant in many of the official buildings.

The Padang, then an unkempt swampy field, served as a military training ground at that time. It acquired its present role as a recreational ground in the 1880s after the Town Hall was built and the Esplanade was created.

The attap-roofed building on the corner of Light and Pitt Streets (now Jalan Masjid Kapitan Kling) is on the site where the Supreme Court was later built in 1905. Attap was outlawed as a roofing material in the town in 1887 because it was a fire hazard.

Emminently recognisable today is St George's Church on Farquhar Street. It was built in 1819 and is one of the oldest Anglican churches in the East. Located further down the street at that time was Penang Free School (1816), now the State Museum, Convent Light Street (1852) and St Xavier's Institution (1852).

TOP: These six adjoining views of the Esplanade and Light Street are part of a ten-part panorama taken by K. Feilberg in 1869 (ANM)

1 Penang's inhabitants gathering beside the moat that originally encircled

Fort Cornwallis to witness the royal visit in 1869 (ANM)

2 Town Hall, Penang, 1880s



From the beginning, George Town's commercial district was bordered by Light, Beach, Chulia and Pitt Streets.

These views of Beach Street (1, 2 and 4) were taken by K. Feilberg at the time of the Duke of Edinburgh's visit in 1869. In the 1860s, Beach Street was unpaved, as it would be for decades to come. There were no street lights (patalin lamps were only introduced in the 1870s) and transport was by rickshaw or horse and carriage. The Bishop Street corner (4) shows shophouses with arched colonnades—known as five-foot ways—in front and business houses in elegant Georgian style. In the late 19th century, this end of Beach Street, known to the Chinese as Ang Mo Tho Koh Kay, or 'European Commercial Street', was revamped into Penang's financial centre and the early architecture replaced by grander Victorian buildings.

Most of the people in the photographs were blurred by the long exposure times, but it is still possible to pick out the various ethnic groups who made Penang a multi-cultural free port. Light had organised them under *kapitan*, or headmen, allotting Chulia Street to the Indian Muslims, China Street to the Chinese and the area around Acheen and Armenian Streets to the Malays. Most groups, especially the Chinese, quickly overflowed their borders.

1 Beach Street decorated for the royal visit, 1869 (ANM)

2 Beach Street adjoining China Street, 1869 (ANM)

3 King Street, 1880s

4 Beach Street looking towards Bishop Street, 1869

FOLLOWING PAGES

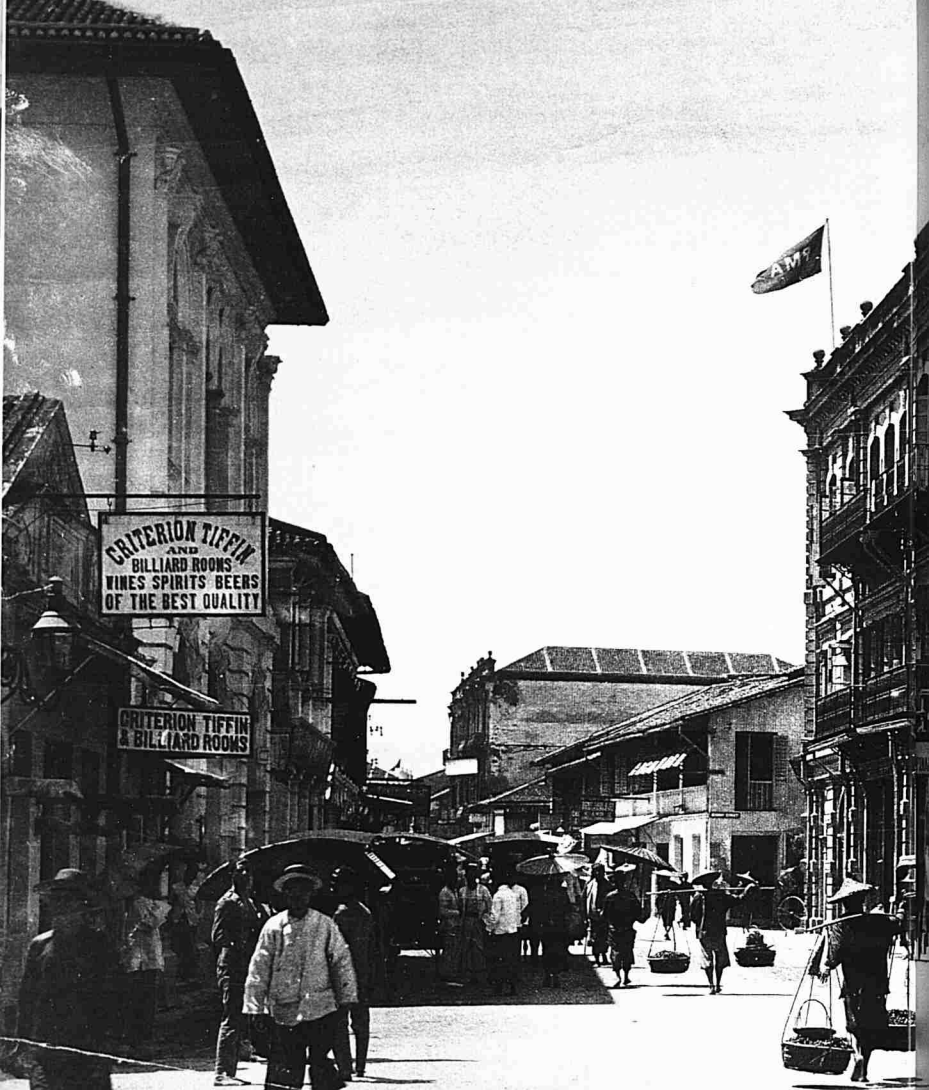
By the 1890s, many of the earlier structures in Beach Street had been replaced by grander Victorian architecture.



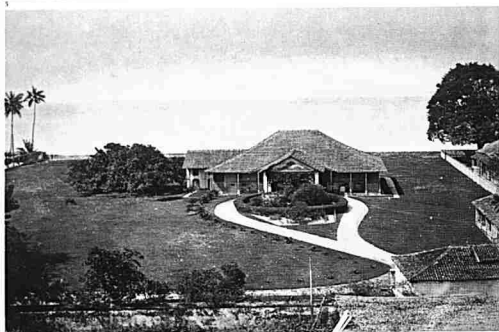
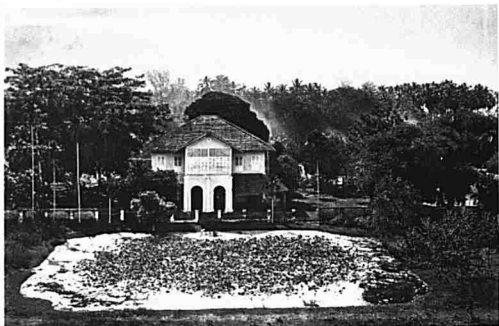


CRITERION Tiffin
AND
BILLIARD ROOMS
WINES SPIRITS BEERS
OF THE BEST QUALITY

CRITERION Tiffin
& BILLIARD ROOMS







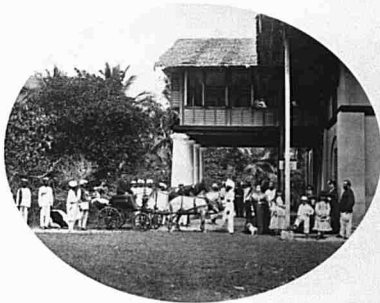


For most of its first 50 years, Penang was a financial burden to the English East India Company, but official lifestyles were nevertheless luxurious. European administrators built their spacious mansions along North Beach, on the seaward side of Light Street, setting a trend that was quickly followed and outpaced by successful locals. These locals included Chinese agriculturalists, Straits Chinese merchants and Acehese, Arabs and Indian Muslims who built their fortunes on the spice trade. When the Duke of Edinburgh visited in 1869, Toh Seang Tasi, a rich businessman, offered his house as the official residence, hence its later title, Edinburgh Castle, and that of the nearby road, Duke Street.

Convict labourers and skilled craftsmen from India were employed to construct government buildings, including bungalows and garden houses, which quickly evolved into a hybrid of European facades in the Georgian style but with local features such as verandas and full-length windows with balustrades. A portecochere fronted each residence so that passengers could alight comfortably from their horse carriage whatever the weather.

Suffolk House, the only residence of this type to survive to the present day, was built inland along Ayer Itam Road in the late 18th century. As the Governor's house (later known as The Residency), it was a popular venue for official functions and receptions. The artist James Wathen described it as a mansion 'built in a mixed style of English and Indian architecture' where rooms were cooled by 'watered mats'. Its original austere Georgian facade was altered over the years: a portecochere was added in the 1840s and a hipped roof in the 1890s. However, conservation work undertaken in recent years promises to restore it to its former splendour.

- 1 The Residency (front view), c. 1867 (ANM)
- 2 The Residency (back view), c. 1867 (ANM)
- 3 Green Hall, 1869 (ANM)
- 4 Duke of Edinburgh House, 1867 (ANM)
- 5 Osain Hall, part of a ten-part panorama of Penang, 1869 (ANM)
- 6 Essex Lodge, part of a ten-part panorama of Penang, 1869 (ANM)
- 7 San Souci, 1869 (ANM)
- 8 Early European residents in Penang, 1860s (ANM)
- 9 Group of well-known gentlemen of Penang, 1867-69 (ANM)
- 10 The cottage residence of Lieutenant Colonel Anson, 1867-69 (ANM)
- 11 Arrival of guests at the big house, 1867-69 (ANM)





After a long sea voyage the first sight of Penang island was 'Amesmerising'. The first impression was of a wonderful green, the land seemed smothered in vegetation, wrote Dr Abraham, a traveller to Penang, in 1907. It rose precipitous from the waters edge, crag upon crag of naked rock putting out grey among the green, with here and there the white outlines of verandahed bungalows perched perilously on the heights.

The luxuriant vegetation was best observed from the winding road that led to the top of Penang Hill, the Government Bungalow and other retreats. Like some roads and buildings in the island, it had been built by imported felons—Penang was a penal settlement for British India for the first century of its existence—who lived in quarters known as Convict Lines.

These photographs, probably taken in the 1860s, capture the grandeur of Penang's scenery. People were carefully posed to avoid blurring, used merely to give scale to the view. In the days before sea bathing was fashionable, the Great Waterfall was a major attraction. In 1871, Munshi Mohd Ibrahim described the bathing place at the foot of the falls 'that was divided into three classes' and charged accordingly. The waterfall is still the same, but has been closed to the public since 1904 when a reservoir was built. The shrine built by Indian convicts beside the waterfall was moved to the Waterfall Hilltop Temple. In 1884 the Penang Botanic Gardens were created, merging with the Waterfall Gardens.

1 The Great Waterfall, showing the original Indian shrine, c. 1867 (ANM)

2 Rural scene, inscribed 'Penang' (site unknown), c. 1869 (ANM)

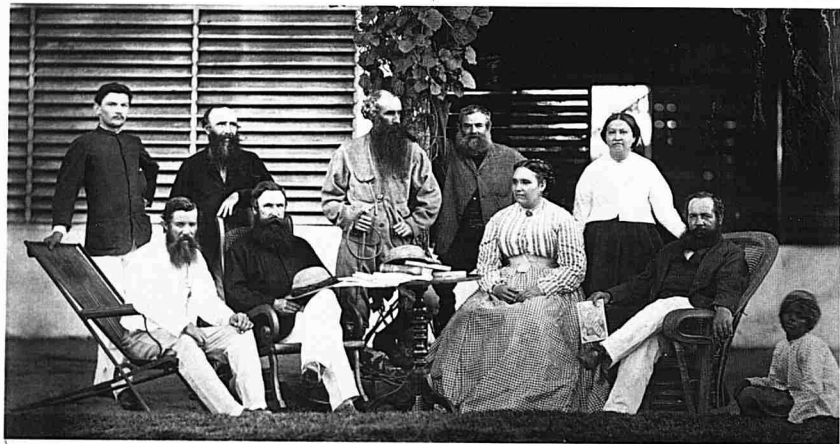
3 Penang Beach, probably present-day Batu Ferringhi, c. 1867 (ANM)

4 'Convict Lines' halfway up to the Government Bungalow, c. 1867 (ANM)

FACING PAGE A cascading stream near the Waterfall Gardens (now Penang Botanic Gardens), c. 1867 (ANM)









Ever since the English East India Company established Penang in 1786, its directors worried about the possibility of the nearby mainland coast falling into French or Dutch hands. This spurred Penang's Lieutenant-Governor George Leith to negotiate with the Sultan of Kedah and in 1800 he leased the 48-kilometre-long coastal strip from the Krian River in the south to the Muda River in the north in return for a payment of \$10,000 a year.

Province Wellesley, as the coastal strip was dubbed, was previously known as Prai, and according to archaeological finds had been settled since the 5th century. By the 1860s, farms were established; a rice mill (6) was in operation, there was a resident doctor and a hospital (3) and European bungalows, including that of the renowned sugar cane plantation, 'Caledonia' (2 and 5). Sugar cane, rice and coconuts were the main crops grown.

By 1869, the Malay population in Province Wellesley was 58,000, more than Penang, Negeri Sembilan and Selangor combined. However, the only evidence of their existence in these photographs is a Malay village on the Jawi River at the foot of Bukit Tambun (7).

1 *Caledonia, the sugar cane plantation, c. 1869 (ANM)*

2 *Workers at Caledonia, 1860s (ANM)*

3 *The first hospital at Butterworth, c. 1869 (ANM)*

4 *Doctor's house in Butterworth, 1860s (ANM)*

5 *European planters and their wives at Caledonia, c. 1869 (ANM)*

6 *Rice mill, Prai, c. 1869 (ANM)*

7 *A Malay village, probably in Bukit Juru, 1860s (ANM)*

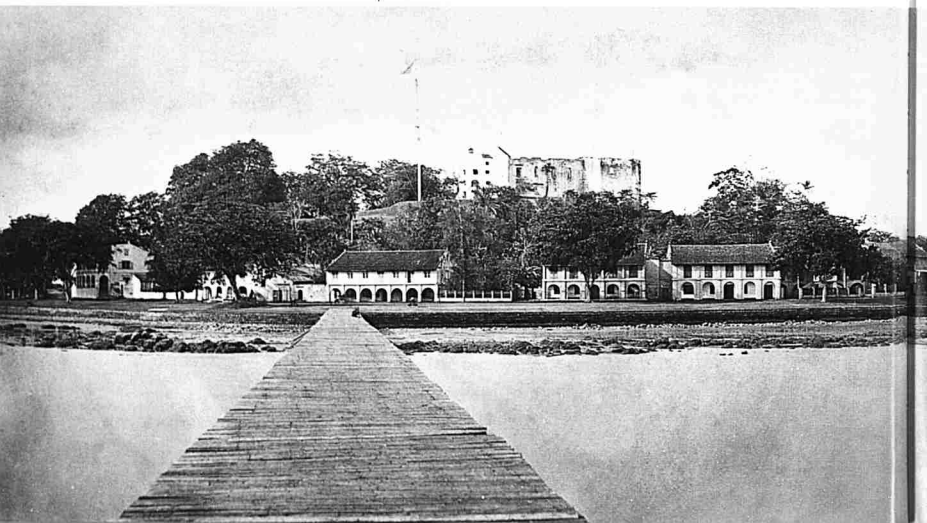
In these earliest photographic views of Melaka, the decline of Malaysia's oldest surviving town and the oldest European settlement in the Far East is evidenced by the lack of transport and onlookers. The harbour had silted up and many of the traders had moved to either of the two free ports—Singapore or Penang.

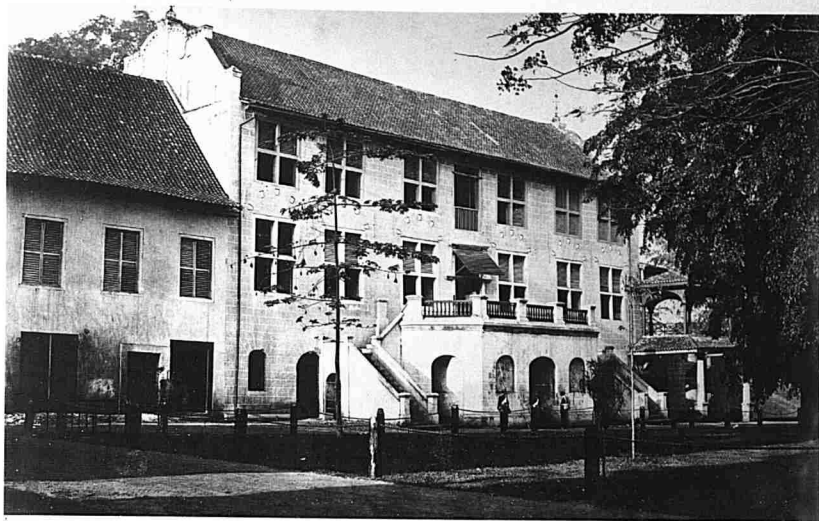
The best description of Melaka comes from the travel writer Isabella Bird, whose remarks, although made a decade after Feilberg's visit, fit the panoramic photograph perfectly: there is the 'long deserted jetty', the hill 'crowned by a ruined cathedral', and bungalows glimpsed 'among the coconut palms'. This historic photograph also shows how picturesque Melaka was before the first land reclamations began. Today the city's historic centre is cut off from the Strait by urban developments, although some of the Dutch buildings along the seafrost still survive, as does the 16th-century St Paul's Church and the flagpole on the hill.

But although Melaka was not the commercial entrepôt it once was, it was still very cosmopolitan. In an 1881 census, there were 5,538 houses in the town and over 11,000 in the country districts. Of the total population of 93,579, about 65 per cent were Malays and 20 per cent were Chinese. There were also substantial populations of Eurasians (mainly Portuguese), Tamils, Jawi Pekan, Arabs, Javanese, Boyanese, and smaller groups of Achinese, Africans, Anamese, Bengalis, Buggs, Dayaks, Manilamen (Filipinos), Siamese and Sinhalese. There were only 32 Europeans, of whom only nine were women.

- 1 *Porta da Santiago, the only remaining gate of A Famosa, c. 1869*
- 2 *Stadthuys, the former Dutch governor's residence, c. 1869 (ANM)*

REVIEW A panoramic view of Melaka from the jetty showing the original coastline before reclamation, the ruined St Paul's Church on the hill and Dutch-era buildings on the waterfront, c. 1869 (ANM)







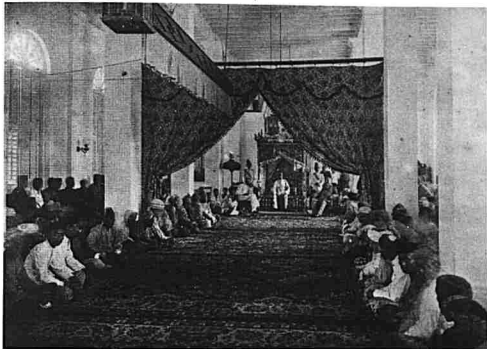


In the mid-19th century, all the Malay states of the Peninsula were ruled by various sultans and rajas in the style of the Melaka Sultanate. Known as *kerajaan*, these Malay monarchies were headed by rulers who had absolute power. Their kingdoms were independent and self-sufficient, and their subjects paid tribute.

However, the situation began to change with British intervention in the 1870s. The tin-rich states of Perak and Selangor suffered from dynastic quarrels and problems with rival Chinese secret societies. In 1874, with the signing of the Pangkor Treaty, Selangor's Sultan Abdul Samad, Perak's Sultan Abdullah, and the Dato Klana of Sungei Ujong (part of Negeri Sembilan) agreed to the appointment of a British Resident. The Resident was to be an adviser, playing no part in Malay affairs and Islam. As it quickly transpired, it was an unequal system signalling the beginning of the end of the Malay *kerajaan*. Perak's uprising led to Sultan Abdullah's exile and he was replaced by Sultan Yusuf and then Sultan Idris in 1887. In 1888, after dynastic problems and a so-called civil war, Pahang's ruler, Sultan Ahmad, accepted a Resident, and in 1889 the rest of Negeri Sembilan followed suit.

Johor's sultanate began through Melaka lineage, but was passed to the rule of the Temenggongs after the founding of Singapore. In 1862, Temenggong Daeng Ibrahim was succeeded by his son Abu Bakar (r. 1862-95), the 'father of modern Johor'. He established close ties with the British, who recognised his right to the title of Sultan, but he cleverly preserved Johor's independence throughout his reign.

Kedah's royal house, Malaysia's oldest, remained under Siamese authority until 1909, as did the old pre-Melaka states of Kelantan and Terengganu.



1 Seated left to right: Regent of Pahang, Sultan Idris, Sultan Abdul Samad and Yam Tuan Muhammad at Government House, Singapore, 1890 (ANM)

2 'Panglima Kinta, Enche' Yusoh', c. 1886 (ANM)

3 Sultan Abdullah of Perak photographed in London, 1890s (ANM)

4 Raja Mansur and Sultan Abdullah of Perak, 1890s (ANM)

5 Installation of Raja Idris as Raja Muda of Perak, 1886 (ANM)

6 Maharaja Abu Bakar of Johor (later Sultan) and A.E.H. Asson, the acting Governor, 1862 (ANM)

7 'Raja Musa Berima in battle dress', c. 1870 (ANM)

8 'Raja Mahmud', 1870s (ANM)

9 Raja Idris (later Sultan) of Perak, 1880s (ANM)



In 1867, George Town was under siege for ten days, during what became known as The Great Penang Riots. It was the first of what later became a series of clashes between the so-called Chinese secret societies until they were suppressed in 1890.

Problems between the various Chinese clans or *kongsi*, many of which were old feuds imported from their homeland, had begun on the Perak tin fields in 1861. Originally cooperative associations designed to look after their members' welfare, they eventually controlled the tin mines, labour recruitment, opium farms, prostitution and gambling, and kept immigrant labourers in constant debt as they had to pay off their passage. However, many of the later riots were protests against unpopular colonial rule.

The Hokkien secret society Kien Tek Kong set up its base at Tua Pek Kong Temple in Armenian Street in 1854 with many prominent merchants, including Straits Chinese, as members. It later allied with the Malay-run Red Flag (*Bendera Merah*) secret society, under the leadership of Che Long and then Syed Mohamed Alatas, the wealthy arms trader whose mansion still stands in Armenian Street.

The Cantonese (Ghee Hin (White Flag) secret society had old enemies of the Kien Tek and in 1867 these antagonisms fuelled a gang war for control of George Town. The colonial authority reacted by bringing in reinforcements and stockades were manned by European volunteers and Indian sepoy.

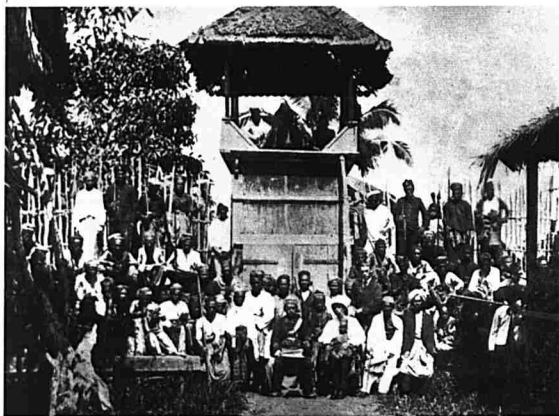
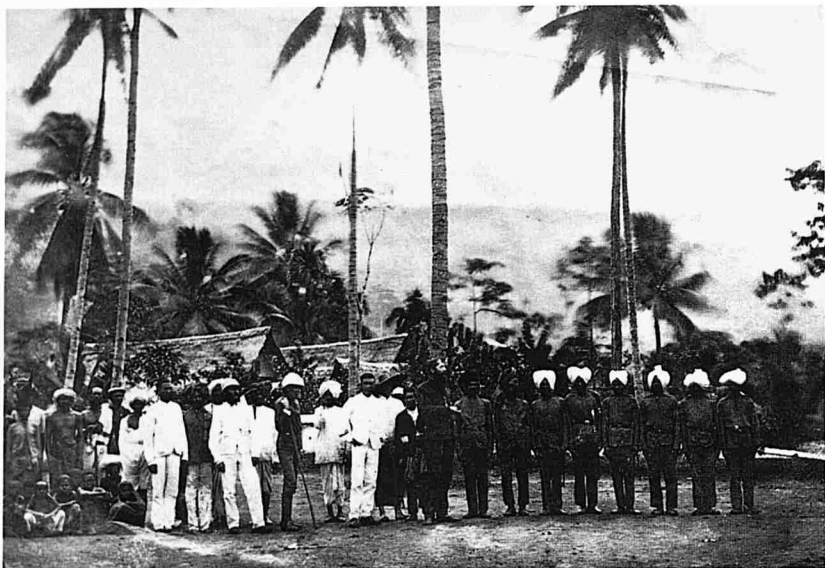
Feilberg's photographs here are probably the earliest surviving 'war' images of Malaysia. They were probably taken in Armenian Street where much of the fighting took place, and although they do not show any action (early war photography never did because of the blurred effect from movement and long exposures), they are still a potent reminder of a historical event: the volunteers in their motley array of uniforms and large old-fashioned firearms, the spiked barricades and the empty street behind.

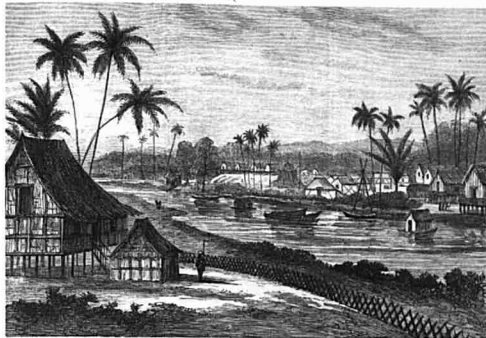


- 1 Leading citizens meet during The Great Penang Riots (ANM)
- 2 Roadblock at Armenian Street (ANM)
- 3 Roadblock during the riots (ANM)
- 4 Volunteers at the Sin Yat General Store (ANM)
- 5 Volunteers during the riots (ANM)









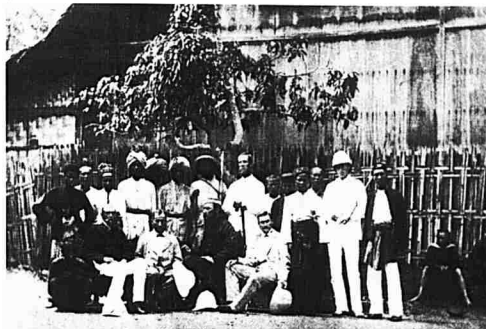
The Perak War, as it was dubbed by the British press, would never have happened if the British had not reversed their policy of non-intervention after the conclusion of the Pangkor Treaty in 1874. James WW Birch, the British Resident appointed in Perak, was not supposed to meddle in Malay customs. But in 1875, less than a month into the job, he began a campaign to limit the amount of taxes collected by territorial chiefs without compensation and was assassinated on the banks of the Perak River at Pasir Salak.

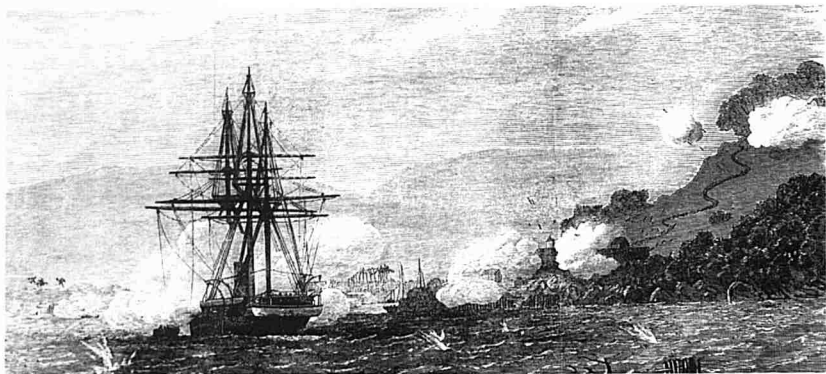
Fearing a major rebellion, the British overreacted. Reinforcements were brought in from as far away as Hong Kong and India, and proceeded up the Perak River. Newspaper correspondents were despatched to Malaya for the five-month engagement. The woodcuts and steel engravings that appeared in *The Illustrated London News* (4) on 26 February 1876 were from sketches done in the field by Major O.H. Nicholls. Against such superior military force, the Malays engaged in frequent but brief episodes of rebellion. Frustrated by what was beginning to be a drawn-out conflict, British Brigadier General Ross launched an attack on Kota Lama where the unexpected and fierce resistance by the Malays resulted in unnecessary casualties, provoking concern in the British press.

It was all over by March 1876 when the Maharaja Lela, who planned Birch's murder, was arrested and executed. In 1877, Sultan Abdullah, with whom the British had signed the Pangkor Treaty, was implicated in the murder and exiled to the Seychelles along with other Malay chiefs who played a part in the uprising. Since Independence, however, these Malay leaders have become revered as early nationalists, and Birch has become a symbol of imperialist repression.

In a strange twist of fate, some of the oldest surviving photographs of Perak were taken by Birch the year before his murder. It must have been quite an undertaking to have brought the bulky camera and darkroom equipment so far upriver. These grainy, somewhat damaged prints are not only indicative of the difficult conditions, but are also unique historical documents showing many of the main locations along the Perak River, and the major players such as JWW Birch, EA Sweetenham, Captain Speedy and Sultan Abdullah and his followers.

- 1 British forces at Bukit Gantang, Perak, 1875 (ANM)
- 2 Sultan Abdullah of Perak and his followers, Batak Rabit, 1874 (ANM)
- 3 Sweetenham and Birch at Blanja, Perak River, 1874 (ANM)
- 4 Expedition against the Malays: View of the Encampment, 1876
- 5 'An interesting group at Kuala Kangsar in 1875' (ANM)
- 6 British officials at Bandar Bahru (Perak) in September 1875
- 7 Sweetenham and Birch on the Resident's boat at Blanja, 1874 (ANM)





As the demand for tin in the mid-19th century increased, so too did the revenues made from it, which led to growing competition between the Malay chiefs for tin-rich territories. In time, this resulted in succession disputes which eventually led to British intervention. In Selangor, the British openly supported Tunku Kudin, Sultan Abdul Samad's son-in-law, when he fought with Raja Mahdi over control of Klang (1867–73) by bombarding Kuala Selangor in 1871. At Kuala Langat, where Sultan Abdul Samad resided, they engaged in gunboat diplomacy to obtain acceptance of a British Resident and made Tunku Kudin Viceroy.

In Sungai Ujong, problems arose in 1873 with the succession of the Dato Klana. He commanded far less power than the Dato Bandar, who was controlling the mines. Again, the British made known their choice and supported the Dato Klana, who accepted a Resident in return. When hostilities broke out in opposition, the British feared a general uprising although it did not happen. However, there were some fierce engagements at Terachi, Paroi and the Bukit Putus Pass, with as many casualties as the Perak campaign. The end result was predictably the acceptance of a British Resident in Sungai Ujong, the largest part of what is now Negeri Sembilan.

These events were important enough to be covered—albeit one-sidedly—in *The Illustrated London News*. As well, some of the earliest surviving photographs of Negeri Sembilan and Selangor date from these historic times. These include views of Sultan Abdul Samad's residence at Kuala Langat, Selangor (6), a group photograph of him and his staff at his later residence at Jugra (7), the Dato Klana's house at Sungai Ujong (2) and his Minangkabau house with Captain Murray (the first Resident) (4), as well as the earliest views of Sri Meranti, Negeri Sembilan.



1 H.M.S. Rinaldo bombarding Selangor, 1871

2 Residence of the Dato Klana, Sungai Ujong, c. 1874 (ANM)

3 Raja Boti house at Lukut, 1874 (ANM)

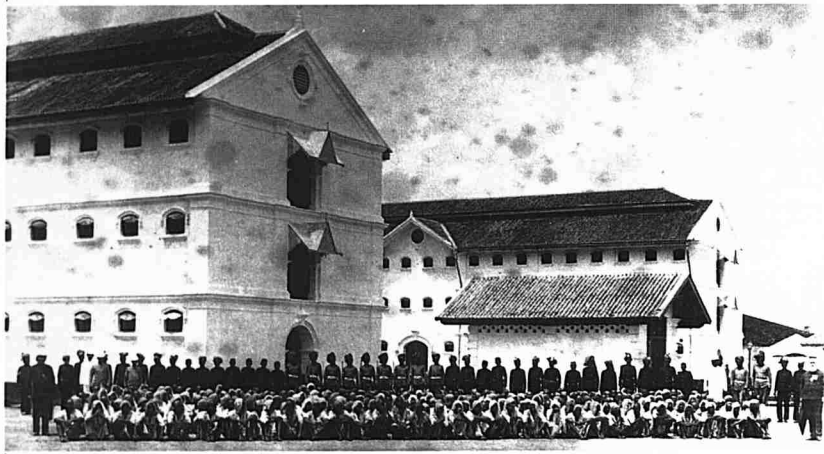
4 The Dato Dagang's house at Sri Meranti, 1874 (ANM)

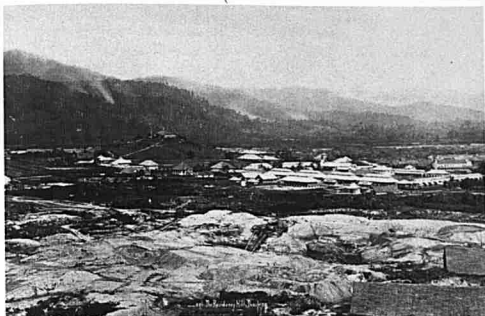
5 The Police Station at Sri Meranti, 1874 (ANM)

6 Residence of Sultan Abdul Samad of Selangor at Langat, 1875 (ANM)

7 Sultan Abdul Samad of Selangor and his council staff, c. 1886







In Perak folklore, tin was first discovered in the Larut valley in 1848 by the Malay nobleman, Long Jaafar, when a runaway elephant returned home streaked with tin ore. Beginning in Kelian Pauh (later known as Taiping) and then Kelian Bharu (now Kamunting), his successful mining enterprise and that of his son Ngah Ibrahim were backed by Chinese merchants in Penang and worked by imported coolies. Encouraged by his success, miners poured in and by 1874 the Larut district had 40,000 miners, most of whom belonged to one of the two different secret societies—the Hakka Hai San and the Cantonese Ghee Hin—who spent 1861 to 1874 fighting over control of the Larut mines. This gave the British reason to intervene, which resulted in the Pangkor Treaty. Included in the treaty was the Chinese agreement in which leaders of both societies undertook responsibility to maintain peace.

Taiping became the centre of British administration in Perak, and grew from a rough mining community into a prosperous town in the 1880s. It boasts some of the earliest, still surviving public buildings such as the jail (2) and the museum (7), and the first railway station (6) to serve Malaysia's first line that ran from Taiping to Port Weld (now Kuala Sepetang).

Other tin towns, such as Kamunting, lagged far behind in progress, as the photograph of an elephant (c. 1890) in the main street indicates (4), while Ipoh, later to replace Taiping in importance, was still a minor trading centre.

1 'View of the Church and Street Scene, Taiping', c. 1890

2 Convicts and staff of Taiping Gaol, 1890 (ANM)

3 'The Residency Hill, Taiping', 1890s

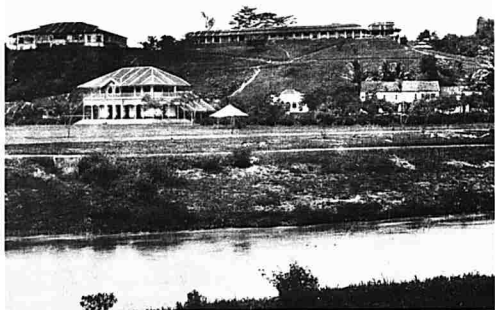
4 Main street of tin-rich Kamunting, showing the main form of transport at the time, by elephant, c. 1890 (ANM)

5 A Chinese opencast mine near Taiping, c. 1906

6 Malaysia's first railway station, Taiping, 1885 (ANM)

7 Taiping Museum shortly after it was built in 1886 (ANM)





If Frank Swettenham, the British Resident of Selangor, had not invited G.R. Lambert & Co. to photograph Kuala Lumpur in the early 1880s when it became the capital of Selangor, posterity would have been denied these remarkable views of what would later become Malaya's most important urban centre.

The mining town had suffered during the Klang war (1867-73), but Yap Ah Loy, the Kapitan Cina (head of the Chinese community), was allied with Tunjuk Kudin and he lost no time in rebuilding the town and restarting the mines. In 1875 Frank Swettenham, then Assistant Resident, thought it by far the best mining village I have seen. But in reality it was a grid of mud streets and attap-roofed shacks in the Chinese quarter and mat-walled houses on piles above the river in the Malay quarter. The four-part panorama taken from Bukit Bluff (Bukit Aman) shows vegetable farms on the site of the Padang (now known as Dataran Merdeka) and attap huts lining the road where the Secretariat would later be built.

By 1884, Yap Ah Loy had built the first brick shophouses in Market Street. That year, he was photographed in mandarin attire with a group of prominent residents (6). On his right are J.P. Rosdger, Acting Resident, Raja Laut, the Native Magistrate and Malay community leader, and H.F. Bellamy of the Public Works Department. Standing diagonally to his left behind him is Thambusamy Pillai, the Indian community leader from 1875 to 1902.

100 Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, 1884

1 Yap Ah Loy's house in Market Square, c. 1884

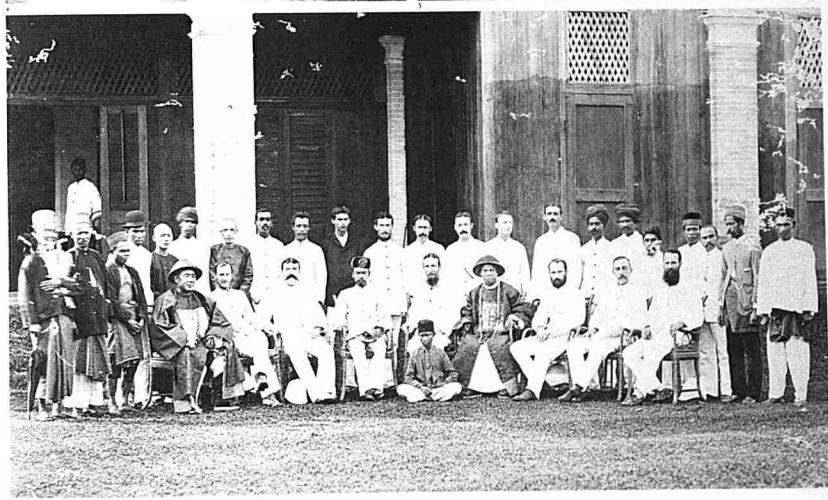
2 Kuala Lumpur, c. 1894; the Secretariat building was later built between the river and the road in the foreground (ANM)

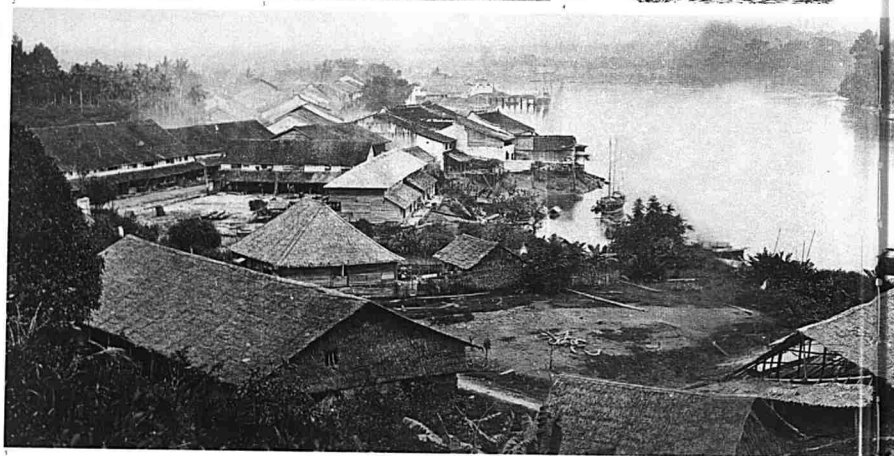
3 View of Kuala Lumpur across what is now part of Dataran Merdeka, 1880s (ANM)

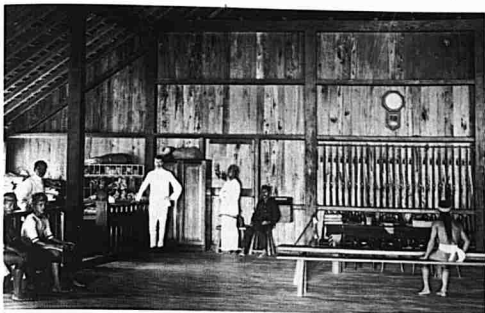
4 View of the Padang with the old clubhouse (right), 1891 (ANM)

5 A Malay village, 1880s (ANM)

6 Prominent residents of Kuala Lumpur, 1884







The earliest surviving photographs of Kuching were probably taken by August Sachler, a German photographer who specialised in panoramas and took an expedition to Sarawak in 1864. Early shophouses and atap huts crowded the townside bank of the Sarawak River, while the Astana, the home of the Rajah of Sarawak, was on the opposite bank. At that time, the Astana was still the residence of James Brooke, who died in England in 1868.

James was succeeded by his nephew, Charles, who possessed his uncle's zeal for acquiring new territories. His plan to acquire the Baram River region was initially thwarted by Charles Lee Moses, the US consul in Brunei, who had acquired the lease of the Baram and much of today's Sabah. Moses later sold it to Baron von Overbeck, an Austrian adventurer, supported by Alfred Dent, a British merchant, who then made annual payments to both the Sultan of Brunei and the Sultan of Sulu.

In 1881, the British North Borneo Company was founded in London with Dent (who had bought out Overbeck's share) as a major shareholder. It was officially a private concern but was unofficially backed by the British government—this became evident when a British warship was sent to dissuade the Philippines from raising their flag at Sandakan, the capital of North Borneo until after World War II. There was a tobacco boom from the late 1880s to the early 90s, but it later collapsed. The British North Borneo Company suffered from lack of income and infrastructure and imposed unpopular taxes that eventually brought about a rebellion which lasted from 1895 to 1905.

Meanwhile, Charles Brooke finally acquired the rights over Baram. The Brookes actively discouraged large-scale Western commercial activities and so Sarawak's economy was largely reliant on its trade with Singapore during the second half of the 19th century. Antimony was a major export and by the late 1880s, Sarawak was producing half of the world's output of sago flour.

Labuan, which had high expectations at its cession to Britain in 1846, had failed to prosper. In 1890, it was handed to the British North Borneo Company, who in turn gave it back in 1905.

1 A village in North Borneo, etching, 1881

2 Etching inscribed 'Coaling Jetty', Victoria, Labuan, 1888

3 Etching of Sandakan, North Borneo, from Government House, 1887

4 'Bridge behind the Town', Victoria, Labuan, 1888

5 One of the earliest photographs of Kuching Town, Sarawak, c. 1864

6 Interior of Baram Port, Sarawak, 1901

7 Fishing on the Baram River, Sarawak, 1880s

8 A Dayak group, Sarawak, 1880s



Gambier is almost unknown today but Malay agriculturalists had long cultivated this plant and used it in tanning leather before Temenggong Ibrahim, Johor's ruler, opened up the state in the 1840s to Chinese commercial farms which had run out of land in Singapore. The land grants by the Temenggong allowed the Chinese to farm the land for gambier and pepper while still allowing the Malays to participate in the economy.

By 1870, there were thousands of gambier and pepper plantations, for both crops grew well together. Pepper and gambier were the major contributors to Johor's economic success in the second half of the 19th century. The vast forests that covered most of Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo were logged as lands were cleared for plantations and the timber used for building or fuel, particularly in the gambier industry.

Coffee was another early crop that was expected to do well, but Brazil's competitiveness later affected prices which fluctuated wildly during the 19th century. The East India Company had visions of Penang becoming a great spice producer, but while nutmeg thrived, there was never enough land for it to be a major crop. Other early crops included tea and copra (dried coconut). These early crops, as well as opium monopolies, were the major source of income until tin and rubber took over.



1 Plantation coolies, 1870s (ANM)

2 Clearing the forests near Mount Ophir, Melaka, 1893

3 Pulling timber out of the jungle, 1880s (ANM)

4 Picking pepper on a Johor plantation, c. 1890 (ANM)

5 Coconut plantation near Ayer Itam, Penang, c. 1867 (ANM)

6 Labourers on rubber estate, Sungai Siput, Perak, 1890s (ANM)

7 Plantation house in Penang, 1860s (ANM)







In her book, *The Golden Chersonese: Travels in Malaya in 1879*, Isabella Bird gave the following account of Malaysia's dominant ethnic group in the late 19th century: 'The Malays undoubtedly must be numbered among civilised peoples. They live in houses. ... They are well clothed ... a settled and agricultural people ... skilful in some of the arts; the upper classes are to some extent educated; they have a literature ... and they have possessed for centuries systems of government and codes of land and maritime laws, which ... show a considerable degree of enlightenment. ... Their religion, laws, customs, and morals are bound up together. ... The pilgrimage to Mecca is the universal object of Malay ambition. They ... keep the fast of Ramadhan, wear rosaries of beads, observe the hours of prayer ... provide for the "religious welfare" of their villages, circumcise their children, offer buffaloes in sacrifice ... build mosques everywhere, regard Mecca as the holy city; and the Koran ... as the rule of faith and practice.'

Early photographs of Malays are rare, and perhaps the earliest surviving images date from K. Feilberg's photographs of Penang's population in the 1860s (4 and 5). The identities of the sitters are unknown. The photographer of the Malay penghulu (chiefs) and their headmen (6), dating from the 1870s or 80s, is unknown, but the well-dressed sitters are obviously men of importance.

Simply entitled 'Mosque, Penang', the single-story building with minarets on each corner (7) was probably the first Kapitan Kling Mosque built by Indian Muslims in 1801. It was replaced at the turn of the century with the building that still stands today.

Its whereabouts unknown, the Malay Court of Justice (3) offers a rare glimpse into Malay life and fashions, when cloth headgear and traditional outfits were still worn.



There had been for centuries small trading communities of Chinese residing in Malaysia, notably in the Straits Settlements, but their numbers remained constant until the opening of the tin mines in the mid-19th century, when immigrant coolies began to significantly alter the demographics.

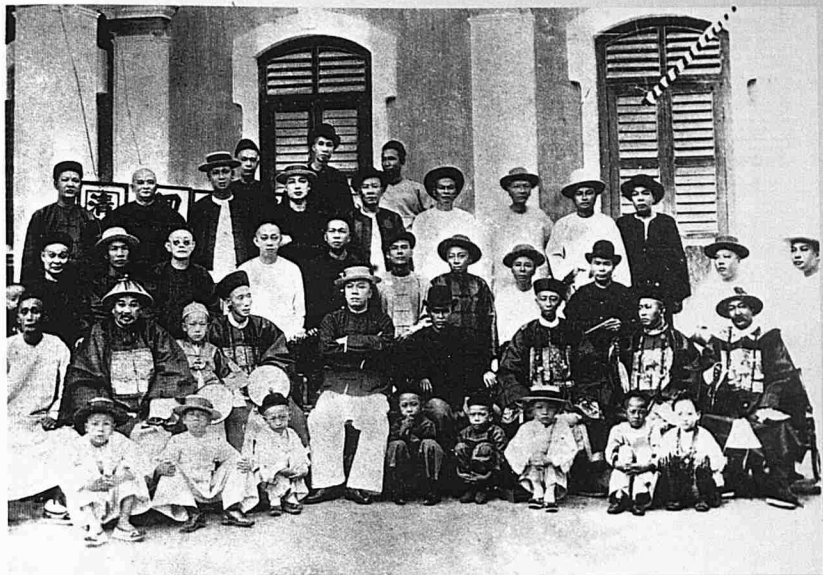
In the 1870s they were remarked upon by Isabella Bird as having the same customs, dress and habits as the Chinese in Canton, except that they had given up the 'barbarous custom of crushing the feet of girls'. At that time they still wore traditional Chinese garments and had their hair in a queue. Bird differentiated between the Babas, or Straits Chinese who were born in the Straits, and the immigrant Chinese, or Sinkeh. She also, rather prophetically, noted that 'the Chinese promise to be in sort the commercial rulers of the Straits'.

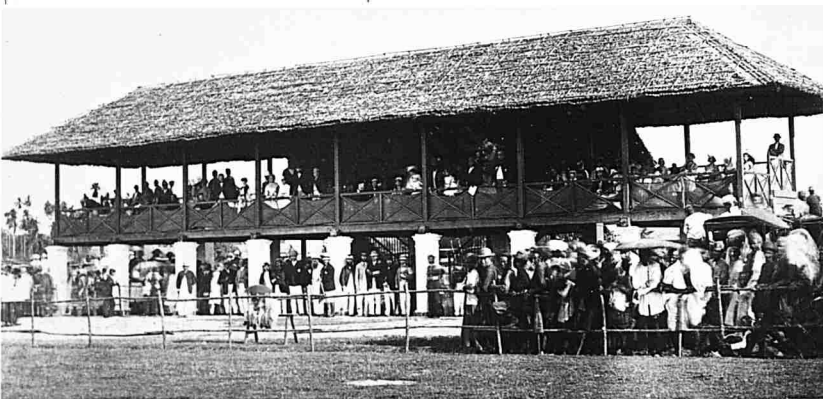
The earliest photographs of Chinese in the Straits Settlements date from the late 1860s. They include a Chinese woman holding a fan, standing beside a carved blackwood table that supports an elaborate ivory carving (2) and a seated couple in traditional robes (7). The group photographs, a group of distinguished Chinese (1), members of the Cheng Hong Kok Club (5), and the man (Tan Choon Bock) and child (Tan Keong Aun) (6) are all of Melaka Straits Chinese and date from the 1880s.

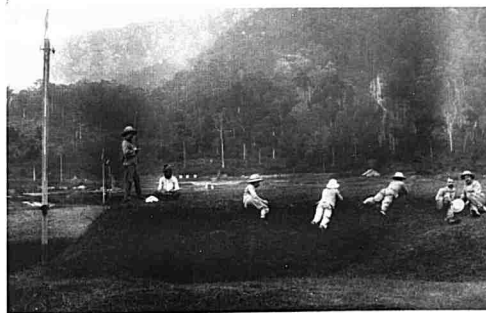
The Chinese gentleman in Manchu ceremonial attire is Yap Loong Hin (8), the eldest son of Yap Chee Ying (better known as Yap Ah Shak), the Kapitan Cina of Kuala Lumpur who succeeded Yap Ah Loy in 1885.

Photographs of street hawkers (3 and 4) provide a unique glimpse of their dress and goods. They are rare from the early decades of photography; the ones here were probably taken in Taiping in 1886.









It was a privileged though often lonely existence, but the early British colonials in the Straits Settlements and the Malay States were quick in creating their own lifestyle. It was in some ways similar to what they had established in other tropical countries such as India, but in other ways it was unique. House styles combined Malay, English and Indian features. The close proximity of hills saw the birth of the hill station, a cool retreat from the humid lowlands where Europeans could regain their health without having to resort to a long sea voyage home.

Various known as Government Hill or Great Hill, Penang Hill was the first of these hill stations, and was also a well-known tourist destination. Rickshaws ferried visitors to the Alexandria Hotel Bath Establishment in Waterfall Road (3), and then by sedan chair carried by coolies up the winding trail (still a popular walking path today) to one of the picturesquely sited bungalows.

The earliest photographs of Penang Hill were taken in the late 1860s and show Penang's leading Europeans at the Crag hotel (6). In the 1860s, bungalows still had atap roofs and large airy verandas shaded by chick blinds, but the houses built in the 1890s on Maxwell Hill above Taiping (4), the second-oldest of Malaysia's hill stations, have hip roofs made of zinc, and are the forerunners of the black-and-white style that still prevails at Cameron Highlands and Fraser's Hill.

Popular pursuits at that time included horse-racing (5), shooting (8) and hunting, which evidently was not only a European affair, as can be seen in the photograph here (7).

1 Government consultant bungalow on Penang Hill, 1860s (ANM)

2 Loch Lomond, a European residence on Penang Hill, c. 1867 (ANM)

3 Alexandria Hotel Bath Establishment, Penang, c. 1867

4 'The Hut' and Mr and Mrs Treacher, Maxwell Hill, 1890s (ANM)

5 Crowds at the horse races, Penang, 1867-69 (ANM)

6 Picnic party at the Crag Hotel, Penang Hill, 1860s (ANM)

7 Shooting party in Kedah: Sultan Abdul Hamid Halim Shah of Kedah and Frank Sweetenham, (later to become Governor), (standing at right), with Raja Muda Abdul Aziz, the younger brother of the Sultan, (seated in front), 1889 (ANM)

8 Europeans at the Rifle Range, Taiping, 1890s (ANM)

9 The Crag Hotel, Penang Hill, as seen from the stairs, c. 1867 (ANM)



THE COLONIAL JEWEL

1896–1914

In 1896, the year this chapter begins, a new millennium was approaching. As the 19th century drew to a close, some prophesied doom and apocalyptic events—which later became a reality for Europe with the outbreak of World War I in 1914. But most saw the dawn of the 20th century with optimism born of the cult of modernity that thrived in the high machine age. There was a spirit of confidence, idealism and, it appeared, more unknown territories to be explored.

In 1896, Selangor, Perak, Negeri Sembilan and Pahang united to form the Federated Malay States (FMS). Although the full significance of this event only became apparent later, it marked the beginning of the centralised federal system of government and the rise of Kuala Lumpur, its capital. 'Progress' was the key word of this era, and with it came the formation of British Malaya, which comprised the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, and later, the Unfederated Malay States (UMS) of Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Terengganu and Johor. But as history buffs know, it is usually at the height of imperium that the fall begins, and so it happened for the British. At the turn of the millennium they were masters of the world; although they did not realise it, the start of World War I signalled the end of their supremacy.

In a parallel history, photography was also undergoing great changes. With painters veering away from realism into impressionism and modernism, photographers became the chroniclers of technology and progress. The drawbacks of the wet collodion process and its associated travelling darkroom had been resolved with the use of gelatin dry plates in the 1880s, giving photographers greater mobility. And with the spotlight on Malaya, they saw commercial potential in documenting the world's largest tin reserves, the rise of the rubber industry, the lush scenery, and the fascinating people and cultures.

There were also better transport options with the growth in railways. As *The Illustrated London News* reported in 1912 (rather optimistically considering later advances): 'Improved methods of locomotion have annihilated space.'

But photography also had its highs and lows. In the last years of the 19th century, the photographic firm G.R. Lambert & Co. was in great demand and was called upon to record every grand

official event in Malaya, from the spectacular annual gatherings of the rulers, known as Durbars, to the historic visit of the British High Commissioner, Sir John Anderson, to Kedah, Terengganu and Kelantan in 1909 when Siam relinquished control over the northern states to Britain. This era was also the heyday of the professional photographic studio as reproduction postcards began to flood the market. Amateurs were encouraged to take up the challenge when easier methods of photography were developed. Small *carte de visite* portraits, about the same size as a calling card, were also becoming fashionable, and photography began the move (that still continues today) from walls into albums.

Other inventions arrived, such as the stereoscope, a binocular apparatus that produced a three-dimensional image from two photographs taken simultaneously from slightly different angles with a special camera and mounted side by side on a card. In these days of visual and sensory overload, it is difficult to imagine the kind of enthusiasm that saw the stereoscope become a popular drawing-room entertainment. Created by Parisian opticians, it caused a sensation when it was exhibited at the London's Great Exhibition in 1851. As the French poet Charles Baudelaire wrote: 'Thousands of eyes were bent avidly over the holes in the stereoscope, which were like skylights onto



ABOVE: 'Road through a Malay village', taken from a stereoscopic postcard of Penang, 1907.
FACING PAGE: Klengroth's photograph of Penang's Wild Quays taken in 1906 was used in publications of the Malay States Department Agency to publicise the country to the outside world.



This view of a native sailing craft docked at Nibong Terbal, a port in Province Wellesley, appeared in Charles Kleingrothe's 1907 portfolio of the Malay Peninsula

infinity'. However, stereoscopic postcards soon disappeared and of the few examples of this quirky invention that remain, two show Malaya in the 1900s: freight being loaded into a native bullock cart at Penang's port (below right) and an idyllic road through a Malay village (see page 83).

European photographic firms were prominent during this era, although the identities of the photographers remain unknown. However, local assistants had been working with photographers since the 1860s when John Thomson trained 'two Madras men' as his printers and assistants. The Chinese had 'refused to lend themselves to such devilry'. However, by the 1890s there were Chinese-run photographic studios in Kuala Lumpur and Penang rivalling the European firms.

A large number of the photographs in this chapter were taken by Charles J. Kleingrothe, a German who worked for G.R. Lambert & Co. in Singapore and headed their branch in Medan, Sumatra from 1888 to 1889. He formed Kleingrothe and Stahell in 1889 and remained there until 1898, when he worked alone until his departure in 1915. His exhaustive travels throughout British Malaya in the early 1900s resulted in the production of his celebrated portfolio *Malay Peninsula* in 1907, from which many of the photographs here originate.

Where and what Kleingrothe chose to focus his lens on probably had to do with commercial more than aesthetic ends, although there is no doubting the latter, as can be seen in some of

his exquisite studies of scenery, particularly on the mountainous trail to Pahang. But it was the new streets and buildings of towns such as Kuala Lumpur, Taiping, Ipoh, Batu Gajah, Teluk Anson (now Teluk Intan) and Seremban, that had grown rich on tin, as well as the royal towns such as Klang and Kuala Kangsar and their new palaces that captured much of his attention. His coverage of the tin industry provides a fascinating look at the machinery that revolutionised the business, as well as the despoliation of the environment, something that was never considered in an era of relentless commercial expansionism. The old was eliminated to make way for the new.

This was also the era of change in transport. Created primarily to serve the mines and later the plantations, the railways stretched from Butterworth to Johor Bahru by 1909. By 1914, work had begun on the lines to Kuala Lipis in Pahang and Alor Star in Kedah. Motor transport was also making inroads, particularly in the lifestyles of the rulers and the colonial elite. Riding in a sedan chair to a hill station was *passé*. Taking a drive through the country became popular and with it came the emergence of new leisure spots such as Dusun Tua, a hot spring on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur, and the sea resort at Port Dickson.

Photographers began journeying to the UMS. Some of them were professionals, such as August Kaulfuss, who was recorded in



Front and back view of a carte de visite portrait taken by the Wah Sun Studio in Penang, 1900s. Stereoscopic postcard of freight being loaded onto a bullock cart in Weld Quay, Penang, 1900s.

Twentieth Century Impressions of British Malaya (1908) as having 'traversed on foot the whole of the Malay Peninsula'. He was based in Penang and was also the official photographer for the Sultan of Kedah. In 1909, a photographer from G.R. Lambert & Co. travelled to Kelantan and Terengganu and captured some of the earliest views of these two east coast states and their rulers. Then in 1912, an amateur photographer in an official government party which made an exploratory trip to Pahang's interior, took what are probably the earliest photographs of the Tembeling region and what is now Taman Negara.

Photography was also a type of propaganda, extolling the benefits of British rule, but rarely affording a look at the other side. In depicting everyday life, photographers turned their cameras to the picturesque, as do most commercial practitioners today. This was the golden age of divide and rule, and Malaya's plural society was already being stereotyped by photographers. Timeless Malay kampongs fringed by palms were a favourite theme, as were elephants, which were then still used for transport as well as ceremonies. Chinese temples were depicted, but rarely their dwellings. The Indians were photographed steering bullock carts and tapping rubber. As the French planter-author Henri Fauconnier wrote on his arrival: 'Learning that the Malays were Mahomeddians I had set sail for a sort of Algeria, but had landed in a Chinese city. Since my arrival I had lived in India. And suddenly I find myself in Polynesia.'

Although socio-economic conditions have to be discerned from the margins of most of these photographs, the camera does not lie. The poorly dressed coolies and insubstantial housing



Street scene in Kuala Lumpur, early 1930s. A mix of races can be seen as well as two types of transport, the old-fashioned rickshaw and a new-fangled bicycle. (ANM)

expose the differences between the lifestyles of the Europeans, the ruling elite, and the wealthy Chinese on one hand, and those of the rest of the population on the other. But this inequality was not what people wanted to see in postcards, and although social realism was already a genre in European photography, little of it has survived from turn of the century Malaya.

What really excited both the general public and academia, however, were photographs and books featuring exotic new peoples and their lifestyles. From the outset, photography, colonial conquest and the infant discipline of ethnography were inextricably linked, and the new medium was the perfect solution for anthropologists who wished to compile a comprehensive collection of all the world's races. Many colonial administrators were amateur naturalists and ethnologists, but none was quite so diligent as Charles Hose, author and photographer of *Pagan Tribes of Borneo* (1912) and *Natural Man* (1926), who served in Sarawak for two decades from the 1880s. Much of his writings may appear paternalistic and Eurocentric today, but his photographic record of Sarawak's ethnic peoples is not only unique, it is even more appreciated now when so much of Borneo's traditional lifestyles have been lost.



A Malay procession to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria makes its way along Beach Street, Penang, 1897. (ANM)



When Kuala Lumpur became the capital of the Federated Malay States in 1896, the old tin town transformed itself with a building spree, the results of which are strikingly evident in the photographs taken during that time. It was an inspired decision to create the new government buildings in Islamic style. The magnificent Secretariat, now Bangunan Sultan Abdul Samad, was built in 1897 and is still the capitals most impressive historic building with its arched colonnades, copper domes and 40-metre clock tower. Other buildings followed in similar styles in 1904, the Town Hall (now a courthouse), in 1905, the FMS Railway Building, in 1906, the Selangor Museum (later destroyed by bombs during World War II), in 1907, the General Post Office (now a courthouse), in 1909, Jamek Mosque, and in 1911, the Railway Station.

Kleingrothe's photographs of Kuala Lumpur in 1907 show much of this grand new architecture and the wide, paved streets of the government quarter on the west side of the river. By then, cameras could record movement without blurring, and although traffic is sparse, his view of the railway bridge across Jalan Raja shows rickshaws, bullock carts and bridges, as well as goods trains in the yards where the Dayabum complex now stands. Then, as it still is today, the Padang (now known as Dataran Merdeka) was often the chosen place for festivities and official events.

1 *The Selangor Museum, photographed shortly after its construction in 1906*

2 *Hotel Railway Station, Kuala Lumpur, c. 1915*

3 *Public officers under construction, 1897 (ANM)*

4 *Jamek Mosque, built in 1909 at the junction of the Gombak and Klang rivers, c. 1910*

5 *View from the Police Depot with the Selangor Club in the foreground, c. 1910*

6 *Government officers, Sultan Abdul Samad Building c. 1906*

7 *The Municipality building, now Town Hall, c. 1906*

FOLLOWING PAGES

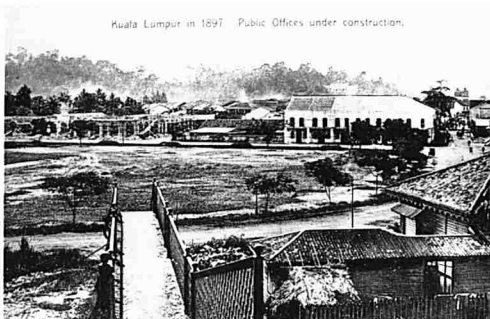
1 *Panoramic view of Kuala Lumpur; this was photographed just before the opening of the new government buildings seen in the background, c. 1897*

2 *The FMS Railway Building with marshalling grounds in 1906 before the new Railway Station was built*

3 *A view of Kuala Lumpur and its surroundings, 1905-10 (ANM)*

4 *A parade of motorcars along Jalan Raja during the Coronation festivities of King George V and Queen Mary, Kuala Lumpur, 1911 (ANM)*

Kuala Lumpur in 1897. Public Offices under construction.



206 - Mosque, Kuala Lumpur.



375. View from Police Depot, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, F.M.S.

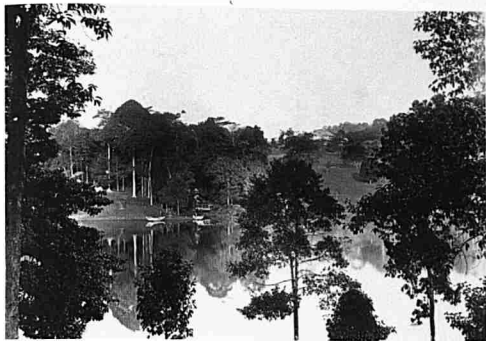












From the beginning, commerce was always centred on the east bank of the Klang River, in the streets that formed Chinatown. In the revamp of Kuala Lumpur that began in the 1880s, the once 'pestilential' hub of mud and attap huts was transformed into rows of brick shophouses—some of which still survive—fronted by five-foot ways to keep pedestrians off the roads.

Trade was centred around the old Market Square (Medan Pasar) while Petaling Street was then nicknamed Monte Carlo for its gambling and nightlife, including registered brothels. Next to Chinatown, along the embankment known as the Benteng and between Market Street (now Lebuhr Pasar Besar) and Java Street (now Jalan Tun Perak), were the great trading houses such as Chow Kit & Co., John Little & Co., and the Straits Trading Company, which were among the few places where colonials and the locals mingled.

Kuala Lumpur's tag as a 'garden city' was remarked upon by the author of the first guidebook to the Federated Malay States (FMS) (1910): 'The whole of the English quarter of Kuala Lumpur is one garden.' The establishment of the Public Gardens, later renamed Lake Gardens, was proposed by Alfred Venning, chairman of the Sanitary Board, in 1888. It was officially opened the following year after the lake was created by damming Sungai Bras Bras. But it took a decade before all 173 acres of former jungle were tamed into the views seen here. Venning's idea of 'a place of healthful recreation and relaxation for the public' became a reality.

The surrounding hills were developed into a residential area for the expatriate bureaucracy. The grandest residence, 'Carcosa', was built in 1897 as the home of the Resident General of the FMS. Its first occupant was Sir Frank Swettenham and successive colonial chiefs occupied it until it was returned to the nation in 1986.

1 Jalan Ampang, c. 1910

2 Petaling Street, 1890s

3 The flooding during a flood in 1902; floods were an annual affair in Kuala Lumpur until the Klang River was straightened in 1928 (ANM)

4 Outdoor scene at the Kuala Lumpur market, c. 1900

5-6 The Public Gardens (later Lake Gardens), with the Residency 'Carcosa' on the hill in the background (5) c. 1905 (ANM)

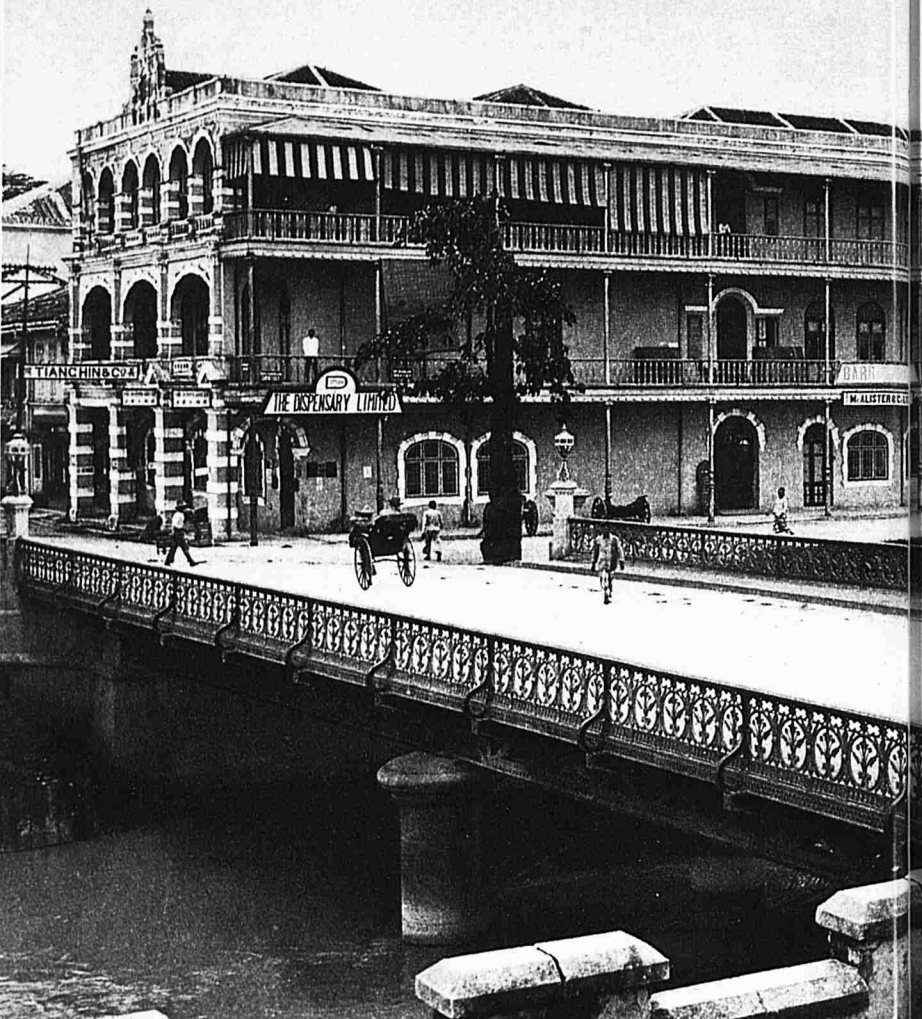
7 Malay children in either Jalan Ampang or Kampong Rawas, the Malay quarter off Malay Street, 1908-10 (ANM)

8 Lake Club Avenue in the Public Gardens (later Lake Gardens) (ANM)

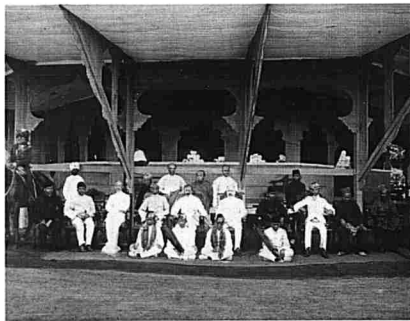
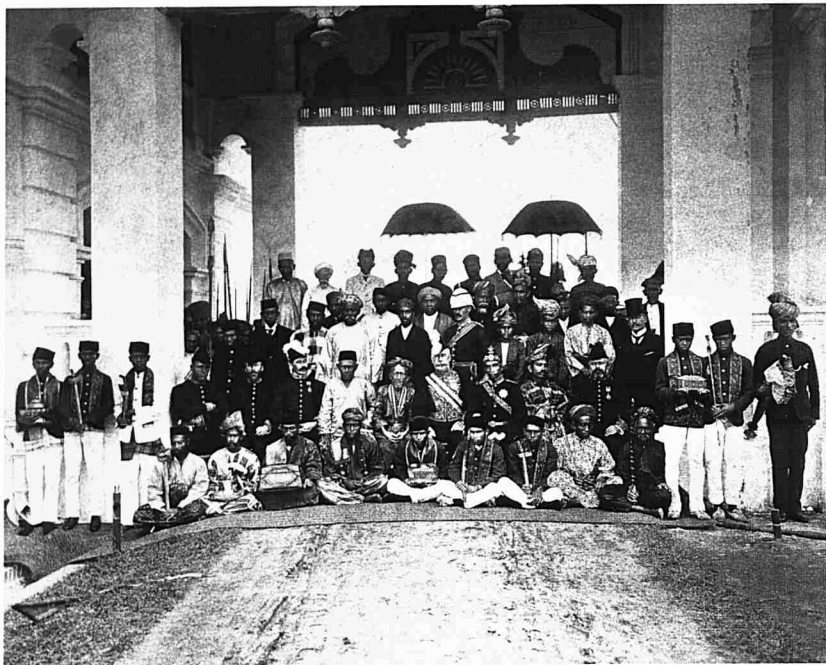
FOLLOWING PAGES

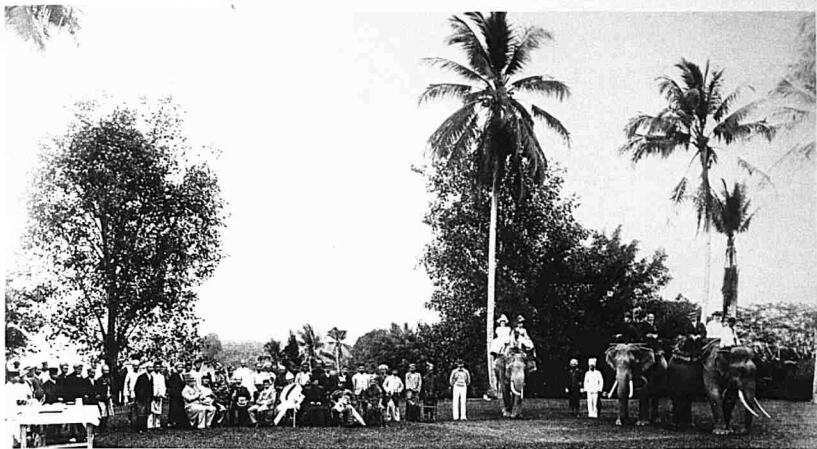
Market Street Bridge, built in 1890, leading to Holland Road with Chow Kit & Co., to the right, c. 1906











After the Federated Malay States (FMS) were established in 1896, a meeting of the State Rulers was held one year later. The Durbar, as it was called, was a periodic conference held for the rulers to discuss matters pertaining to religion, customs and subjects relevant to the Malays. However, it was a conference merely in name, as little was discussed between the ceremonies and leisure activities that included elephant rides to a nearby waterfall for picnics.

G R. Lambert & Co. was hired to record these unique events. The first Durbar (14–17 July 1897) took place at the Istana Negara, the new residence of Sultan Idris in Kuala Kangsar, Perak. It was chosen as the venue because of the great esteem the British had for the Sultan of Perak. The second Durbar (20 July 1903) was held at a specially constructed pavilion in the Lake Gardens, Kuala Lumpur. At this Durbar, Sultan Idris openly opposed the centralisation of power in the FMS and suggested more Malays be employed in the public service. Negeri Sembilan's ruler also proposed that Malay be made the official language but the Resident-General disagreed. It was to be more than 50 years before this was to be realised at Independence.

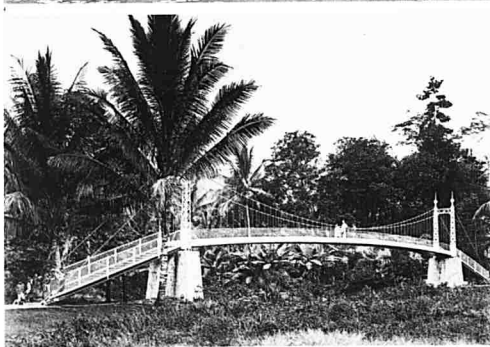
- 1 At the first Durbar in Kuala Kangsar, 1897 (seated left to right): Hugh Clifford (Resident of Pahang), J.F. Rodger (Resident of Selangor), Sir Frank Swettenham (Resident-General), Sultan Ahmad of Pahang, Sultan Abdul Samad of Selangor, Sir Charles Mitchell (British High Commissioner), Sultan Idris of Perak, Tuanku Muhammad the Yang di-Pertuan Besar of Negeri Sembilan and W.H. Treacher (Resident of Perak)
- 2 Tuanku Muhammad of Negeri Sembilan and other chiefs, Federal Conference, 1903
- 3 Sir Frank Swettenham, Governor of the Straits Settlements and High Commissioner for the FMS, with Sultan Idris of Perak at the Durbar, 1903
- 4 A garden party during the first Durbar, Kuala Kangsar, 1897 (ANM)
- 5 Interior of the Conference Hall, Kuala Lumpur, 1903
- 6 Interior of Istana Negara, Kuala Kangsar, 1897
- 7 Istana Negara, Kuala Lumpur, 1903



This series of views reveals the beauty of the Selangor countryside that surrounded Kuala Lumpur. Some of the landmarks are still recognisable, such as the limestone hills behind Ulu Klang and the old metal bridge at Dusun Tua, but much of the lush vegetation of the lowlands was cleared long ago.

When the first motorcars arrived, the minority who could afford them took short trips to nearby beauty spots, such as the catchment reservoir in the hills above Ulu Klang that was built in the 1890s to supply the growing town with a regular water supply. Another popular outing was to Dusun Tua, located just outside Kuala Lumpur in the upper reaches of the Langat River valley. According to C.W. Harrison, author of *An Illustrated Guide to the Federated Malay States*, it was a 'delightful spot'. No mining was allowed upstream from the hot springs so the water comes down from the hills beyond most crystal-clear.

By then, Batu Caves (7) were already an attraction, but before it became a centre for Hindu worship, the caves could only be reached by a difficult trek through the jungle.



1 Henri Fauconnier's 'House of Palms'

2 Bungalow at Dusun Tua near the hot springs, c. 1908 (ANM)

3 Viewing pavilion at the reservoir in Ulu Klang, 1908 (ANM)

4 Scenery around Kuala Lumpur, 1908 (ANM)

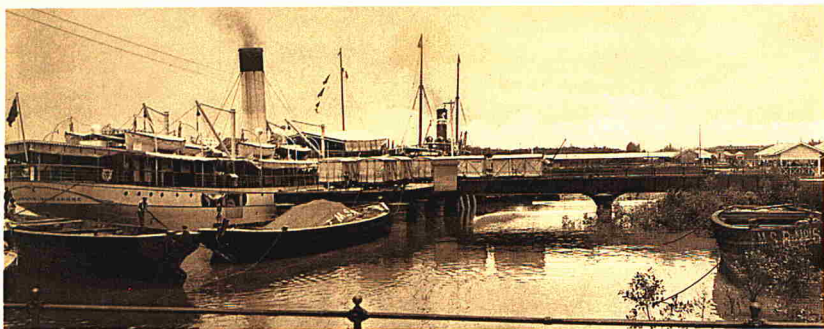
5 The bridge over the Langat River, Dusun Tua, c. 1908 (ANM)

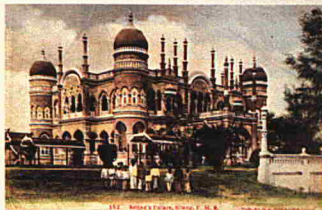
6 Day trippers and an early motorcar at Dusun Tua, c. 1908 (ANM)

7 Batu Caves, c. 1906

8 View of Klang Gate, 1908 (ANM)







Klang was the first capital of Selangor, which had originated with a land grant from the Melaka Sultanate in the 15th century. By the mid-18th century, Bugis noblemen had established the present sultanate at Kuala Selangor. After civil wars, subsequent British intervention and the incorporation of the state into the Federated Malay States (FMS), Selangor grew so prosperous on its tin and rubber that in 1912 it was reported to be one of the richest states in the world for its size.

The British tried to get Sultan Abdul Samad (r. 1857–98) to move to Kuala Lumpur but his preference was to remain in the old capital at Jugra, and it was there that his grandson Sultan Alaeddin Suleiman Shah (r. 1898–1938) succeeded him. A year later, however, the latter moved from the wooden palace at Jugra, built in the traditional Malay style, to an elaborate new brick palace in Klang, built for him by the state government. An eclectic blend of Moorish and European styles, the palace was a favourite subject for many photographers. Unfortunately it was demolished in 1958 for the palace that now stands in its place.

Although a small port had been in existence at Klang for centuries, upriver travel to Kuala Lumpur, which took three days, only began in the 1850s. This journey was cut to 45 minutes when the railway line opened in 1886. When the line to Port Swettenham (Port Klang) was completed in 1900, inland Selangor, and its rapidly expanding rubber industry in particular, reaped the benefits. However, overnight journeys to Singapore by Straits Steamship Company vessels proved popular. The port became even busier after the opening of new wharves for ocean-going vessels in 1914.

1 Port Swettenham, Klang, with a Straits Steamship Company vessel in port, 1906

2 Installation of Sultan Alaeddin Suleiman Shah at Istana Jugra, 1898 (ANM)

3 A Malay mosque, Klang, c. 1900

4 Palace of Sultan Alaeddin Suleiman Shah, Klang, 1906

5 Gymkhana, Klang, 1909 (ANM)





I like Kuala Kangsa better than any place that I have been at in Asia, and am proportionately sornier to leave it', wrote Isabella Bird of Perak's royal capital in 1879. Kuala Kangsar had an enviable setting at the bend of the Perak River from where the distant mountains could be seen.

Bird also met 'Rajah Dris', who became Sultan Idris in 1897 and was a popular and capable ruler until his death in 1916. Although he was originally a supporter of the British, he became very critical after the formation of the Federated Malay States (FMS) when state powers were diminished.

Sultan Idris' *istana* (palace) was built in 1892 at a cost of \$55,000 with substantial funding from the FMS, which the Sultan himself requested through Frank Swettenham, then Resident of Perak. Its furnishings were European-made and requests for additional funds to cover these costs were hotly disputed in London. However, claims that the building was too grandiose were later dismissed by Governor Mitchell, who thought that the Sultan should have a residence comparable to that of the British Resident.

However, Kuala Kangsar's most famous building is not one of its historic residences or palaces. Instead, it is the Ubudiah Mosque, built by Sultan Idris in 1913–17 with funding from the British administration. Construction was delayed when royal elephants ran amok and broke the marble and new supplies from Italy were slow in arriving due to the outbreak of World War I. Sadly, Sultan Idris died before the mosque was completed, but the enduring beauty of Perak's royal town owes much to this enlightened ruler.



1 *The Residency overlooking the Perak River, Kuala Kangsar, c. 1906*

2 *The Istana of Sultan Idris of Perak, c. 1906*

3 *Sultan Idris' consorts (seated) and noblemen, 1880s (ANM)*

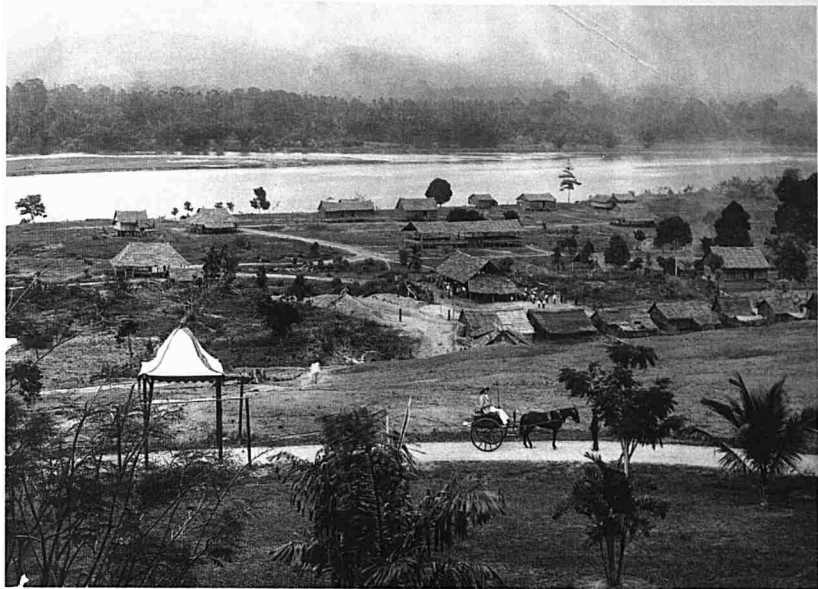
4 *The Perak River at Kuala Kangsar, c. 1906*

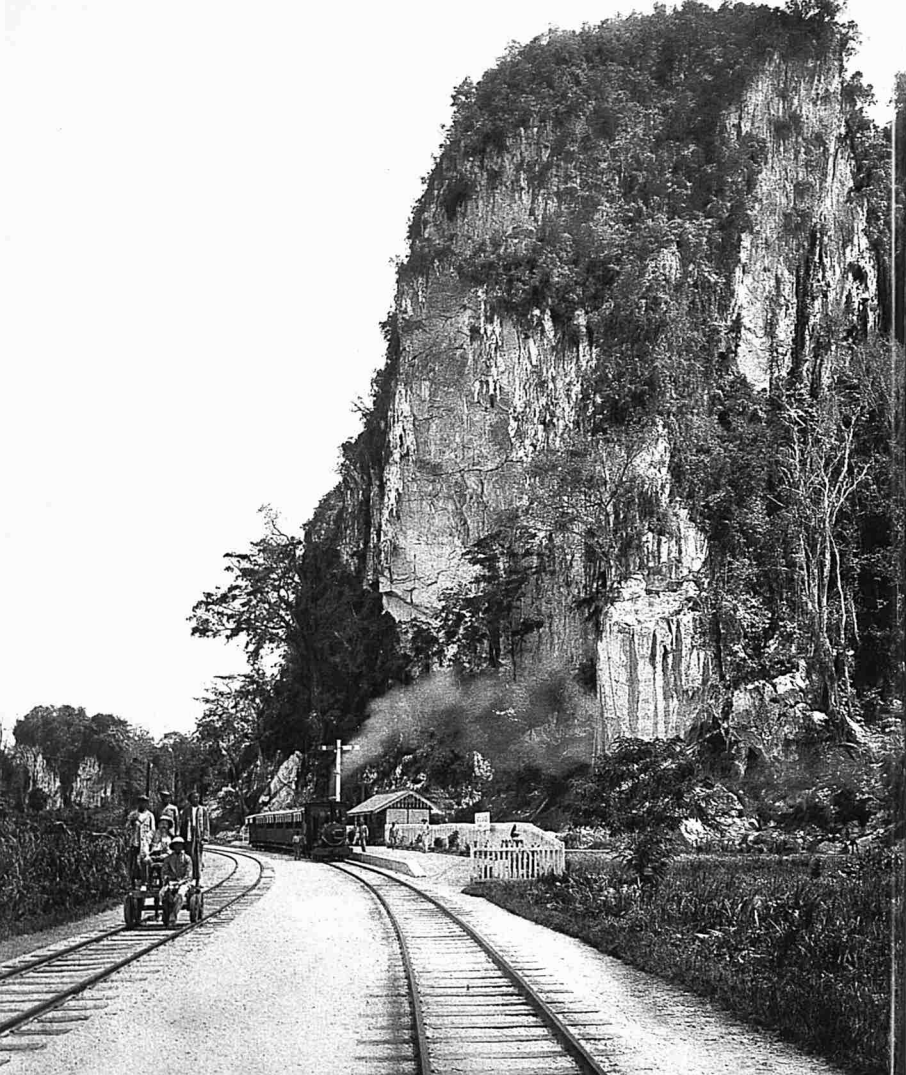
5 *View of Kuala Kangsar, c. 1897 (ANM)*

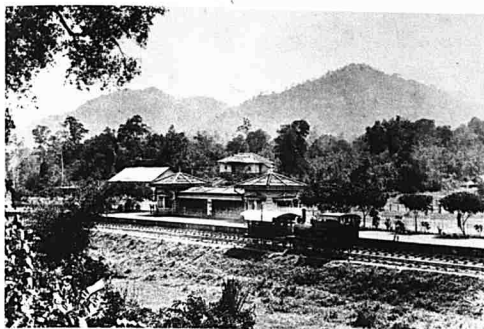
6 *Sultan Idris (seated) on the eve of his departure to England to attend the coronation of King Edward VII, 1902 (ANM)*

7 *Sultan Idris with his guards at Kuala Kangsar, 1897*

8 *Ubudiah Mosque, c. 1914*







The growth of Malayan railways ran parallel with British political intervention and the expanding tin and rubber industries. In 1885, the first railway was built from Taiping to Port Weld (now Kuala Sepetang) for the express purpose of transporting tin ore to a port for export. By 1896, lines had been built from Bukit Mertajam to Prai in Province Wellesley, from Enggor to Teluk Anson (now Teluk Intan), and from Kuala Kubu via Kuala Lumpur to Klang. Three years later the line to Port Swettenham (Port Klang) was completed. In 1891 in Negeri Sembilan, a private company built a line connecting Seremban with Port Dickson.

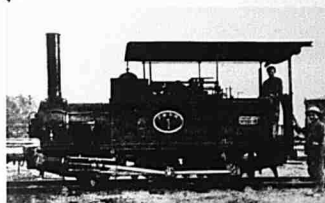
When the Federated Malay States (FMS) was formed, a new master plan was conceived to connect the Straits Settlements and also to open up new areas for agriculture as it was evident that tin alone could not carry the entire economy. By 1909 the railway ran from Prai to Johor Bahru. At the outbreak of World War I, lines were built from Gemas to Kuala Lipis in Pahang (1917) and to Padang Besar to link with the Thai line (1918). Short railway lines were also built in Sarawak and Labuan, but the most ambitious line was built in British North Borneo, linking Jesselton (Kota Kinabalu) with Buafton and Tenom in the interior.

Building the railways was a costly and ambitious undertaking. The Padang-Rengas Pass outside Taiping and the Enggor Railway Bridge were major engineering feats. But the terrain was only one of the difficulties: in 1894, a train outside of Teluk Anson in Perak was derailed by a wild elephant who fatally charged it in defence of his herd (4).



FACING PAGE Batu Caves Station was on a private railway built to service a quarry, c. 1906

- 1 Kuala Kubu Railway Station, c. 1903 (ANM)
- 2 Railway crossing near St Mary's church, Kuala Lumpur, c. 1891 (ANM)
- 3 Railway in North Borneo, 1898 (ANM)
- 4 Train derailed by a wild elephant near Teluk Anson, 1894 (ANM)
- 5 First railway engine of the FMSR, constructed in 1881 (ANM)

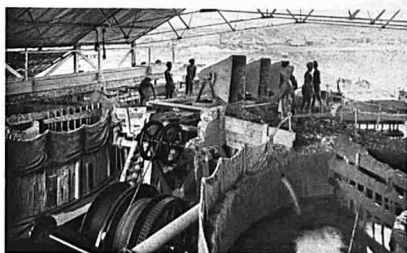


The Malays had been mining tin in the Malay Peninsula for at least a millennium before the tin boom of the 19th century. Arab travellers first remarked on the Peninsula's wealth of tin in the 9th century while the Chinese first mentioned it in the 13th century. The Portuguese and Dutch both sought to monopolise tin exports, but it was the Dutch who successfully concluded treaties with the Malay chiefs of Perak in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Loring Jaalar, who discovered tin in the Larut Valley in 1848, set a new trend by securing capital from Penang's Chinese merchants and importing Chinese labourers. By 1874 there were 40,000 miners in the Larut district. When surface deposits were exhausted in 1890, most Malays stopped mining as only the Chinese and Europeans had the resources for the large mining operations needed to extract tin below the water table. In 1906, some mines were still labour-intensive while others were becoming increasingly mechanised with hydraulic elevators and gravel pumps.

- 1 An opencast tin mine, c. 1906
- 2 Tin mining at The Gap, near Fraser's Hill, Pahang, c. 1906
- 3 A tin mine at Kampar, c. 1906
- 4-5 Puddling and washing works, c. 1906
- 6 Visit of Sir John Anderson, Governor of the Straits Settlements, to Toukay Ng Boo Bee's tin mine at Kamunting, Perak, 1904 (ANM)
- 7 Chinese water elevator, c. 1906









Renowned in the early days for fierce fighting between rival tin-mining factions, Taiping finally lived up to its Chinese name—'Everlasting Peace'—in 1896. By 1910, C.W. Harrison, author of *An Illustrated Guide to the Federated Malay States*, called the town 'one of the most picturesque in Malaya', with handsome public offices and streets shaded by *angiana* (golden rain) trees that 'rain[ed] down in golden snow ... providing a carpet fit for a Sultan, for yellow is the royal colour in the East'. Its attractions were listed in the FMS Railways' pamphlet of 1914, and included 'a limpid lake surrounded by public gardens, a race course, a polo ground, a rifle range, a golf course, a museum, and cricket and football grounds'.

Taiping's attractions then centred, as they do today, on the Taiping Lake Gardens, originally mining ponds, the waterfall with its swimming club, and the resort of Maxwell Hill (Bukit Larut). Kleingrothe's photographs of Taiping clearly offered a Eurocentric viewpoint of the town as the Residency and the club were portrayed as the centre of town life; the bustling commercial town was ignored. As Harrison's guidebook put it: 'The social centre of the English quarter of a town in Malaya is always the recreation ground and the club overlooking it.' Many of the buildings such as the New Club, the Officers' Mess, and the Government Offices still survive as treasured heritage buildings, and the gardens, shaded by century-old *angiana* trees, are even more attractive now.

1 Panoramic view of Taiping and district, c. 1906

2 King Edward VII School, c. 1910

3 Town view and Europeans, c. 1910

4 Perak Government Offices, c. 1906

5 Taiping Lake Gardens, created from former tin mines, c. 1906

6 The New Club and Officers' Mess, c. 1906

7 The Waterfall, c. 1907





No. 100 Supreme Court, Ipoh.



With the discovery of the world's richest tin deposits in Perak's Kinta Valley, the riverside settlement of Ipoh was transformed from an attap-roofed village into a planned town with wide streets, brick-and-stucco shophouses with colonnaded walkways, and grand new administrative buildings in neo-classical style. The streets were lined with elegant two- and three-storey buildings (many of which still survive), shaded by black-and-white striped chuk blinds with modern street lights and electricity poles. Transport was still rudimentary, and consisted mainly of rickshaws pulled by barefoot coolies. The Padang and the ubiquitous clubhouses were quieter then with only a bullock cart and a few pedestrians—a dramatic contrast to the busy corner it is today.

Other rapidly growing towns in the Kinta Valley were rarely photographed. The photograph of Gopeng (4), one of the richest mining centres at that time, was taken from the resthouse on a hill.

Located 20 kilometres away from Ipoh was the former colonial administration centre, Batu Gajah. It was renowned for its gardens and its attractive Palladian-style courthouse which was built in 1892 during the reign of Sultan Idris. Lower down the Perak River, Teluk Anson (now Teluk Intan) served as a port for the tin mines when the river was the only access to the inland. The town's most famous structure, even today, is its pagoda-shaped clock tower nicknamed the Leaning Tower of Perak for its obvious tilt.

1 View of Ipoh from the Padang, c. 1912

2 The Supreme Courts, Ipoh, c. 1910

3 The Anglo Chinese School, seen here in the early 1900s, Ipoh

4 Panoramic view of the tin mining town of Gopeng, Kinta Valley, c. 1906

5 The 'Leaning Tower of Perak', Teluk Anson, c. 1906

6 The courthouse, built in 1892 at Batu Gajah, c. 1906

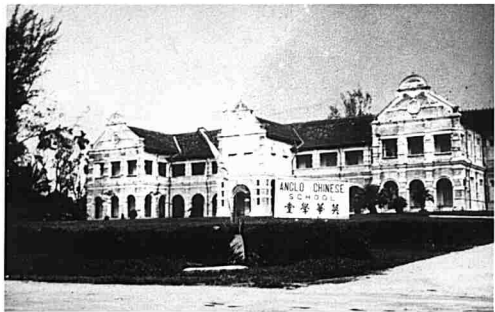
7 Inscribed, 'Road to the cave', c. 1906

8 Street scene in Batu Gajah, c. 1906

9 Overlooking the Perak River in Teluk Anson, c. 1906

FOLLOWING PAGES

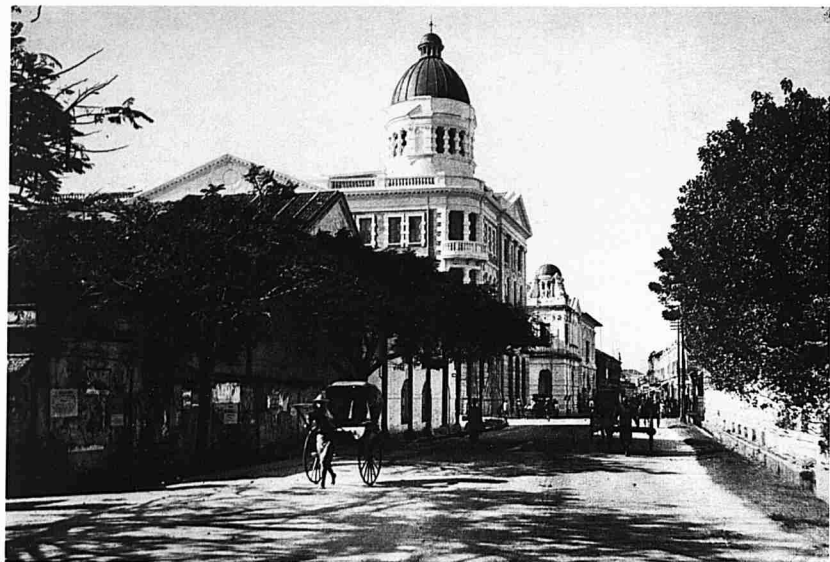
Ipoh's main thoroughfare, Station Road, c. 1906

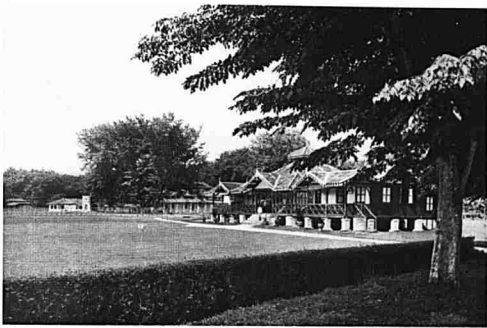












During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the exploitation of Perak's tin and the meteoric rise of the rubber industry in the Peninsula resulted in Penang becoming a major export centre. A booming sugar industry also contributed to the island's economic fortunes. Travel time had been significantly reduced by steamships while communications were revolutionised with the telegraph.

In the 1880s, there began an enormous land reclamation project that changed the face of Penang's waterfront. Weld Quay, named after FA. Weld, Governor of the Straits Settlements, was created in front of Beach Road, which in turn was lined by grand new shipping agencies. When Swettenham Pier was completed in 1904, Penang could handle the largest ships afloat and soon became a major commercial and tourist port.

The new quay was photographed in 1906, the year that electric trams were introduced. The docks were crowded with lighters loading and unloading, *prau*, sampans, and, as Frank Swettenham wrote, 'scores of every eastern boat that swims'. Dr Abraham, an early traveller to Penang who arrived on a steamer in 1906, noticed a multi-ethnic crowd of hawkers and tradesmen who would board the ships as soon as the gangway was lowered. They sold postcards, fruit and cigars; offered money-changing services; and even measured the tourists for tropical-style suits.

Beach Street was still the centre of commerce and improvements made since the 1860s included electricity poles and grander shophouses.

1-2 Beach Street, c. 1906

3 Anabaptist church, c. 1880

4 European bungalow, c. 1880

5 The Residency, early 1900s

6 Penang Golf Club, early 1900s

7 Penang Club, early 1900s

8 Municipal Council Building (now City Hall), c. 1906

9 Supreme Court on Light Street, shortly after its completion in 1906

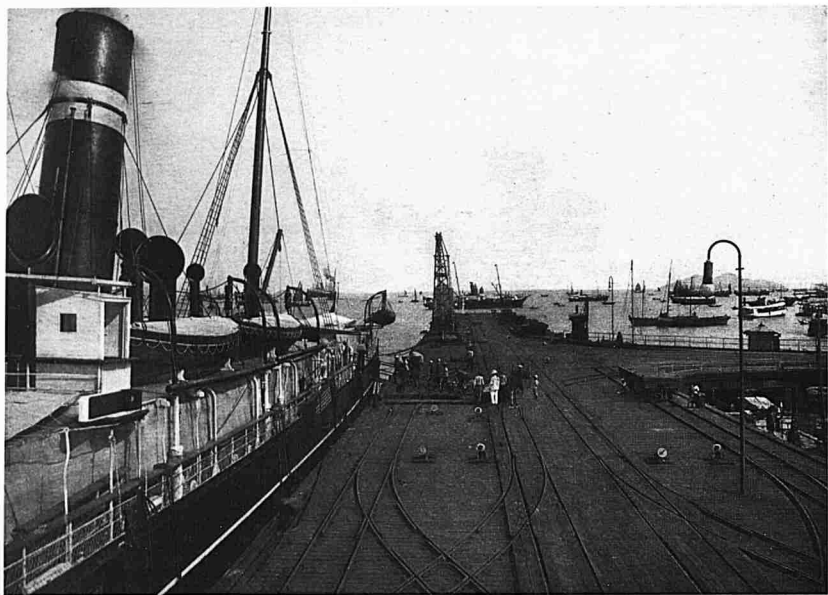
FOLLOWING PAGES

1 Swettenham Pier shortly after its completion, c. 1906

2 Prati Port, Province Wellesley, c. 1906

3 Penang Harbour, c. 1906

4 Weld Quay with newly introduced trams, c. 1906







Penang's turn-of-the-century boom saw an increase in the construction of impressive buildings, resulting in a new look for George Town. Some of the buildings were in the prevailing European fashion of neo-classical architecture, while others blended East and West in a style that later became known as Straits Eclectic.

The Padang and the Esplanade saw huge improvements compared with the time it was photographed in the 1880s, when it was just a muddy military field. A waterfront promenade was constructed for the enjoyment of the public. The Town Hall was built in the 1880s and improved in 1890. The even grander Municipal Council Building (now City Hall), built in 1900–3, outshone every other building in George Town at that time with its ornate baroque style. The Municipal Band Stand and the Penang Sports Club, shown on the Padang, are no longer. The Club was bombed in World War II, and the cast-iron on the handstand was melted down for bullets during the Japanese Occupation.

A new Supreme Court was constructed in 1906 on the site of the old courthouse in Light Street, while the Victoria Memorial Clock Tower was built in 1897 from funds donated by Cheah Chen Eok to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

Many wealthy Straits Chinese built grand mansions during Penang's golden era, including Penang's first five-storey residence that was known as the Chinese Residency (2). Originally the residence of the Cheah family, it was later a hotel, then a school, and at the time of writing is threatened with demolition.



Government Building, Penang



1 The Esplanade showing the Padang, with the Municipal Council Building, now City Hall, (right) and the Town Hall (left), c. 1906

2 The Chinese Residency, c. 1910

3 Government buildings, c. 1900

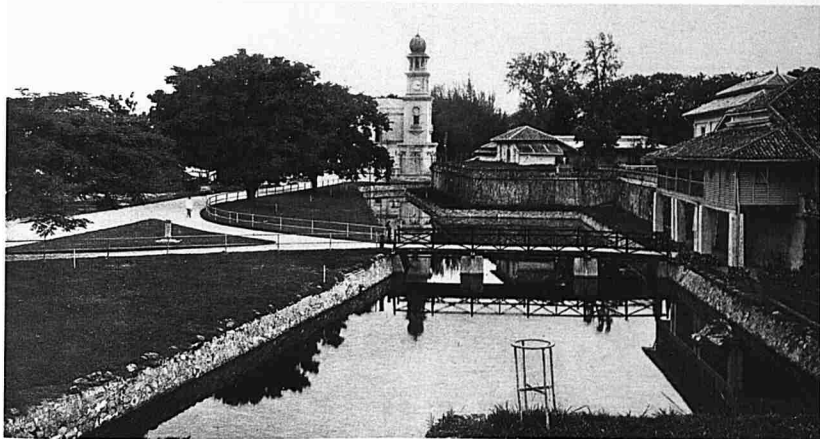
4 Engineers' Institute, c. 1910

5 The Eastern and Oriental Hotel Annex, c. 1910

6 Penang General Hospital, c. 1900

7 The Town Hall facing the Padang, c. 1906

8 Fort Cornwallis with its original moat and the Victoria Memorial Clock Tower (centre) in King Edward Place, c. 1906







Penang's appeal as a tourist destination has always depended on its natural attractions. 'There are plenty of beautiful drives in Penang,' wrote the author of the FMS Railways guide in 1914. 'But the incomparable beauty of the drive along the coast towards Tanjung Bunga, past the Swimming Club, must have special mention.' Kleingrothe's photograph of this idyllic stretch of coast (1) recorded vistas that are barely recognisable today. A less changed view, however, is the sweeping vista from the lighthouse at Muka Head (5). This is still a popular destination for hikers, and the trail winds through the Pantai Aceh Forest Reserve, Penang's largest remaining wild reservation.

The 72-acre Botanic Gardens were created in 1884 from the original Waterfall Garden and a disused granite quarry. From the gardens, a famous trail, once used by sedan-chair carriers leading to the summit of Penang Hill is still a popular walking trail.

At the turn of the century, seaside holidays came into vogue and Penang's northern beaches soon became more popular than other more traditional inland attractions such as the Botanic Gardens and the retreats on Penang Hill. The fortunes of the latter were only revived in the 1920s after the funicular railway was built.



1 Inscribed 'Penang Swimming Club', probably Tanjung Bunga, c. 1906

2 Muka Head, early 1900s

3 Tanjung Tokong, early 1900s

4 Northern Road lined with angasana (golden rain) trees, c. 1906

5 View from the lighthouse at Muka Head, c. 1906

6 Entrance to the Botanic Gardens, 1917

7 View from the government bungalow on Penang Hill, c. 1906

8 A rural scene inscribed 'Ayer Itam' (Ayer Hitam), c. 1906





The nine states that make up Negeri Sembilan were originally settled by Minangkabau immigrants in the 17th century. The Yam Tuan, or paramount ruler, was in Sri Menanti at the centre, the next-highest-ranking chiefs, known as Undang, ruled the large areas of Sungai Ujong, Rembau, Jelebu and Johol; while lesser chiefs ruled the smaller districts of Terachi, Ulu Muar, Jempul and Gunung Pasir.

However, succession disputes eventually led to the split of the Confederacy. This prompted British intervention in 1874 and subsequently the appointment of a British Resident. By 1898, the states were again confederated under the Yam Tuan, Tuaniku Muhammad, an intelligent and shrewd leader who ruled Negeri Sembilan from 1887 to 1933.

Seremban, the state's administrative headquarters in Sungai Ujong, first grew in importance because of its proximity to the tin mines. It later became the centre of a large rubber-planting district. The town was compared to Kuala Lumpur in a 1910 guidebook, although 'it suffers somewhat from comparison' because of its hills and gardens. From Seremban, railway passengers changed to the branch line to Port Dickson, which functioned both as an export port and as a health resort. It was a 90-minute train journey from Seremban, and as it was 'one of the rare sand beaches of the West coast', the guidebook recommended a visit 'if time can be spared'.



1 Port Dickson, showing the railway that led to Seremban, c. 1906

2 The Yam Tuan of Negeri Sembilan, Tuaniku Muhammad Shah, with his chiefs and followers, c. 1897

3 Sail powered fishing fleet at Port Dickson beach, 1912 (ANM)

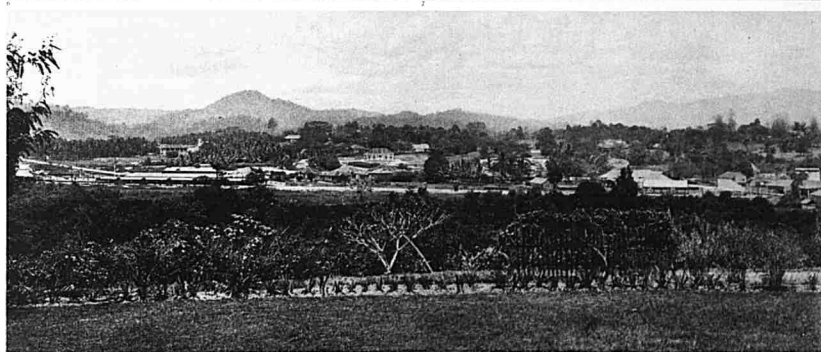
4 The Chiefs of Sungai Ujong, c. 1900 (ANM)

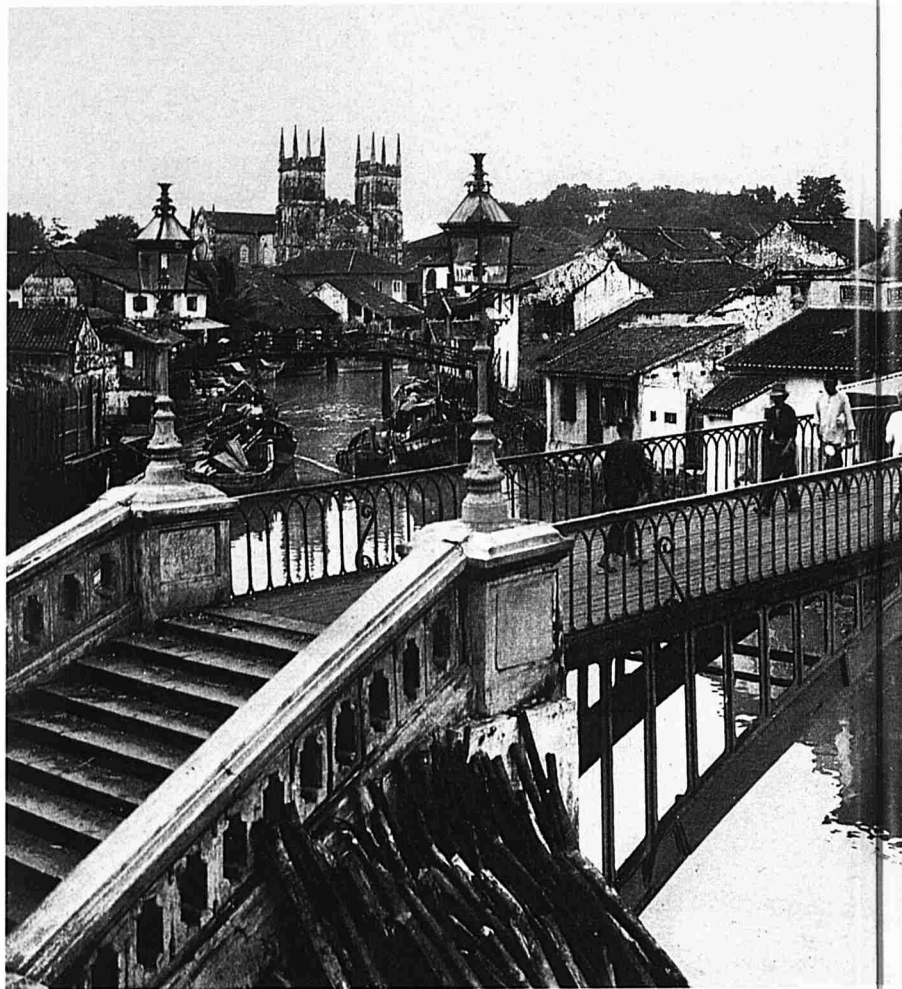
5 The Yam Tuan of Negeri Sembilan, Tuaniku Muhammad, with his bodyguards at the second FMS Darbar in Kuala Lumpur, 29 July 1903

6 Tuaniku Muhammad's bodyguards at the second FMS Darbar in Kuala Lumpur, 1903

7 A swimming group at Port Dickson, 1896 (ANM)

8 View of Seremban from the resthouse, c. 1906







This may come as a surprise to many, especially those caught up in the town's infamous traffic jams, but in the early years of the 20th century, visitors to Melaka were able to take a train on the branch line from Tampin and arrive at Melaka's railway station, where the bus station is today. From there rickshaws (the preferred mode of transport because of the narrow streets) conveyed them to the famous sights of Malaysia's oldest town.

Historic sights captured by early photographers included St Peter's Church, Kampung Hulu Mosque, Kampung Kling Mosque, St John's Fort, Sri Poyyatha Vinayagar Moorthi Temple, the 16th-century St Paul's Church, the 17th-century Stadthuys, and the 18th-century Chris Church. All these are still recognisable today, although the waterfront view of the jetty has long been buried under acres of land reclamation.

The clock tower in Kleingrothe's photograph of the Town Square (3 on page 125) is described in a 1914 guidebook as 'of modern erection but exactly to the design of an ancient Portuguese clock tower once on that same site'. Modern buildings also mar the downstream view of Melaka River from where Kleingrothe took his photograph: some of the 18th- and 19th-century townhouses still remain (albeit much renovated), St Francis Xavier's Church remains the same, but the boats have moved out long ago.

1 View of Melaka River showing St Xavier's Church downstream and St Paul's Hill with its ruined church in the background, c. 1906

2 Malay boys rowing boats by the seashore c. 1900

3 Kampung Hulu Mosque, c. 1890

FOLLOWING PAGES

1 Porta de Santiago, A Famosa fortress, c. 1906

2 View of St Paul's from the pier, c. 1890

3 The old market by the Melaka River, c. 1910

4 St John's Fort, c. 1890

5 A Melaka bullock cart heads over the Melaka bridge from the Town Square with Chris Church (left), the Clock Tower (centre) and the Stadthuys behind, c. 1906

6 St Peter's Church, c. 1890

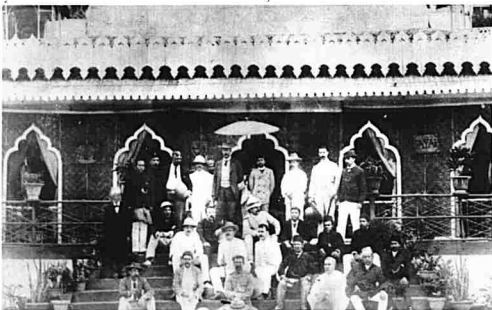






As two of the Unfederated Malay States (UMS) and not yet opened to British intervention, Kedah and Perlis were less frequented by photographers compared to other states in the Peninsula. For most of the 19th century, these two states were threatened by the Siamese, which was the reason why the Sultan of Kedah had initially ceded Penang to the British in return for protection against his northern neighbours. However, when Siam invaded and occupied Kedah in 1821, the British did not intervene until 1842, when they supported the restoration of Malay rule in Kedah and Perlis, although these two states still had to pay annual tribute to Siam. Siam relinquished control in 1909 when the Anglo-Siamese Treaty was signed and Kedah and Perlis were forced to accept British Advisers.

Among the early photographs shown is a group of Thai princes and Kedah nobles in Penang at Chakrabong House, the residence of the high commissioner for Phuket, in the late 19th century (5).



1 The Raja Muda of Kedah, Tunku Abdul Aziz, at the Balai Besar, 1906 (ANM)

2 Members of the first Kedah State Council meeting, 8 November 1906

3 Tunku Abdul Aziz with Tunku Mahmud and friends at Anak Bukit, Alor Star, 1904

4 Sultan Abdul Hamid Halim Shah of Kedah (r. 1882-1943) (under the royal umbrella) and group at Kota Kuala Muda, Kedah, c. 1893 (ANM)

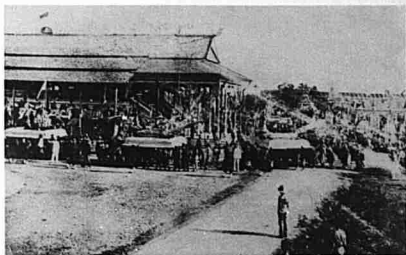
5 Group of Siamese princes and Kedah nobles, Penang, 1895 (ANM)

6 Wedding ceremony for Sultan Abdul Hamid's five children at the Main Hall, 1904

7 Event celebrating transfer of Sir W.J.F. Williamson, Kedah's Financial Adviser at the Main Hall, Alor Star, 1905

8 Sultan Abdul Hamid Halim Shah awaiting the arrival of Siamese delegates at the main Courthouse building, Alor Star, 1900

9 Gateway of the Old Fort, Kuala Muda, Kedah, 1912-13 (ANM)





I have been to lunch at this hotel with my friends and it was very pleasant.
 Johore Hotel. 20/1/1901. G. G. G.



THE MARSH - JOHORE BAHRU.

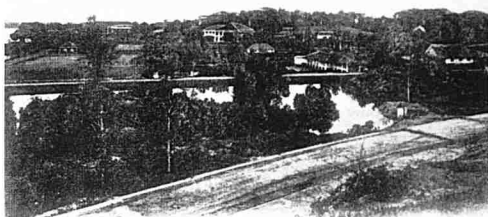
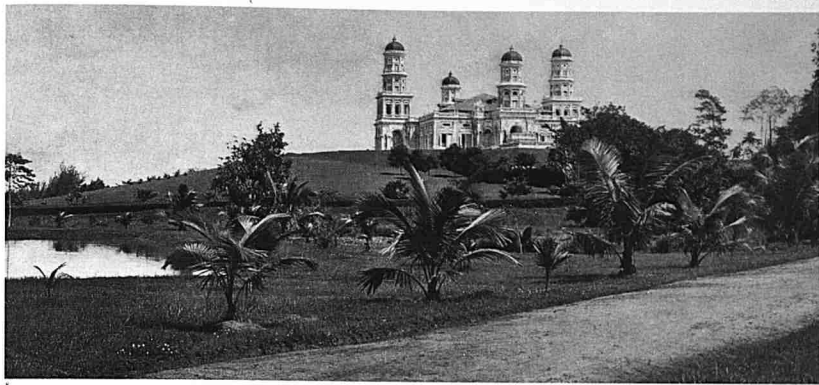


Entrance to Johore Garden, Johore. 20



Inside Mosque, Johore.





Located at Tanjung Puteri, overlooking the Strait of Johor north of Singapore, the new capital of Johor Bahru was built by Temenggong Abu Bakar (later Maharaja, then Sultan) after he succeeded his father in 1862. By the time Sultan Abu Bakar died in 1895, Johor Bahru was a modern, prosperous town, and developments continued under the long rule of his son Sultan Ibrahim. In 1909, the completion of the railway through Johor territory (the concession for which was one of the last independent acts of Ibrahim before British intervention) further bolstered the town's fortunes. Before the causeway was completed in 1924, passengers had to disembark for a ferry ride to Singapore.

Overlooking the Strait, the Royal Palace (now the Royal Museum) was built by Sultan Abu Bakar in 1866. It was much visited by European dignitaries including Prince George, who later ascended the British throne in 1910. A correspondent who went with them was most impressed with the grandeur of the palace and its European furnishings, describing the 'huge drawing-room' as resembling 'one of the state rooms at Windsor'. The royal family had also adopted some European fashions (10)—some members of the royal household wore a mixture of Malay and Western styles.

In 1900, the Sultan Abu Bakar Mosque was built at a cost of \$400,000. Four octagonal minarets surmount the prayer hall of this impressive mosque, still one of Johor Bahru's most impressive landmarks. Some of the old shophouses and colonial buildings shown here still remain, but the old waterfront market was demolished decades ago.

1 'Town of Johor' showing shophouses along Jalan Ibrahim, c. 1910

2 Inscribed 'Johore Hotel', c. 1908

3 The old waterfront market on the Strait of Johor, c. 1910

4 The Royal Mausoleum, c. 1910

5 Entrance to the Johor Gardens near the Royal Palace, c. 1900

6-7 Interior of the Sultan Abu Bakar Mosque, c. 1905

8 Sultan Abu Bakar Mosque, Johor, c. 1906

9 Panoramic view of Johor and the Royal Palace (centre) as viewed from Singapore, c. 1897

10 Members of the royal family, c. 1905



Resistance to British intervention in Pahang led to an uprising, which lasted from 1891 to 1893. But colonial persistence, together with the belief that the state held untold riches, resulted in Pahang becoming part of the Federated Malay States (FMS) in 1896. Its mainly riverine transport system was then upgraded, prompting a 1910 report to state that 'such is the accessibility of Pahang to-day that it is possible easily to visit places which a few years ago, before the advent of motorcars and railways, was an adventure necessitating provision for a month's journeying'.

From Kuala Kubu (later to be replaced by a new town after it was buried by a flood), the serpentine road wound up through virgin rainforests to the top of the range, where Pahang began. There on The Gap was a resthouse which provided an enjoyable stopover 'with time for tea (it still does)'. It is deliciously cool', said a 1914 guidebook, 'and the views on both sides of the ridge along which the road runs are magnificent'. The road then descended to Tras, whence one branch went to Bentong and thus to Kuala Lumpur, and the other continued to Raub and on to Kuala Lipis, the administrative capital of Pahang.

The drive through Pahang's interior was recorded by photographer Charles Kleingoth in 1906. His photographs show elephants transporting ore through Raub, the centre of a gold-mining industry, and bullock carts—one of the hazards mentioned in the 1914 guidebook that advised motorists to practise careful driving—on the winding road. Perhaps his most picturesque image is of the road that winds along the river near Benta, which despite developments is still recognisable today.

1 Kuala Kubu, the old town that was lost to floods in the 1920s, 1906

2 Pahang River at Kuala Lipis, 1906

3 The main shaft of the Raub gold mine, 1906

4 The Gap resthouse on the pass into Pahang, 1906

5 Elephant transport at Raub, 1906

FACING PAGE The trunk road from Kuala Lipis to Raub, 1906









This series of rare photographs was taken by members of an official government party during an expedition into the interior of Pahang in 1912. They are possibly the oldest surviving images not only of Taman Negara, but also of the Tembeling region, its chiefs and inhabitants. At that time, there was much talk of building a hill station on the top of Gunung Tahan, Peninsular Malaysia's highest peak at 2,187 metres, although this plan was eventually scrapped and the peak remains as difficult to access today as it was then. Part of the area that the expedition penetrated became the first national park in 1939, the 4,343-square-kilometre reserve of King George V National Park, later renamed Taman Negara.

The party comprised some of the leading officials of the day: Sir Arthur Young (High Commissioner of the Federated Malay States), (FMS), FJ. Weld (Acting Resident of Pahang), Dr S.H.R. Lucy (Senior Health Officer, FMS), H.C. Robinson (Director of Museums, FMS), and V.A. Lowinger, who was the photographer in the group.

An address was read to the officials when they visited Kuala Teh, a river junction in the Tembeling region. Photographs show the chiefs of Kuala Teh, distinguished from the other village chiefs by their turbans and robes, among the dignitaries who appear to have opted to stand instead of sitting on the wooden chairs that were provided for them (1).

Other photographs show Penghulu Kakap Hussein, the chief of Tembeling at Kuala Tahan (the gateway to Taman Negara today), as well as his attractive houseboat that is moored near a river junction in the Tembeling region (3), and Pa Neh, the Pawang (shaman) of Gunung Tahan (5). The last is extremely rare as photographs of practitioners of the magic arts were seldom taken. Houseboats are still used on some of Pahang's rivers, but today they are merely houses built on rafts and bear little resemblance to this elegant style complete with an attic.

- 1 Chiefs at Kuala Teh presenting the address to the High Commissioner of the Federated Malay States, 1912 (ANM)
- 2 Penglima Kakap Hussein's houseboat, Kuala Tembeling, 1912 (ANM)
- 3 The expedition party emerging from the Tahan River, 1912 (ANM)
- 4 Members of the expedition at Jeram Berkoh, 1912 (ANM)
- 5 Pa Neh, the Pawang of Gunung Tahan, 1912 (ANM)
- 6 Penglima Kakap Hussein at Kuala Tahan, 1912 (ANM)
- 7 The High Commissioner on Padang Gunung Tahan, 1912 (ANM)



During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Pahang was ruled by Sultan Ahmad Muazzam Shah (also known as Wan Ahmad), who was Bendahara from 1863 to 1884 and Sultan until his death in 1914. He resided, as Pahang's royal family still does, in the old royal town of Pekan on the Pahang River. Sultan Ahmad's era was a turbulent one—he survived the Pahang civil war (1856–63), family disputes, quarrels with the British, and domestic turmoil. In 1888, he consented to the appointment of a British Resident and lost his supremacy over the state.

European mining companies had already begun tin and gold mines in Pahang, but with the formation of the Federated Malay States (FMS) in 1896, interest in the east coast intensified. Kuala Lipis was then the administrative capital of Pahang, while Kuantan was a small settlement that had been established at the mouth of the Kuantan River by the Pahang Corporation Ltd., whose mining concessions had at one time covered a fifth of Pahang's territory.

These early views of Kuantan (2 and 3), taken in 1909 by Chan Chew Photo Studio, show shophouses along a very empty Jalan Besar and a most unusual vehicular ferry. Five years later, an unknown photographer recorded a more bustling town, where passengers boarded a crowded bus (4) and locals enjoyed a day of sports at the recreation club (6).

1 *Hugh Clifford, acting British Resident of Pahang in 1887 (ANM)*

2 *Jalan Besar, Kuantan, 1909 (ANM)*

3 *An early vehicular ferry crossing the Kuantan River, 1909 (ANM)*

4 *Jalan Mahkota, Kuantan, 1909 (ANM)*

5 *View of Pekan, the capital of Pahang, engraving, c. 1896*

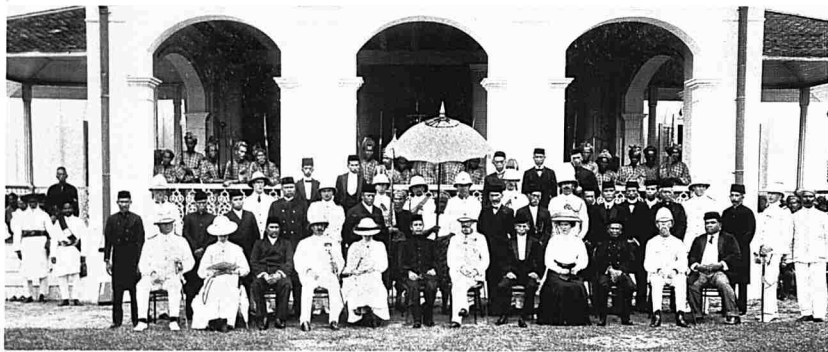
6 *Sports Day in Kuantan, 1914 (ANM)*

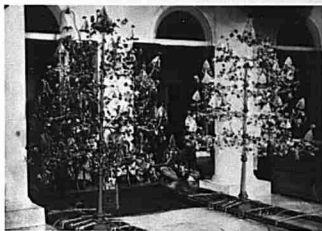
7 *Sultan Ahmad of Pahang with his children, c. 1912 (ANM)*

8 *Sultan Ahmad with his elaborately attired entourage—they are wearing Pahang's renowned hand-woven plaid silks—during the first Durbar at Kuala Kangsar, 1897*









When Siam ceded Terengganu to Britain by the treaty of 10 March 1909, it ended a tributary relationship that had successfully served both parties since 1785. Siam had no overriding political or economic intentions in Terengganu, which paid an annual tribute and in return was sometimes offered aid, such as assistance from Bangkok after much of Kuala Terengganu was destroyed by fires in 1883. British High Commissioner, Sir John Anderson visited Kedah, and also Terengganu and Kelantan to demonstrate the new British role. G.R. Lambert & Co., the official photographer for the visit, took a group photograph at the Istana (2), and a portrait of the Raja Muda (6) who ruled briefly as Sultan Muhammad II (r. 1918–20) before he abdicated and moved to Singapore.

In 1910, an agreement between Britain and Terengganu was drawn up. It provided for mutual help, protection against invaders, and the appointment of an agent to reside in Terengganu with functions similar to those of a consular officer. In 1911, attention turned to the Sultanate when Sultan Zainal Abidin III hosted a visit by the British High Commissioner, Sir Arthur Young. The Sultan enjoyed a long reign from 1881 to 1918 and has been credited with the expansion of Terengganu's trade and development and improved administration with a new State Constitution introduced in 1911.

In 1919, Terengganu finally accepted a British Resident; it was the last Malay state to do so.

1 View of Kuala Terengganu showing the town, the fortress on Bukit Puteh and the former residence of Sultan Baginda Omar (r. 1839–76), c. 1909

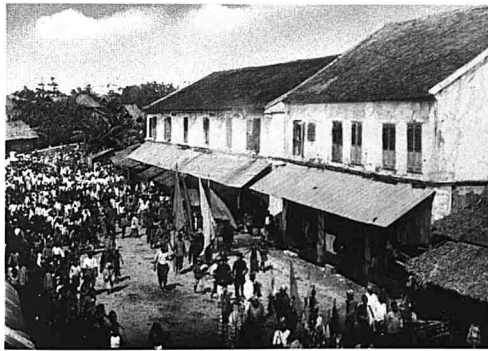
2 British High Commissioner Sir John Anderson with Sultan Zainal Abidin III at the Terengganu Istana, 1909

3 Bunga mas procession Kuala Terengganu, 1906 (ANM)

4 Bunga mas tribute from Terengganu to Siam, 1906 (ANM)

5 Sultan Zainal Abidin III of Terengganu, c. 1900 (ANM)

6 The Raja Muda of Terengganu, 1909





In 1902, the British began negotiations with Siam for their eventual takeover of the northern states, and a year later Bangkok allowed the appointment of a Siamese Adviser (who had to be British) to the ruler of Kelantan, Raja Muhammad IV (later Sultan), who ruled from 1899 to 1920. The earliest photograph of Raja Muhammad IV was probably taken on the occasion of a visit to Kelantan by King Chulalongkorn of Siam in 1903 (1).

The Balai Besar, the old wooden palace with its wooden wall, still stands in the centre of Kota Bharu, which is famed for its masterly wood carvings. At festival times, the ground in front of the Balai Besar was used for buffalo fights, an entertainment that was popular only in the northern Malay states.

A rare look at an east coast royal court was captured by G.R. Lambert & Co. in 1909, the year the Anglo-Siamese Treaty was signed, ceding control of Kelantan to the British. That year, High Commissioner Sir John Anderson led an official party on a historic visit to Kelantan (3). The official party was greeted by ranks of spearmen as Major General Perotti drove through (6).

1 King Chulalongkorn of Siam (standing in the centre in a white uniform) on his visit to Kelantan. In his left is Sultan Muhammad IV. c. 1909 (ANM).

2 The royal family in Western dress: Sultan Muhammad IV with his consort Sultanah Zainab and their children (their two sons later became Sultan Ismail and Sultan Ibrahim) c. 1909 (ANM).

3 A river scene near Kota Bharu, 1909.

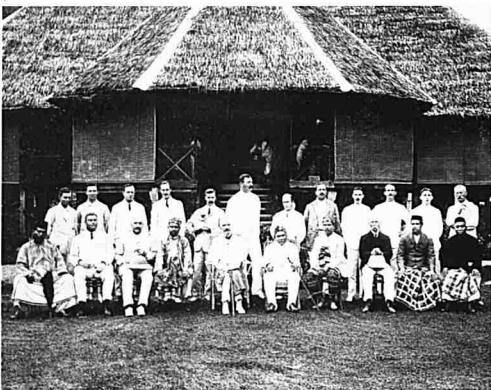
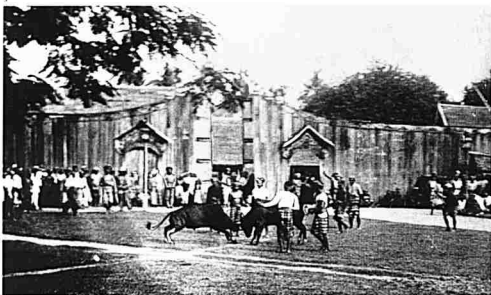
4 A buffalo fight in front of the Balai Besar, c. 1908 (ANM).

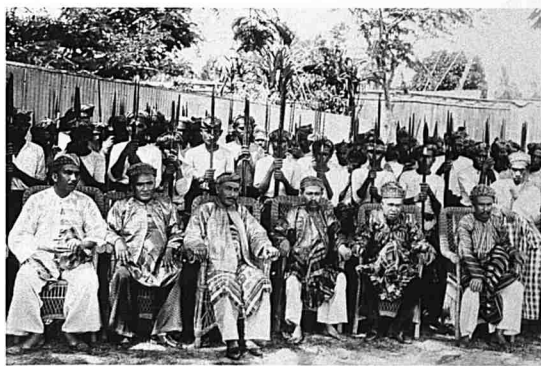
5 Group photograph to commemorate the visit of British High Commissioner Sir John Anderson to Kelantan, 1909.

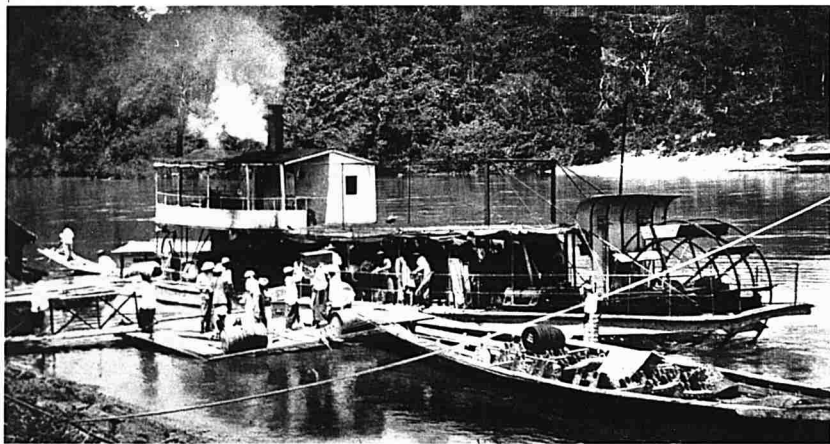
6 Major General Perotti driving through ranks of spearmen, Kelantan, 1909.

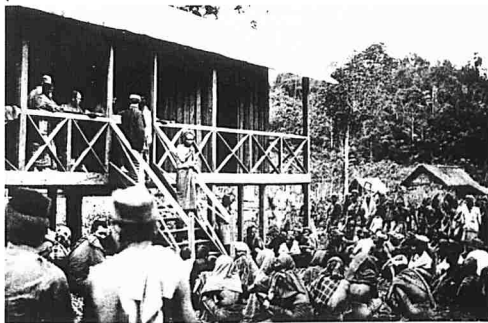
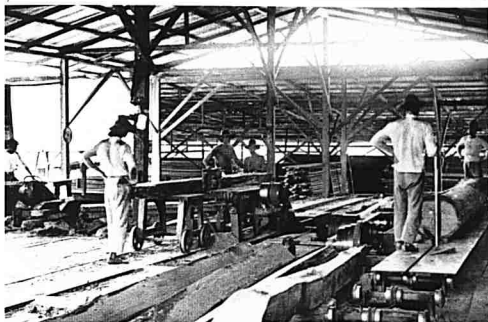
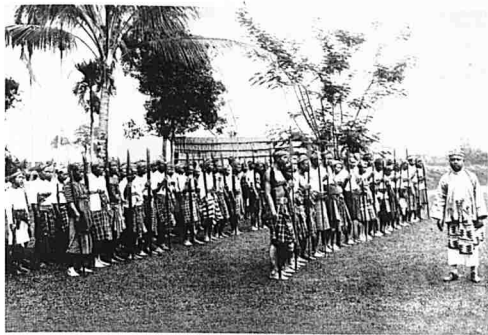
7 The Raja of Kelantan dressed in traditional garb, seated in front of a carved arch outside the Balai Besar, Kota Bharu, 1902 (ANM).

8 State council of Kelantan; their silk songket outfits were woven in Kelantan, a thriving silk weaving centre at that time, 1909.









A major reason for the Anglo-Siamese Agreement of 1902, which marked the beginning of negotiations that resulted in the transfer of Kelantan from Siamese to British overlordship seven years later, was the coup of Robert Duff. In 1900, this retired Pahang police officer caused an international fracas when he coaxed an enormous land concession—almost the size of a third of the state—from the Raja of Kelantan for a fee of \$20,000 and 2,000 shares in the company. The Siamese were outraged, while the British saw in his initiative a way of extending their power in the Peninsula. However, even after a British Adviser was appointed in Kelantan, the size of the Duff Development Company Ltd.—which resembled a state within a state—soon worried the British, and they spent two decades attempting to redeem it through the courts.

Meanwhile, the Straits Affairs reported that 'the Duff Development Company Ltd. got down to work on its huge estate, hoping to find an El Dorado'. Gold mining operations near the Duff headquarters at Kuala Lebir, the confluence of the Lebir and Galas rivers, were initially successful but proved short-lived, while huge tracts of land were cleared upstream for rubber plantations.

In 1909, the Duff headquarters were visited by a British official party led by Sir John Anderson. Accompanying the party was a photographer from G.R. Lambert & Co., who captured the first views of inland Kelantan, including river scenes with houseboats.

1 A river scene at Kuala Lebir with the Duff residence (left), 1909

2 A Duff company steamer bringing mail from the coast, 1910 (ANM)

3 Tengku Chik (right) with a guard of spearmen during Sir John Anderson's visit to Duff headquarters in Kuala Lebir, July 1909

4 Interior of Duff's sawmill, Kuala Lebir, 1910 (ANM)

5 Pay day at Kelantan Rubber Estates Ltd, one of the Duff Development Company's estates, 1910 (ANM)

6 Mr Duff's residence in Kuala Lebir, 1909

7 Kelantanese workers opening up land to build roads, 1910 (ANM)



Just as tin had dominated the economy in the 19th century and changed the country's demographics with its influx of Chinese miners, so too did the rubber boom in the early 20th century with the arrival of South Indian workers. Indentured labourers were recruited for a three-year contract until 1910, when the *kangany* system took over. This system, in which an Indian estate foreman recruited labourers and their families from his own village, helped improve the gender ratio among the labourers and prevailed until 1938. In 1910 alone, 50,000 workers arrived, and the figure rose annually until the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Rubber had been grown experimentally in the 1890s, mainly at the urging of H.N. Ridley, Director of Gardens and Forests, Straits Settlements, but with the rapid growth of America's automobile industry and its demand for rubber tyres, planters and investors saw potential in the rubber industry. In 1906, output was just over 1 million pounds. Four years later it had increased twelve-fold. In 1912, *The Illustrated London News* reported that during the past ten years a new industry has sprung up and is fast changing the aspect of the country. By then Malaya was already leading the world in rubber production. Enormous tracts of virgin lowland rainforests were cleared to plant the new boom crop, resulting in the greatest environmental change in the history of Peninsular Malaysia.

Although the majority of estates were owned by Europeans, the Malays were also attracted to the crop as it could be successfully grown on smallholdings.



1 Indian labourers collecting rubber seeds, c. 1900

2 Planting rubber seeds, c. 1906

3 Clearing the rainforest for a rubber plantation, c. 1906

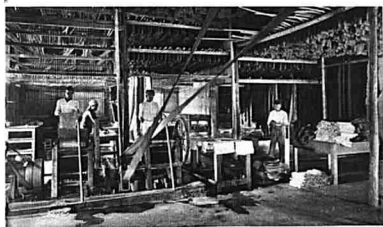
4 Processing rubber into sheets, c. 1910

5 Tamil women bringing latex to the factory, c. 1900 (ANM)

6 Malay tappers working on 12-15-year-old trees, c. 1906

7 Rubber tree with early tapping method, factory and seeds, c. 1906

8 H.N. Ridley with his assistant at tree no. 7, one of the original nine Hevea seedlings planted, c. 1900 (ANM)



APRIL 1914, COLLECTION A. H. H. H.



LONGER DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRUIT
TO BE USED BY THE RUBBER TAPPER



EXAMINATION OF THE FRUIT
AND THE TAP OF THE TREE





When Rajah Sir James Brooke died in 1868, his nephew Charles assumed the title of Rajah of Sarawak. Like his uncle, the second Rajah was zealous in expanding Sarawak's territories and he did so until 1905 when Sarawak assumed its present-day size. He also carried on with the first Rajah's system of government, the imperialist strategy of 'divide and rule' which saw the Europeans at the top, followed by the local Malay elite, who were paid officials, then 70 or so native chiefs from every district. Some Bidayuh were also officers, while the Iban were often called upon for war duties. The Chinese, who were mainly traders, coolies and artisans, eventually monopolised Sarawak's commerce.

By 1900, Kuching was a prosperous and well-planned town. The commercial downtown comprised mainly two-storey shophouses which were owned by Chinese and Indian Muslim traders. Government buildings were predominantly Georgian in style.

The Astana, which was directly opposite the Courthouse (3), was said to be the vantage point from which Charles Brooke used a spyglass to check on the punctuality of his workers. He rebuilt the Astana in 1870 when his wife, Margaret de Windt, arrived. The Ranees wore Malay dress and spent much time with her Malay female friends. Despite the shortcomings of Brooke rule, their system of indirect control and minimal intervention made them popular with many Sarawakians.

1 View of Kuching with the courthouse (centre left) and the Astana (far centre), 1890s.

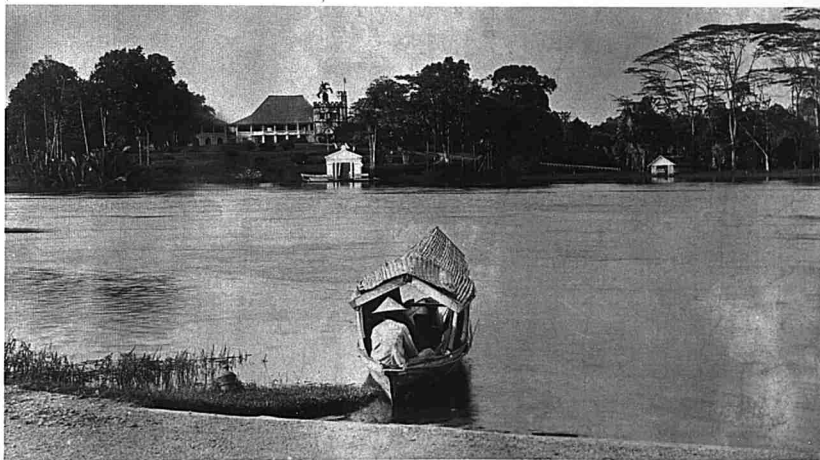
2 The Police Station and Carpenter Street, 1890s

3 The Courthouse, 1890s.

4 Ranees Margaret Brooke (seated second from right) with Dayang Sabada (seated second from left), 1880s (NSTP)

5 Charles Brooke, the second Rajah of Sarawak, 1890s

6 The Astana from the Sarawak River, 1890s





1



2

A lack of revenue and numerous revolts, including the uprising led by Mat Salleh from 1895 until he was killed in 1900 and which continued to 1903, meant that the British North Borneo Company faced mounting problems administering the territory.

There had been high hopes when gold was discovered on the Segama River, but it quickly ran out. Even with land opening up for the cultivation of coffee, coconuts, tobacco and cocoa, it was evident that the Company would not turn a profit unless transportation in the territory improved. In 1894, the Company's director, William Clarke Cowie, mooted and began construction of Borneo's first railway. However, his vision to bring together east and west Borneo was an ambitious and costly project. After yet another monetary request, this time for half a million pounds sterling, the directors decided Cowie was pushing them to the brink of bankruptcy and terminated the track at Tenom, where it has ended ever since. One dissatisfied shareholder called it 'a railway through dense forests with nothing but monkeys as passengers', but it eventually justified itself in the rubber boom.

Sugar had been one of the crops proposed to make the port of Sandakan a success, but ironically some Australian investors who had cleared land for the crop in 1885 became disenchanted when prices fell. They then decided to export the timber they had felled, paving the way for the timber industry that would eventually secure Sabah's fortunes.

1 British North Borneo Company officials at a meeting, c. 1898 (ANM)

2 Catholic church, Sandakan, c. 1900

3 Headquarters of the North Borneo Railway, Jesselton

4 'Lawn Tennis Court and Behn Meyer Office', c. 1900

5 Customs House, Sandakan, c. 1900 (ANM)

6 British North Borneo Railway, c. 1898 (ANM)

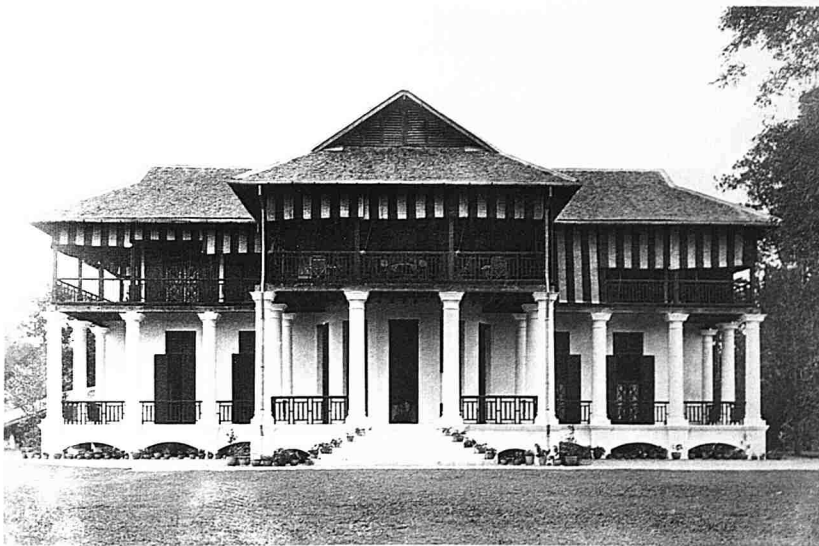
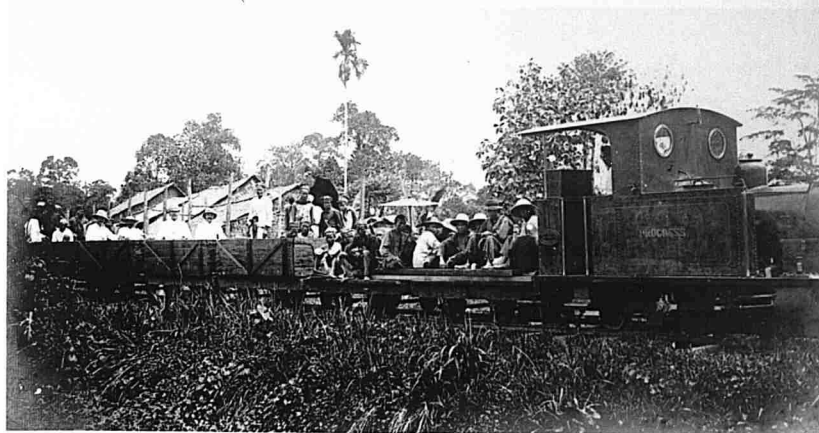
7 The Borneo Company's House, Kuching, c. 1900

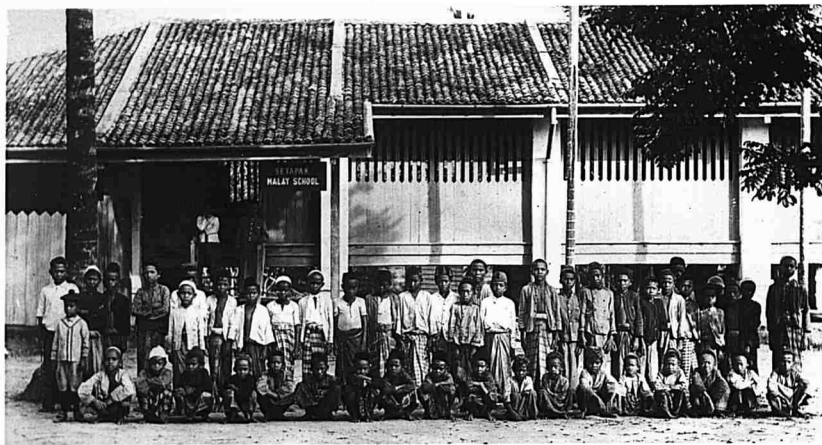


SANDAKAN B.N.B.
Lawn Tennis Court and Behn Meyer Office



Customs House, Sandakan B.N.B.





Malay Dances



Working Buffalo, Padi (Paddy) Fields, Malacca





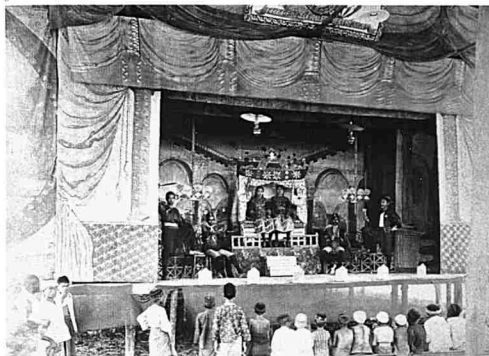
11

Malay rural life in the late 19th and early 20th centuries was generally portrayed as idyllic. Writers of that time extolled the laid-back lifestyle in a picturesque kampung where a ricefield and a couple of dozen coconut palms could provide 'a sufficient living for one Malay family'. But the reality was often less rosy. Colonial rule had an adverse effect on Malay economic life. Many of the Malays were shifting cultivators before the British introduced land ownership to allow collection of land rents from a settled population. Although the Malay Reservations Enactment in 1913 designated land exclusively for Malay ownership, it also ushered in new rules which restricted traditional use—the Malays were not allowed to open up new fields and were restricted in the use of the forests where they had previously collected produce.

In other parts of the country, the Malays lived in fishing villages that were built either on stilts above the water or along the coastal fringe, such as in Charles Kleingroth's views of Tanjung Tokong, Penang, in 1906. In contrast, at Kuala Lipis, Pahang, houseboats (6) were used as they could adapt well to the changing river levels during floods.

In the early 1900s, only the ruling elite and other prosperous Malay families could afford photographic portraits. Those of Malays in everyday dress and in realistic settings were rare. Travelling photographers invariably photographed pretty ladies or men in picturesque costumes, for such pictures could be sold as postcards.

Malay entertainment at the time was largely traditional, such as Malay theatre or *bangsawan* which was performed at the first Durbar in Kuala Kangsar in 1897 (7). Gamelan orchestras (5), comprising men and boys playing gongs, drums and xylophones, usually accompanied courtly dances in Pahang and Terengganu.



1 Pupils of Setapak Malay School, Kuala Lumpur, 1908–10 (ANM)

2 'Malay Dancing', c. 1915

3 A Malay ploughing the paddy field with a water buffalo, a method still used in some remote areas today, Melaka, 1890s

4 Tengku Permaisuri, Che Uthi Mariah (second wife of Sultan Idris) with her sons and daughters, Kuala Kangsar, Perak, c. 1897 (ANM)

5 A Malay gamelan orchestra, c. 1910

6 Houseboats on the Pahang River at Kuala Lipis, c. 1906

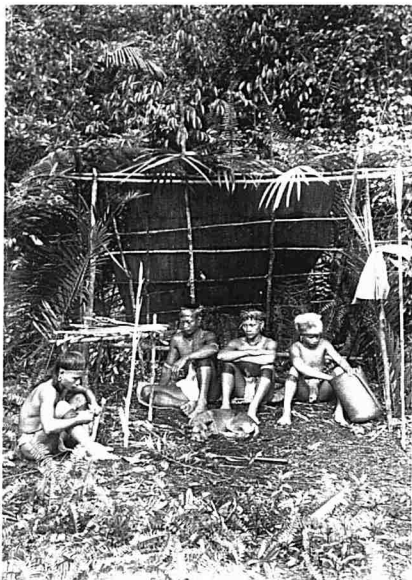
7 The Prince of Wales' Theatre Group performing during the first Durbar at Kuala Kangsar, 1897

8 'Rajah Aminah and her sister': royal offspring often adopted Western-style clothing when sitting for portraits, 1890s (ANM)

9 Malay Haji, c. 1906

10 Noblewomen from Perak, 1903 (ANM)

11 Distinct improvements in housing can be seen as woven bamboo and attap walls were replaced by wooden planks, Melaka, c. 1910





Dayak Warriors in Sarawak - Borneo.

In contrast to the colonial scene in the Malay Peninsula, where the inhabitants were encouraged to become more Westernised, in Sarawak James Brooke and his successors were determined to preserve traditional lifestyles (as long as the subjects were loyal). Indigenous customs were recognised, although those considered not 'civilised', such as headhunting and slavery, were outlawed. Islamic courts were recognised, government business was conducted in Malay, and development and change were discouraged. While all these measures helped preserve many Sarawak traditions, the Brooke regime was often characterised in critical terms as running the country as an anthropological exhibition.

Many of the colonial officials in Sarawak were amateur anthropologists. Charles Hose, a government officer and later Resident on the Baram River, made a photographic survey of most of the country's variety of indigenous peoples when he was there from 1884 to 1907. He divided Borneo's peoples into 20 categories, with numerous subgroups—for example, there are 13 different types of Kayan. Hose photographed both Iban (Sea Dayak) and Bidayuh (Land Dayak), as well as other natives such as the Bakatan (nomadic Melanau) and Long Pokun (Sebop). His photographs portrayed the natives' way of life and their everyday dress, including elaborate bead collars, brass corsets, woven hat skirts, hornbill leather headaddresses, ear ornaments and loin cloths.

1 Dayak warfare, c. 1905

2 Kayan obtaining fire by the friction of a cane thong against a piece of soft wood, c. 1905

3 Kayan hunting party camp, c. 1905

4 Sea Dayak in ceremonial dress, c. 1905

5 Long Pokun (Sebop) from Upper Tinjar, c. 1905

6 Kelabit from the highlands demonstrating their iron-working skills, c. 1905

7 An Iban native with traditional tattoos, c. 1905

8 A Dayak woman spinning yarn for weaving, c. 1905

9 Dayak warrior, c. 1900

10 A Bidayuh chief from the Upper Sadong River, c. 1905

11 Tama Kuleng, a chief from the Batang Kayan River, c. 1905

12 Oyang Nyaring, chief of the Punans of the Tinjar River, c. 1905

13 Orang Bukit girl, c. 1905





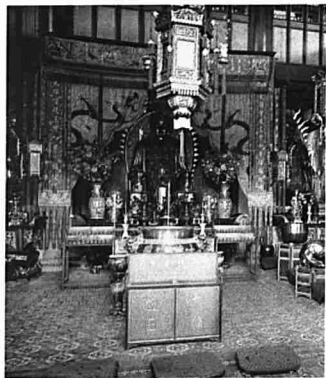
By the beginning of the 20th century, Malaysia's plural society (where different races live side by side yet separately) was already a reality. Enormous influxes of Chinese immigrants—1.5 million arrived in Perak and Selangor between 1881 and 1900—had radically changed the demographics. Although many returned to China, just as many stayed on, especially those who had found their fortunes. Some families had attained commercial success in agriculture and mining in the 19th century, and as the 20th dawned, there was new wealth to be found in the rubber boom. At this time, photographic portraits were still beyond the means of the average Chinese, but they were particularly popular with the affluent Baba and Nonya (Straits Chinese) families, some of whom are shown here.



At the turn of the century, most well-to-do Chinese and Nonya women were rarely seen outside the house where they lived a sheltered existence. Family portraits, however, provide a glimpse, such as this three-generation group photograph (12) of the family of the last Teng Chu (temple president) of the Cheng Hoon Temple in Melaka, Malaysia's oldest Chinese temple. The women were dressed in traditional Malay-style *kebaya* and wore their hair in chignons secured with jewelled pins, while the men were attired in Chinese-style pantsuits. The men still wore the queue (pigtail) which was cut off only after the Republican Revolution ousted the Manchu Dynasty in 1911.

Because the Babas prospered during the Victorian era, spoke English, and took up European pursuits such as joining clubs, playing billiards and drinking whisky; they were sometimes referred to as the 'Queen's Chinese', although their dialect was in fact a type of Malay. This 'group of well-known Chinese' (1), photographed at the Monte Carlo Club, includes a youthful Tan Cheng Lock (seated second from right), who later became Melaka's most famous Baba; he was a renowned reformist who founded the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA) in 1949.





Over thousands of years, the mysticism of Tao, the thoughts of Confucius, Buddhist ideals, and the rituals of ancestor worship created a hybrid religion that the Chinese brought with them wherever they went. Temples that were constructed by immigrant craftsmen in the traditional style of southern China became a feature of every Chinese settlement or town. Processions were colourful, noisy affairs, particularly the Chingay held in Penang and the Wang Kang festival in Melaka.

The largest temple complex in Peninsular Malaysia, the Kek Lok Si in Penang, was constructed from 1893 to 1905 although its distinctive pagoda was not built until the 1930s. The temple is picturesquely sited among palms on the hillside at Ayer Hitam and its gleaming seated Buddha in the main prayer hall dates from 1906. It is still the largest temple complex in Peninsular Malaysia today.

The interior of one of the most famous cliff temples, the Sam Poh Tong in Ipoh, was described in the *FMS Railways Guide* of 1914 as 'exactly like a scene in a pantomime'. Today the temple is still an important aspect of Chinese religious life as well as a renowned tourist attraction.

Among the earliest and most realistic images of Chinese temples to survive are those of Perak, taken in the 1890s by an unknown photographer. The elaborate roof decorations, carved granite columns and temple fixtures—many of which were imported from China—are indicative of the wealth of the local Chinese benefactors. At Ipoh, and at Kota, Taiping, the design of a temple was based on traditional precepts with the main temple connected to side halls that contained ancestors' tablets.⁽²⁾

1 Interior of a Chinese temple, probably the main prayer hall of the

Kek Lok Si, Ayer Hitam, Penang, c. 1906

2 The Chinese deity Tai Pak Kung in a Chingay procession, Penang, c. 1900

3 Exterior of a Chinese temple in Ipoh, 1890s (ANM)

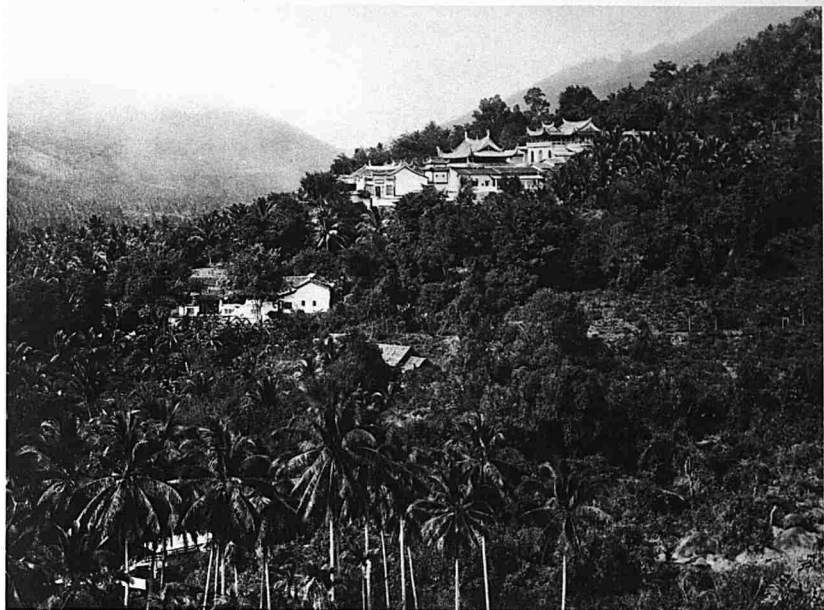
4 Crowd of onlookers watching the Wang Kang festival procession cross the Melaka River bridge, 1919 (ANM)

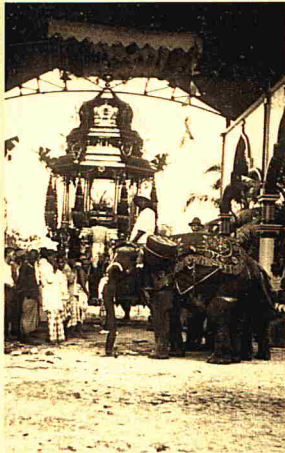
5 The Kek Lok Si Buddhist complex at Ayer Hitam, Penang, c. 1906

6 Cave temple, Ipoh, c. 1906

7 Chinese temple at Kelian Pauh, Taiping, 1890s (ANM)









Indian traders had been resident in many Malay ports for centuries, but they were not a significant presence until the late 19th century. Indian sepoy (soldiers), as well as Indian convicts whose labours built George Town in its early years, were brought to Penang by Sir Francis Light. The sugar industry employed mainly Indian workers; many Indians also worked on the wharves at Penang (4), drove bullock carts (6), and did manual labour. During the rubber boom, the number of Indians increased astronomically, and at the height of indentured labour in the country there were more than 3,000,000.

From the late 19th century until well into the 20th century, all Indians, whether Bengalis, Tamils, Hindustanis (11), Sindhis, Sikhs or Gujaratis, were referred to as 'Kling' (the word 'Kling' is derived from the coastal region of Kalinga). There are over 15,000 Klings, Chuliahs, and other natives of India on the island', wrote Isabella Bird in 1879: 'She was most impressed by their appearance: 'with ... their Turkey-red turbans and loincloths, or the soft, white muslins in which both men and women drape themselves, each one might be an artist's model'.

Early photographers such as Charles Kleingrothe sought Indians as subjects for postcards. Some of the photographs he took included those of an attractive Tamil woman (8), a bearded Bengali watchman (12), and a Tamil girl (13) wearing nothing but a silver caping (modesty disc). The photograph of female workers on a sugar estate in Province Wellesley (3) was taken by G.R. Lambert & Co. around 1900, and was quite realistic despite being carefully posed.

Indians were also prominent members of urban communities; the photograph of delegates of the Hindustani Community (2) includes what appear to be a Muslim, a Hindu and a Sikh representative presenting a Diamond Jubilee address in 1897.



2

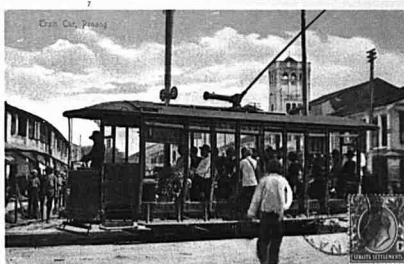
At the turn of the 20th century, transportation in Malaysia advanced enormously across the different states. Railways were mainly used for transportation of freight. Electric trams were used in Penang while elephants were still a popular mode of transport in the rural districts of Perak. Elephants were also used to transport tin ore and remained common in Upper Perak until the 1920s. Bullock carts reigned supreme where there were roads, although motorcars were gradually making their mark. However, as most roads were unmetalled at that time, the use of motorised vehicles resulted in severe problems with dust and it was not long before many of the roads in towns were sealed.

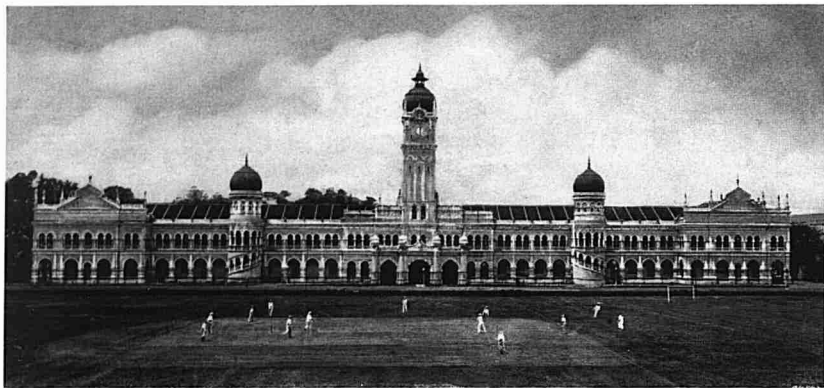
By 1914, there was a network of fine roads for motoring over 2,000 miles in Penang, Melaka and the Federated Malay States (FMS). The trunk road went from Prai in the north to Muar in the south, while other roads connected Kuala Lipis with Kuala Kubu, and Grik with Kuala Kangsar. A map of 1914 shows no sealed roads in Kelantan, Terengganu, Johor (apart from Melaka to Muar), Kedah, and most of Pahang.

The 'Auto Mail Service', better known as the motor bus (3), was photographed on the road from Kuala Kubu to Raub. A writer of the time advised motorists on this road that 'there is motor-bus traffic, and also bullock carts, so that it demands careful driving and good brakes'—sensible advice on this road even today.



- 1 Before the arrival of motorcars, elephants were commonly used for transport in states such as Perak, c. 1910
- 2 Bullock carts outside Kuala Lumpur, c. 1915
- 3 The 'Auto Mail Service' (left); the photographer Charles Kleingrube probably travelled in the vehicle beside it, c. 1906
- 4 Elephant transport in Kuala Kangsar, 1897
- 5 Ancient and modern forms of transport c. 1910 (ANM)
- 6 Horri Fauconier leaving for a drive with his family, 1910
- 7 Johor Fire Brigade vehicle, 1920s (ANM)
- 8 The first ever motorcycle race in Johor, 6 November 1910 (ANM)
- 9 Tramcar in Penang, 1910
- 10 Mr and Mrs Kellie Smith and their Marlborough car, c. 1900 (ANM)







Sport and recreation as introduced by the British were highly organised, extremely visible and team-driven. Tennis, cricket, golf, football, and horse-racing were introduced to the locals in the earliest days of the colonial era. The Malays, on the other hand, enjoyed *sepak takraw* (kicking game with rattan ball), wrestling and kite-flying, all of which were seasonal or occasional pursuits.

In the late 19th century, sport as a leisure activity was mainly the preserve of the small European elite. The less privileged were too busy making a living while the wealthy Chinese preferred to spend their off-duty hours gambling or smoking opium.

Horse-racing, however, attracted a diverse audience. The element of gambling in the sport interested the Chinese, while race meetings were also a great excuse for socialising and wearing the latest fashions. In time turf clubs were a feature of all large towns.

Football was a popular school sport from its inception and is still Malaysia's most popular game. At the second Durbar (Conference of Rulers) held in Kuala Lumpur in 1903, a team from the Victoria Institution played against a town team.

1 A game of cricket at the Padang (now known as Dataran Merdeka), viewed from the Selangor Club, Kuala Lumpur, 1905.

2 Elephants fording the river near Kuala Kangsar, probably on the way to the picnic spot of 'Menggelunchor' during the 1897 Durbar (ANM)

3 A football match during the second Durbar, Kuala Lumpur, 1903

4 Victoria Institution's First XI, 1911 (ANM)

5 Spectators relaxing at the Klang races, 1912 (ANM)

6 'The paddock' with horses being prepared for the Kuching races, c. 1910



At the beginning of the 20th century, rainforests blanketed most of the Malay Peninsula and Borneo. Then during the rubber boom, virgin tracts that had stretched from coast to coast only a few decades earlier were cleared for rubber estates. But this was happening primarily in the lowland coastal regions, and apart from the odd mine or road and rail, it was another half-century or more before much of the vast 55-metre-high canopy of trees fell to the chain saw and bulldozer.

It is a world in which man seems an intruder, wrote Alfred Russel Wallace, the great biologist. He was, of course, referring to the aboriginal people of the Malay Peninsula—the Semang (or Negrito), Senoi, Jakun, and dozens of other smaller tribes, who made their homes in the jungle. The Semang, probably ancestors of Malaysia's stone-age tribes, were nomadic, while the Senoi and Jakun practised slash-and-burn agriculture and traded in jungle produce with the Malays. In the early 20th century the Senoi and Jakun were often erroneously referred to as 'Sakai', from the Malay word meaning 'seif'. But at that time, little was known about them and they were seldom seen except by the occasional trader, hunter and colonial bureaucrat on anthropological expeditions. As for the animals of the rainforests, such as elephants, tigers, seladang (wild oxen), rhinoceros and tapirs, they were only captured on film after they had been killed.

Very few photographers in those days trained their cameras on the rainforest, which makes Charles Kleingrothes 1906 photograph of virgin jungle (1) a rare and exquisite image. He also photographed a huge tree engulfed by a strangler fig, with a climber carefully posed on it to give a sense of its enormity (5).



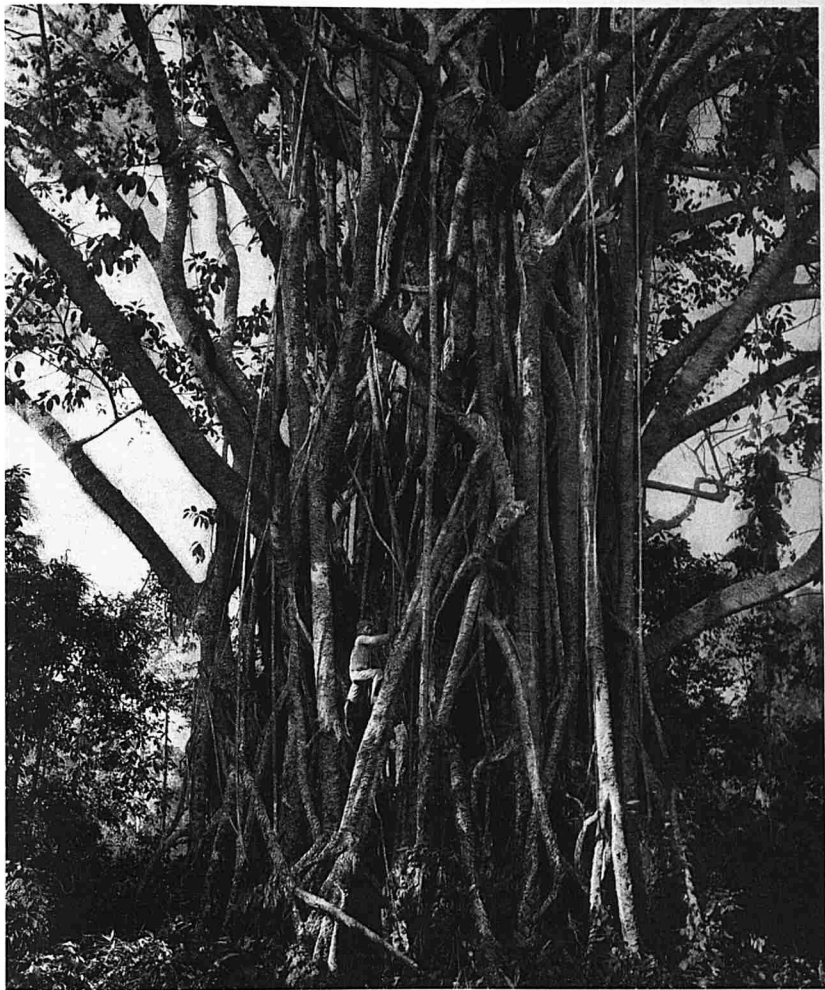
1 'Sungei Belawan Virgin Jungle', c. 1906

2 Orang Asli group photographed in the FMS, c. 1914

3 A forestry officer buying damar (resin) from the natives, c. 1912

4 Orang Asli group, c. 1910

5 Gajah rambong (*Ficus elastica*), a native rubber tree, c. 1906





THE TURBULENT YEARS

1915–1945

It must have been a victorious moment for those of an imperialist disposition when a British Adviser was finally appointed in Terengganu in 1919, thus bringing the entire Malay Peninsula under some form of British control. But World War I had just ended, Europe was in ruins, and the British were hard-pressed for cash. The days of glory were over.

Likewise for the European-run photographic studios that had mushroomed with the success of the Empire. The closure of G.R. Lambert & Co. in Singapore in 1918 signalled the downfall of the professional photographer and the rise of the amateur. Photographic studios, however, still did brisk business in portraits, even though their focus was gradually shifted towards stock photography in order to cater to the fast-growing home market. Demand in portraits also led to the emergence of local photographers. Chinese-run studios such as Kuala Lumpur's long-running Federal Photographic Studio sprang up in most major towns. Another phenomenon was the rise of Japanese photographers, such as M.S. Nakajima & Co. of Kuala Lumpur, T. Isshi of Melaka, and P. Arita of Muar, who dominated the commercial scene in the 1920s. Some were still active in 1941 when the Japanese occupied Malaya, leading to rumours that there had been a more sinister motive behind their careful documentation; this had included aerial views of towns and group portraits of leading citizens, especially the Chinese, who were to suffer most under the occupation.

With photography becoming more accessible, the quality of photographs generally suffered—the new smaller cameras that used roll film rarely obtained the clarity of the old large-format cameras and their glass negatives. But what was lost in detail was compensated for by candour and immediacy. Carefully posed official portraits gave way to photo-journalism. On occasions such as the opening ceremony of the Johor Causeway in 1924, photographers were able to capture the precise moment the ribbon was cut. The individual official photograph gave way to a series of shots that gave viewers a more rounded impression of the event. For instance, the arrival of visitors, the processions, and the fashions and architecture of the 1930s were all captured on film during the installation of Sultan Abu Bakar of Pahang (right).

World War I barely touched Malaya and the economy was still growing under the two giants of tin and rubber. Tin production doubled in the first quarter of the 20th century, but its growth was nothing compared to that of rubber, which passed tin as Malaya's chief export earner in 1916—a position it held until 1980. The administration's ability to maintain law and order in Malaya was designed in part to create an environment conducive to this wealth. The same could be said of the infrastructure built during this era, including the completion of the west coast trunk road from Johor to the Thai border in 1928, and the east coast railway to Tumpat in 1931. Cameron Highlands was also being opened up in the late 1920s and early 1930s, and photographs of the road building, the new tea plantations and the first resorts provide a rare glimpse of the birth of the nation's favourite hill resort.

New investors and planters were avidly sought after, and for this purpose photography was recognised as a powerful advertising and propaganda tool. In the 1920s, the Malayan Information Agency at Malaya House in London produced a series of hand-coloured, photographic glass slides for use in travelling 'magic-lantern' shows to encourage interest in British Malaya (see page 166). These slides presented a wide range of subjects, from cottage crafts to factory scenes, kampong views to 'new' colonial architecture, as well as elephant rides and tiger hunts. They must have exerted a powerful influence on impressionable young Britons eager for adventure in the Far East.



ABOVE: Installation of Sultan Abu Bakar of Pahang, Pekan, 29 May 1933. (ANM)
 FACING PAGE: Malayan Army Transport drivers before World War II, 1940. (ANM)



A glass slide word in 'magic-lantern' shows produced by the Malayan Information Agency, London, 1920s. (ANMM)

No doubt in those days it was an established fact that a great divide existed between the rulers and the ruled. But today it is evident from looking at these slides and other photographs of the era between the wars that most of the population lived in poverty despite the booming export economy. Contrast the British in their carefully pressed uniforms and the Malay rulers in their sumptuous silks with the barefoot plantation workers and peasants. Child labour was the norm, as shown in photographs of Malay children working at looms and Indian youngsters shouldering buckets of latex. Some of the Westernised Malay rulers became alienated from their people—they played polo and holidayed in Europe, their lavish lifestyles disguising the fact that they had no real power; the British had the ultimate say.

It was in the interests of the colonial power to use alien labour to extract the nation's riches and so improve the standard of living



Government English School hockey teams, Batu Gajah, Perak, 10 December 1929

of the Malays. But in reality only a minority of the Malays received an English education; the royalty and aristocracy were educated at the Malay College in Kuala Kangsar, Perak. For the majority, the British preferred their tried and tested policy of divide-and-rule. They ruled the roost, the Malays tilled the soil, the Indians laboured on plantations, while the Chinese mined tin and worked in commerce. As each ethnic group led a separate existence and was educated in its own language, it was inevitable that there were communal problems later in the century. This ethnic separation is evident in photography, where the various races are seen together only at official functions, for organised sports days, or in group photographs of elite English schools such as Victoria Institution (see below).

Then, as it is today, cheap labour was a powerful inducement for investors. Unrestricted immigration from China and India slowed only when the Great Depression (1929–32) forced the repatriation of many workers. But Malaya's demographics had already been altered so drastically that the census of 1931 revealed what many had predicted, that the Chinese population was already in excess of the Malays. The illusion that the immigrants were temporary residents was shattered. The British, who had always regarded the Malays as the indigenous people and had based their occupation on treaties with Malay rulers, felt duty-bound to protect Malay rights. Criticism came from both the nascent Malay nationalist movements and the rulers who had lost much of their powers over their states when the Federated Malay States (FMS) was formed in 1896. Ironically, they had less control than the rulers in the Unfederated Malay States (UMS). To overcome discontent with both the centralisation of power and



The winning team from Victoria Institution during their annual swimming contest, Kuala Lumpur, 1935. (NSTP)



The Malay Regiment at the Port Dickson training camp, Negeri Sembilan, 1940 (ANMM)

the neglect of the Malays, a decentralisation policy was suggested with the aim of bringing together the FMS, the UMS and the Straits Settlements and to devolve more decision-making power back to the various states.

Five successive British officials vacillated over decentralisation from 1920 to the outbreak of World War II. The FMS rulers, the Malay elite and the Malay press were proponents of decentralisation, while most British officials and commercial interests groups were against it, as were immigrant groups and even the UMS rulers who feared losing their autonomy. Many major players and political events are immortalised in photographs of the time, including the 1930 visit of Sir Cecil Clementi—the most vocal of the High Commissioners on Malay rights—with Sultan Iskandar of Perak at Kuala Kangsar. Ultimately, however, although some power eventually devolved to the states, the goal of a Malayan federation was still out of reach when it was interrupted by an event that not only radically changed the political and economic stability of Malaya and the region, but also eventually brought about the decline of the British Empire.

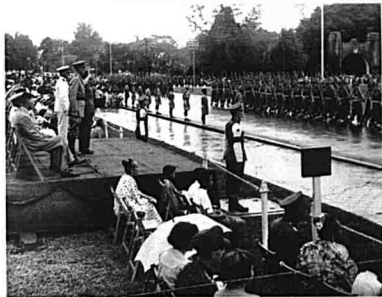
On 8 December 1941, the Japanese landed on Sabak beach near Kota Bharu airport, Kelantan, and quickly put paid to the myth of the mighty British. Just over two months later, Singapore fell, and the Netherlands East Indies (Indonesia) followed, as well as Sarawak and North Borneo. The northern states of Kedah, Perlis, Terengganu and Kelantan were given back to Thailand as a reward for joining Japan as an ally, although this was annulled at the end of the war in 1945.

The Chinese suffered the most under Japanese rule, in part because many had contributed funds to China in the war against Japan, and thousands were executed during the occupation. Europeans who did not manage to escape were sent to detention camps, and some, together with the Indians and Malays, were sent to work on the notorious 'Death Railway'.

The Japanese propaganda of 'Asia for Asians' did not translate into economic wellbeing; food shortages and general hardships were a trademark of their four-year occupation, but it did instil self-confidence in the Malays and other ethnic groups who had taken over formerly British-held positions and thus liberated themselves from subservience. When the war ended and the British returned in 1945, they and the people of Malaya knew that the political climate had changed and that the final days of colonial dominance were at hand.

The photographic coverage of the Japanese Occupation is sketchy. Nevertheless, the images evoke a variety of responses—from fear to liberation—depending on the age, ethnicity, and memories of the viewer. No one, however, can escape the jubilation of the crowds welcoming back the Allied troops in Malaya, or fail to be moved by the image of the Japanese commander handing over his sword in the surrender ceremony.

Although the decades between the wars witnessed many historically important events and a see-sawing economy, the photographic record of this era also has its light moments, from proud youngsters having their first school portrait taken, to boat teams celebrating the Silver Jubilee on the Terengganu River.



The Regent of Johor taking the salute at the Victory Parade to celebrate the end of World War II in Johor Bahru, June 1945. (NSSTP)

From the 1920s through to the outbreak of World War II, relationships between the colonial administration and the Malay rulers were less than satisfactory. The rulers of Selangor, Perak, Negeri Sembilan and Pahang had agreed to the Federation because they thought that (wrongly) they would retain their power in doing so. Instead, power was centralised with the British. To appease these rulers, as well as the state Residents who had also lost much of their powers, the Federal Council was set up with the intention of including them in decision-making on behalf of their respective states. However, the rulers did not take an active role in the Federal Council and it was not until the late 1920s when decentralisation policies took effect that some federal responsibilities devolved back to the states.

The decentralisation policy was formulated by Sir Laurence Guillemard, High Commissioner 1920-6. His main opponent, Sir George Maxwell (Chief Secretary) is shown here with Sultan Alaeddin Suleiman of Selangor (8). But the rights of the Malays and the rulers were particularly championed by Sir Cecil Clementi, High Commissioner 1930-4, though his scheme was eventually modified.

Meanwhile, the rulers of the Unfederated Malay States (UMS) enjoyed more autonomy and power than their counterparts in the Federated Malay States (FMS). British intervention was minimal in the UMS: the administration was largely controlled by the Malays. Jawi script was still in official use (it had been replaced by Roman in the FMS), and the Islamic rest day of Friday was retained, in contrast to the FMS states where it had been replaced by Sunday.

In Sarawak, the Brooke dynasty still reigned with Vyner Brooke succeeding his father Charles in 1917.

1 High Commissioner Sir Cecil Clementi and Sultan Iskandar of Perak (r. 1918-38), Kuala Kangsar, 1930 (ANM)

2 Federal Council meetings were occasions for group portraits such as this, which was taken by the Secretariat, Kuala Lumpur, 1926.

3 The Tuan Muda of Sarawak (Bertram Brooke) and Sir Cecil Clementi, Kuching, 1930 (NSTP)

4 Group photograph taken after the signing of the Agreement for the reconstitution of the Federal Council, 24 April 1927, Kuala Lumpur (ANM)

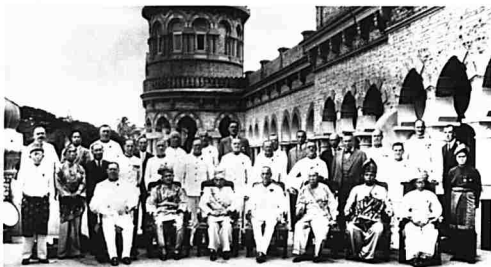
5 Opening of the Johor Causeway by Governor Sir Laurence Guillemard with Sultan Ibrahim, 28 June 1924 (ANM)

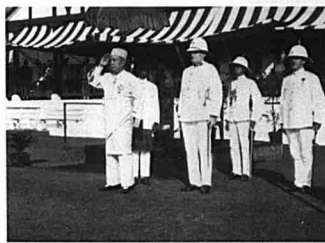
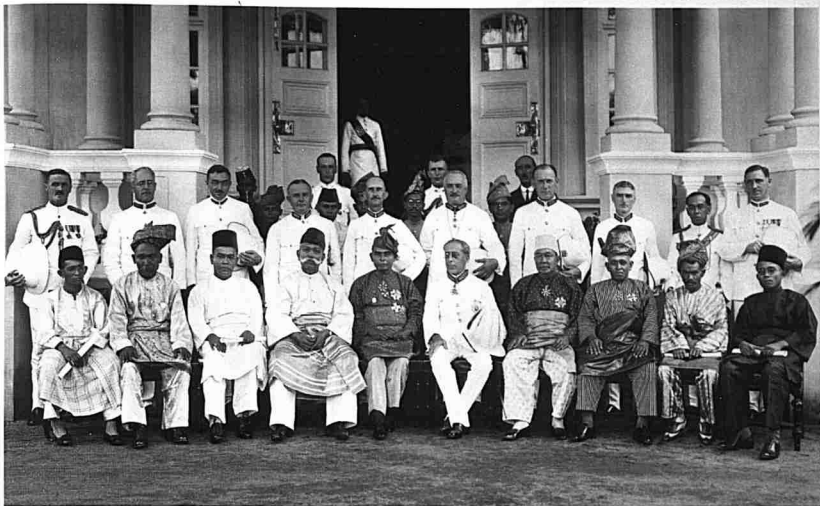
6 Sultan Abdul Hamid Halim Shah of Kedah at the formal opening of the Wan Man Saman bridge at Alor Star, 14 July 1926 (ANM)

7 Sultan Hisamuddin Alam Shah of Selangor and the British Resident arriving at the Federal Council, Kuala Lumpur, 30 November 1938 (ANM)

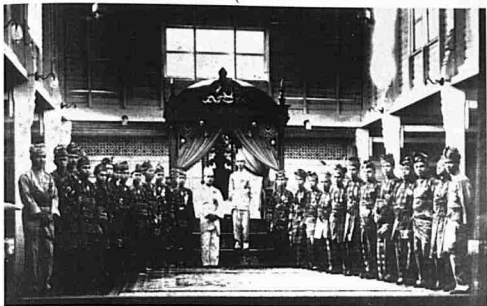
8 Sir George Maxwell with Sultan Alaeddin Suleiman of Selangor at the entrance to Carcosa, Kuala Lumpur, 1926 (ANM)

9 Sultan Alaeddin Suleiman of Selangor taking the salute during the Selangor State anthem, Kuala Lumpur, 1930s (ANM)







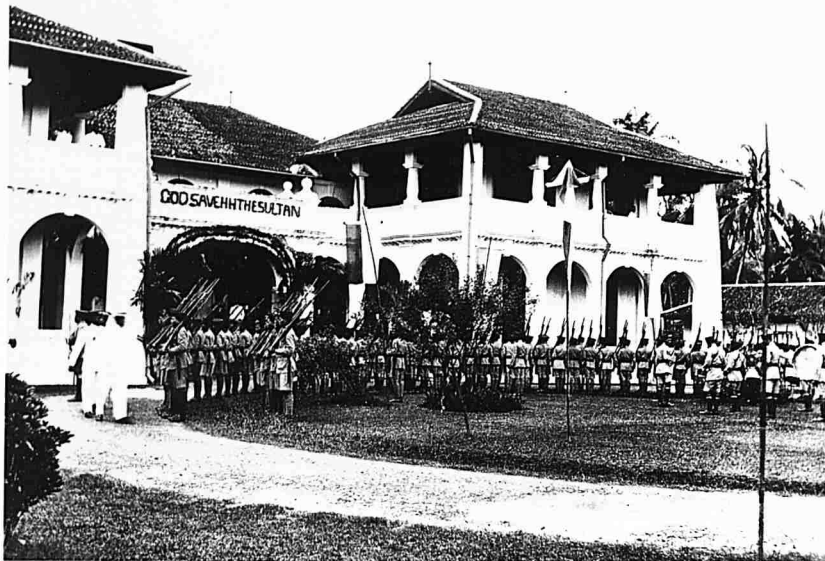


The Malay rulers might have lost much of their powers to the colonial administration, but the federal system left their sovereignty intact. The Durbar (a periodic meeting where the Federated Malay States (FMS) rulers met with British officials to voice their concerns on Islam and Malay customs and welfare) was first held in 1897, then again in 1903 and 1927. In the 1930s meetings were held more regularly. Earlier Durbars had been mainly ceremonial and rulers wore their best ceremonial attire. However, by the 1930s the FMS rulers were more vocal and assertively promoted Malay interests and decentralisation. In contrast, rulers of the Unfederated Malay States (UMS) preferred to keep the status quo, as they saw how Federation resulted in loss of power for the FMS rulers.

In keeping with their role as custodians of Malay culture, the rulers ensured that traditional events such as royal installations, birthdays and weddings were still enacted with all the pomp and pageantry of the ancient courts even if lifestyles were becoming more Westernised as the 20th century progressed.

Marriage between royal houses was the norm rather than the exception, with ceremonial events running the traditional 40 days and 40 nights. They culminated with the *bersanding*, a sitting-in-state ceremony on an elaborate, symbolically decorated dais (6 and 7). In Terengganu, decorated sedan chairs were used to carry the royal couple, while in Perak, the newlyweds partook of ceremonial ablutions on a tiered dais (*pancha persada*). Also in Perak, velvet furnishings in the bridal chamber were embellished with *tekah* (gold thread embroidery), a speciality craft of the Perak courts.

- 1 Sultan Abu Bakar of Pahang (under the royal umbrella) inspecting a guard of honour on his installation day, 29 May 1933, Pekan (ANM)
- 2 Pavilion used for a royal bathing ceremony to mark the installation of a ruler, probably Perak, 1940s (NSTP)
- 3 Marriage of Tengku Imaib bin Tengku Muhammad of Pahang to Tengku Mariah, daughter of Sultan Sulaiman of Terengganu, c. 1942
- 4 A royal wedding, possibly in Perak, 1930s (ANM)
- 5 Sultan Imaib of Kelantan (standing on the royal dais) with dignitaries and government officials on the occasion of his birthday, late 1920s (ANM)
- 6 Women of the Kedah court seated on the floor during the berunding of Tunku Abdul Aziz of Terengganu and Tunku Hamidah of Kedah, 1930s (ANM)
- 7 The berunding of Tengku (later Sultan) Abu Bakar of Pahang and Raja Fatimah, daughter of Sultan Iskandar of Perak, Pekan, 1925 (ANM)
- 8 Terengganu princes flanking the Menteri Besar (state premier) of Terengganu on a visit to London, c. 1937
- 9 Sultan Sulaiman Badrul Alam Shah of Terengganu (c. 1920–42) in full ceremonial attire for the coronation of King George VI, 1937 (ANM)
- 10 Sultan Husamuddin of Selangor (c. 1938–42 and 1945–60) (ANM)





Johor enjoyed a unique place among the Malay states since the 1885 Anglo-Johor Treaty accorded Sultan Abu Bakar sovereign status with recognition of his title as Sultan. He had kept his state to some extent free of British intervention and had drawn up a constitution before his death in 1895. Relations between the colonial administration and his son, however, were not as cordial, and in 1914, under financial and other pressure, Sultan Ibrahim was forced to accept a General Adviser.

Nevertheless, Johor still managed to maintain more independence than the Federated Malay States (FMS)—it was allowed its own military force. Along with the other Unfederated Malay States (UMS), Johor's administration comprised mainly Malays, Malay in the Jawi script was the official language, and following Islamic tradition, Friday was the day of rest.

Modern Johor is associated with Sultan Ibrahim, whose exceptionally long reign from 1895 to 1959 covered all the major political events of Malaysia, from Federation in 1896 to Independence in 1957. On his 50th birthday, 17 September 1923, when celebrations were held in every town of Johor, an unknown photographer captured a series of diverse images (1, 5 and 7). A parade was held in Muar where public servants donned fancy dress for a pageant while a children's band welcomed the event in Tangkak.

Sultan Ibrahim resided in the Istana Besar (now the Royal Museum) that was built by his father. It was furnished by both sultans on their numerous European forays and had no equal in Malaysia in terms of opulence. The Istana also hosted numerous royal personages including Archduke Ferdinand of Austria, whose assassination sparked World War I. Sultan Ibrahim moved to his new palace at Bukit Serene in the late 1930s.

1 Parade held at Muar to celebrate Sultan Ibrahim's 50th birthday, 17 September 1923 (ANM)

2 Sultan Ibrahim (centre in greatcoat) during his visit to the Malayan Victory Contingent in London, 1946 (ANM)

3 Sultan Ibrahim of Johor, 1940s (ANM)

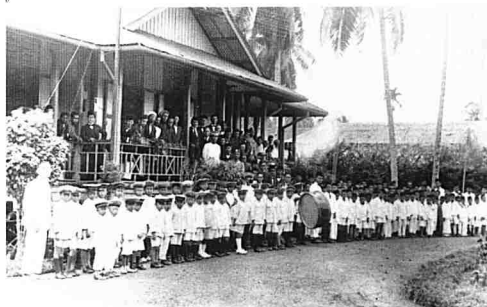
4 Group photograph of distinguished Malays, including Owa Ja'far (later Datu) who became Chief Minister of Johor and the first president of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) in 1946, taken at the headquarters of the Johor Military Force at Bukit Timbalan 1937 (ANM)

5 Public servants in Muar in fancy dress for a pageant on the Sultan's birthday, 1923 (ANM)

6 Parade to mark the foundation ceremony for the Johor Government offices, 1930s (NSTP)

7 A children's band gathered for the Sultan's birthday, Tangkak, 1923 (ANM)

8 Building Istana Bukit Serene, Johor Bahru, 1930s (NSTP)





In Cuthbert Harrison's guidebook of 1923, Kuala Lumpur is described as having the advantages of big cities such as Penang and Singapore, without their disadvantages in the way of jostling crowds, dust, heat, noise, smells and turmoil generally. Indeed, views of the capital in the era between the wars corroborate his words, although the unstable price of rubber and its effect on the town's fortunes may have contributed to the general quietude. Motor cars were still scarce. Even Java Street (now Jalan Tun Perak), the main commercial thoroughfare, had little in the way of traffic, except for the odd bullock cart and rickshaw puller. Similarly, a view of High Street (now Jalan Bandar) looking towards Foch Avenue (now Jalan Cheng Lock) (2) in the heart of Chinatown shows mainly rickshaws and pedestrians.

In the 1920s, three-storey commercial buildings designed in a mixture of Westernised styles sprang up in Market Street (Leboh Pasar Besar) and Market Square (Medan Pasar). These included the imposing Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation building, which stood on the same site as HSBC today. Market Square (3) was the capital's banking and shopping hub, as indicated by the numerous motor cars parked there.

The first market in Kuala Lumpur, located in Medan Pasar, was replaced in 1886 by the Central Market, sited between the Klang River and Rodger Street (Jalan Hang Kasturi). A new Central Market (now a craft market) was built on that same site in 1936.

Some of the earliest aerial photographs of Kuala Lumpur were taken in 1938, and a comparison between those and recent aerial views reveals enormous differences in the capital then and the city today. However, many of the buildings are still recognisable, such as the Moorish-style government buildings, the Selangor Club, the Central Market, the Railway Headquarters, Jamek Mosque and the Oriental Building.

1 The new Central Market, 1937 (ANM)

2 High Street looking towards Foch Avenue, 1930s. Note the sign for 'King U' photographers located above the pharmacy. (ANM)

3 Old Market Square (Medan Pasar), 1920s

4 Java Street (now Jalan Tun Perak), 1923 (ANM)

5 Aerial view showing Kuala Lumpur railway station and offices (right) with the Lake Gardens behind, the Majestic Hotel (centre) and Sulaiman Building (left), 1937 (ANM)

6 View from the bridge at Market Street up the Klang River to Jamek Mosque, 1920s

7 The Colonial Restaurant at Sultan Street, 1920s (ANM)

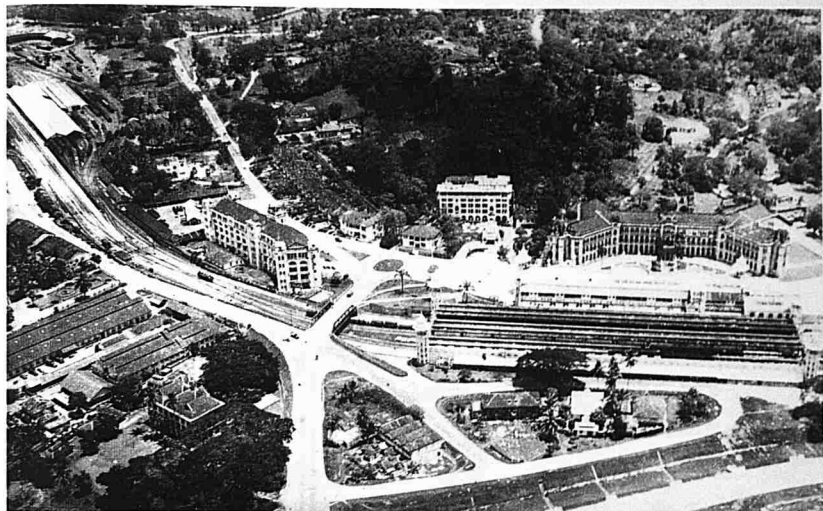
8 Oriental Building on Java Street (now Jalan Tun Perak), early 1940s

9 The old Central Market, 1920s

FOLLOWING PAGES

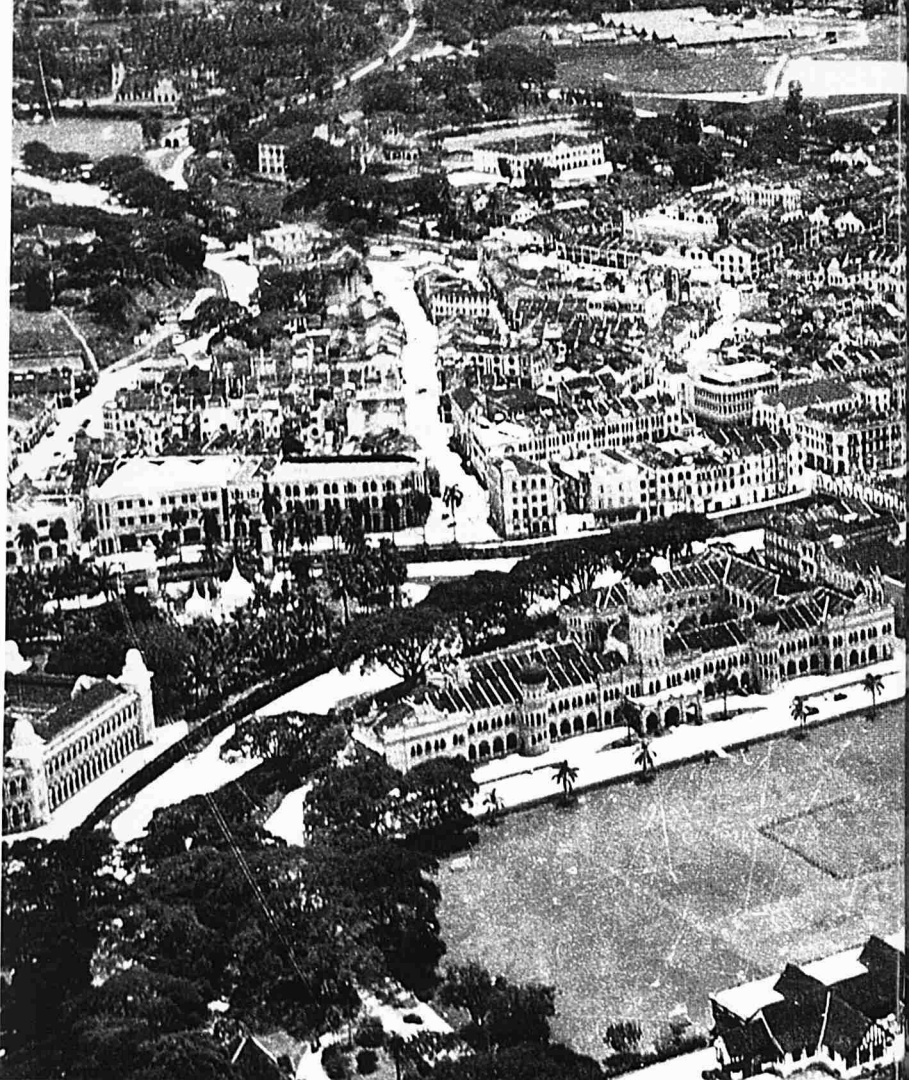
Aerial view showing the Selangor Club (foreground), the Padang, the Secretariat and other government buildings (centre), Jamek Mosque (centre left), and the Central Market (centre) with Chinatown behind, 1937 (ANM)

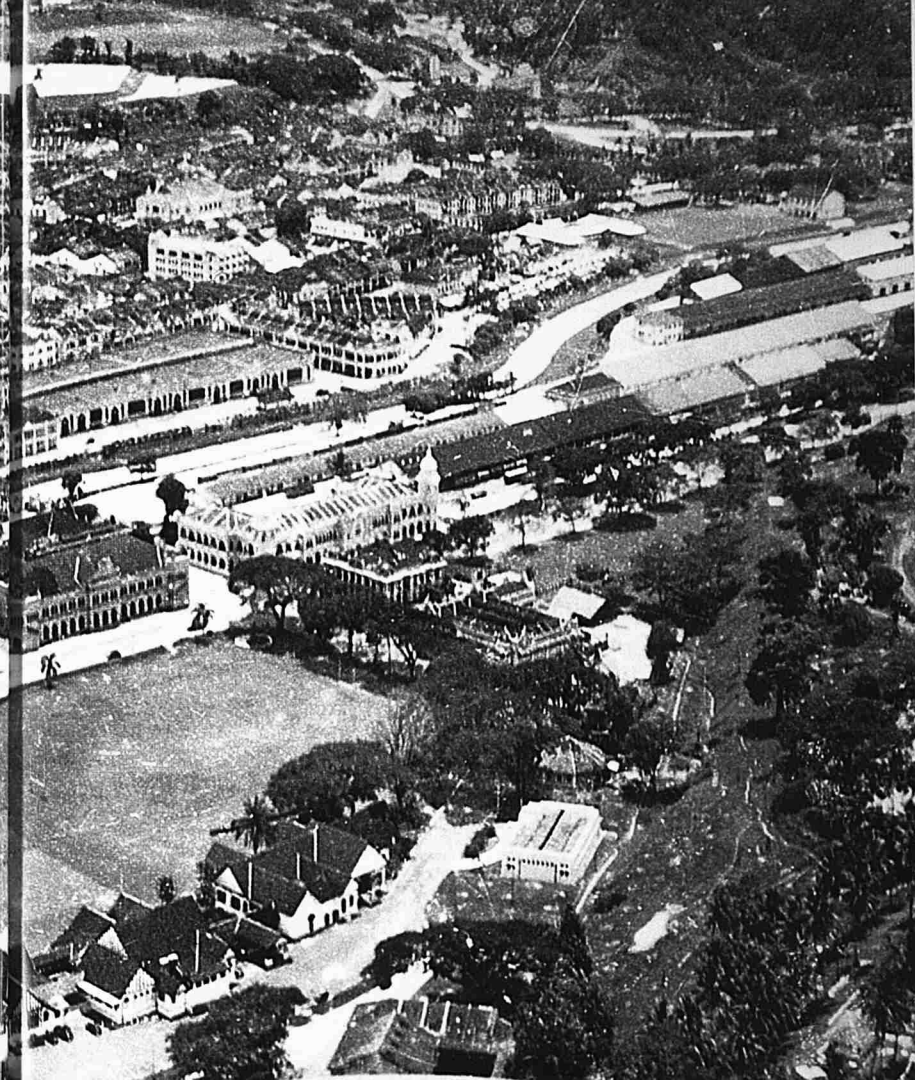




379. Central Market, Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, F.M.S.











The development of Malaysian towns paralleled their economic fortunes. Although Singapore had attracted shipping away from Penang and was the leading international port for the Malay Peninsula by 1926, Penang remained second as an urban area until after World War II. Views of Penang in the early 1930s show a range of transport on the streets, from tram cars and motor cars to the still ubiquitous rickshaw. Even though its economy was badly affected by commodity crashes, Penang continued growing with the help of tourism, which was later bolstered by the completion of the funicular railway up Penang Hill in the mid-1920s. The railway also enabled locals to enjoy the hill station which had previously been the preserve of the European elite.

Ipo's fortunes went in tandem with the tin industry, suffering a severe slump in the early 1920s and during the Great Depression. Thousands of coolies were repatriated to China and views of the town during the 1920s show little new architecture.

Parit Buntar may have been the centre of the Kratiu ricefields, Malaya's largest agricultural district, but passengers were still ferried across the river by sampan in the 1920s (8).

1 Downing Street looking towards Beach Street, Penang, 1932 (ANM)

2 The Municipal Market, Melaka, c. 1918

3 The funicular train on the viaduct, 'Penang Hill Railway', 1920s

4 The lawn restaurant at the Eastern & Oriental Hotel, Penang, 1920s

5 Penang Road at the junction of Leith Street, Chulia Street and Argyle Road, Penang, 1932 (ANM)

6 Native sailing boats anchored in Penang harbour, c. 1930 (NSTP)

7 Elephant transport, probably Kuala Kangsar, Perak, 1920s

8 Ferrying passengers by sampan in Parit Buntar, Perak, 1920s (ANM)

FOLLOWING PAGES

1 Cargo boats in Penang Harbour, c. 1930 (NSTP)

2 Aerial view of George Town, Penang, with the Eastern & Oriental Hotel in the foreground, 1930s

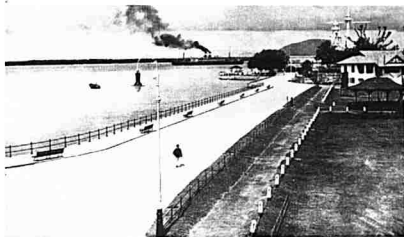
3 The Esplanade at George Town, Penang, 1932 (ANM)

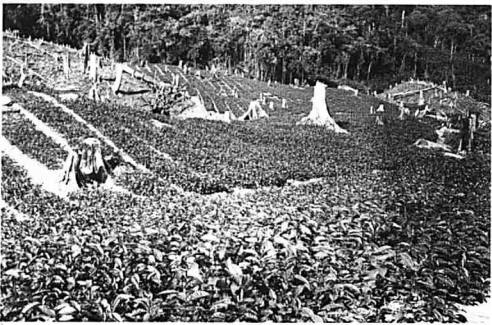
4 Floods in Ipo near the Town Dispensary, October 1925 (NM)

5 The commercial quarter, Ipo, 1920s

6 The Bottom Station, Penang Hill Railway, 1920s







Anyone who has ever driven the tortuous 60-kilometre route from Tapah in Perak to Cameron Highlands in Pahang will appreciate the difficulties faced by the first engineers and road workers who constructed it. Not only did they have to overcome torrential rainfall and an unstable terrain, but they also had to work through the dense forests where there were tigers, and risk being struck by malaria. The legacy of these early road builders remains today—the remarkable construction of the roads endures even as modern hill roads, which cleave the hills rather than wind about them, are defeated by the environment.

The hilly plateau that later became Cameron Highlands was first noticed in 1885 by its namesake, the government surveyor William Cameron, while he was mapping the Pahang-Perak border. It had been marked as a potential health resort and gardening centre by early colonial administrators, but this only came to fruition in the 1920s when it was evident the area could support tea estates and vegetable and flower gardens. Frasers Hill had been developed earlier, but its small size and fragile environment ruled out further enlargement.

The remarkable series of large-format images here were probably taken by a government photographer when the Cameron Highlands road was being constructed in 1928–30 and include views of the steam-driven blast trains (4 and 8) and their crews, and new bridges—many of which still survive today—spanning mountain streams.

A major reason for the opening up of the highlands was for cultivating tea, which had been pioneered by the entrepreneur J.A. Russell and A.B. Milne, a tea planter from Ceylon. In 1929, they successfully applied for a large land grant in the Cameron Highlands and established their original estate, Boh Plantations. Today it is the leading Malaysian tea producer and continues to be run by the Russell family. An image from 1936 (3) shows young tea plants growing amidst the trunks of recently cleared rainforest at the first Boh tea estate near Ringlet.

1 *Petang Bridge Waterway, Cameron Highlands, 22 November 1930' (NSTP)*

2 *Frazer's Hill township, c. 1930 (ANM)*

3 *Boh Plantations tea-estate nursery, July 1936 (NSTP)*

4 *Hill Train at Work, Cameron Highlands, 7 September 1928' (NSTP)*

5 *General view showing road winding through jungle, Cameron Highlands, 1930' (NSTP)*

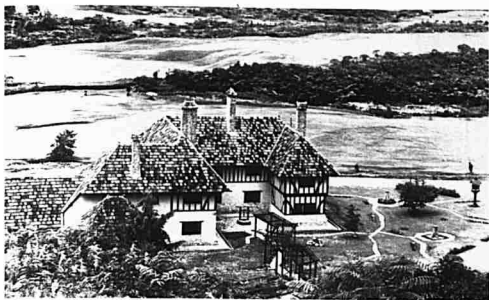
6 *Building the road to Cameron Highlands, c. 1930 (NSTP)*

7 *The first hut at Cameron Highlands, 1935 (ANM)*

8 *Workers posing by the blast train, Cameron Highlands, c. 1928 (NSTP)*







As soon as the metalled road to Cameron Highlands was completed, the hill retreat quickly became a favourite for both the European community and well-to-do Asian families. At 1,600 metres above sea level, its climate was delightfully cool, encouraging both outdoor activities and flower gardens where temperate species such as roses thrived. Walking to the waterfalls was a popular pursuit (it still is today).

By 1935 there were 50 private dwellings, three hotels, two schools and an expanding agricultural base of European-run tea estates and Chinese vegetable gardens in Cameron Highlands. The buildings were similar to those of Simla, the 'Queen of British hill resorts' in India, and were an eclectic mixture from 'railway Gothic of the most overpowering kind to publican's Tudor'. The former is evident at the Pensionnat Notre-Dame in Tanah Rata (4), but the latter became the favoured hill-station style that continues to prevail. Ye Olde Smokehouse, an eight-room inn, was built by planter William Warin on a strategic site overlooking the golf course on the Tanah Rata-Brinchang road junction in the 1930s. It pioneered the mock Tudor style, with interiors reminiscent of an English country home with open fireplaces and wood panelled walls—a recipe for success that still endures, making it a leading purveyor of colonial-style in the Malaysian hotel industry today. The Eastern Hotel (2), shown here at its opening in 1935, followed in this tradition.

FACING PAGE Visitors admiring the view at Robinson Falls, Tanah Rata, 1930s (NSTP)

- 1 Ye Olde Smokehouse, Cameron Highlands, 1930s (NSTP)
- 2 The new Eastern Hotel at Cameron Highlands, 1935 (NSTP)
- 3 An English-style bungalow at Ringlet, 1930s (NSTP)
- 4 The Pensionnat Notre-Dame in Tanah Rata (NSTP)
- 5 Dining room of Ye Olde Smokehouse, 1940s (NSTP)



In 1915, the only tarred road on the entire Peninsular east coast went from the port of Kuantan in Pahang to the mining district of Sungei Lembing, 34 kilometres to the west. By 1923, access to Kuantan was either by government launch down the Pahang River from the railhead at Kuala Krau, or by a weekly, local steamer from Singapore that docked at the Kuantan River, a one-and-a-half or two-day voyage depending on sea conditions.

Once at Kuantan, visitors were advised that a day or two may be taken up with golf, sea bathing and the like—the beginnings of the area's thriving tourist industry. By 1932, Telok Chempedak (5) was a renowned beach resort in Kuantan.

Pekan, the seat of the Pahang Sultanate and where the British Resident lived, was located 44 kilometres south on the southern bank of the Pahang River and was even more difficult to reach than Kuantan, even though most official events were held there. It came alive for royal events, such as the 1933 installation of Sultan Abu Bakar (1). The British Residency, which later became the royal residence of this same Sultan, is pictured in the background of an official group photograph from 1935 (3). It survives today as the Sultan Abu Bakar Museum.

Elephants were still used in the state for transport. The animal has a special place in the folklore and history of Pahang—elephant tusks are featured in the official state emblem.

In the 1921 census, Pahang's population totalled 146,064, the majority being Malays engaged in farming along the major rivers and coastal fishing.



1 Installation of Sultan Abu Bakar of Pahang on 29 May 1933 (ANM)

2 Jalan Besar, Kuantan, 1922 (ANM)

3 Group portrait of Sultan Abu Bakar and government officials, Pekan, 14 February 1935 (ANM)

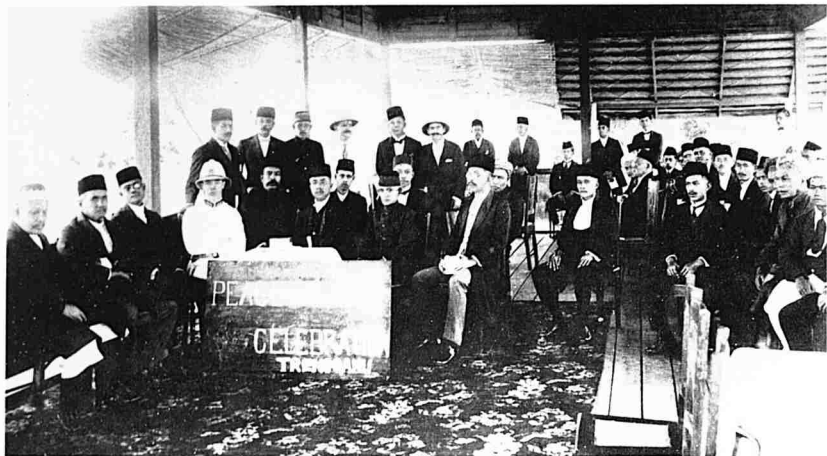
4 A royal elephant crossing the Pahang River, 1933 (ANM)

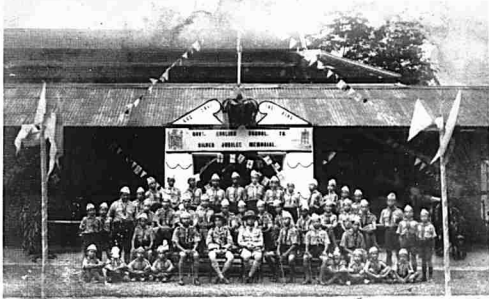
5 Tourists lounging over the rocks near the northern end of the beach at Telok Chempedak, Kuantan, 1932 (ANM)

6 Sultan Abu Bakar at a tea party, Pekan, 3 April 1935 (ANM)

7 The local steamer from Singapore docked at Kuantan Harbour on the Kuantan River, 1935 (ANM)







Terengganu's physical isolation from the other states and her strong Islamic culture resulted in her ability to resist British intervention longer than any other state. Sultan Zainal Abidin III accepted a consular official in 1909, but a British Adviser was only accepted in 1919. Both positions were held (1915–1925) by J.L. Humphreys. The title British Adviser was premature, however, as newly introduced land taxes led to a rebellion in 1928 that was only terminated by British military action.

By 1931, Terengganu's population was 180,000, with the majority engaged in agriculture and fishing. Of this figure, only 14,000 lived in Kuala Terengganu, which saw a 12 per cent population increase in the next decade, the lowest of any major town in the Malay Peninsula.

One of the more significant events in Terengganu was the 1955 celebrations for the Silver Jubilee of King George V of England.

- 1 Terengganu's leading Malays meet with the British Adviser J.L. Humphreys (seated fourth from the left) for a 'Peace Celebration' at Padang Paya Banya, Kuala Terengganu, on 4 August 1919 (ANM)
- 2 A crowd of townsfolk pose under the archway made for the Silver Jubilee celebration in Kuala Terengganu's Chinatown, 1935 (ANM)
- 3 Boat teams posing on the Terengganu River with the Kuala Terengganu waterfront and Bukit Putei in the background (ANM)
- 4 Students and teachers at the Government English School, 1935 (ANM)
- 5 A kampong house decorated for the Silver Jubilee celebration, 1935 (ANM)
- 6 Kuala Terengganu's leading citizens with staff of the Nippon Mining Company, Dungun, walking to the Customs Office during the Silver Jubilee celebration, 1935 (ANM)
- 7 Silver Jubilee regatta on Terengganu River, the boat-making village of Pulau Duyong can be seen in the background, 1935 (ANM)



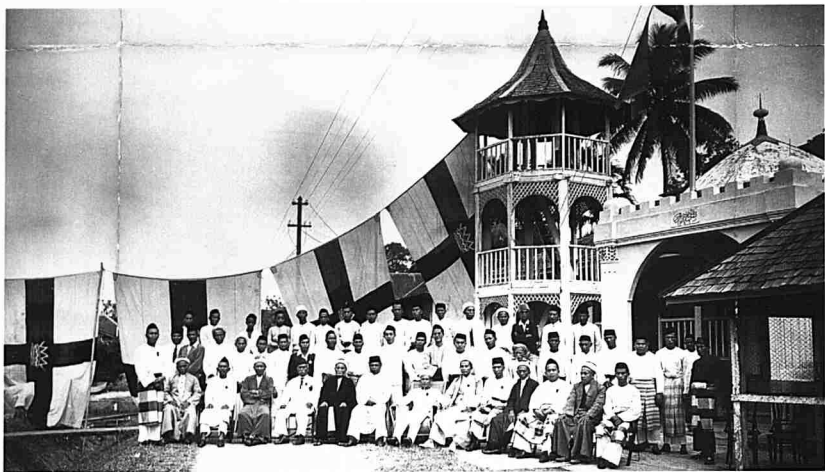
Lashing the Peninsular's east coast between November and March each year is the northeast monsoon, which not only closes ports and interrupts the fishing industry, but often results in large-scale floods. One of the largest on record is carried during the 1926-27 monsoon, when an exceptionally wet season produced monstrous rains that caused widespread flooding on the west coast and even changed river courses. During that monsoon, the junction where the Jelai River meets the Tembeling to form the Pahang River was so swollen that even a local who had lived in the Ulu Tembeling area of Pahang all his life could not recognise it. The flood's height is illustrated by a series of photographs (1 and 3) taken on a plantation by the Jelai River that year. The flooded waters can be seen creeping across the lowlands with a house presumably isolated on high ground.

Another series of rare photographs (6, 7 and 8) shows the effect of the monsoon of 1939 in Kota Bharu town from 10 to 14 January. Other images show flooding at Kuala Krai in 1931 (4) and in Pekan, Pahang, in 1935 (5).

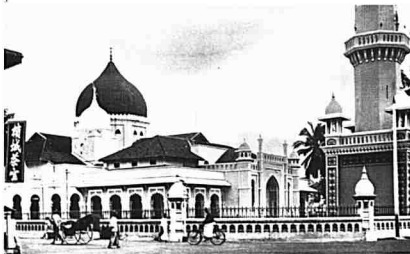
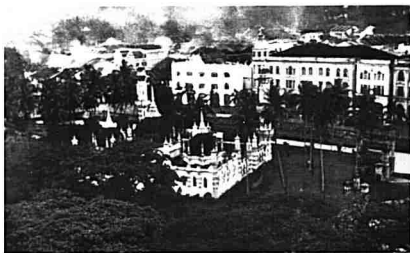


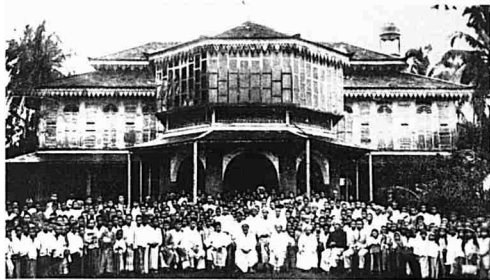
- 1 *The Jelai River as the flood approaches a house, Pahang, 1926*
- 2 *The pump house submerged in the flood, Jelai River, Pahang, 1926*
- 3 *The last phase of the flood with the house in (1) underwater, 1926*
- 4 *Occupants of Chinese shops taking shelter in the first storey, Kuala Krai, Kelantan, 1931 (ANM)*
- 5 *Itana Leban Tunggal in Pekan, Pahang, during the 1935 floods (ANM)*
- 6 *Bus drivers awaiting passengers at the flooded Central Market in Kota Bharu, Kelantan, 10-14 January 1939 (ANM)*
- 7 *Townfolk wading across Padang bank (now Padang Merdeka) on Kota Bharu, Kelantan, 10-14 January 1939 (ANM)*
- 8 *A Malay driver testing the depth of the flooded road in Kota Bharu, Kelantan, 1939 (ANM)*





10110. Ubud Aiah Mosque, Kuala Kangsar.





In the early decades of the 20th century, Malay dissatisfaction with the colonial regime was stimulated by a growing awareness of Islamic identity. Scholars returned from universities in the Middle East with the message that the Malays must work to gain both technical and Islamic knowledge in order to improve their situation and break free of their 'subjugation by an infidel race'.

The educated Malay elite pressed for reforms and Islamic associations sprang up, particularly on the east coast, where recent British intervention had come as a rude shock. Islamic *pondok* (hut) schools in the Unfederated Malay States (UMS) and government-run vernacular schools in the Federated Malay States (FMS) also demanded changes. In 1915, the *Majlis Ugama dan Adat Istiadat Melayu* (Council of Religion and Malay Custom) was founded in Kelantan and it later set up a modern *madrasah* (Islamic school) that offered courses in Arabic, Malay and English.

The Muslims of Penang, both Malays and those of Indian and Arab descent, took an active role in promoting Islamic awareness. Mosques, whether in rural districts such as Terengganu, or in large urban areas such as Penang, were at the centre of every Muslim community. Islamic awareness also affected the rulers. In Sarawak, the Brookes pledged to uphold Islam—Malay was the language of government and the courts administered Syariah law, although some punishments such as amputation were forbidden.



1 Members of the Siku Malay Mosque on the occasion of the 64th birthday of Rajah Vyner Brooke, 1938 (NSTP)

2 Ubudiah Mosque, Kuala Kangsar, c. 1920

3 Aerial view of Jamek Mosque, Kuala Lumpur, 1920s (ANM)

4 Kapitan Kling Mosque, Penang, 1932 (ANM)

5 The Kelantan Religious Council on the occasion of a visit by the

Sheikh Al-Islam Selangor, Kota Bharu, 28 November 1931 (ANM)

6 Kapitan Kling Mosque, Penang, 1920s

7 Sultan Sulaiman Mosque, also known as the Selangor State Mosque, Klang, 1920s (ANM)

8 Mosque at Alor Star, Kedah, 1920s (ANM)

9 Mosque at Kampong Raja and members of mosque (ANM)

10 Malay worshippers at a mosque, 1920s





The traditional economy was adversely affected when taxes were imposed on a range of goods, from rainforest products to coconuts. With the granting of land titles, land became a saleable commodity and many Malays who sold or mortgaged their land ended up in debt. Some of them moved into the rubber industry, but the volatile prices during the inter-war years and the Great Depression made it an unreliable source of income.

Pictorial evidence in the form of postcards and glass slides produced by the Malayan Information Agency in London depicted the majority of the Malays as rural peasants. Some of the postcards show women producing basketry and embroideries, although most crafts were under threat from mass-produced products that were being imported from overseas.

On the east coast where fishing was a major occupation, lifestyles revolved around the sea. Men would put to sea each day in locally made wooden sailing boats and the women would help sort the catch on the beach (10). In Terengganu, the women and children worked long hours for very little even though Terengganu was the centre of a thriving silk-weaving industry (9).

In the towns, there were Malays selling produce along the road side, or hawking snacks and drinks such as iced water (1, 2 and 6). Hand-coloured slides show the Chinese working at a number of pavement occupations including cobbling (8), cooking snacks, and selling tins of cigarettes. The Chinese ran most of the commercial enterprises, but there are very few pictures of these.

Indians were also involved in commerce, but most pictures of the period only show the immigrant Indians at work in the plantations, particularly rubber, where children as young as ten were employed. Other jobs included factory work, such as this pineapple canning factory in Johor (4) which produced canned fruit for the European market. In the 1930s, Malaya was the second-largest producer of canned pineapple in the world after Hawaii.



1 A hawker selling iced water from his portable roadside stall, Kuala Lumpur, 1920s.

2 Wayside market in Kelantan, 1920s (ANM)

3 Tamil women sorting rubber sheets, 1920s (ANM)

4 Inside a pineapple-canning factory, Johor, 1920s (ANM)

5 Street scene in Kuala Lumpur's Chinatown with hawkers and rickshaws, c. 1915 (ANM)

6 A roadside stall selling refreshments, Kuala Lumpur, 1920s

7 A Chinese market, 1920s (ANM)

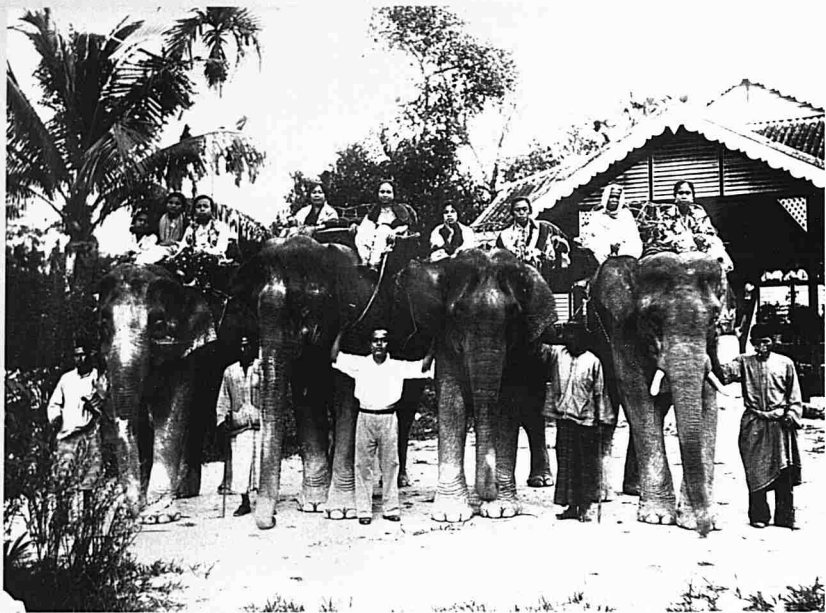
8 A Chinese cobbler on the five-foot way, Penang, 1920s (ANM)

9 Laying threads for silk-weaving loom, 1924 (ANM)

10 Women sorting the catch on the beach at a fishing village on the east coast, possibly Berau, Pahang, 1924 (ANM)

11 Malay women preparing pandanus leaves for woven baskets and mats, probably Port Dickson, 1920s.



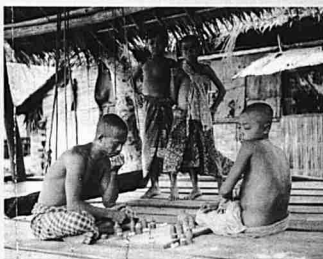




In the 1931 census, the Malays numbered almost 2 million, just under half of the population of British Malaya (excluding Singapore). Of these, only an educated minority could afford the luxury of a photographic portrait. These included members of royalty such as Raja Abdul Aziz of Perak with his wife, Raja Khadijah (3), Tunku Sulaiman of Pahang (7), and Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, the first Prime Minister of Malaya (standing), with his family at his home in Alor Star, Kedah (4). Photographic studios were also kept busy with family portraits of government officials and successful businessmen (2, 8, 9 and 10).

Malay women dressed in traditional costumes, usually a *haju* *kurang* or *haju kebaya* (a long-sleeved shirt or jacket respectively, with an ankle-length skirt) made of woven silk, embroidered slippers, and gold jewellery, including neck chains, anklets and breast ornaments, while men dressed according to the occasion.

What the vast majority of Malay people looked like during this era can be gleaned from a photograph taken of a crowd at a 1945 Victory Parade in Johor Bahru (5), and images of Malay boys in east coast villages during the 1930s (6). Even though there were cars in Malaya by then, elephants were still used as transport in the early decades of the 20th century in Perak (1).





Many inter-war photographic studios were run by Chinese and numbered both Straits Chinese and immigrant Chinese families among their patrons. By the early 20th century, most Chinese men were wearing Western dress, especially formal-style suits for photographic portraits. Their womenfolk, though, dressed in either traditional Chinese gowns (especially for weddings) or in cheongsam (5) or pantsuits (4, 12 and 13). Straits Chinese women wore similar outfits as the Malays. However, in some Straits Chinese families, the younger girls wore cheongsams while the older women preferred *haju kebaya* with characteristic batik sarongs.

Straits Chinese houses, which were characterised by elaborate gilded carvings, were also used as backdrops for portraits—such as that of a couple and child in Taiping (10). The woman, whose face was whitened with traditional Chinese make-up, wore a lustrous *haju kebaya*, a jewelled tiara, and semi-precious stone necklaces.

Weddings were a favourite occasion for hiring a photographer, and not surprisingly, wedding photographs predominate in surviving images of the era. These photographs reflect an interesting mixture of traditional and Western elements—some brides wore heavily embroidered traditional gowns and carried a floral bouquet, a modern addition (2), while others preferred Western dress with a 1930s-style veil (3).

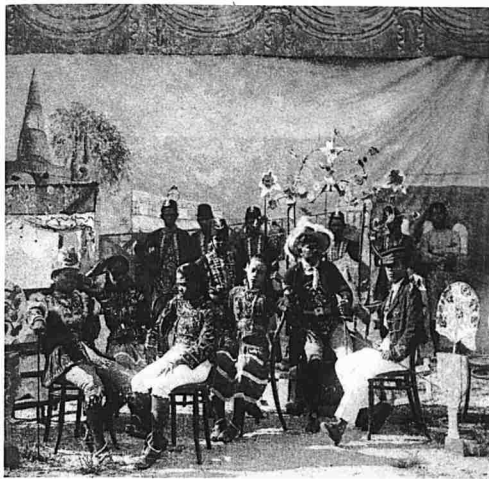


中華民國十年五月五日楊平金結婚於江紀
華國一十八日紹郭治婚相之會









In remote areas or in insular communities, religion and tradition held much sway in leisure pursuits even in the early 20th century. The royal courts were the hub of the performing arts in the past, although some dances such as the Jogat Pahang (4) were still enacted on festive occasions in the 1930s.

In towns, especially those on the west coast, entertainment was often a mixture of different ethnic influences. The Malay opera, or *bangsawan*, evolved from plays performed in Penang in the 1870s by visiting Indian troupes and often used Western story lines such as *Hamlet* and *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves*. Penang was also the homeland of the Boria, a troupe of itinerant minstrels usually of mixed Indian-Muslim and Malay background who originally performed during the month of Muharram, the first month of the Islamic year. The Straits Chinese of Melaka and Penang had Dondang Sayang troupes (1) who toured the streets in bullock carts, serenading the public with their musical poems, especially during the Chinese festival of Chap Goh Mei.

Chinese traditions were still strong in the inter-war years. A writer of that time noted that 'The Chinese theatre, like most things Chinese, is the same as it was in China a thousand years ago'. The Indians also kept their cultural traditions intact, seen in a Hindu procession with deities borne aloft on palanquins (see page 156).

For the Western-educated minority, fancy dress balls (3) were a favourite pastime. Bands, another Western introduction, were often formed by government staff.



1 A Dondang Sayang troupe in front of a Straits Chinese mansion, Penang, 1920s

2 A Chinese theatre performance, 1920s (ANM)

3 Fancy dress ball at Johor Bahru: sitting on the steps is Dato Onn Ja'far, Chief Minister of Johor, 1940 (ANM)

4 Dancers performing the Jogat Pahang with an accompanying gamelan orchestra at the royal palace in Kuala Terengganu, 1930s (ANM)

5 A bangsawan troupe, part of the famous Prince of Wales Theatre Group, 1920s (ANM)

6 Boria troupe, 1920s (ANM)

7 The Selangor State Band, 1931 (NSTP)

8-9 Boria troupes in a Penang kampung, 1920s (ANM)



The first English schools were set up in 1816 with the founding of the Penang Free School. This was followed by the Malacca Free School (1826), Temenggong Abu Bakar's English School in Johor (1864), and others such as the King Edward VII School in Taiping (1883) and Victoria Institution in Kuala Lumpur (1894). The Malay College at Kuala Kangsar, Perak, nicknamed the 'Eton of the East', was founded in 1905 with the express purpose of preparing the sons of Malay aristocrats for a career in the public service. The English schools were believed to provide the path to the best jobs, but the colonial administration was not in favour of giving all an English education, fearing a literate population would threaten the status quo.

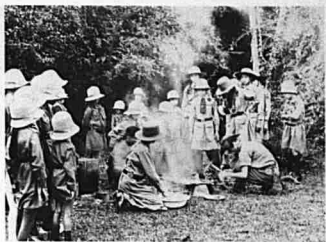
Malay-medium primary schools were first established by the British in the 1870s but they did not gain acceptance until the 1890s when Qur'an classes were provided. Also, besides becoming teachers, students of the Malay-medium schools did not have very favourable job prospects. However, Malay education provided the catalyst for change. A teachers' training college for Malay males opened in Melaka in 1901. In 1913, another training college opened in Matang, Perak, even though it closed in 1922 when the Sultan Idris Training College at Tanjong Malim opened. The latter soon became a vital centre for Malay intellectuals. Education for females also caught on. By 1935, there were 150 girls' schools in Malaya and a teachers' training college for women opened in Melaka that year. By 1938 there were 788 Malay schools.

The British government provided vernacular schools only for the Malays so the Chinese established their own private schools. Funded by Chinese leaders or organisations, from the early 19th century. By 1935, there were Chinese secondary schools in large urban centres. The Indian children of estate workers had no education until 1923 although urban Indians had access to private schools.

Guiding and scouting were popular in some schools, the camps and outdoor activities were as eagerly attended as they are today.



- 1 Cricket team, Malay College, Kuala Kangsar, Perak, 1936 (ANM)
- 2 View of the Main Hall of the Sultan Idris Training College, 1924 (ANM)
- 3 Swans of the Malay Boys' School, Kampung Bahru, 1930 (ANM)
- 4 Trainee female teachers from Melaka and Johor with their teacher, a nun (far right) at the English School, Melaka, 26 July 1930 (ANM)
- 5 The 1920-25 intake at a girls' school in Kuala Lumpur (ANM)
- 6 Primary school children exercising at a Malay School, 1932 (ANM)
- 7 Malay Training College's student resident, Matang, 1922 (ANM)
- 8 Brownies cooking at a Perak Division camp, 1936 (ANM)
- 9 Ali Baba performed by students of the Sultan Idris Training College, Tanjong Malim, 1929-30 (ANM)
- 10 Girl Guides in sun helmets and swimming outfits, 1926 (ANM)
- 11 Pupils in a classroom in the Perak Road School, Penang, 1926 (ANM)







By the mid 1930s, there were more than 70 hospitals in Malaya, 20 infant welfare centres, dozens of town and travelling dispensaries, as well as leper and mental asylums.

Most of the images here are part of the collection of glass slides used by the Malayan Information Agency to advertise Malaya to potential investors or residents. The images were clearly designed to portray the benefits of public health services as provided by the British. These services included talks on nutrition—nutritional deficiency was a major concern at that time and on the benefits of eating fresh vegetables. As infant mortality was high, the government encouraged mothers to visit health centres where they were given advice and their infants weighed and vaccinated. New hospitals were also built and trained staff helped create greater health awareness among the population.

Malaria was a major problem and was the leading cause of death in immigrant groups. It was exacerbated by land clearing for rubber plantations, which peaked with large-scale plantings during the rubber boom. When it was discovered that malaria was spread by mosquitoes and not caused by miasma (noxious vapours from swamps), Malaya led the world in malaria control by draining and spraying oil on mosquito breeding grounds. Anti-malarial oil was also distributed to the rubber plantations.

1 A special occasion at the Baby Health Centre, Kuala Lumpur, 1927 (ANM)

2 Staff of Hospital Besar, Kangar, Perlis, 1938 (ANM)

3 An early ambulance outside Klang Health Centre, 1920s (ANM)

4 Handcarts used to transport anti-malarial oil, 1920s (ANM)

5 Babies being weighed at the health centre, Kuala Lumpur, 1920s (ANM)

6 A talk on the importance of vegetables, 1920s (ANM)

7 Dr Lady Sarah Winsted (centre), the first female doctor to serve in the Malay states, with staff of the General Hospital in Johor Bahru, 1935 (ANM)



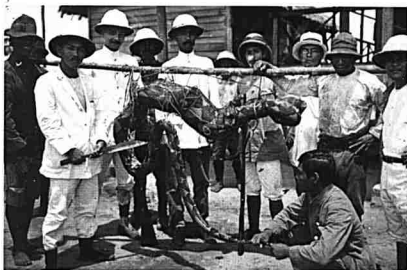
Although most sports were introduced by the Europeans, they quickly became popular among the locals and were an excellent way to get the different ethnic groups to interact. The English schools led the way in organised sports, which were always part of the celebrations of special occasions such as coronations. Tennis was popular among the Europeans and the ruling élite, while polo was avidly pursued by both colonials and royalty. In the interior, rafting down rapids was a popular weekend activity.

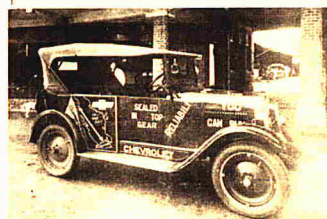
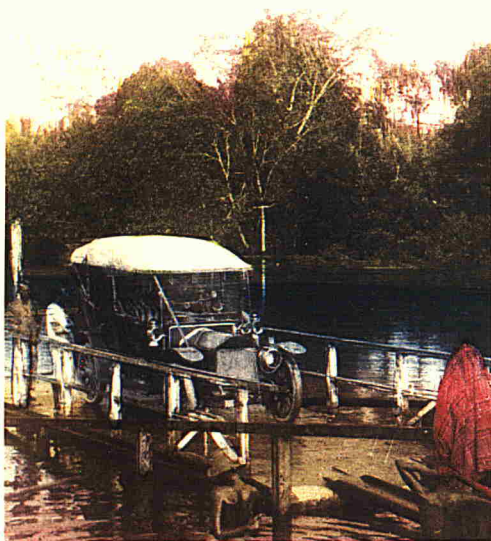
Hunting was also popular—guidebooks of the inter-war years devoted chapters to the pursuit of big game. Licences were needed to kill big game such as elephants, rhinoceros and seladang (wild cattle), and deposits of up to \$500 were required to ensure that hunters abided by the laws. However, no licence was required to shoot tigers until the 1930s, so tigers were popularly hunted.

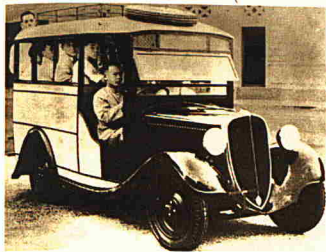
Fishing was a perennial favourite activity regardless of ethnicity, although few would land a fish as large as that of the lucky gentleman who caught it off the shore of Perak (10).

- 1 A game of cricket at the Padang, Kuala Lumpur, 1935 (NSTP)
- 2 The relay team of the Victoria Institution Old Boys' Association, 1935 (NSTP)
- 3 A tennis party including Sultan Abu Bakar (centre), who played Dorothy Round, then current Wimbledon champion, in Pekan, Pahang, 1934 (ANM)
- 4 Chinese and Malay footballers after a match played in celebration of the coronation in 1937. The British Resident is seated in the centre. (NSTP)
- 5 Group at the Taping Gymkhana of the Perak Gymkhana Club, 22 June 1922. Seated on the extreme left is Sultan Iskandar Shah of Perak. (ANM)
- 6 A Malay hunter poses with his kill after a tiger hunt, 1920s (ANM)
- 7 Hunters with large python, 1920s
- 8 An elephant race across the river, probably Perak, 1920s (ANM)
- 9 Hunters with seladang, 1920s (ANM)
- 10 A giant fish caught in the sea off the shore of Perak, May 1922 (ANM)









In the article 'Hints for Motorists' in a 1923 guidebook to the Federated Malay States (FMS), British Malaya's road system of almost 3,000 miles was described as 'excellent'. The article suggested that 'no special car is required ... but the more efficient the cooling system the better ... there is no speed limit ... but all the roads are not yet as wide as they might be, and in many places form an unending succession of sharp corners, which may hide bullock carts. An average of 18 miles an hour would be quite enough for strangers to attempt. Petrol and tyres can be obtained in every town and some of the larger villages.'

Motorised vehicles were driven everywhere although many roads were still unpaved and bridges across rivers were lacking. In some places such as Bagan Serai, a touring car would be carried by ferry across the river (2).

The winding roads are aptly illustrated in a 1932 photograph of three motorists posing by a sign warning motorists to drive carefully on the tortuous 'Snake Road' at Tanjung Malim (1). The road still exists today, although only as a minor one.

In 1926, a Chevrolet car (4) created a local record when it went non-stop from Prai to Singapore. A map of the route is painted on its side, as well as a sign that it was 'sealed in top gear'—quite an achievement considering the corners and grades!

Motorcycles were already gaining in popularity by then. By the mid-1930s, public transport had also embraced motorisation, as evidenced by photographs in the *First Report of the Transport Board* (1936–38) (5 and 6).

1 Early motorists posed by a sign written in four languages warning of winding roads ahead, Snake Road, Tanjung Malim, 1932 (ANM)

2 A car being ferried across the river, Bagan Serai, 1920s (ANM)

3 Mahd Aroop bin Abdul Rani, mining manager, Bidor, Perak, c. 1935

4 The Chevrolet car that created a local record, photographed for the *Malayan Saturday Post*, 12 June 1926 (ANM)

5 Old and new buses: when the 9-seater (left) was replaced, 1936–38 (ANM)

6 A 9-seater used for public transport, 1936–38 (ANM)

7 Muhammad Haniff, chief gardener of Penang's Waterfall Gardens, with his motorcycle, 1920 (ANM)

8 Workers pulling a lorry up the bank of the Perak River, 1920s (ANM)

9 Bus travelling from Selangor to Kuala Lipis, 1920s (ANM)



The style of planters' bungalows had been evolving since the first spice farmers set up in Penang in the early 19th century. Malay design features such as thatched roofs and houses set high on stilts were amalgamated with European and Anglo-Indian ideas, and by the 20th century a Malayan style had emerged.

Photographs of bungalows such as that of the Residency (2) in Kota Bharu usually only showed the exterior. However, a unique group of photographs by an unknown photographer has recorded both the exterior and the interior of an estate manager's bungalow in Tanjung Malim, Perak, in the 1930s. Large open verandas surround the first floor where chick blinds, painted in black and white stripes, are lowered in the heat of the day (1). The living room is open and airy, with cane lounges and *kerusi malas* (easy chairs) (5 and 6). In the dining room downstairs, a table is laid with white linen, silverware and glassware in readiness for a meal (7). In the bedroom are a carved dressing table, a small writing desk, and a basin and water jug for ablutions (4).

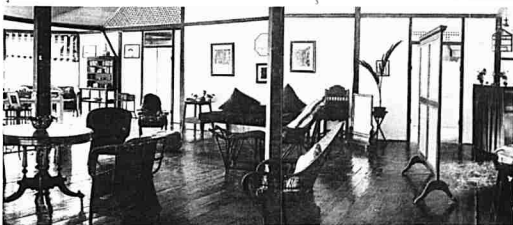
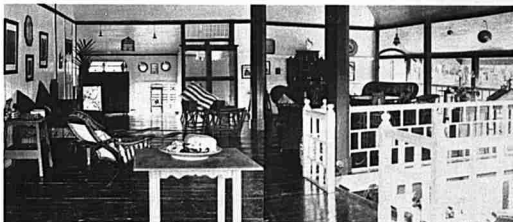
1 Front view of an estate manager's bungalow, Tanjung Malim, Perak, 1930s

2 At the Residency, Kota Bharu, June 1930. Seated in the centre are Sultan Ismail of Kelantan and High Commissioner Sir Cecil Clementi (ANM)

3 General view of the estate manager's bungalow shown in (1)

4-7 Interior views of the same bungalow









Malaya's defence forces in the 1930s were composed of volunteer units in the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States (FMS), Johor, Kedah and Kelantan. Their object was to assist in the defence of Malaya against both external aggression and internal disturbances.

The Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve was founded in 1934 and consisted of European officers and Malay ratings. In 1933, the Experimental Company Malay Regiment was formed and commenced training at Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan. Malay officers were given full training in this regiment. In a historic photograph taken outside the Federal Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur (3), the first four commissioned officers of the Malay Regiment, Raja Lope (receiving the sword in picture), Ismail bin Tahir, Ariffin bin Haji Sulaiman and Ibrahim bin Sidek received their swords as 2nd Lieutenants from the High Commissioner Sir Shenton Thomas. (Tragically, both Ariffin and Ibrahim were killed by the Japanese at the fall of Singapore in February 1942.)

As the threat of war again loomed at the end of the 1930s, more volunteers were sought and training intensified. Naval recruits learnt code flags and trained as telegraphists before World War II. As trouble loomed, new reinforcements were brought in.

- 1 Army transport drivers training before World War II, c. 1940 (ANM)
- 2 New British contingent arriving in Malaya before World War II (ANM)
- 3 The first officers of the Malay Regiment receiving their swords before the opening of the Federal Council Meeting on 4 November 1936 (ANM)
- 4 The Australian Imperial Force (AIF) passing a bullock cart, Malaya, c. 1940 (NSTP)
- 5 The Negeri Sembilan Volunteer Regiment Band, Seremban, 1936 (ANM)
- 6 Naval recruits training as telegraphists before World War II, c. 1940 (ANM)
- 7 Lieutenant Ariffin of the Malay Regiment addressing a crowd at Kuala Kemaman, Terengganu, 1937 (ANM)
- 8 Naval recruits learning to use code flags before World War II, c. 1940 (ANM)





On 8 December 1941, Japanese troops came ashore on a beach outside Kota Bharu, Kelantan, and in spite of all predictions that the British might prevail, the entire Malay Peninsula and even Singapore, the impregnable fortress, was in their hands 70 days later. It was a combination of errors on the part of the British, but most telling was their lack of air support which might have changed the balance. How easily the Japanese conquered the Peninsula is shown by the blurred photograph (12) of the Japanese Army cycling through a town.

Keen to win over local support, especially for their ideas of a Co-prosperity Sphere, and an Asia free of the European powers, the Japanese generally treated the Malays and Indians leniently compared to the Chinese, who were discriminated against because of Japan's invasion of China. Food shortages were rampant; there was high unemployment as well as high inflation.

However, the Japanese Occupation encouraged the Malays to struggle for liberation, and towards the end of the war the British authorities were hinting at granting Malaya independence. Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, the man who would later be at the forefront of the struggle for independence and become the first Prime Minister of independent Malaya, is shown in a rare photograph (7) from the Occupation years. Despite the trying times, the then District Officer lent his support to the local football teams competing in a District Championship held in Kulim.

At the beginning of the Occupation, the Malay rulers did not enjoy the same privileges as they did under the British. However, these were restored to them by 1943.

The Japanese Occupation ended after the atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 1945. However before the Allies recaptured Malaya, bombs were dropped, causing some damage in major towns. Buildings which were destroyed included the Selangor Museum, which was hit by a bomb from a B29 plane on 10 March 1945.



1 Japanese soldiers attacking Penang, December 1941 (ANM)

2 The Japanese Army cycling into Malaya, 8 December 1941 (ANM)

3 The Japanese Governor inspecting an honour guard of the army at the Istana, Klang, 1942 (ANM)

4 The Japanese Army with Sultan Badlishah of Kedah on the steps of the Balai Besar, the royal ceremonial hall in Alor Star, 1941-45 (ANM)

5 The east wing of the Selangor Museum after it was bombed by the Allies while liberating Malaya, 1945 (ANM)

6 Sultan Musa Ghafuruddin Rajar Shah of Selangor and his family with the Japanese Army, 1942-45 (ANM)

7 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra (seated fourth from left) with the football teams during the District Championship in Kulim, c. 1943 (ANM)







The war ended when Allied forces landed in Malaya in September 1945 and established the British Military Administration. The people of Malaya and Borneo welcomed them, hopeful for an end to the hardships they had endured under the Japanese. But it was a changed world that the British inherited as the Malays began to push for independence.

The end of the Japanese Occupation on 8 September 1945 was recorded by Lee & Sons, a photographic studio located at the corner of High Street and Foch Avenue in Kuala Lumpur. The Army jeep in Kuala Lumpur was photographed arriving 'out of the blue' as the vanguard of the liberating troops (1). In the background are grass-covered air raid shelters. A Victory Parade was held on 13 September 1945 in Kuala Lumpur, where 5,000 people witnessed Lord Mountbatten's salute as tanks and troops filed past (2). There were Victory Parades held in Johor Bahru, and at Batu Pahat, Johor, where Dato Onn Ja'afar took the salute along with military personnel (9).

The official Japanese surrender took place at the end of 1945 at the old Kuala Lumpur airport (Sungei Besi). On 22 February 1946, General Itagaki and his staff surrendered their swords at a ceremony at the Victoria Institution headquarters of the Malaya Command in Kuala Lumpur (5).

- 1 The first Army jeep seen in Kuala Lumpur after liberation, 1945 (ANM)
- 2 Victory Parade in Kuala Lumpur, 13 September 1945 (ANM)
- 3 Gurkhas searching a Japanese army officer prior to the surrender ceremony, 1945 (ANM)
- 4 Gurkhas with bayonets mustering the Japanese into groups as they surrendered their weapons, end 1945–early 1946 (ANM)
- 5 The Japanese commander handing over his sword at the surrender ceremony, 22 February 1946 (ANM)
- 6 The Royal Air Force landing on Labuan Island, c. 1945 (NSTP)
- 7 King George VI (second from left) with Queen Elizabeth (later known as the Queen Mother) and Princess (now Queen) Elizabeth II inspecting the Malay Regiment during the Victory Parade in London, 6 June 1946 (ANM)
- 8 The first Royal Air Force personnel to land at Kudat, Sabah, 1946 (NSTP)
- 9 Victory Parade at Batu Pahat, Johor, 1945 (NSTP)

行遊示威共反
ANTI-COMMUNIST PROCESSION



ROAD TO NATIONHOOD

1946–1969

There is euphoria and ecstasy, heartbreak and humiliation in the compelling chapter of Malaysia's history which runs from the mid-1940s to the end of the 1960s.

The Japanese Occupation had been a difficult time for Malaysians, and the post-war era ushered in a flurry of royal celebrations as well as, post Independence in 1957, a full calendar of events for the King (Yang di-Pertuan Agong), who served on a five-year rotation basis. Installations of Sultans which were postponed due to the war were enacted with as much pomp and pageantry as before.

Five centuries after the Portuguese first seized Melaka, signalling the start of European colonisation, Malaya finally obtained Independence in 1957. It was a heady time for Malaya, renamed Malaysia when Sarawak, North Borneo and Singapore joined the new Federation in 1963. The new nation was thrust into the international arena. It was a time of spiritual and tangible nation building. The colonial years had irretrievably changed the ethnic balance, causing communal problems that resulted in the twelve-year long communist insurrection known as The Emergency, and ultimately more troubles that precipitated the calamitous riots in May 1969, which forced the government to reassess economic policy and introduce several much-needed changes.

Many historic events, with all the major players, are brought to life in the collection of photographs here. The photographs are mostly press photographs that were originally featured in newspapers such as *The Malay Mail* and *The Straits Times*, although some were taken by photographers from independent photographic studios such as Lee & Sons of Kuala Lumpur, who freelanced for the newspapers, social-documentary photographers such as Sarawak-born K.F. Wong, as well as government agencies such as the Department of Information.

In both the photographic and the historical records of Malaysia, one man can be said to personify the era best—Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra. This Cambridge-educated lawyer and son of Sultan Abdul Hamid Halimshah of Kedah championed Independence and was also the nation's first prime minister. He is pictured in numerous photographs, a few of which have become legendary, such as those which show him rallying support for

Independence atop of his convertible hung with *Merdeka* banners, meeting with the notorious guerrilla leader Chin Peng, and leading the thunderous cry of '*merdeka*' at the Independence celebrations.

Even before the end of the Japanese Occupation, the colonial administration had already been making plans to merge the Federated Malay States (FMS), Unfederated Malay States (UMS), Penang and Melaka into an independent Malayan Union. Singapore remained a British colony because of its strategic value as a base and its cherished free port status. There had been earlier plans to include Sarawak and North Borneo, but they were finally omitted because of the difficulty of formulating an arrangement. In July 1946, Sarawak and North Borneo became crown colonies, because Rajah Vyner Brooke and the British North Borneo Company could no longer afford the cost of running them. North Borneo raised no objections to the transfer but there was much opposition to it in Sarawak, mounted by some members of the Brooke dynasty and many Malays, which resulted in the assassination of the Governor Duncan Stewart in December 1949.

The Malay rulers (of both the FMS and UMS) were believed to have been intimidated into signing the new treaty for the Malayan Union as their role during the Occupation made them vulnerable to pressure. However, when the plan for the merger was revealed



ABOVE: Dato Onn Ja'afar, Chief Minister of Johor, addressing the crowd from the balcony of the Balai Besar in Alor Star, Kedah, 1947 (ANMO)

BELOW: P.M.A. An anti-communist rally at Banting, Selangor, 1957 (ANMO)



The signing of the Malayan Union agreement at King's House, Kuala Lumpur which then became residence to the Union's first Governor, Sir Edward Gent, 1946

in a White Paper in January 1946, giving sovereignty to the British Crown, and equal rights and citizenship on the basis of local birth or ten years' residence, the British were stunned by the strength of Malay opposition. Even arch pillars of the empire such as Sirs Frank Swettenham and Cecil Clementi joined the opposition, which included the Sultans. It was in May 1946 when a new political force, the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), was created that ultimately led to the revocation of the Union plan and the creation of the Federation of Malaya in February 1948. The Federation returned sovereignty to the Sultans, enforced more restrictive citizenship rules and gave special privileges to the Malays.

Many Chinese, especially those who had carried on a guerrilla war against the Japanese during the Occupation, felt betrayed by

the British and joined the Malayan Communist Party (MCP). At first they waged an open struggle mainly through the unions, but when party policy changed 'to the road of violent action', many Europeans on estates and mines were attacked and killed. A State of Emergency was declared in mid-1948. Using the dense rainforest as their base and Chinese rural squatters to supply provisions, the communists wrought havoc until the death of the High Commissioner Sir Henry Gurney, which prompted harsh measures that included the resettlement of hundreds of thousands of rural Chinese in New Villages. This ultimately led to the communists' defeat. Furthermore, they lost whatever political clout they had when the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA) joined forces with UMNO to create the Alliance in 1952.

Compelling images survive from the Emergency. In Kelantan, sarong-clad women trained to shoot in defence of their paddy fields while armed soldiers guarded tea pickers in the European tea estates in the Cameron Highlands. Anti-communist rallies and demonstrations were held in major towns nationwide. In 1955, the communist leaders agreed to meet with Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra and a government delegation in the small town of Baling in Kedah. Unfortunately the talks failed—although many believed the communists were beaten when the British agreed to Independence.

That historic moment on 31 August 1957 is immortalised in images of the largest-ever Alliance procession in Kuala Lumpur and the jubilant crowds celebrating Malaya's freedom. World leaders and dignitaries came to pay their respects to the new nation, the guest list reading like a 'who's who' of the 1950s.

Rapid development followed Independence, particularly in Kuala Lumpur where high-rise buildings began to change the skyline, and new planned townships like Petaling Jaya revolutionised the way Malaysians lived. High-rise living was an effective solution as an increasing number of Malaysians moved from the rural areas to the city. The nation's infrastructure was transformed with the building of schools, hospitals, an international airport at Kuala Lumpur, as well as highways, dams and power stations. The University of Malaya, the first in Malaya, was established in 1962. A new generation of modern Malaysians emerged. Freedom of expression was very much alive in the early days, with students marching against communal antagonism.

In 1963, following the completion of successful talks in London, Sarawak, Sabah (formerly North Borneo; it had reverted to its original pre-colonial name), and Singapore joined Malaya to create Malaysia. There were objections to this merger, however,



Posters and banners put up by workers of two Indian printing firms in Ipoh, 1957 (NSTP)

from Indonesia and the Philippines, both severing diplomatic ties. Indonesia also launched *Konfrontasi* (1963–66) with attacks along the Sarawak–Sabah border and isolated incidents on the Peninsula. Nationalistic feelings were stirred, and many young Malaysians registered for National Service to defend their nation.

Ironically, however, it was not outside pressures but communal problems that created the biggest difficulty for the new nation. Political differences arose between Singapore's People's Action Party (PAP) and Malaya's UMNO, which championed the interests of the Chinese and Malays respectively. With the growing threat of communal violence and political battles becoming more heated, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra enforced Singapore's secession from the Federation of Malaysia in 1965.

At the formation of Malaysia in 1963, the population stood at almost 10.5 million, with Malays forming 47 per cent, Chinese 34 per cent, Indians 9 per cent, and Sabah and Sarawak's indigenous people at around 8 per cent. Maintaining peace in such a plural society was vitally important, and the government worked hard in this respect. Leaders and ministers were highly visible, opening mosques, sending off pilgrims to Mecca, attending Indian and Chinese festivals, and embarking on solidarity campaigns such as the National Language Week. But the nation's unity would depend on economic as well as social reconstruction.

Rural development schemes such as the Federal Land Development Authority (FELDA) made huge strides in easing rural poverty. From 1956, enormous tracts of land were opened up and by 1973 about 173,000 landless people had been resettled. The families were provided with modest accommodation and a small plot of land, and the development of kampong industries



Kelantanese eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Tuanku Syed Putra of Perlis, at the border after his five-day visit to Terengganu, early 1960s (NSTP)



1281 A communist terrorist surrendering, c. 1955 (ANM)



1282 A Police Aboriginal Guard (PAG) and his wife at a jungle fort, c. 1954

was greatly encouraged. Co-operative shops were set up to provide settlers with basic daily necessities as well.

But throughout the era there was much labour unrest. Strikers—from coal miners to pineapple factory workers—objected to unfair trade practices and wrongful dismissal. By the end of the 1960s, almost half of Peninsular Malaysian households were living under the poverty line, 75 per cent of them being Malays.

The Chinese, who felt their culture was being submerged, showed their dissatisfaction with the Alliance by voting in large numbers for the Opposition in the 1969 election. The Alliance won but, for the first time since Independence, lost its two-thirds majority and thus its power to alter the constitution. The *Persatuan Islam Sa-Tanah Melayu* (later *Parti Islam Sa-Malaysia*) (PAS) gained 12 seats, and the Malaysian People's Movement (*Gerakan*), the Democratic Action Party (DAP) and the People's Progressive Party (PPP) won 25 seats. Racial tension erupted after an opposition victory parade in Kuala Lumpur and the resulting riots of 13 May 1969 marked the blackest day in Malaysia's history. The Constitution was suspended and a national emergency declared. Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak bin Hussein took over as head of the National Operations Council. It is a time that is rarely seen in photographs, but the poignant and disturbing scenes caught by press photographers in the following days are essential viewing for all Malaysians concerned about the historical truth. In the wake of the tragedy, a Department of National Unity was created to plan new social and economic programmes to help restore stability, as well as formulate a national ideology. It was to prove to be the making of a new united Malaysia.



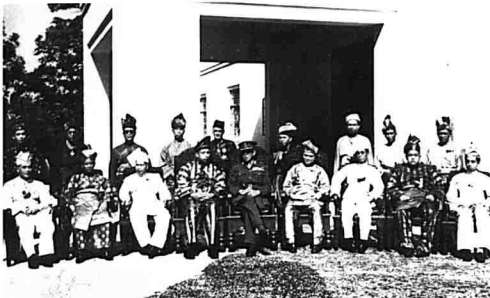
Even before the end of World War II, the British had intentions to grant Malaya independence eventually. This was in line with their status as signatories to the Atlantic Charter, which declared the right of nations to self-determination. Nationalism in Malaya had been growing before the war and especially so during the Japanese Occupation, fueling the agitation for Independence in the immediate post-war years.

In 1946, the Independence movement was given impetus with the formation of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), which spurred the fight against the Malayan Union—note the posters proclaiming UMNO's fight to keep rulers' sovereignty and Malay rights at the Balai Besar (4). It was founded by Dato Onn Ja'far, who led the party until 1951. UMNO's success was demonstrated when the Malayan Union was revoked and the Federation of Malaya created on 1 February 1948.

The first Conference of Rulers of the Federation was held later that month (2). The rulers and representatives who attended were (seated from left to right) Sultan Ibrahim of Kelantan, Sultan Badlishah of Kedah, Sultan Hishamuddin of Selangor, Sultan Abu Bakar of Pahang, Sultan Ibrahim of Johor, Yam Tuan Abdul Rahman of Negeri Sembilan, Sultan Abdul Aziz of Perak, Raja Syed Putra of Perlis and Sultan Ismail of Terengganu.

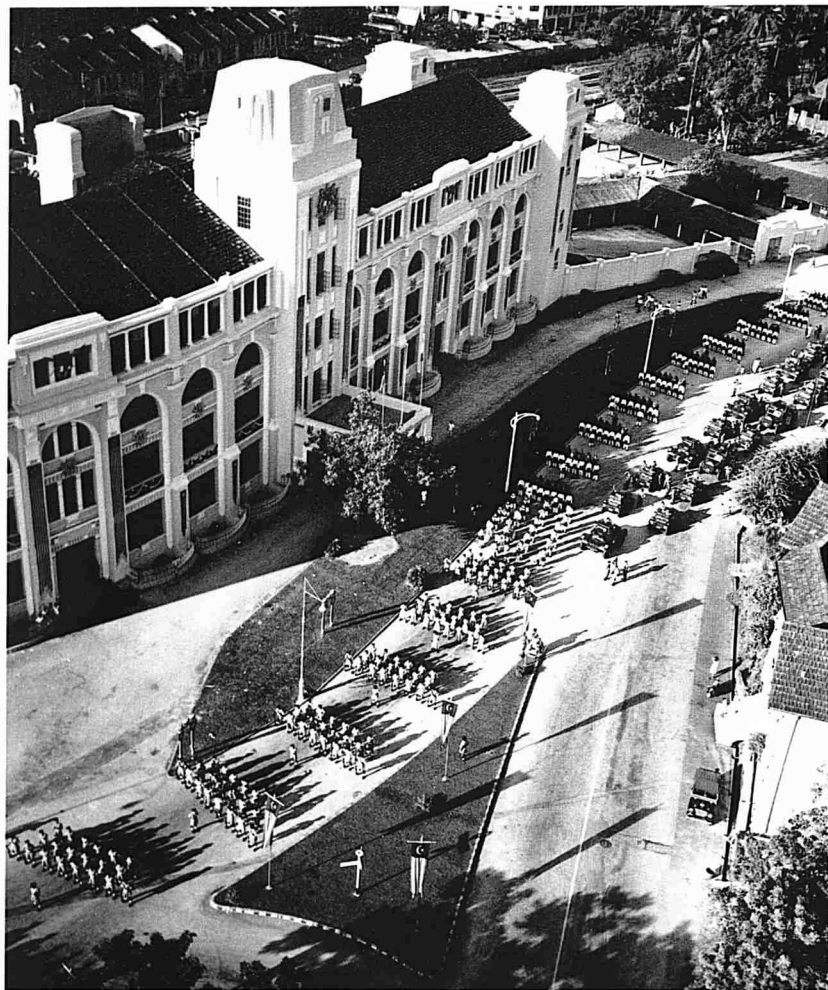
In 1954 the fight for Independence gained further momentum when the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA) joined the Alliance. That year, a delegation met with Sultan Ibrahim of Johor (6) in a historic visit to present a petition on their stand against the White Paper on federal elections and constitutional reform. It was led by UMNO's leader Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra (second from right) and MCA leader Dato Tan Cheng Lock (second from left).

At the 1955 Federal elections, the Alliance took every seat bar one which was won by Persatuan Islam Sa-Tanah Melayu (PAS), a Malay opposition party championing Islam.



- 1 Women at an election campaign, Terengganu, 1955 (ANM)
- 2 The first Rulers' Conference of the Federation, 15 February 1948 (ANM)
- 3 The Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, arriving to address a rally of Indians at the Selangor Race Course in Jalan Ampang, Kuala Lumpur, 22 March 1946 (ANM)
- 4 Dato Onn Ja'far (standing at the centre) at the Balai Besar during the UMNO General Assembly in Alor Star, Kedah, 1947 (ANM)
- 5 Tally room of the election centre for the 1955 elections (ANM)
- 6 UMNO-MCA Alliance delegation after meeting the Sultan of Johor (standing at microphone), 1954 (ANM)
- 7 First State Council Meeting, Selangor, 2 February 1948 (ANM)
- 8 A multi-ethnic march during the merger of MCA and UMNO, Kuala Lumpur, 7 July 1954 (ANM)







Independence rallies and processions gained momentum throughout the 1950s, culminating in 1956 when 10,000 supporters took part in the largest-ever Alliance Amnesty procession led by the Federation Chief Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra (2). After a two-year preparation, the Independence Constitution, which provided for a single nationality, a guarantee of Malay privileges, a new Paramount Ruler or King, an elected House of Representatives and an appointed Senate, was ratified by the Legislative Council on 13 August 1957.

On 31 August 1957, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, the first Prime Minister of the newly created Federation of Malaysia, read aloud the Proclamation of Independence to an expectant crowd at the newly built Merdeka Stadium. With his arm upraised (2 on page 227), he gave the now famous shout of 'merdeka' (independence), and the crowd thundered 'merdeka' in response. Before press photographers and a throng of emotional spectators, the British Union Jack was lowered and the Malaysian flag was raised (4 on page 227).

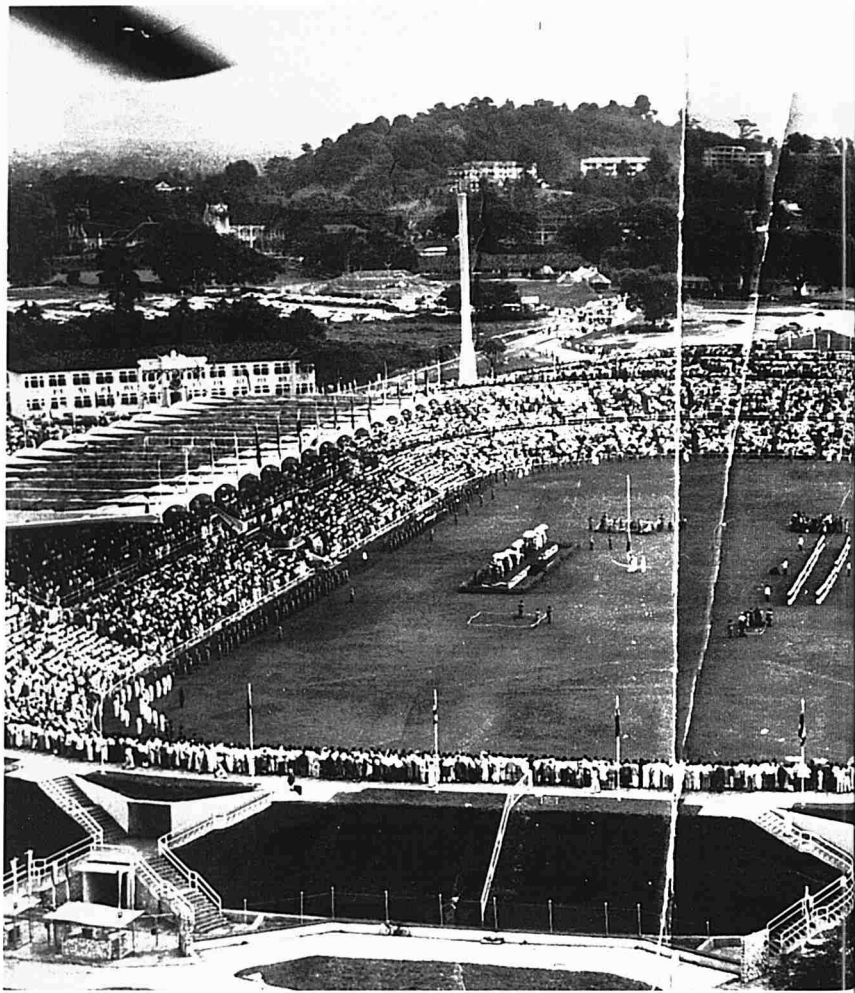
The next day, a procession through Kuala Lumpur was held to celebrate the achievement of Independence and to honour the country's new King, Tuanku Abdul Rahman of Negeri Sembilan.

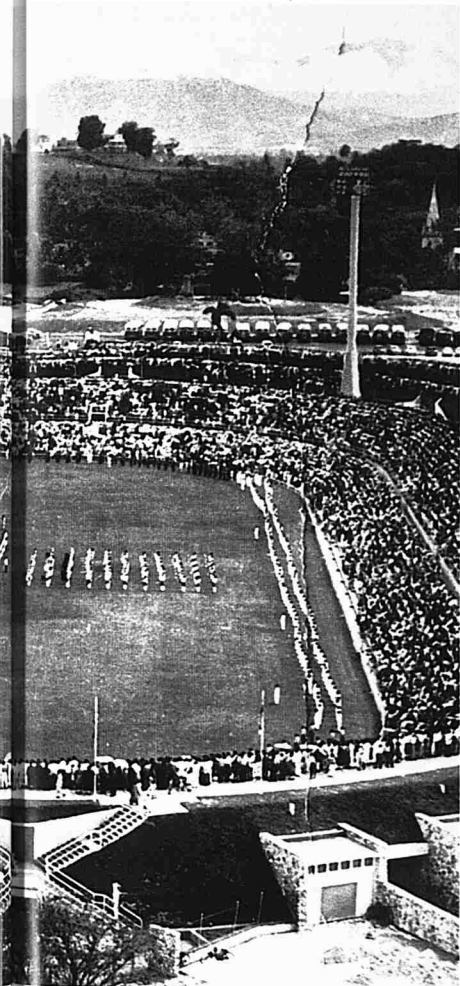


- 1 Aerial view of the procession celebrating the granting of Independence as it passes the Sultanan Building, Kuala Lumpur, 1 September 1957 (ANM)
- 2 The largest-ever Alliance Amnesty procession passing the Municipal Building in front of the Padang, 1956 (NSTP)
- 3 Tunku Abdul Rahman in his convertible emblazoned with a 'merdeka' sign, 20 February 1956 (NSTP)
- 4 A jubilant Tunku Abdul Rahman with the Secretariat Building behind decorated with lights spelling out 'merdeka', 1 September 1957 (NSTP)

FOLLOWING PAGES

- 1 Aerial view of Merdeka celebrations, Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur, 1957 (NSTP)
- 2 Merdeka 'shouts the Prime Minister after reading the Proclamation of Independence, 31 August 1957 (ANM)
- 3 Dignitaries outside Carcosa Seri Negara after the signing of the Malaya Agreement and the Federal Constitution, 1957
- 4 Lowering of the British flag and raising of the Malaysian flag, 31 August 1957 (NSTP)







Under Chin Peng, its new leader, the Malayan Communist Party (MCP) abandoned its non-violence policy and took up armed insurrection, resulting in the murder of Europeans on estates and mines. A State of Emergency was declared in June 1948. By 1950, the communist forces were staging dozens of attacks each week. Lieutenant-General Sir Harold Briggs, who headed operations, created 500 New Villages to resettle the Chinese squatters who had been the main source of information, food and recruits for the communists. High Commissioner Sir Henry Gurney introduced military-type security and conscription to fight the insurgency. But in 1951 he was murdered and was replaced by Sir Gerald Temple.

Meanwhile the attacks continued. Train derailments prompted the importation of special armoured railway trolleys to precede the mail trains (8). Organised groups such as the Women Home Guards from Kelantan (6) were formed to train in defence. Security was tightened, especially on European-run estates such as the tea gardens of the Cameron Highlands where pickers were guarded by the Malay Special Police Force (3). Searches became a regular part of bus travel and special booths where women could be searched in private were set up by the roadside (4).

Propaganda was also vital. Radio Malaya ran a special weekly series called 'My Job and the Emergency' on Saturday evenings (1) and loud-hailers mounted on armed vehicles (7) were used by Information Services personnel to persuade the communists to surrender. Anti-communist rallies were staged across the country, and areas that were considered free of insurgents were designated 'White Areas' (2) and curfews and food restrictions were dropped.

In mid-1954, the Orang Asli were back on the government's side, causing a further blow to the communists who had moved deeper into the jungle. Finally, on 29 July 1960, Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra signed the repeal of the Emergency regulations (9). After a 12-year struggle it was officially over.



1 A Malayan Railway Guard broadcasting on 'My Job and the Emergency', 1950s (NSTP)

2 Sultan Badlishah of Kedah looking at a pyramid proclaiming a 'white area' in Alor Star, Kedah, 20 February 1954 (ANM)

3 Guarding Malayan tea plantations, c. 1955 (NSTP)

4 A search booth (right) for women, late 1950s (ANM)

5 Kampar railway station burnt by terrorists, 1952 (NSTP)

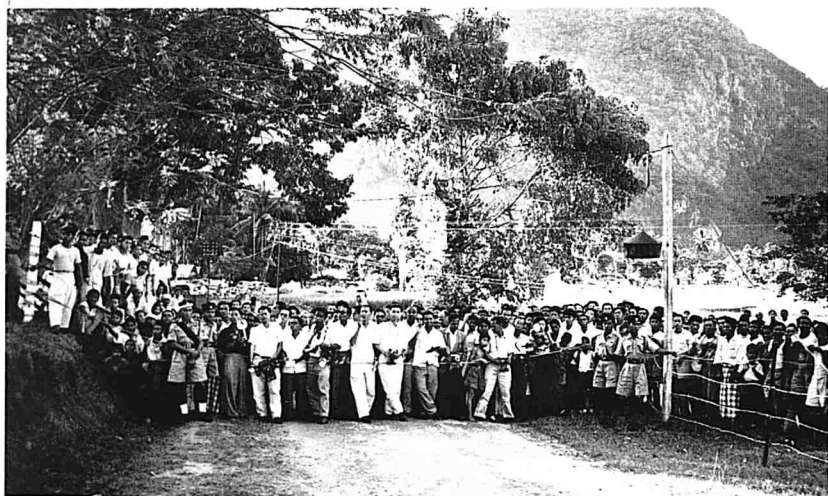
6 Women Home Guards at a firearms training session, 1968 (ANM)

7 A 'Magnavox' loud-hailer mounted on an armoured vehicle, 1960 (ANM)

8 Special armoured trolleys at Port Swettenham (Port Klang), 1950s (NSTP)

9 Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra signing the repeal of the Emergency regulations, 1960 (NSTP)







In 1955, numerous victories by the security forces and growing success in psychological warfare convinced the government that the communist insurgents were losing the struggle. A delegation was formed to meet with the guerrilla leaders in the hope of reaching a political settlement before the pending federal elections.

The communist delegation was led by the charismatic Chin Peng, whose bravery against the Japanese during his time in the Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army (MPAJA) had won him the Order of the British Empire. He was hopeful that the talks with the government would result in the legalisation of his party, so that they could participate in the election.

Baling, Kedah, was the site chosen for the talks between the Malayan Communist Party (MCP) and the Alliance, as the communist base was deep in the virgin rainforests of the mountainous border region between Thailand and Malaysia at that time. The main street, still recognisable today, was lined with Chinese shophouses that displayed a banner which read 'All peoples of Malaysia wish the talks will be a complete success' (1).

On 28 December 1955, Chin Peng and two of his comrades, Chen Tian and Rashid Mahideen, emerged from the jungle for the first time since declaring war in 1948. They were escorted in Security Force vehicles to the meeting site, dubbed 'the Protected Place', where a crowd of curious onlookers had gathered (2) to see the legendary communist leader. Meanwhile the Alliance delegation, comprising Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, leader of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), David Marshall, Chief Minister of Singapore and Dato Tan Cheng Lock, leader of the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA) waited at the District Officer's residence (4) and held a press photographers' session before the event (3).

The talks were unsuccessful, however, as Chin Peng's proposal to lay down arms in return for political recognition was not accepted by the government delegation, who insisted that he disband the MCP. As this was tantamount to surrender, Chin Peng returned to the jungle to continue the armed struggle; he later went into exile in Beijing and now resides in Thailand.

The Emergency officially ended on 1 August 1960, after the loss of 11,000 lives. Sporadic engagements still occurred, however, and it was only in 1989 that the MCP and the Malaysian and Thai governments signed a peace pact. After 41 years, the armed struggle was finally over.



1 Baling Town with peace banner, 1955 (ANM)

2 Crowd awaiting the arrival of Chin Peng (ANM)

3 Chen Tian, Chin Peng and Rashid Mahideen leaving the meeting site with the conducting officer, J.L.H. Davis (ANM)

4 The Alliance delegation in the District Officer's residence (ANM)

5 The Alliance delegation at a press conference before the meeting (ANM)

6 J.L.H. Davis accompanying Chin Peng's party to the talks (ANM)

During the Emergency, towns and villages which were in close proximity to some of the worst 'Black Areas'—regions under communist control—were vacated. It was only when the main communist army, the Malayan Races Liberation Army (MRLA), disbanded in 1958 and the government considered the war practically won that some of the former ghost towns were once again opened and their residents allowed to return. In some cases, the towns and villages had been vacated almost a decade earlier, so for many of the children who accompanied their parents it was their first visit as they had been born elsewhere.

Photographs taken by the *Straits Times* between November 1958 and January 1959 recorded the return of the residents to some of these towns. In the once notorious 'black area' of Jenderam, Selangor, the only building left standing in the Kampong Hanitu (ghost town) was the mosque, which was cleaned by former residents upon their return. Elsewhere, families posed for photographs on the steps of their houses, while men gathered at the local coffee shop to catch up after years of absence.

In Tras, Pahang, Chinese families returned to their ghost town just in time to celebrate Chinese New Year, their first since the Emergency began. Young children paraded down the main street in high spirits, and traditional red packets known as *ang pow* were given out once more.



1 Celebrating Chinese New Year, Tras, Pahang, 18 February 1958 (NSTP)

2 Residents cleaning the grounds of the old mosque in Jenderam, Selangor, 9 November 1958 (NSTP)

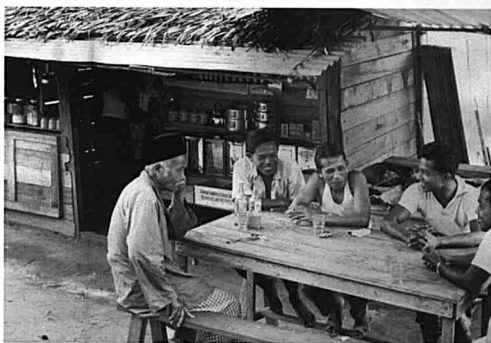
3 A family returns home to Jenderam, Selangor, 19 January 1959 (NSTP)

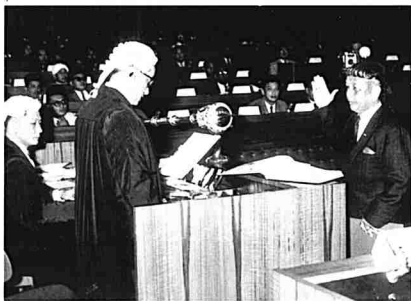
4 Children celebrating their return home, Tras, Pahang, 1958 (NSTP)

5 A grandmother giving out *ang pow* during Chinese New Year, Tras, Pahang, 1958 (NSTP)

6 Catching up at the coffee shop, Jenderam, Selangor, 19 January 1959 (NSTP)









In 1961, when Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra proposed the idea of a federation comprising Malaya, Sarawak, North Borneo, Brunei and Singapore, many political pundits were surprised by the inclusion of Singapore because of its predominantly Chinese population. Even though Singapore had been self-governing since 1958, matters of internal security and defence were still maintained by the British, who were only due to relinquish control in 1963. It was expected that Singapore would seek full independence then, and the Malayan government was concerned with the possibility that the communists might take control of Singapore. Thus Singapore's inclusion in Malaysia was seen to be preferable even though many Malaysians and Singaporeans had reservations about the merger.

Eventually, Lee Kuan Yew, leader of the People's Action Party (PAP), and Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra reached a consensus, as did North Borneo (now Sabah) and Sarawak, although Brunei declined. On 25 July 1963, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra returned to Kuala Lumpur following the completion of successful talks in London (1). On 16 September 1963, the third Yang di-Pertuan Agong (King), Tuanku Syed Putra of Perlis, read the Royal Address at the Proclamation of Malaysia ceremony at the Merdeka Stadium (8). The Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur (now the Sultan Abdul Samad Building) was decorated for the occasion with the Malaysian flag and the new coat of arms (7).

A new 18-storey Parliament Building (6), built in the modern International Style, was completed for the first session of parliament on 2 November 1963 during which new members of the Dewan Rakyat (House of Representatives) were sworn in (4 and 5). The building was opened by Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, who called it 'the most magnificent building in Kuala Lumpur'.



1 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra being greeted by thousands of supporters upon his return to Kuala Lumpur from London, 25 July 1963 (ANM)

2 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra opening the new Parliament House at the first session of parliament, 2 November 1963 (ANM)

3 Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Kuan Yew, taking the oath at the swearing-in ceremony, 2 November 1963 (ANM)

4 Sabah Chief Minister Tun Fuad Stephens taking his oath of office as part of the first State Cabinet, 16 September 1963

5 Minister of Sarawak Affairs, Temengong Jugah anak Barieng, taking the oath at the swearing-in ceremony, 2 November 1963 (ANM)

6 The Parliament Building in its final phase of construction, 1963 (ANM)

7 The Sultan Abdul Samad Building lit up for the occasion of the formation of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, 30 September 1963 (NSTP)

8 His Majesty Yang di-Pertuan Agong reading the Proclamation of Malaysia, Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur, 16 September 1963 (ANM)

In 1963, Indonesia launched Konfrontasi, a policy of Confrontation in opposition to the creation of Malaysia. Under President Sukarno, Indonesia had been backing rebels in Brunei who were hoping to unite the entire Malay archipelago as one political entity. It claimed that the Bornean peoples had been forced into agreeing to Malaysia, and broke off diplomatic relations, as did the Philippines who considered North Borneo (Sabah) their territory.

There were border skirmishes, violations of air space and terrorist landings in Peninsular Malaysia. The conflict aroused nationalist passions. On 9 December 1963, 163 centres opened for registration of National Service. Registration was open to male Federal Citizens between the ages of 21 and 29 years. Those who could not register showed their support in other ways. Members of the Kaum Ibu of Malaya wrapped 3,500 Hari Raya cakes which were flown to the troops in Sabah and Sarawak.

In 1966 when President Sukarno was ousted, the new military administration made moves to end the conflict. On 11 August that year, Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Tun Abdul Razak, met Indonesian Foreign Minister Dr Adam Malik to sign the Peace Treaty, bringing Konfrontasi to an end.

1. National Service registration, Kuala Lumpur, 1963 (ANM)

2. Tun Abdul Razak (left) with Dr Adam Malik (right) signing the Peace Treaty. Standing between them is Indonesian Army Chief, General Suharto (ANM)

3. Tun Abdul Razak upon his return from Indonesia, 12 August 1966 (ANM)

4-5. Members of the Security Forces in Labu, Jolo, 4 September 1964 (ANM)

6. Members of the women's organisation, Kaum Ibu of Malaya, packing Hari Raya cakes for troops, Kuala Lumpur, 7 February 1964 (ANM)









There was very little building construction in Kuala Lumpur during the Japanese Occupation—photographs of street scenes taken shortly after the end of World War II show little change from those taken in the pre-war decade. This was especially so in Chinatown, where the streets were still lined with hawkers selling black market army rations including tinned food and cigarettes. The Chinese women still wore traditional pantsuits and had their hair in long braids. Art Deco buildings from the 1930s and 40s, including the Odeon Cinema, still lined Batu Road (now Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman).

However, Kuala Lumpur went through great changes between the years 1946 and 1969. The streets were becoming increasingly crowded with traffic. By 1961, new high-rise government housing had sprung up around the capital to house many rural immigrants who had flocked to the city after Independence.

By 1969, the roads were jammed with motor vehicles—it was not uncommon to find Mountbatten Road (now Jalan Tun Perak) packed with Morris Minors and Volkswagens, quintessential vehicles of the 1950s and 60s, during the rush hour. By then, the *becak*, or bicycle trishaw, once a popular means of travel in the city, had long since departed.

- 1 Odeon Cinema (right rear) along Batu Road, 1953 (ANM)
- 2 Chinese hawkers selling tinned food and cigarettes at Petaling Street and Malacca Street, 1945 (ANM)
- 3 An ambulance at the MCA-UMNO merger march, 1954 (ANM)
- 4 Federal Dispensary in High Street, 1956. The Japanese used steel from the ruins of the former dispensary to repair bridges in and around Kuala Lumpur during the Occupation (NSTP)
- 5 Old Market Square (Medan Pasar) decorated for Merdeka Day, 1957 (ANM)
- 6 Fach Avenue (now Jalan Cheng Lock), 1960 (ANM)
- 7 Aerial view of Batu Road, 1961 (NSTP)
- 8 Whitereau Laydlaw Building on the corner of Java Street (now Jalan Tun Perak) and Malay Street decorated for Merdeka Day, 1957 (ANM)

FOLLOWING PAGES

- 1–2 Aerial views of Kuala Lumpur, 1961 and 1964 (NSTP)
- 3 Kuala Lumpur decorated for Malaysia celebrations, 1963
- 4 Trade union members demonstrating in Jalan Raja, 1966 (NSTP)





In contrast to Kuala Lumpur's rapid progress after Independence, other Malaysian towns were relatively unaffected.

Images of Kuching, Sarawak, in the 1950s show a town that had hardly changed from the days of Brooke rule, despite the presence of motor vehicles on its streets. Brooke rule, which ended in 1946, had discouraged large foreign investment or anything that would radically alter the lifestyles of the indigenous people. An aerial view of 1960 shows how contained the town was then compared to the suburban sprawl today. An aerial view of Sandakan (3), shows modern shops and offices which replaced the temporary wooden buildings put up when the town was destroyed by Allied bombs and fire at the end of the war.

In Melaka, (2), the streetscape remained unchanged for decades, except for the presence of modern vehicles. Penang, by comparison, was much more bustling. George Town was given city status on 1 February 1957 when its population reached 235,000. In the early 1960s, rickshaw pullers were replaced by trishaws and electric buses plied the busy streets. The buildings, however, especially the view from the waterfront, were still relatively low rise.

1 Chinatown street scene, Melaka, 1965

2 View of Sandakan from hill behind the main town, 1963 (NSTP)

3 Aerial view of Ipoh town centre, 1962.

4 Fraser's Hill, the post office is on the left, 1948 (ANM)

5 View down Penang Road, George Town, Penang, 1964 (NSTP)

6 Main Bazaar, Kuching's main waterfront thoroughfare, 1953

7 Aerial view of Kota Kinabalu, 1968 (NSTP)

FOLLOWING PAGES

Aerial view of Kuching, Sarawak, 1960 (ANM)

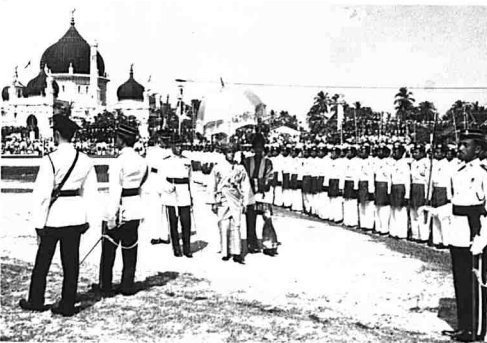












There were many royal events in the post-war era, some of which had been postponed during the Japanese Occupation. New rulers were installed in place of the Japanese-nominated ones. The events were lavish in their celebrations, perhaps reflecting the continuing importance of the rulers that had been guaranteed as part of the new independent nation.

One of the grandest occasions was the installation of Syed Putra Syed Hassan Jamalullail as the Raja of Perlis in 1949. Although he had been rightfully confirmed as the ruler of Perlis in 1945, the official ceremony was only held on 4 December 1949 at the Royal Palace in Arau. His three eldest children, including Syed Sirajuddin, the present King of Malaysia, attended the ceremony. The festivities included a procession of 15 decorated elephants.

Other royal occasions included the 1951 engagement of the second daughter of Sultan Hishamuddin of Selangor, Tengku Barah, to Tengku Mahmud (later Sultan) of Terengganu, and the marriage of the Raja Muda of Kedah, Tunku Abdul Halim, to Tunku Bahiyah, the daughter of the ruler of Negeri Sembilan, in a lavish three-day event in 1956. Three years later, Tunku Abdul Halim Shah was installed as Sultan of Kedah.

1-4 Installation of the Raja of Perlis, Syed Putra ibni Syed Hassan Jamalullail, 4 December 1949. Master of Ceremony, Syed Husain, presenting the Raja of Perlis his State Sword and Kris; the Raja of Perlis' three eldest children, including Syed Sirajuddin (centre); Syed Husain reading the proclamation; and the procession from the Istana to the Balai Rong (audience hall) (ANM)

5 Engagement of the Sultan of Selangor's daughter, 1951 (ANM)

6 The Balai Besar (Royal Audience Hall) in Alor Star, Kedah, 1959 (ANM)

7 Kedah wedding of Tunku Abdul Halim to Tunku Bahiyah, 1956 (ANM)

8-10 Installation of Sultan Abdul Halim Shah of Kedah, 1959. The Sultan inspecting the Malay Regiment on his visit to the mosque; driving through Alor Star; and the coronation procession (ANM)



On 17 August 1953, an ancient ceremony took place in Naning, Melaka. Mohamed Shah bin Mohamed Said was installed as the new Dato Naning, the head chieftain, or *penghulu*, of the district.

Naning had become famous during the early years of British rule when it was the scene of the first uprising against them, from 1830 to 1832. Known as the Naning War, it was fought between the British and Dol Syed, the *penghulu* of the autonomous state, over his refusal to pay taxes. The British emerged victorious, but not without a long and costly contest. Dol Syed's resistance secured him a place as one of Malaysia's nationalist heroes, and the 1953 installation of his descendant continued a tradition that was begun by Naning's first Mirangkabau immigrants in the 15th century.

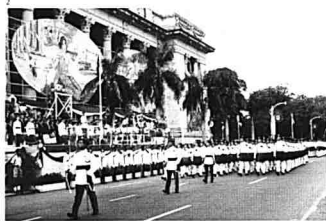
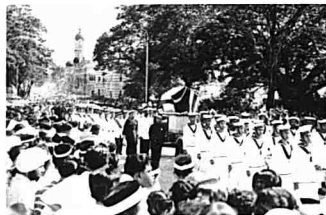
The 1953 installation of the new Dato Naning attracted a large crowd of both kampong folk and townspeople, who lined the hill near the mosque to watch the procession led by three leading chiefs. Near the tomb of Dol Said, the Dato Panglima Besar, head of the Bunga Tanjung Suku (one of four tribes of Naning), prepared an ancient gun for a nine-gun salute to mark the royal occasion.

The festivities also included school students singing songs of loyalty to the new Dato Naning.



- 1 The people of Naning wait in the hundreds to watch the procession (NSTP)
- 2 The Dato Lela Maharaja, pledging his loyalty to the new Dato Naning (seated on raised cushions) (NSTP)
- 3 The Dato Panglima Besar preparing to fire the ancient gun (NSTP)
- 4 Student choir from the local Simpang Ampat Malay School (NSTP)
- 5 Procession to the old stone mosque two-and-a-half miles away. The three chiefs leading the procession are (from left to right) the Dato Panglima Besar, the Dato Insam Perang and the Dato Panglima Bebas (NSTP)







When Malaya attained Independence in 1957, one of the provisions of the Constitution was the creation of the office of Yang di-Pertuan Agong, Paramount Ruler or King, who is one of the State rulers elected by the Conference of Rulers for a five-year period. Thereafter another ruler is chosen. As Head of State, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong acts on the advice of the Prime Minister.

The first King was Tuanku Abdul Rahman, the ruler of Negeri Sembilan, shown here receiving his speech from Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra at the formal opening of Parliament on 12 September 1959 (1). The King's unexpected death the following year was marked by a state funeral on 3 April 1960 that was attended by thousands of mourners.

Sultan Hishamuddin of Selangor became the second King, but he passed away after only five months of service.

The third King, Tuanku Syed Putra, the Raja of Perlis, was the first King of Malaya to complete the five-year reign (1960-65). He was also the last King of Malaya, the first King of Malaysia, and the only King of Singapore in modern times. His consort, Tuanku Budriah, the Raja Permaisuri Agong, was patron of many charities and associations, including the Girl Guides.

The popularity of the Paramount Ruler is evident from photographs taken during Tuanku Syed Putra's official visit to Terengganu and Kelantan in the early 1960s. Crowds lined the riverbank and jammed every available fishing craft as the King arrived at the Kelantan border, and thousands gathered to watch the official party enter Kota Bharu (4).

The fourth King, Sultan Ismail of Terengganu, took over on 21 September 1965 and completed his term in 1970.



- 1 Tuanku Abdul Rahman at the formal opening of Parliament, 1959 (ANM)
- 2 The royal cortege on Victory Avenue (now Jalan Raja) during the state funeral procession of Tuanku Abdul Rahman, 3 April 1960 (ANM)
- 3 Tuanku Syed Putra taking the salute at Singapore's City Hall, 11 November 1963 (ANM)
- 4 Tuanku Syed Putra arriving in Kota Bharu, Kelantan, early 1960s (NSTP)
- 5 Tuanku Syed Putra and his consort Tuanku Budriah on their first official visit to Singapore, 11 November 1963 (ANM)
- 6 Tuanku Abdul Rahman and his consort Tuanku Kuriyah with Sultan Hishamuddin and the Tengku Ampuan of Selangor bidding farewell to President Ngo Dinh Diem of the Republic of Vietnam after his five-day visit to Malaya, February 1960 (ANM)
- 7 Tuanku Syed Putra addressing the congregation after prayers at the Istana grounds, Kuala Lumpur, 23 April 1964 (ANM)
- 8 Tuanku Budriah with delegates during a conference of Girl Guide associations from Malaya, Singapore, Sarawak and Sabah, 1963 (ANM)



The creation of a newly independent Malaya, and of Malaysia six years later, prompted worldwide interest. A number of distinguished world leaders visited the new nation, including the Prime Minister of Australia, R.G. Menzies, who arrived for a three-day official visit in December 1959, the United States Attorney-General, Robert F. Kennedy, acting as President Johnson's special envoy to help resolve the Malaysian-Indonesian dispute (Korntontasi), in 1964, and the Duke of Edinburgh in 1965.

The President of the United States, L.B. Johnson, made an official visit in 1966, he stopped over at the Labu Land Scheme in Negeri Sembilan where he visited the house of a settler. The village was later named Kampong L.B.J. in his honour. The Shah of Iran and his consort, the Shahbanou, arrived for a six-day state visit in 1968. Also in May of that year, Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister of India, arrived for a four-day official visit.



1 Prime Minister of Australia, R.G. Menzies at a blowpipe demonstration, Cameron Highlands, 9 December 1959 (ANM)

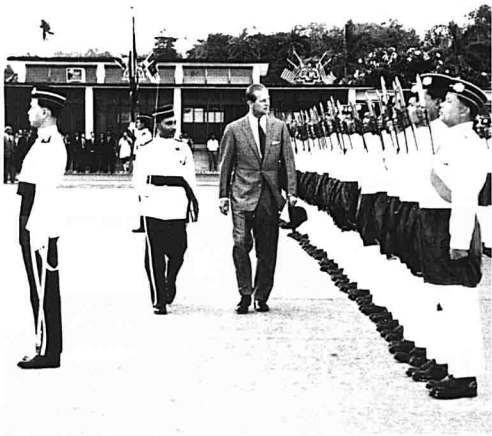
2 The Shah of Iran and his consort arriving at Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur International Airport, 17 January 1968 (ANM)

3 Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi addressing a public rally, 30 May 1968 (ANM)

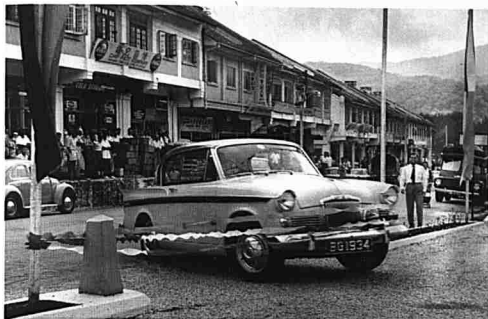
4 Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, inspecting a guard of honour on his visit to Kuala Lumpur, 4 March 1965 (ANM)

5 US President Johnson at the house of a settler, 30 October 1966 (ANM)

6 US Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy with Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman (left) and Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak bin Hussein (right), 1964 (ANM)







There was much to do for the new nation after Independence, and the leaders in the first decades were tireless in their efforts to develop the nation both economically and socially. For although the British government had bequeathed law and order, a good infrastructure and a healthy economy, the policy of directing ethnic groups towards specific economic areas was due for a change.

Press photographs of that time showed government leaders at numerous openings and launches. Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra opened the Malayan Microwave Trunk System on 26 September 1959 by making the first telephone call to the Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Kuan Yew (5). In Penang, new ferries connecting Butterworth and Penang were launched while a new National Monument commemorating those who died fighting the communist insurgents in the Emergency was erected (4).

Ethnic harmony was of prime importance and the leaders participated in many multi-cultural occasions to show their support. In 1966, Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak opened the Sri Maha Mariamman Hindu Temple in Bentong, Pahang. The following year, Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra addressed a crowd at the Hindu festival of Thaipusam.

The leaders also made many rural visits to acquaint themselves better with the general population. Among the activities during such visits were the laying of the foundation stone of a mosque and leading the congregation in prayers.

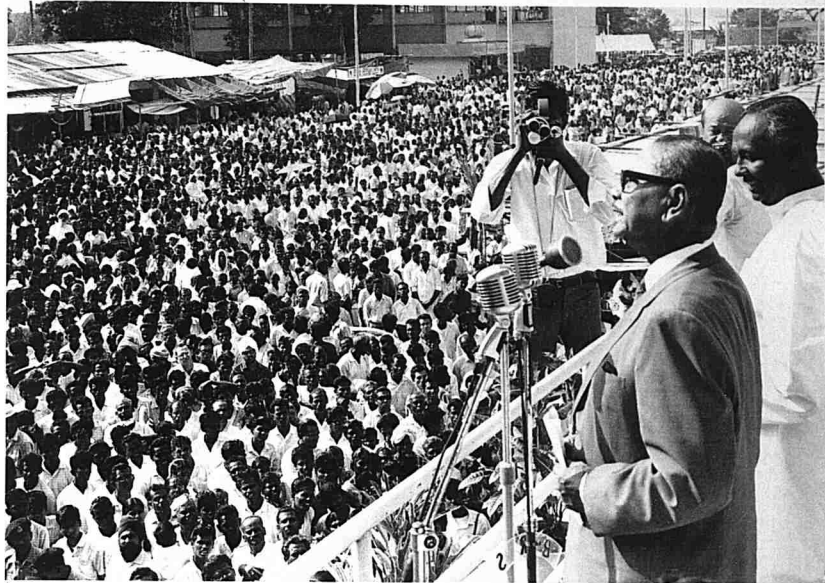


- 1 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra bids farewell to the first batch of pilgrims to Mecca to depart from Port Swettenham, 20 February 1960 (ANM)
- 2 Returning from the Commonwealth Prime Minister's Conference in London, 15 June 1960 (ANM)
- 3 District Officer Ghazali bin Mohamed Nor driving through a paper ribbon to declare a car park open, Cameron Highlands, 18 May 1963 (NSTP)
- 4 Tun Abdul Razak and Felix de Weldon, the sculptor of the National Monument that is being lifted into place, 28 July 1965 (ANM)
- 5 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra making the first telephone call to Lee Kuan Yew on the newly opened Malayan Microwave Trunk System, 1959 (ANM)

FOLLOWING PAGES

- 1 Tun Abdul Razak at Marudi, Sarawak, 14 May 1966 (ANM)
- 2 Tun Abdul Razak (with garland) at the opening of the Sri Maha Mariamman Hindu Temple, Bentong, Pahang, 2 February 1966 (ANM)
- 3 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra addressing devotees at Thaipusam, 1967 (ANM)
- 4 Tun Abdul Razak on his way to address a gathering, Kuala Krau, Pahang, 12 February 1968 (ANM)
- 5 Tun Abdul Razak leading prayers at the laying of a foundation stone for a mosque at Kampong Sayong Tengah, Perak, 15 March 1968 (ANM)
- 6 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra officiating at the filling-up of the Peda Dam, Muda Irrigation Scheme, Kedah, 12 May 1969 (ANM)







Educational policy and language, with Malay cultural traditions at the forefront, were regarded as important tools in forging an integrated and united society. In 1956, the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka (Language and Literature Agency) was established to encourage the use of Malay. Changes in education were introduced gradually to replace English with Malay. To aid in the transition, programmes such as National Language Week were launched. Religious development was also important—Qur'an reading competitions were held in every state.

The governments call for national solidarity during the Confrontation with Indonesia resulted in a good turnout at the 1964 Federal Elections, with the Alliance winning 123 of 139 seats. National pride also resulted in a good response to the issue of National Defence Bonds, with eager buyers lining up at a Kuala Lumpur post office on the first day of issue in 1965. Other programmes to inspire unity included National Solidarity Week.

Floods were a major problem in the 1960s, perhaps exacerbated by the widespread clearing of forests for rural resettlement programmes. Providing aid to flood victims involved Malaysians from all walks of life: the Ministry of Defence and army officers conducted house-to-house collections of clothing donations, which were then packed by students.



1 Queuing up to purchase National Defence Bonds on the first day of issue, Kuala Lumpur, 14 July 1965 (ANM)

2 Pupils of Sekolah Menengah Melayu singing the National Language Week tune at the opening ceremony, Kuala Lumpur, 25 January 1960 (ANM)

3 Voters queue at the polling station, Jenjang New Village, Selangor, for the elections of 1964 (ANM)

4 The Tengku Ampuan of Selangor presenting the trophy to the winner of Selangor's annual Qur'an Reading Competition, 1964 (ANM)

5 Army officers handing out donated clothes to flood victims, 1967 (ANM)

6 Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak inspecting flood damage in Kelantan, 1967 (ANM)

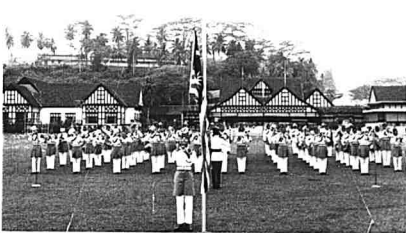
7 Flag-raising ceremony at the Selangor Club Padang during National Solidarity Week, February 1967 (ANM)

8 A full dress rehearsal of the Children and Youth Rally, Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur, 28 August 1967 (ANM)

9 Staff of the Information Ministry preparing the exhibits for National Solidarity Week, October 1965 (ANM)

10 Student volunteers from Bukit Bintang Secondary Girls' School packing clothes for flood victims, 1967 (ANM)









After Independence, the need for new infrastructure, coupled with national pride, resulted in enormous building activity ranging from nationwide projects to planned new towns.

During the war, Kuala Lumpur had expanded with unsightly and unsanitary squatter settlements. So, in 1953, the government decided to develop the new satellite town of Petaling Jaya, which was to use the Western model of street grids and concrete buildings, despite the unsuitability of this type of housing in equatorial climates.

High-rise government flats were also constructed to house the urban residents who were living in squatter settlements. The \$2.5 million Sungai Pan Towers Scheme at Ipoh was one such example. At 15 floors, it was Ipoh's first skyscraper and provided 408 units of low-cost flats. Other residential towers followed, including those in Seremban, which were named the Tun Dr Ismail Mansions in honour of the Minister of the Interior.

Among the buildings constructed in the 1950s–60s were Malaysia's first university, the University of Malaya, which was inspired by the bold, Modernist architecture of Le Corbusier; Parliament House (1963); the new Subang International Airport (1965); and the National Mosque (1965).

Major road building works included the completion of the east–west trunk road between Kuala Lumpur and Kuantan. Bulldozers were used to clear the dense rainforests on the Maran–Belimbing stretch that have all but vanished today. A major blow to the road builders was the extensive flooding during the 1960–61 monsoon, which swept away part of the newly constructed Temerloh Bridge. Other major works included the Klang Gates Dam (1959) and the new Johor Bahru Power Station (1963).

1–3 The Temerloh Bridge before, during and after the major floods of the 1960–61 monsoon (ANM)

4 Klang Gates Dam, officially opened on 3 August 1959 (ANM)

5 Minister of the Interior, Dato Dr Ismail bin Dato Abdul Rahman, laying the foundation stone of the Sungai Pan Towers Scheme, Ipoh, 1963 (ANM)

6 Tun Dr Ismail Mansions, Seremban, 1966 (ANM)

7 Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak inspecting the Songang–Jerantut stretch of the east–west trunk road, 1963 (ANM)

8 Minister of Public Works, Telecommunications and Post, Sardon bin Haji Jubir, and Minister of Education, Mohamed Khir Johari, at the building site of the Engineering Faculty of the University of Malaya, 1958 (NSTP)

9 Aerial view of Petaling Jaya, Selangor, during its construction in 1953 (ANM)

10 The Maran–Belimbing stretch of the east–west trunk road during construction, 1961 (ANM)





Traditionally, Malay farmers would move on to new fields when those they were farming became exhausted, but after land titles were introduced by the British and vacant land became the property of the government, a land shortage developed, especially in the more crowded west coast areas.

The solution came with the setting up of the Federal Land Development Authority (FELDA) in 1956, which resettled hundreds of poor Malay families on newly cleared land. Rubber and oil palm were planted, and housing and community facilities were provided. By the end of the programme in 1989, over 100,000 families had been settled and almost one million hectares of former forest lands developed.

Department of Information photographs from the 1960s show the lifestyle in the early FELDA settlements. Typical rural living conditions of the time were longhouse quarters furnished with wooden benches and woven mats for sleeping. The settlers used kerosene lamps and mosquito nets were essential. After the land was cleared, settlers were allotted four hectares for oil palm or rubber and a small house for with a wooden house. But life was often difficult in the raw new settlements.

Rural co-operatives were set up, such as that at Sungai Tiang, Kedah (7), and mobile shops from the Rural Industrial Development Authority (RIDA) would visit various FELDA settlements to sell cottage-industry products such as batik sarongs, basketry and brass ware, as well as to encourage more kampung folk to set up similar industries.



1 Interior of a settlement longhouse, 1960 (ANM)

2 A typical family at a FELDA settlement—the father tends to the vegetables and fruit grown on their land plot, his wife hangs out the laundry while their children feed the poultry, 1960 (ANM)

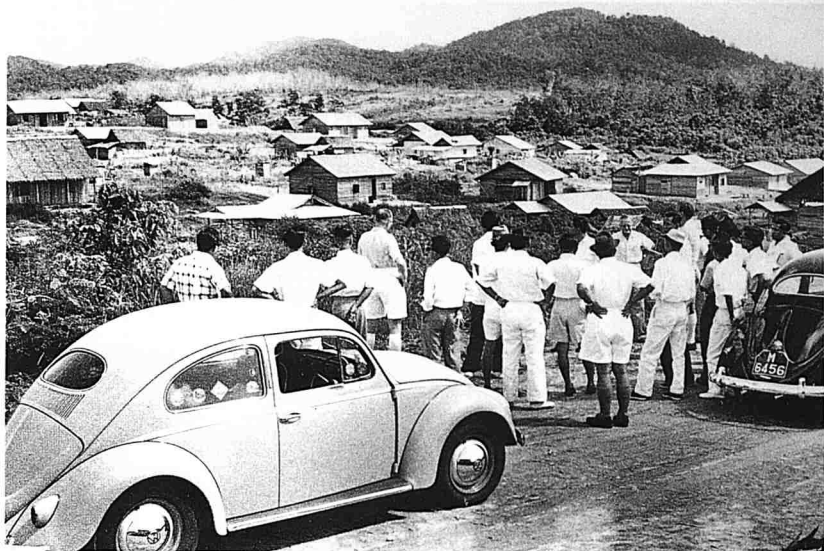
3 A tree trunk hauled by settlers indicates the size of the trees that had to be felled, Kenabes scheme in Jelita district, Negeri Sembilan, 1960 (ANM)

4 Landless families from Penang and Province Wellesley arriving in Kuala Lumpur by train en route to a FELDA settlement, 1963 (ANM)

5 Government officers looking over a FELDA settlement, 1963

6 A young mother washing her children at one of the three RIDA wells installed at Telok Gedong on Pangkor Island, 1960 (ANM)

7 A co-operative shop at the Sungai Tiang Land Development area in Kedah, 1960 (ANM)







12

In the post-Independence years, economic restructuring was a government priority, but there were major disparities in income levels especially between the urban and rural population. The educated minority, particularly the Malays, were in the government service, while the Chinese were employed in commercial houses. However, the vast majority of Malaysians, especially the rural workers, had only a primary school education.

Many Malays worked at traditional farming and fishing occupations, selling their produce at local markets, although rubber was a popular means of making a living for smallholders despite price fluctuations and competition from synthetics. In the 1960s, however, oil palm was already overtaking rubber and many smallholders switched to the new crop. The rural Chinese also followed suit, although many still worked market gardens and planted other crops such as pepper in Sarawak. Some Chinese women still made a living from tin panning in the west coast rivers, despite the drop in demand and production for tin.

Urban life was dominated by the Chinese who worked in every occupation, particularly those in production, transport and sales. In 1969, 47 per cent of Chinese still lived in the rural areas, but the percentage has been dropping since then—by the end of the millennium, 90 per cent lived in urban areas.

The Indians were still mainly employed in the plantation sector, although some were successful traders.

1 Loading tin ingots on to trucks, Kuala Lumpur, 1947 (NSTP)

2 A metalware shop in Kuala Lumpur's Chinatown, c. 1960 (NSTP)

3 A specialist technician repairing a map at the National Archives, Petaling Jaya, 1967 (ANM)

4 Female employees operating account-posting machines at the Post Office Savings Bank's headquarters in Petaling Jaya, 1966 (ANM)

5 Weighing rubber latex at a collection centre, Melaka, 1959 (NSTP)

6 Chinese women tin miners at Ampang, 1959 (NSTP)

7 Off-loading palm fruits at the Teluk Merbau Estate, 1960s (NSTP)

8 A west coast town market, 1960s

9 Chinese workers at the Malayan Rubber Co., Kuala Lumpur, 1951 (NSTP)

10 Kelantanese women pulling in a boat, 1960s

11 Malay women selling their produce in a town market, 1962 (NSTP)

12 Pepper drying on mats in Sarawak, 1954 (NSTP)





In the economic uncertainty of the post-war years, workers sought to better their lot by joining labour unions. By 1947, the communists dominated the Pan-Malayan Federation of Trade Unions (PMFTU), which controlled almost 90 per cent of the unions in Malaya. However, as the workers' demands for higher wages threatened profits, new government measures were introduced which eventually reduced communist influence in the union movement.

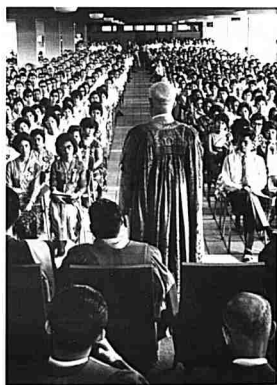
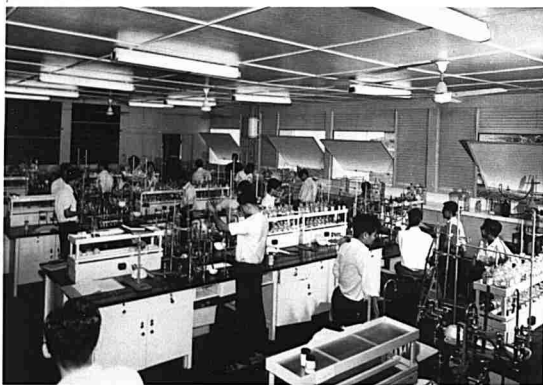
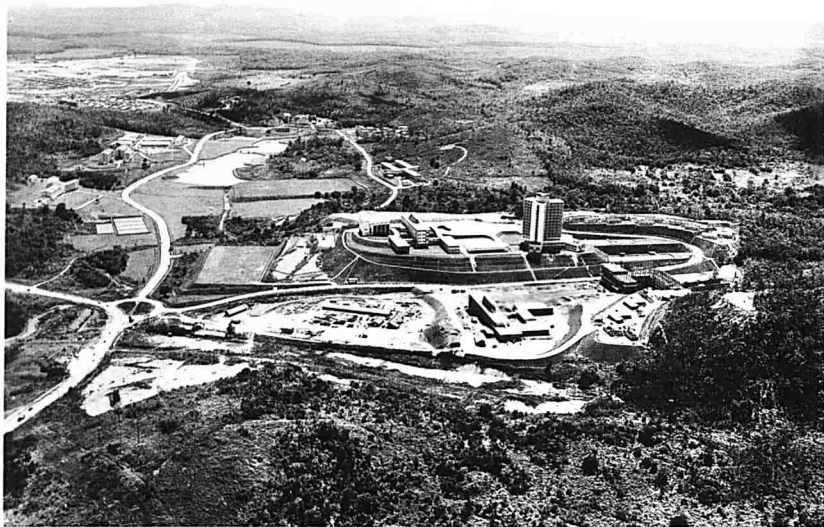
Throughout the 1950s and 60s, workers were inspired by international socialist movements that had radically changed the global political landscape, and felt empowered by their labour unions. Strikes and picketing by dissatisfied workers demanding higher wages, better working conditions and basic human rights were a common occurrence throughout the country. In 1954, long-term Malayan Collieries workers gathered for a public meeting at Batu Arang to protest against the government's decision not to buy coal from Malaya's coal industry. In the 1960s, striking municipal bus drivers in Penang demanded Merdeka for Workers, while women rubber tappers demanded better wages.

The climatic event of the 1960s, however, was not related to workers' rights it was over communal issues. When in the 1969 elections the Alliance lost their two-thirds majority in Parliament, a celebration march through Kuala Lumpur by the Malaysian People's Movement (Gerakan) and the Democratic Action Party (DAP) on 12 May resulted in a counter-rally by supporters of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO). However, the celebration deteriorated into riots on 13 May. The four-day disturbance saw many fatalities and thousands of shops and homes destroyed. The constitution was suspended, a national emergency declared, and the fragility of ethnic unity revealed. Although the riots happened 34 years ago, this is still a relatively closed subject and photographs of the event are rarely seen.



- 1 Townsfolk who were made homeless during the 13 May riots, Kuala Lumpur, 1969 (NSTP)
- 2 Municipal bus drivers on strike, Penang, 1960s (NSTP)
- 3 Families of dismissed strikers from Lee Pinesapple Factory protesting against eviction from company quarters, Johor Bahru, 1957 (NSTP)
- 4 A protest meeting against the Perak state government's decision to give the town over to tin mining, Papan, 23 July 1964 (NSTP)
- 5 A deserted street in Kuala Lumpur after a curfew was imposed during the riots, 15 May 1969
- 6 Hawkers protesting the arrest of fellow hawkers in Kuala Lumpur, 1960s (NSTP)







In 1949, the University of Malaya was formed in Singapore when King Edward VII College of Medicine (1905) and Raffles College (1929) merged. In the 1950s, the university had two campuses—Singapore and Kuala Lumpur—then in 1961, legislation was passed to enable them to become separate national universities. The Kuala Lumpur campus was re-established as University of Malaya on 1 January 1962, and on 16 June, Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra became its first Chancellor. The first Vice-Chancellor was the renowned mathematician, Professor Alexander Oppenheim. The first Malaysian Vice-Chancellor was Professor Ungku Abdul Aziz, who was appointed in 1968.

The first faculties of the University of Malaya were Science, Agriculture, Arts, and Engineering, followed by Medicine (1963), Education (1964), and Economics and Administration (1966).

The Colombo Plan, a funding and scholarship programme which enabled talented students from newly independent Commonwealth countries to study at universities and colleges in the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, contributed greatly to Malayan higher education. The laboratory of the Faculty of Agriculture (funded by New Zealand) was established under the Plan and many of the faculties' first lecturers were former Colombo Plan students who had obtained their degrees in New Zealand.

1 Aerial view of the University of Malaya, 1960s (NSTP)

2 Laboratory in the Faculty of Agriculture, 1966 (NSTP)

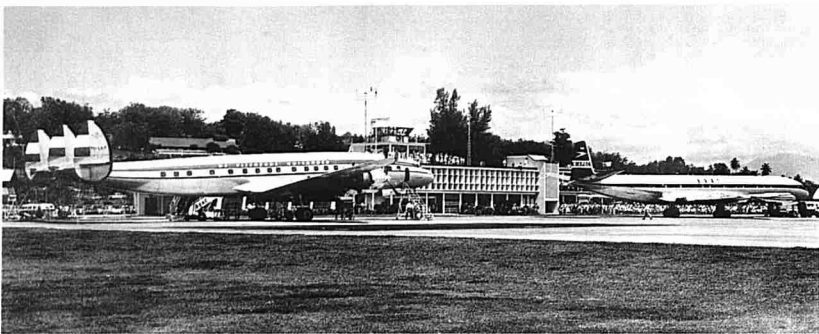
3 Vice-Chancellor Dato Sir A. Oppenheim addressing 657 freshmen at an orientation week ceremony, 19 May 1963 (NSTP)

4 Freshmen in front of the dining hall of the First Residential College (NSTP)
Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, 1964 (NSTP)

6 The University's acting principal Prof. F. Mason saluting the 250 freshmen who had just taken their fraternity vows, 1959 (NSTP)

7 Students marching in protest against communal antagonism on campus, 1967 (NSTP)





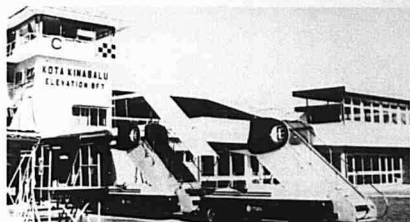
On its maiden flight from Singapore to Kuala Lumpur on 2 April 1947, Malayan Airways Limited carried five passengers in a twin-engine Airspeed Consul. By 1949, with the introduction of three 21-seater DC-3s, domestic and regional flights had expanded to Jakarta, Medan, Saigon, Bangkok, Sabah, Sarawak and Rangoon. There were also airports in several towns, including Melaka, Kota Bharu and Ipoh.

On Independence in 1957, the airline was restructured into a public limited company owned by the Federation of Malaya and Singapore, Borneo Airways, British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) and Qantas. More aircraft acquisitions followed, including a Douglas DC-4 Skymaster and a Lockheed Super Constellation. In 1962, the airlines acquired the Bristol Britannia and a year later, when the airline was renamed Malaysian Airways Limited (MAL), it purchased five De Havilland Comet 4. When Borneo Airways merged with MAL in 1965, the carriers fleet and network expanded, and in 1965 when Singapore separated from Malaysia, the two governments took over the majority control of the airline which was renamed Malaysia-Singapore Airlines (MSA). The airlines operated under this name until the incorporation of Malaysian Airlines System Berhad (MAS) in 1971.

In 1963, pilgrims flew to Mecca for the first time on a chartered KLM Royal Dutch aircraft. There were 43 pilgrims and the travel agents arranged for a Malay-speaking crew and meals that were prepared according to Muslim requirements. In 1965, the Kuala Lumpur airport at Sungei Besi was superseded by the 52-million ringgit Subang International Airport, which boasted the longest runway in Southeast Asia at that time.



- 1 Kuala Lumpur's first international airport at Sungei Besi, 1959 (ANM)
- 2 Pilgrims boarding the plane for Mecca, 1963 (ANM)
- 3 Students of the first air-traffic controllers' course, 1952
- 4 The first airport building in Kota Bharu, 1949 (ANM)
- 5 Kota Kinabalu Airport, 1967
- 6 Ipoh Airport, 1959 (ANM)
- 7 Melaka Airport at Batu Berendam, 1954 (ANM)
- 8 Front view of the terminal building, Kuala Lumpur Airport, 1956 (ANM)
- 9 Penang Airport, 1950s (ANM)
- 10 Sultan Abu Bakar of Pahang at Kuala Lumpur Airport, 1968
- 11 Colombo Plan students leaving for New Zealand, 1968 (ANM)







The entertainment world in the 1950s and 1960s was dominated by one exceptional talent—P. Ramlee, an accomplished actor, director, songwriter, singer and musician, Malaysia's most famous and most popular artiste even today.

Born in Penang in 1929, P. Ramlee got his first big break when a talent scout from Shaw Brothers in Singapore spotted him at a singing contest in 1948. With the offer of a job as a backing singer, he moved to Singapore and changed the face of Malay music and movies. Influenced by Hindustani film music as well as by traditional *keroncong*, P. Ramlee created an entirely new genre of music, composing over 200 songs on the guitar, violin and piano. His compositions were performed in over 70 movies, many of which were directed by him. His first directing effort, *Penarik Becak*, raised Malay movies from amateur to international standard, while the camera techniques he used in his 1956 hit *Semerah Padi* were considered innovative even today.

P. Ramlee's tunes were among the favourites played on Radio Malaya (later renamed Radio Malaysia) which was set up in 1946. Radio Malaya also had a choir and an orchestra which toured the nation in the 1960s. 'Talentime' contests were organised in the 1960s to provide an avenue for young Malaysian talents; in 1966, a teenage band called 'The Beautniks' won the contest, signalling the start of a new era of long-haired rock musicians.

But the most momentous event in the entertainment scene in Malaysia took place in 1963 when Television Malaysia was launched in Kuala Lumpur.

- 1 *Odreon Cinema in Campbell Road, Kuala Lumpur, 1953 (ANM)*
- 2 *Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra at the inauguration of Television Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, 28 December 1963 (ANM)*
- 3 *A programme operator at Radio Malaya, 1961 (ANM)*
- 4 *'The Beautniks', winners of 'Talentime' in 1966 (ANM)*
- 5 *The 'Punggong Anka' show with the Radio Malaya Orchestra, 1963 (ANM)*
- 6 *Azia Sattar, P. Ramlee and S. Shamsudin in 'Bojang Lapok', 1957*
- 7 *Radio Malaya choir recording the National Language Week tune, 'Bahasa Jiwa Bangsa', 1960 (ANM)*



Radio, cinema, magazines, newspapers, as well as an overseas education influenced the post-war generation, imbuing them with new ideas, fashions and a slant on life that differed greatly from that of their parents' generation. More Malaysians were obtaining higher education, giving women especially, greater independence as well as confidence and power in the workplace. This new generation also saw beyond the barriers of narrow ethnic constraints that had insulated their communities in the past.

In the 1950s, Malayan girls eagerly followed the fashions that had swept the Western world following the end of austerity in World War II. Call-length full skirts, short-sleeved blouses, court shoes and loafers were de rigueur for university students and the middle-class urban minority who could afford them. By the 1960s, clothes were tighter, hemlines were shorter, and sprayed and teased 'big hair' replaced the natural coils of yesteryear.

The new youth generation also excelled in a number of sports. In 1967, the Thomas Cup, symbol of world badminton supremacy, was won by Malaysia.



1 Victoria Institution students' fashion show, 1964 (NSTP)

2 Young English-educated Chinese at a function, 1950s (ANM)

3-4 The victorious Thomas Cup players arriving at Subang Airport and in a motorcade procession through Kuala Lumpur, 1968 (ANM)

5 Holiday makers at Cameron Highlands, 1960s (NSTP)

6 Young Malaysians at a party, 1950s (ANM)

7 A multi-cultural party, 1950s (ANM)

8 Winners of an essay writing contest in Kuala Lumpur, 1963 (ANM)

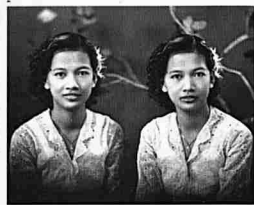
9 Raja Fatimah binte Ismail being crowned 'Selangor Language Month Queen', by Tengku Azman Shah, Kuala Lumpur, 1965 (ANM)

10 Penang Free School's 136th anniversary celebrations, 1952 (NSTP)

11 Testing a 'love meter' at the Victoria Institution Science Exhibition, 1961 (NSTP)









By the end of the 1960s, the Malay proportion in Peninsular Malaysia's population was 53 per cent, while the indigenous Muslim peoples of Sabah and Sarawak represented only about 25 per cent. With an estimated 75 per cent of Malays living below the poverty line, photographic portraits (2 and 3) were the preserve of the small, but growing, middle-to-upper classes. Most households did not own cameras, but would visit the local photographic studio on special occasions.

During the era from the late 1940s to the end of the 1960s, the majority of Malays still lived in rural kampongs and were engaged in traditional occupations such as fishing (5), although the move to the city for better job prospects and education had already begun. Many Malays joined, and formed the majority of, the Armed Forces (7).

Malay clothing of the time was still very much traditional although women's outfits had become more form-fitting and urban women left their heads bare. This can be seen in the photograph of a typical middle-class family such as that of Colonel Abbas Abdul Manan (9): his daughter was in a Western dress and he wore a Western suit. In reality, few families could afford to dress their children in Western dress—the young girls shown here in Western dress (8) are celebrating the birthday of the Sultan of Selangor's daughter Tengku Marina (blowing the candles).

Finery was still worn for ceremonial events, such as the installation of Kamaruddin bin Haji Ibrahim, one of Selangor's four major territorial chiefs, at the Istana Raja Muda in Klang on 13 May 1948 (6), and the engagement of Tengku Mahmud (later Sultan) of Terengganu to Tengku Bariah, the second daughter of Sultan Hishamuddin of Selangor in 1951 at the same palace (10).

Prayer attire was also traditional, as shown in the photograph of the congregation at the newly opened Al-Rahman Mosque at the University of Malaya in 1963 (4).



After Independence in 1957, the Chinese expanded and diversified their economic activities and the 1960s saw the rise of a strong middle class. When Malaysia was formed in 1963, the Chinese formed 34 per cent of the total population. By 1970, they had a 27 per cent share of corporate equity compared to the Malays' 2.4 per cent. However, many of the 500,000 Chinese who had been resettled in New Villages during the Emergency were less fortunate; many of them still lived at or below the poverty level.

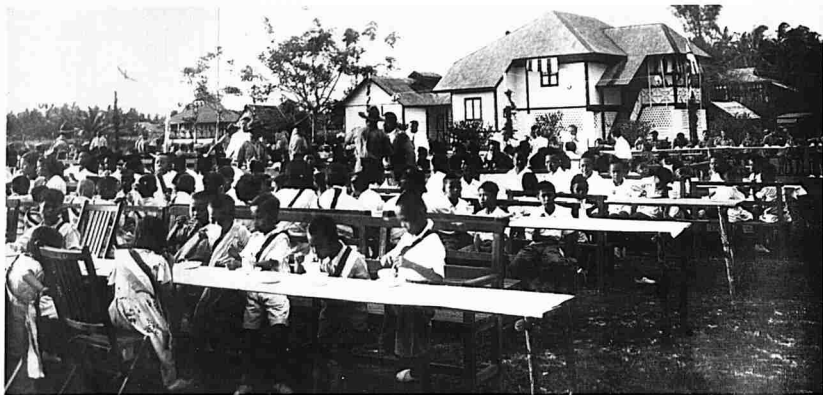
Photographic portraits were fashionable for weddings and family portraits. The Western-style wedding gowns were now the norm, in contrast to the previous decades when brides still wore the traditional Chinese-style gown. Other trends, such as elaborate wedding cakes also caught on with the well-to-do (5). Some wedding groups were so large they had to be taken outdoors rather than in the photographic studio, such as this 70-plus-member family that posed by a café in Penang during the 1950s (1). For family portraits, however, the majority of Chinese women still wore their traditional pantsuits (4). In contrast, unmarried girls preferred form-fitting cheongsams, especially for special occasions and 'glamour' shots taken in the style of Hollywood cinema queens that were the rage during the 1960s (6 to 8).

Press photographers captured the Chinese at work in various trades. Shown here are a shopkeeper tallying the bill with an abacus (10), a craftsman making wooden clogs while his customer waits (12), and a trio of salesmen preparing Chinese medicine in a typical kedai ubat (Chinese medical store), some of which still survive in similar style today (11).

An unusual press photograph here is that of a party of Straits Chinese Dondang Sayang serenaders on a bus during Chap Goh Mei in Penang when they toured the city of George Town (13).









At the time of Independence, Malaysia was already very much a plural society. Next to the Malays and Chinese, the Indians were the third-largest ethnic group, comprising 10 per cent of the total population. Other large populations included the Iban in Sarawak and Kadazan in Sabah. The rest of the population was made up of a spectrum of peoples from the indigenous Orang Asli to the Eurasians of Melaka, whose ancestors arrived in the 15th century during the Portuguese colonial era.

After the formation of Malaysia, the various ethnic groups grew increasingly aware of their identity as Malaysians—many photographs from the 1960s show how integration was a daily affair. With the emergence of a generation born and bred in Malaysia, ties to the various motherlands were loosening. Working Malaysians of all ethnic persuasions celebrated public holidays by returning to their hometowns and villages in the Malay style known as *hulik kampung*. Bus and railway stations were often crowded on the eve of festivals such as Cheng Beng (All Souls' Day). Many Malaysians went to vernacular schools even though English-medium schools were open to bright children of all races.

The Indians still lived a secluded life on the estates, but those who were English-educated were able to enter the public service, such as these three railway officials who smiled for the camera despite the fact that their station had been burnt down by communist insurgents (3).



1 A tea party for students of the Government English School, Labuan (NSTP)

2 Indian dancers, Merdeka Day, 1957 (ANM)

3 Indian officials by their railway station, Selangor, 1950 (NSTP)

4 Portuguese-Eurasian singers, 'Tres Amigos', from Melaka, 1957 (ANM)

5 Jabut Orang Asli at Sungai Kiol, Pahang, 1960s (ANM)

6 Sir Gerald and Lady Templeton entertaining Orang Asli, 1954

7 Orang Asli at the installation of the Raja Muda of Selangor, 1950 (ANM)

8 View inside a Sikh temple, Pudu Road, Kuala Lumpur, 1967 (ANM)

9 An Indian wedding couple, c. 1950

10 Dayak chiefs and a colonial officer, 1949 (NSTP)

11 Commuters rushing home for Cheng Beng festival, 1965 (NSTP)



A NEW IDENTITY

1970–2004

In this chapter, the photographic record of Malaysia begins in black and white, then gradually changes to that of colour; an analogy of the numerous changes that have taken place in the country from the 1970s to today. In one generation, just about everything in Malaysia underwent radical alteration. In the 1970s, travel writers wrote of how coconut palms were becoming dwarfed by the skyline of Asia's newest capital. A generation later, Kuala Lumpur metamorphosed into a futuristic metropolis with some of the world's tallest buildings surrounded by an ocean of suburbs. In the 1970s, most families had only a bicycle for transport. With the national car project in the 1980s, many families today own one, if not two, three, or even four cars. Radios have been replaced by satellite television networks, newspapers by the internet, and trishaws by rapid-transport networks. Rice fields and oil palm plantations that provided employment to many have been replaced by factories and cyber cities. Villages become increasingly quiet as their inhabitants are drawn to the cities—to the brave new world of 21st century consumerism.

On Independence Day in 1970, a new national ideology, the Rukunegara, was announced. It was dedicated towards greater unity within the nation, maintaining a democratic way of life, creating a just society with the nation's wealth equitably shared, ensuring liberality in cultural traditions, and building a progressive society oriented to modern science and technology.

The first tangible step taken towards achieving one of the five goals in the Rukunegara came soon after with the establishment of the New Economic Policy (NEP) in 1971, which was designed to eradicate poverty regardless of ethnicity, as well as increase Malay participation in the economy. Despite having the most political clout compared to the other races, the Malays' economic involvement was a mere two per cent of corporate equity. Although about half of Malaysia's population lived below the poverty line at that time, three-quarters of them were Malay. Thus the NEP sought not only to redistribute the pie, but also to increase its size to ensure that no ethnic group would be disadvantaged.

To this end, foreign-owned tin and plantation companies were taken over by the government to boost national corporate ownership, trust agencies were established, entrepreneurship was

encouraged by government bodies such as the Council of Trust for Indigenous People (MARA), and numerous enterprises such as state economic development corporations were set up. Initially, there were fears that the Chinese would be disadvantaged, but their business acumen soon proved these fears were unfounded. Economic prosperity achieved in the 1970s enabled the government to make considerable progress. However, providence also played a major part, especially with the discovery and development of large natural gas and oil reserves located off the Sarawak and Terengganu coasts.

Also in 1970, after 16 months of Emergency rule under the National Operations Council, Tun Abdul Razak bin Hussein became Prime Minister upon the retirement of Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra in September. Nicknamed the 'Organisation Man', the Pahang-born lawyer was responsible for expanding the former Alliance coalition to create the Barisan Nasional (BN) that went on to win the 1974 elections and every election since then. In that same year, Malaysia recognised Communist China and also identified itself with the non-aligned countries of the Third World.

In 1976, on the premature death of Tun Abdul Razak at the age of 54, Tun Hussein Onn, a Johor-born lawyer and eldest son of the founder of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), Dato' Onn Ja'afar, took over as Malaysia's third Prime Minister.



ABOVE: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah arrive at a Barisan Nasional Jubilee gathering at the Merdeka Stadium, Kuala Lumpur, 25 October 1999.
 FAUCING PAGE: Night view of the 88-storey Petronas Twin Towers, Kuala Lumpur, 2003.



The Putra Mosque has a 110-metre-tall minaret and accommodates 15,000 people. Putrajaya, 2004

He was tireless in his efforts to make the NEP a reality, and towards this end he introduced the National Unit Trust (Amanah Saham Nasional) controlled by the National Equity Corporation (Permodalan Nasional Berhad, or PNB) which allowed Bumiputera (sons of the soil) to invest in its shares. With these funds, the PNB then had the means to take over foreign companies. In 1981, due to ill health, he relinquished his post to his deputy, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who became Malaysia's fourth Prime Minister.

Political pundits knew that change would be inevitable under the outspoken, no-nonsense, Kedah-born doctor, who had been expelled from the party after criticising Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra about the 1969 civic troubles. He was later re-admitted by Tun Abdul Razak in 1972, and made Minister of Education in 1974.

As the first prime minister who was not educated overseas, Dr Mahathir sought to create a more independent and self-reliant Malaysia without any colonial baggage. This direction was quickly revealed with his 1982 'Buy British Last' campaign and his 'Look East' policy, which was aimed at switching the Malaysian mindset from emulating Western culture to the more hardworking and efficient Japanese model. When recession struck in the early 1980s, he launched a privatisation programme, 'Malaysia Inc.', which in effect turned the government into a commercial enterprise. Everything from the railways to the national airline, utilities to tolled highways were privatised. At the same time he also initiated a bold policy of heavy industrialisation with a steel industry, oil refineries, and a national car. In 1982, Perusahaan Otomobil Nasional Bhd (PROTON) was set up and when the first Proton Saga rolled off the assembly line in 1985, it was not only the first car to be manufactured and designed in Malaysia, but also in Southeast Asia. Critics at that time saw the national car as a white elephant,

but with the help of tariffs and massive investment, PROTON had cornered 65 per cent of the local car market with almost 1.4 million units on the road.

The government's move away from agriculture towards industrialisation was also mirrored in the changing lifestyles of Malaysians, who left the plantations in droves to take up less strenuous work in cleaner, air-conditioned factories. Leading the way was the semiconductor industry, which produced tiny electronic chips that were revolutionising the way things worked—from mobile phones to rocket ships. By 1998, the semiconductor industry represented a fifth of total exports and employed 340,000 people.

Massive broadening of the infrastructure paralleled Malaysia's economic growth—for much of the late 1980s and the 1990s, the country was registering growth in double-digit figures. Business was booming, foreign capital was pouring in, and it seemed as if the entire country was being rebuilt, fuelled by Dr Mahathir's almost obsessive attraction to mega projects that have seen Malaysia attain world-class standards in civil engineering. There is the 848-kilometre-long North-South Expressway, the state-of-the-art Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), and the Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC), topped by the Petronas Twin Towers, the world's tallest buildings and home of the national oil company, PETRONAS. Malaysia's most successful and largest global player, PETRONAS is the only Malaysian company to rank in *Fortune* magazine's listing of the world's 500 biggest companies.

Industrialisation even seemed passe when the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) was announced in 1996. This futuristic mega-plan links KLIA to KLCC and includes the new administrative capital of Putrajaya as well as the 'intelligent' city, Cyberjaya, Malaysia's answer to America's Silicon Valley and the hub of what was seen as ground zero of the nation's economic transformation in the digital age.



Supplementing other inter-city public transport, the KL monorail began operations in 2003. (NSTP)

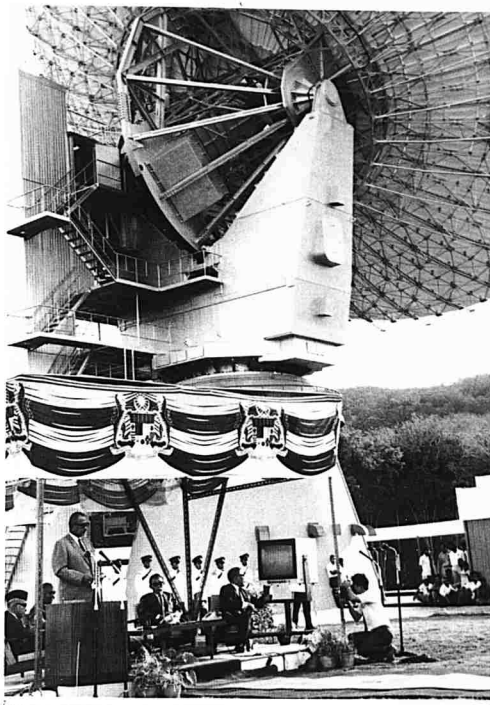


Two familiar landmarks of the Kuala Lumpur skyline, the Petronas Twin Towers (left) and Menara Kuala Lumpur (Kuala Lumpur Tower), a telecommunications and broadcasting tower, (right), 2000.

However, just when everything seemed possible, as expressed by the slogan *Malaysia Boleh!* ('Malaysia can do it!'), the bottom fell out of the Asian financial markets. In 1997, the region experienced its most severe financial crisis on record. The ringgit plunged overnight, the stock market crashed, and construction sites became ghost towns. Added to this was a political crisis. Dr Mahathir removed his deputy, Anwar Ibrahim, from his post. Malaysia's response to the financial crisis was debated. The Prime Minister did not favour what he saw as a set of potentially damaging prescriptions advocated by the international financial community, and instead imposed his own remedies, including exchange controls. His stance has attracted more international support in retrospect than it did at the time. Anwar was tried, convicted and imprisoned for offences including corruption, a process which attracted media controversy around the world. He was set free in September 2004.

Malaysians have always been adept at change. The economy has rebounded, and new multi-ethnic political parties have emerged that signal a move away from the ethnic-based parties of the past. In 1998, when Malaysia staged the successful Commonwealth Games, it also showcased the 'New Malaysia', spearheaded by a new generation that gives national concerns precedence over ethnic ones. They are at the core of 'Vision 2020', the plan to see Malaysia attain the status of a fully developed nation by then. 'A united country with a shared destiny for all. A liberated and secure society enabling and encouraging excellence. The fostering and development of democracy. The establishment of moral and ethical values. Equality for all people regardless of colour or creed. A progressive, innovative perspective. A caring society. Economically just. A prosperous, competitive, robust and resilient future'. Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Malaysia's fifth Prime Minister who assumed office on 31 October 2003 after Dr Mahathir's retirement, continues to uphold Vision 2020 and has proven to be a popular leader with a quiet but firm style of governance.





Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra is affectionately remembered as 'Bapa Malaysia' or father of Malaysia, not just for his role in the country's gaining independence but, perhaps more importantly, for establishing the multi-racial political framework for its government.

He once famously declared himself the world's 'happiest Prime Minister', and while a devout Muslim who became the first secretary general of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference after stepping down as Malaysia's leader, celebrated his love of leisure pursuits, from dancing (4) to occasional acts of truancy from Commonwealth meetings in London to watch the Chelsea football team.

The communal riots of 13 May 1969, following an election setback for his ruling Alliance, however, made that day the 'saddest day of my life', and he effectively handed over power to his deputy, Tun Abdul Razak, who as director of the National Operations Council established after Parliament was suspended, ruled the country by decree.

The Tunku remained in office but had to endure mounting criticism of having failed to protect the interests of the Malay community. One example was a letter calling for his resignation from an UMNO politician who had lost his seat in the election, Dr Mahathir Mohamad. Tun Razak and the majority of UMNO's leadership closed ranks behind the Tunku, and Dr Mahathir was expelled from the party. He was later rehabilitated and became Prime Minister himself, but despite efforts at reconciliation, the Tunku in his retirement ironically became one of the most effective critics of Dr Mahathir's policies.

The Tunku felt that stepping down before stability had been restored would have been an abdication of responsibility. By the time he did hand over to Tun Razak in September 1970, he could announce that parliamentary government would resume in six months, and cite the installation of his nephew Sultan Halim of Kedah as the Yang di-Pertuan Agong as a reason for resigning.

1-10 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra: on a visit to Jerusalem, 18 October 1967; arriving in Guildhall, London, England to receive the Freedom of the City from Lord Mayor Sir Gilbert Inglefield, June 1968; addressing an Alliance rally at Surimam Court, Kuala Lumpur, April 1969; with Deputy Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak dancing the jogai at a reception at the residence, 14 January 1964; left to right, Lady Trinder, Lady Mayores of London, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra and Sir Charles Trinder, Lord Mayor of London at a dinner for Commonwealth leaders, London, 14 January 1969; performing his last ceremonial function as Prime Minister, at the swearing in ceremony of Tunku Abdul Halim of Kedah as Yang di-Pertuan Agong, 22 September 1970; launching the Earth Satellite Station in Kuantan, Pahang, 7 April 1970; at his 80th birthday celebration, Kuala Lumpur, 9 February 1983; at a function after retirement, October 1989; at an UMNO Assembly 1988 (all pictures NSTP except picture 7, ANM)





When Tun Abdul Razak finally became Prime Minister in 1970 after some 15 years as deputy to Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, he was already one of Asia's most efficient and driven administrators, having been the country's Minister for Education, Defence and Rural and National Development.

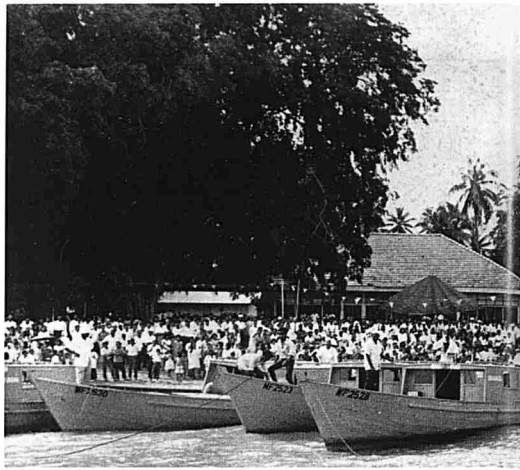
While Tun Razak put in place the New Economic Policy to prioritise the economic progress of the Malay community and rehabilitated champions of Malay rights such as Dr Mahathir Mohamed, he also enlarged the ruling Alliance into a government of national unity under the Barisan Nasional.

Like Dr Mahathir, Tun Hussein Onn had also briefly left UMNO, but in quite different circumstances. Hussein's father had been the founder and first president of the party, but in 1951, left when it rejected his proposal to open it to all races. His son followed. In 1964, Tun Razak persuaded Hussein to return to politics and in 1973 Hussein became Tun Razak's deputy. Just three years later, Tun Razak's premature death from the effects of leukaemia left Hussein as acting UMNO President and Prime Minister.

With a service record in the British armed forces, in Malaysia's civil service, and as a lawyer, Hussein was a reluctant politician whose tenure as Prime Minister combined a drive against corruption with increasingly restrictive measures to deal with a series of political challenges.

He continued with his predecessor's national integration policies and did not shy from unpopular decisions, such as the expulsion from UMNO of the popular Harun Idris, and the appointment of Dr Mahathir—who was then unpopular with the Chinese community—as his deputy and heir apparent.

After a coronary bypass in 1981, Hussein announced his retirement from politics. He dedicated his remaining years until his death in 1990 to social work.



- 1, 2 & 4 Tun Abdul Razak, with Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra at a farewell dinner for the latter, 23 September 1970 (NSTP); presenting boats to fishermen, Melaka, 1970s (NSTP); speaking to HRH the Sultan of Kelantan on the launch of a telephone exchange at Kota Bharu, 21 June 1972 (ANM).
- 3, 5, 6 & 7 Tun Hussein Onn: inspecting an Armed forces parade held in his honour prior to his retirement in 1981 (NSTP); presenting the loyalty pledge of the government to the sixth king, Sultan Yahya Petra of Kelantan, 1976 (ANM); addressing the opening session of the ASEAN Summit conference in Bali, 23 February 1976 (NSTP); with his wife Datin Sabariah with Their Royal Highnesses the Sultan Idris II of Perak and the Raja Perempuan at Istana Iskandariah, Kuala Kangsar, 7 March 1976 (NSTP).
- 8 Tun Abdul Razak receiving then Minister of Education Hussein Onn, 9 November 1972 (NSTP).
- 9 Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Tun Hussein Onn and Dr Mahathir Muhammad at the 1977 UMNO General Assembly (NSTP).







Malaysia's early foreign policy had been resolutely anti-communist and pro-British, following from its peaceful assumption of independence and Britain's continuing assistance against a communist insurgency. Malaysia's birth with Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore joining the Federation strained ties with its neighbours. Indonesia and the Philippines opposed the move, and Singapore was to leave the Federation after some acrimony.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was formed in 1967 to stabilise regional relations, and the 1970s saw Malaysia move both to put ASEAN at the centre of its aspirations for regional peace and to chart a more neutral international position.

Tun Razak attended the summit of the Non-Aligned Movement shortly after taking office in 1970 and pushed ASEAN to make the region a Zone of Peace, Freedom and Neutrality (ZOPFAN). When the United States withdrew its forces from Vietnam in 1973, ASEAN adopted the ZOPFAN proposal at its first summit in 1976. Thereafter it reached out to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, with Malaysia offering Vietnam technical assistance to reconstruct its economy in 1977.

Malaysia's foreign policy was also expressed in its efforts to build 'people to people' ties, through hosting events like the International Merdeka Football Cup tournament and the International Qur'an reading competition.

While Malaysia's positioning adjusted for the realities of the Cold War in the 1970s, it remained close to the Western powers, whose investments it sought, seen in the picture of Tun Razak meeting with US President Richard Nixon in 1971 (1). In that year, Britain's final withdrawal of its military forces from Malaysia was accompanied by the signing of the Five Power Defence Arrangement which entrenched the commitment of Britain, Australia and New Zealand to the defence of Malaysia and Singapore. The Commonwealth, where Malaysia had led the opposition to South Africa's policy of apartheid, remained an important focus, and Queen Elizabeth II was greeted on her visit to Malaysia in 1972 with cheering crowds, as well as regal pomp



1, 6 & 7 Tun Abdul Razak: with President Richard Nixon at the White House in Washington, 5 October 1971; with the Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, Dr Saqqaf (left) while attending the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 23 March 1970; with Thanom Kittikachorn, Prime Minister of Thailand at the opening of the Sanger Golok bridge which links the two countries between Kelantan and South Thailand, 21 May 1973 (all pictures NSTP)

2, 3, 4, 5 & 8 Tun Hussein Onn: with Queen Elizabeth II and other heads of government at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London, 1977; with Indonesian President Suharto at Borobudur temple, Yogyakarta, March 1978; visit to Egypt, 17 January 1977; with his wife Datin Subaidah and Senior Vice President Deng Hsiao Ping, China, 1979; visiting the Shah Rukh Mausoleum in Uzbekistan, September 1979 (all pictures NSTP)







When Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad became Malaysia's first non-British educated Prime Minister in July 1981, one of his first measures was to adjust the clocks in the Peninsula and East Malaysia, so that the whole of Malaysia was in the same time zone.

It was a suitable start for the Kedah-born medical physician to a 22-year tenure in which he would lead and sometimes drag the country towards the future that he envisaged for it, encapsulated in his 1991 'Vision 2020', for Malaysia to reach developed status by that year as a 'united Malaysian nation'.

Domestically, he tackled challenges to his leadership both by reaching out, first to a rising tide of Islamic orientation in the Malay community, then to the non-Malay communities who had initially feared his reputation as a Malay rights champion, as well as by subordinating potential alternative sources of authority such as the Malay rulers, the judiciary, and indeed any and all political challengers.

By the end of his political career, his prescription for transforming the Malays into an economically competitive and scientific population had changed from affirmative action to a tentative call for them to welcome a competitive arena. The national economy was transformed from one largely reliant on tin and rubber exports to one based on technology and science with foundations for communications, manufacturing and information industries.

Dr Mahathir's foreign policy had similar objectives. He called on Malaysians to 'Look East' for inspiration on how to succeed economically, instead of deferring to Western models. He became a champion of the rights of developing countries, arguing for the need of a level playing field for their interests. Also due in no small part to his efforts is Malaysia regarded as a moderate Islamic state with harmony between the three most populous races.

Perhaps Dr Mahathir's biggest challenge came when he faced both domestic and international opponents in the wake of the currency collapses that swept East Asia in 1997 and 1998. He shocked the world by turning his back on decades of financial liberalisation when he pegged the ringgit and erected capital controls.

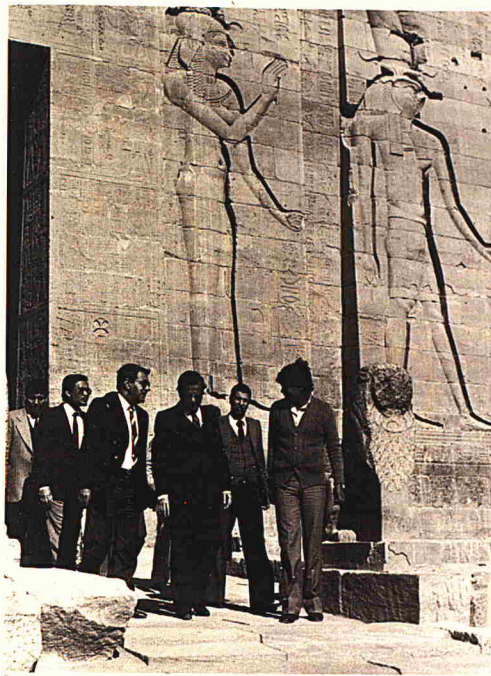
In September 1998, his deputy Anwar Ibrahim, whom he had persuaded to join UMNO in 1981 and groomed to succeed him, was declared morally unfit and sacked. He was subsequently convicted of abuse of power and sodomy in a controversial trial.

Dr Mahathir faced down numerous political challenges in his career, and up to 2003, had had four deputies, three of whom resigned or were sacked. When he finally announced his retirement in June 2002 in a televised address at the UMNO General Assembly, he broke down in tears, and was surrounded by supporters urging him not to do so. He agreed to stay in office until October 2003, when Malaysia once again experienced a peaceful transfer of power to Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

1-9 Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad: his first day in office, 18 July 1981; raising hands with Tun Datu Mustapha to mark the beginning of the historical entry of UMNO to Sabah, 1991; waving to UMNO supporters at the UMNO General Assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur, 2003; being greeted by Gerakan members at their 28th Annual Delegates Conference, Kuala Lumpur, 1999; laughing with Sultan Idris II of Perak, after receiving the State's Highest award, the Seri Paduka Mahkota Dharma, 1981; with his wife on a carriage pulled by silat (form of self defence) exponent; at the opening of the Penang Bridge, 3 August 1985; viewing a model of Putrajaya together with Tun Sri Ahmad Sarji, Chief Secretary to the Government (right), September 1985; surrounded by shocked UMNO members at his surprise announcement of his retirement, 22 June 2002 (all pictures NSTP except picture 3)







1-12 Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad; with Datuk Seri Siti Haqmah and the King of Tonga, Taufa'ahau Tupou IV, Tonga, June, 1982; accompanying Japanese Prime Minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto to inspect a guard-of-honour, Kuala Lumpur, January 1997; performing the Umrah in Saudi Arabia, 15 March 1982; greeting Indonesian President Suharto on his visit to Malaysia, October 1996; with Mongolian Prime Minister M. Enkhbaatran, Mongolia, 1997; with South African Defence Minister, 14 December 1993; with Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanonda, Bangkok, 10 December 1982; visiting the temple of Philae, Egypt, December 1984; with family and entourage at the Great Wall in China, March 1985; greeting Nelson Mandela, Kuala Lumpur, August 1993; in Sydney with Neville Wran, New South Wales Premier, 14 August, 1984; in Ghana with Ghana President, Jerry Rawlings, November 1996 (all pictures NSTP)



10



11

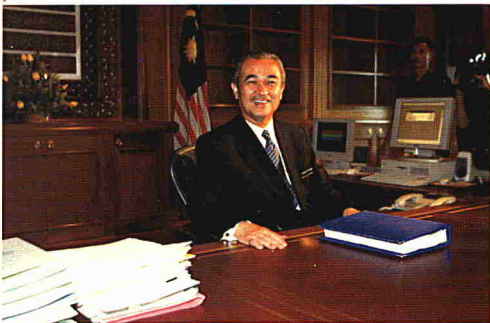


12



On 31 October, 2003 Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi was sworn in as Malaysia's fifth Prime Minister, the culmination of some 20 years of public service that had begun in 1964 as a civil servant. As the fourth man to serve as deputy to the mercurial Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Abdullah's ability to successfully succeed him was not certain even after Dr Mahathir announced his intention to resign in June 2002, but his premiership was endorsed in a larger than expected landslide election victory in March 2004, and he was returned unopposed as UMNO President that September.

A major difference from his predecessor was Abdullah's soft-spoken political style, asking Malaysians for their support rather than exhorting them forward. Abdullah's own experiences have informed his outlook. As a civil servant he served as secretary to the National Operations Council, which restored order after Malaysia's racial conflict in 1969, and also worked in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. After entering politics in 1978, he first became a full Minister under Dr Mahathir under the Prime Minister's Department, then served as Education, Defence and Foreign Minister. From 1987 until 1991, when he was appointed Foreign Minister, he was out of government after supporting an unsuccessful challenger to Dr Mahathir.



1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 11 & 14 Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi: counting down the New Year with the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Mohamad Shaid Mohd Jusuf (fifth from right) and Chairman of AmBank Group, Tan Sri Azman Hashim (fourth from left) at Kuala Lumpur City Centre Esplanade, 31 December 2003; with Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the handovers, 31 October 2003; first day of office, 3 November 2003; at UiTM Pulau Pinang, 7 March 2004; celebrating Chinese New Year with Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, MCA Chairman Ong Ka Ting and Tan Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Kuala Lumpur, 2004; with wife Datin Seri Endon Mahmood casting their votes in Kepala Batas, 21 March 2004; with Barisan Nasional supporter Pomerlei Sellathuray, Seremban, 8 March 2004 (all pictures NSTP except picture 11)

5 Motorcyclists flying the National Front coalition flags escort Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi in Melaka, 7 March 2004

6 Under police guard, opposition Pan-Malaysia Islamic party members escort their candidates to the nomination centre for the 11th election in Kodah, 13 March 2004

8 UMNO supporter March 2004 elections

9 Democratic Action Party candidate campaigning in Melaka, March 2004

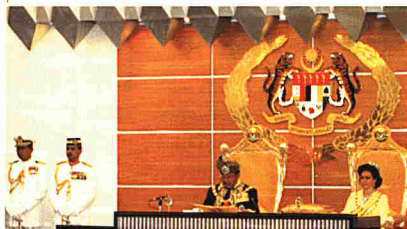
10 Wan Azizah Ismail, wife of jailed former Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim waves the logo of the People's Justice Party as she leaves the polling centre in Permatang Pauh, north Malaysia, 21 March 2004

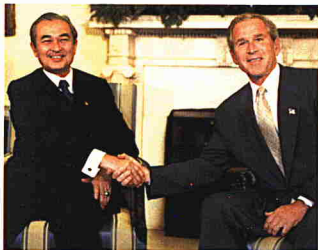
12 Printing posters for the election, February 2004

13 Voters queuing up to vote during the 2004 elections (NSTP)







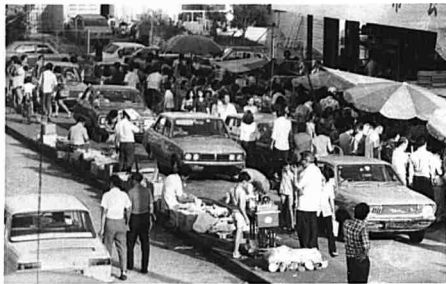


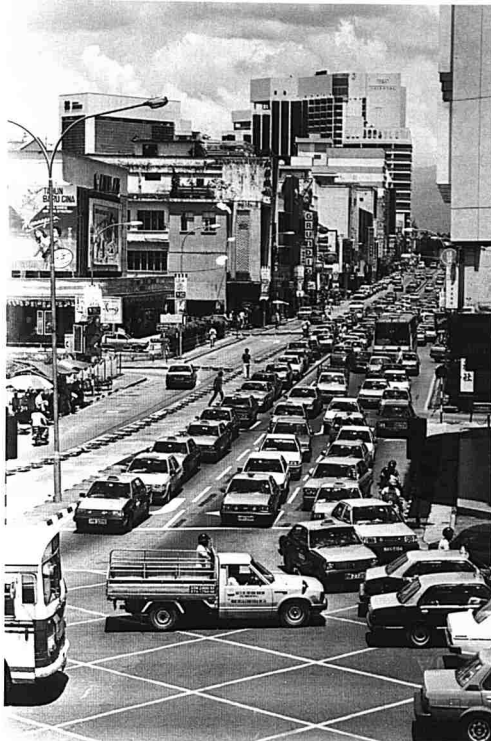
While some of those opposed to Dr Mahathir then left UMNO and founded a new Malay party, Abdullah remained in UMNO, and as Foreign Minister from 1991 to 1999, was one of the flag bearers for the government's policies, including the dramatic economic and political measures of 1998. In February 1999 Abdullah was appointed as Home Affairs Minister, as well as Deputy Prime Minister, a position which had been vacant since the sacking of Anwar Ibrahim in September 1998.

Malaysians have embraced Abdullah's priorities of tackling corruption, and implementing 'Vision 2020', which the government has worked towards since 1991. With his unassailable background as an Islamic scholar, Abdullah has not had to pander excessively to the Islamic opposition, and has repeatedly declared that he is a 'prime minister for all Malaysians'. In July 2004, he became the first Muslim leader in the world to address the World Council of Churches conference held in Malaysia.

Abdullah has also been able to improve international relations with countries like Singapore, Australia and the United States, which has sometimes been at the receiving end of sharp criticism from Dr Mahathir. On a visit to Washington in July 2004, in which he was received by US President George W. Bush in the White House, Abdullah—who had opposed the 2003 invasion of Iraq—said that he would send a medical team to help in the reconstruction of that country, not just 'to help the people of Iraq, but also because I view this as another manifestation of moderate Islam's push against radicalism'.

1 & 2 The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin; inspecting the Guard of Honour before the opening of Parliament; declaring the 2004 session of Parliament open (both pictures 18 May 2004) (NSTP)
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 Prime Minister Dato Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi; with UMNO members celebrating the results of the election at PWTC, 21 March 2004 (NSTP); paying a courtesy call on Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah at Istana Bukit Kawayan, during a working visit to Selangor, 2004 (NSTP); on a social visit with former Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, Sentosa Golf Club, Singapore, 25 January 2004 (NSTP); at the opening ceremony of the Ministerial meeting of the Non Aligned Movement Committee on Palestine, Putrajaya, Kuala Lumpur, 12 May 2004 (NSTP); with foreign delegates at the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (OIC) held at Putrajaya Convention Centre, 22 April 2004; with United States President George W. Bush in Washington, 19 July 2004; congratulating South African Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Nkomoza Clarice Dlamini-Zuma after the launching of the Non-aligned Movement XIII Summit Ministerial meeting in Kuala Lumpur, 22 February 2003





Malaysia's journey to the cusp of developed country status has been accompanied by personal journeys of increasing numbers of Malaysians. In 1970, just 27 per cent of the population, then 10.4 million, lived in towns or cities. By 2000, 62 per cent of the 23.27 million Malaysians lived in urban areas, giving rise to a new Malaysian phenomenon, the 'balik kampung' migration of people from their urban workplaces to their hometowns or villages at every public holiday.

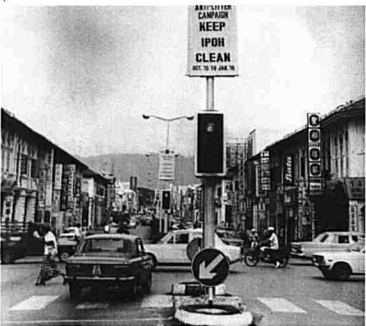
Towns themselves have been transformed from the days when fine dining was available only in international hotels to today's proliferation of cosmopolitan dining and entertainment enclaves like Bangsar and Bukit Bintang in Kuala Lumpur. A sophisticated night out now is to be had at the world class Petronas Philharmonic Hall, not a dance hall in Ampang. A weekend's entertainment is now as likely to come from a visit to one of the country's huge shopping malls as on a sports field.

- 1 Bargaining at hawker stalls in Petaling Jaya, November 1975 (NSTP)
- 2 Students of the University of Malaya publicising the Asian Ball, organised in aid of the Suteris Loan Fund and other charities, 1973 (NSTP)
- 3 Food stalls in a new market, Melaka, 1972 (NSTP)
- 4 A graduate of the University of Malaya with his family, 1971 (NSTP)
- 5 Kuala Lumpur Railway Station before Hari Raya, 1970s (NSTP)
- 6 Motorists in Jalan Bukit Bintang in 1988 (NSTP)
- 7 Emporium and supermarket in Petaling Jaya, September 1986 (NSTP)
- 8 Shopping at a department store, Kuala Lumpur, 1970s (NSTP)

FOLLOWING PAGES

- 1 Street scene, George Town, Penang, April 1973 (NSTP)
- 2 Tan Thiam Hock with his 88-year-old great-grandmother, Ng Liam, at Tan's convocation at Universiti Malaya, August 1983 (NSTP)
- 3 Demonstration by the EON Precision Driving Team in front of the Sultan Abdul Samad Building after the launch of a new Proton Saga by the Prime Minister Dr Mahatir Mohamad, August 1990 (NSTP)
- 4 Jalan Sultan Iskandar, Ipoh, October 1975 (NSTP)
- 5 Jalan Hang Kasturi, Kuala Lumpur, May 1988 (NSTP)
- 6 Her Highness Tuanku Bahiyah Ibtisam entering the Dewan Tuanku Canselor on the occasion of Universiti of Malaya's convocation. She is followed by Tan Sri Mohammed Suffian, Vice Chancellor Professor Ungku Aziz and Deputy Prime Minister (and Education Minister) Dr Mahatir Mohamad, June 1976 (NSTP)
- 7 Jalan Rajah, Chow Kit, Kuala Lumpur, April 1975 (NSTP)
- 8 Aerial view of Kota Bharu, April 1985 (NSTP)
- 9 Floats leaving Universiti Malaya, June 1973 (NSTP)
- 10 Little India, George Town, Penang, 1980s (NSTP)
- 11 Model Karen (seated) with dancers May Chung and Judy Lim at a preview of a fashion show, Kuala Lumpur, March 1972 (NSTP)
- 12 Models David Ratna (left) and Alvin Tang at a fashion show, Kuala Lumpur, August 1977 (NSTP)
- 13 Corolla station wagons ordered by Telekom at the Borneo Motors Showroom, July 1970 (NSTP)





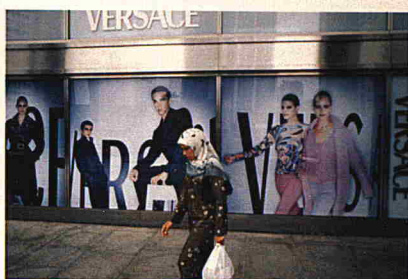


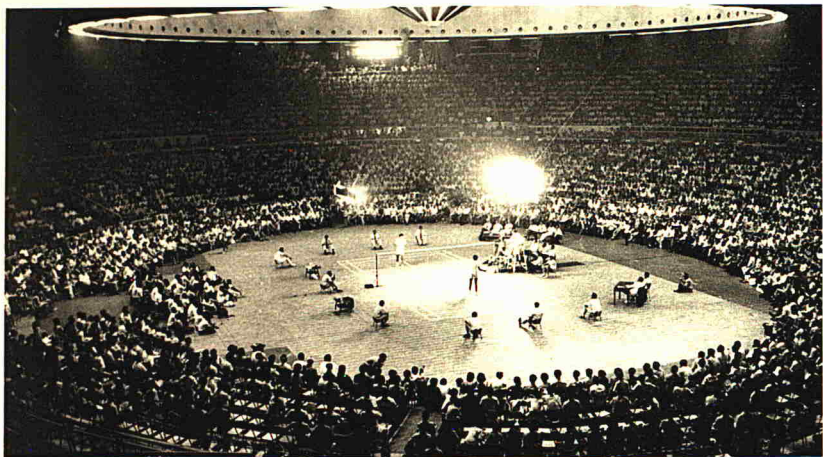
The strains of modern urban life have also been felt by Malaysians, from traffic jams to overconsumption. Heart disease is now the biggest health threat, and increasing numbers of Malaysians are turning to religion even as material success is celebrated. For the Malay community, increased Islamisation has seen, for example, many more women veiling their heads, something that was rare in the 1970s.

In February 2004, the government introduced a National Service programme for 17- and 18-year old Malaysians, hoping to address some of the shortcomings of modern life. Besides instilling patriotism, the programme is intended to enhance racial integration as well as fitness.

- 1 High-rise buildings in Petaling Jaya, 1997 (NSTP)
- 2 Interior of Kuala Lumpur City Centre shopping mall, 2002
- 3 Night shot of Jalan Bukit Bintang, 2004 (NSTP)
- 4 National Service trainees, Penang, 2004
- 5 Outdoor eating stalls at Bangsar, 2003
- 6 Tudung (veil) clad woman in front of Versace advertisement, 2002
- 7 High-rise apartments in Ampang, 1997
- 8 Celebrations on Independence Day, 31 August 1998 (NSTP)
- 9 The Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, 2002



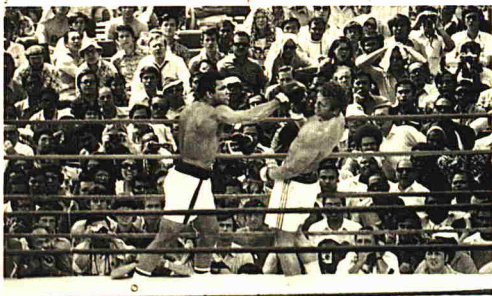




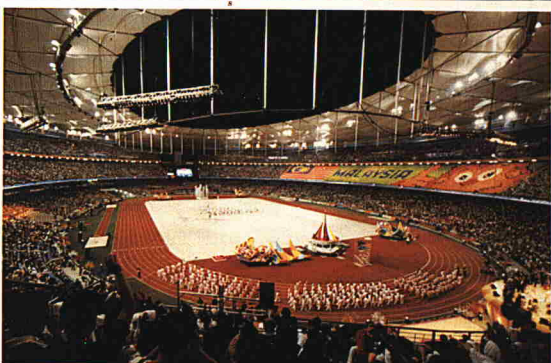
Malaysians have always been keen on traditional sports such as *silat* (type of self-defence) and *sepak takraw* (kicking game with rattan ball). When the British arrived, they introduced team sports such as football, badminton and hockey, all of which were embraced with an enthusiasm that continues today. Badminton, in particular, has been a success story for Malaysia: the nation is consistently in the top world bracket, and has been recipient of its highest award, the Thomas Cup, several times.

On 1 July 1975, the World Heavyweight Boxing Championship, the most famous sporting event ever to be staged in the nation, took place at Merdeka Stadium in Kuala Lumpur. The match was between reigning world champion, Muhammad Ali and the European champion Joe Bugner. Ali, who was the crowd favourite and a well-known champion of Islam, emerged victorious.

One of the high points in Malaysia's sporting history was in 1998 when it hosted the XVI Commonwealth Games at the new, purpose-built sports complex at Bukit Jalil in Kuala Lumpur. As the first Asian country to host the Games, Malaysia produced the biggest Games to date—with over 6,000 athletes from 71 nations—and also the best, judging by the reactions from athletes and spectators. That year, Malaysia won an unprecedented ten gold medals.



- 1 Thomas Cup badminton tournament, Stadium Negara, 12 May 1978 (NSTP)
- 2 The King and Queen meeting Muhammad Ali, 28 June 1975 (ANM)
- 3 Malaysian football squad for the Merdeka Tournament, 1991 (NSTP)
- 4 Muhammad Ali fighting Joe Bugner, Kuala Lumpur, 1 July 1975 (ANM)
- 5 Zafri Shab Sabikin warming up for the Asian X-treme Games, Kuala Lumpur, 22 January 2004 (NSTP)
- 6 Racers pass through Kuantan during Le Tour De Langkawi, 2003 (NSTP)
- 7 The starting line of the 2002 Formula One at Sepang
- 8 Johor-Singapore 2nd Link Bridge Run, 19 October 2003 (NSTP)
- 9 Badminton winners at the Commonwealth Games 1998 (NSTP)
- 10 Opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games 1998 (NSTP)





The 1970s saw the beginning of a change in Kuala Lumpur's skyline from one that was dominated by shophouses to that of high-rise buildings. With the forging of a new national identity, architects began designing buildings that would create a sense of a Malaysian style. This continued throughout the 1980s and the 1990s, with the result that Kuala Lumpur now boasts some of the region's most radical and aesthetic high-rise architecture.

Malaysian symbols and traditional elements were incorporated into the design of buildings: the 50-storey Menara Maybank (1989) was designed in the style of a kris, while the Dayabumi Complex (1984) (10) and the Lembaga Urusan Tabung Haji Building (1986) (3) were inspired by Islamic designs. The National Library (1) and National Theatre were inspired by traditional Malay headgear while the National Art Gallery has a Malay-style house roof.

Other high-rise constructions arose during the 1980s and 90s, which gave Kuala Lumpur's skyline a certain conformity in size. However this was radically altered with the construction of the Petronas Twin Towers (1991-98) which not only dwarfed the capital's other skyscrapers, but also succeeded in becoming the world's tallest buildings. Its two 88-storey towers, linked 170 metres above street level by a sky bridge, are the centrepiece of the Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC), which contains a 6-storey shopping and entertainment complex, a concert hall, an art gallery, as well as high-rise offices and hotels set around a 20-hectare park. Other notable landmarks constructed in the 1990s include the Menara Kuala Lumpur (Kuala Lumpur Tower), an elegant tower in the shape of a bamboo shoot: it is the world's third-highest telecommunications tower.

Surprisingly though, the highest building in Malaysia during the 1970s and 80s was not in Kuala Lumpur but in Penang. With a 65-storey circular tower, Kompleks Tun Abdul Razak—more popularly known as KOMTAR (8)—was constructed from 1976 to 1986. It is a distinct landmark in George Town and is still the highest building there today.



1 National Library, Kuala Lumpur, 1990s

2 Menara Maybank (centre) and Menara Kuala Lumpur (left), 1990s

3 Lembaga Urusan Tabung Haji Building, Kuala Lumpur, 2003

4 Wisma Tun Mustapha (Sabah Foundation Building), Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, 2003

5 National Science Centre (Negara Pusat Sains), Kuala Lumpur, 1990s

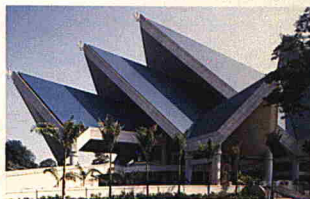
6 National Theatre (Istana Budaya), Kuala Lumpur, 1990s

7 Kuala Lumpur skyline, 2003

8 Kompleks Tun Abdul Razak (KOMTAR), Penang's tallest building, 2004

9 The unconventional Merinaga Building, designed to utilise natural light and ventilation, won an Aga Khan award in 1995, Subang Jaya, 2003

10 The Dayabumi Complex features Islamic-style arches and motifs, 1990s







It was evident even in the mid-1980s that Malaysia's infrastructure was struggling to keep pace with its rapid economic development. Penang's overcrowded ferries were noticeably relieved when the new 13.5-kilometre-long Penang Bridge—Asia's longest and the world's third-longest—opened in September 1985. The old single-lane trunk roads built by the British were also becoming clogged with lorries, the result of a burgeoning economy. To alleviate the problem, the first of the nation's mega projects—a dual-carriage tollway from Johor Bahru in the south to the Thai border in the north—was mooted.

The ambitious and costly North-South Expressway was constructed in stages throughout the 1990s. It has since proven to be enormously popular, many Malaysians use it on weekends to visit relatives in the rural areas. In the wake of its success, other tolled expressways have sprung up in Klang Valley, relieving traffic problems on the capital's notoriously overcrowded roads.

In Kuala Lumpur where alternatives to road travel were sorely lacking, a Light Rail Transit (LRT) rail network (2) was built and its first phase began operation in December 1996. This was followed by more LRT lines and a monorail which linked the city's hotel and business districts. In 2001, the old colonial railway station that had served as the nation's rail hub for close to a century delegated its role to KL Sentral, a state-of-the-art train terminal which was also connected to Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) (1) by an express rail link.

With the opening of KLIA in June 1998, Malaysian aviation began a new chapter in its history. The airport opened just in time for the influx of passengers arriving for the Commonwealth Games held later that year, and is a spectacular feat of construction that combines futuristic technology with symbols of Malaysian culture.

However, the most ambitious project to date is the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC), Malaysia's high-technology blueprint for the 21st century. This 15- by 50-kilometre corridor encompasses the Petronas Twin Towers, the Kuala Lumpur Tower, and continues south through the state of Selangor. It includes the Technology Park, and two 'intelligent cities', Putrajaya (3) (the new capital) and Cyberjaya. Pundits of this bold vision see it as the engine which will thrust Malaysia into the information age.

1 The departure hall of the Kuala Lumpur International Airport, 2004

2 Light Rail Transit (LRT) train approaching Sentral Station, Kuala Lumpur, 2003

3 Seri Wawasan is one of eight spectacular bridges in Putrajaya, 2003

4 A section of the North-South Expressway at Nilai, 2003

5 Computerized information station at an exhibition in Kuala Lumpur, 2003

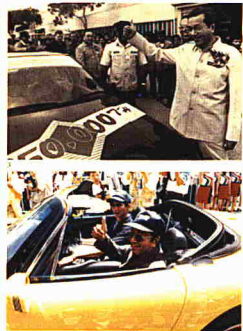


In 1970, the Malaysian economy was still based on the two giants of rubber and tin. But prices for these two commodities were unstable and the future of tin was bleak. Oil palm had become the new success story, but the government realised that the agro-mining economy needed to be modernised in order for the nation to progress. By 1980, this was achieved and the economy was growing at an average of eight per cent per year.

Economic planning, however, was given an enormous boost in the 1970s, with the almost simultaneous discovery of petroleum and natural gas fields off the shores of Sarawak, Sabah and Terengganu. Although the petroleum industry in Sarawak had been in existence since 1910 and was a major contributor to the state's economy before World War II, the oilfields were in decline. In 1974, Petrolia Nasional Berhad (PETRONAS) was set up to develop and regulate the industry. In its first year as a foreign export earner in 1976, petroleum earnings contributed 18 per cent of total exports from Malaysia. By the end of the millennium, PETRONAS had more than 100 subsidiaries and affiliates with operations in over two dozen countries and annual revenues of over US\$1 billion. Petronas Twin Towers, its headquarters, are among the world's tallest buildings, symbolic of this global player with business activities ranging from oil and gas exploration and refining to shipping and property development.

Of all the industrialisation plans, none has been as celebrated as the National Car project. It began in 1982 as a joint venture between Perusahaan Otomobil Nasional Bhd (PROTON), Hicom Bhd and Mitsubishi Motor Corporation. Five years after the first Proton Saga rolled off the assembly line in July 1985, PROTON captured 70 per cent of the local car market. In 1990, the company took over British automotive company Lotus Group International Ltd and since 1998 has been a full-fledged manufacturer overseeing the entire production. Meanwhile, a second national car was mooted and Perusahaan Otomobil Kedua Sdn Bhd (PERODUA) was set up in April 1993. A year later the first Kancils appeared, followed by a variety of new designs that have since made enormous inroads into the car market.

In the 1970s, the manufacturing sector was opened to foreign investment, and multi-national companies flocked in, attracted by an educated and inexpensive workforce. With renowned electronics companies setting up factories manufacturing semiconductors in the 1980s, Penang became known as Asia's Silicon Valley. By the 1990s, Malaysia had the largest concentration of integrated circuit assembly factories in the world. Recent moves into the water-fabrication industry have seen billion-dollar plants built in Kedah and Sarawak, while the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) is where the future lies not only for the electronics industry, but also for Malaysia's plans of moving towards a knowledge-driven economy.



1 Popular Malaysian singer Sudirman heads the Saga musical to officially

launch the Proton Saga, 1 September 1985 (NSTP)

2 Guests admiring the new Proton Saga at the pre-launch, 9 July 1985 (NSTP)

3 Dr Mahathir with the 150,000th Proton Saga, 3 December 1989 (NSTP)

4 Dr Mahathir with Malaysia's first Formula One racer, Alex Yoong, giving the thumbs up for the TVR Chimaera sports car (NSTP)

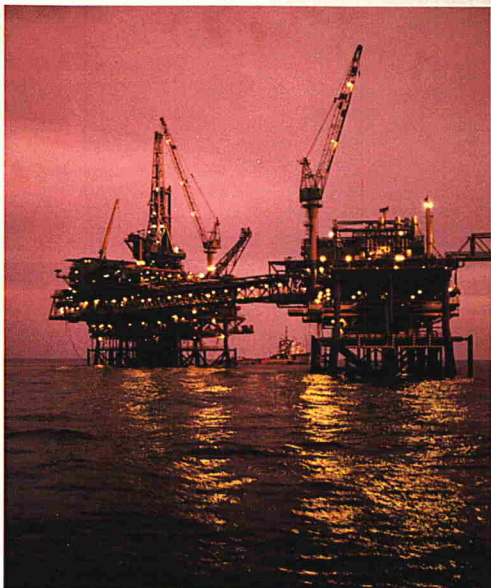
5 PETRONAS petrochemical integrated complex at Kertih, Terengganu, 2002

6 Sourcing information at the wired village, Kuala Selangor, 2002

7 Edean Madenas motorcycle manufacturing plant, Kedah, 2003

8 Offshore oil rigs off the Terengganu coast, 1990s (NSTP)

9 Workers at an electronics factory, Penang, 1990s







In the 1970s, many scholars predicted the demise of Malaysia's traditional arts and crafts. However, the rise of tourism, as well as increased pride in the nation's unique handicrafts have seen these crafts not only survive but prosper.

Batik cloth, which is often used to symbolise Malaysia, is used by the national airlines for its uniforms, batik shirts are de rigueur as men's formal attire and even compulsory dress at the nation's only casino, while women wear batik as sarongs and with the traditional dress known as *kayu kurung*. Most batik is still produced by hand in cottage-craft industries in Kelantan and Terengganu. Both states are also at the forefront of other Malay crafts, including the weaving of songket (silk-brocade), which is used for royal occasions and wedding ceremonies.

In Sarawak, the Iban keep up their weaving traditions with the production of *ikat* (tie-dyed woven yarn) cloth, while in Sabah, the Rungus people near Kudat are famous for their headwork and their traditional woven outfits in black and red stripes. They also produce gongs, which are an essential part of Kadazan music.

Malay woodcarving, another traditional skill that is regaining popularity, is now used to adorn the walls of museums and the foyers of banks, businesses and government offices. Other woodcarving traditions have survived: the Mah Meri of Pulau Carey, Selangor, carve legendary figures that are believed to possess the spirits of their ancestors; the Iban of Sarawak carve spectacular hornbill sculptures, while the upriver Orang Ulu craft wooden musical instruments and paint spectacular murals on their longhouse walls. In Perak, potters continue to create the popular *laku sayong* (clay water vessels).

In the urban areas, artists such as Rafiee Ghani and Harris Ribut draw on their childhood memories of village life to create modern art that is evocative of Malaysian arts and crafts today.

1 Harris Ribut painting, Kuala Lumpur, 2001

2 Puppet maker, Kelantan, 2001

3 Finely plaited patterned mats and baskets from Sarawak, 1996

4 Producing clay water pots at Sayong, Perak, 2002

5 Sarawak Chinese phoenix and peony embroidery with beadwork, 1992 (NSTP)

6 Kite-maker, 1994

7 Hand painted batik, 1994

8 Iban Krayak hornbill effigy, 1996

9 Beaded rattan baby-carrier from Sarawak, 2000

10 Pouring molten pewter to make handles at Royal Selangor, 2003

11 Weaving *ikat* (tie-dyed woven yarn) cloth, Sarawak Cultural Village, 2000

12 Antique songket (silk-brocade) from Kelantan, 1999 (NSTP)

13 Orang Asli woodcarver, 2000



Malaysia is home to a diverse collection of native peoples. The earliest known people, known collectively as the Orang Asli, comprise three distinct groups, the nomadic Negrilo, the Senoi cultivator and other smaller tribes which number around 116,000 in total and live exclusively in Peninsular Malaysia. Previously forest dwellers, some Orang Asli still hunt and gather rainforest produce, but many now live in settlements close to towns and schools, while others have embraced the urban lifestyle.

Both Sarawak and Sabah are home to many ethnic groups, all of whom are of Austronesian stock, the same as the Malays. In Sabah, the Kadazandusun are the largest ethnic group, smaller sub-groupings include the longhouse-dwelling Rungus. Although the Kadazandusun are well represented in the rural areas, they are also very active in government and other professions and form a vital part of the Kota Kinabalu urban scene. Other Sabah peoples include the Murut, Bajau, Bisayah, Suluk, Lundayeh and Kedayan.

In Sarawak, the Iban form the majority of the population and are found in diverse occupations, from engineers to entertainers, teacher to traders. Other large communities comprise the Dayak of the Melanau, as well as the Orang Ulu peoples, including the Kayan and Kenyah, Kajang, Kelabit, Lun Bawang and Braya; and the nomadic Penan.

Small enclaves of Peranakans (Straits-born Chinese) (3) in Melaka and Penang, Chitties (Straits-born Indians) (6) and Portuguese (4) (both in Melaka) also contribute to the diverse population mix found in Malaysia and continue to uphold their heritage through festivals and cultural practices.



1 Kanyah musician playing the sapeh (lute) with traditional mural behind. Sarawak, 2001

2 Semporna fishing village, Sabah, 2003

3 Group of Peranakan (Straits-born Chinese) women dressed in traditional sarong and kebaya (blouse), Penang, 1990b

4 Portuguese community in Melaka performing folk dances, 2003

5 Iban performing bamboo dance, Kuching, Sarawak, 1999

6 Chitty (Straits-born Indians) wedding, Melaka, 2003

7 Penan hunters, Sarawak, 1990b

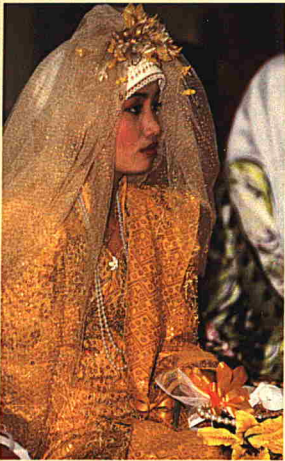
8 High priestesses, Sabah, 2002

9 Rungus man with traditional head gear and beads, Kudat, Sabah, 2000

10 Jab Hut Orang Asli hunter, 2002

11 Orang Ulu women, 2002







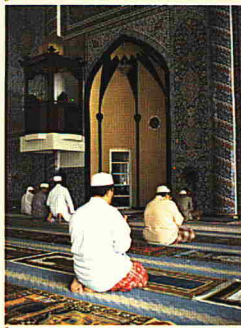
In the 2000 census, Malaysia's population stood at just over 23 million, of which the Malays comprised almost 14 million. This represents slightly more than 60 per cent of the population compared to the previous decade when it was approximately 55 per cent. The increase is attributed to the slightly higher birth rate of the Malays, which stands at 28.2 per 1,000 people, compared to that of the Chinese and Indians, at 22 and 21.9 respectively.

Malays also tend to marry earlier than the other races, although this does not affect the percentage of women who work. Malay women can be found in a variety of occupations, ranging from factory workers to high-profile executives. In the rural areas, particularly in Kelantan, many Malay women run small businesses ranging from silk-weaving to direct selling.

Although many Malays still prefer to work in the government because of the security it offers, with assured pensions and easy-access home loans, an increasing number of young people are venturing into the private sector. Before 1970, the number of Malays in business was very small, but as a result of the New Economic Policy (NEP) that was put in place to protect the interests of the Bumiputera (sons of the soil), the last decade has seen enormous growth in Malay business participation. Today, the 'New Malay', with his Mercedes, bungalow, country-club membership and upwardly mobile lifestyle, constitutes a growing part of the urban scenery.

In the rural areas, many Malays still work in the time-honoured occupations of fishing and farming, as well as participate in various trades from mechanical work to traditional crafts. Traditional Malay homes are still a feature of the landscape in Melaka (4), Terengganu (8) and Kuala Selangor (9). But no matter where they live or what their occupation, they share a strong bond with each other, particularly through their common religion of Islam (7).

Religious festivals such as Ramadan and the Hari Raya celebrations at its close, Hari Raya Haji, which commemorates the pilgrimage to Mecca, as well as the Islamic New Year are all occasions for community participation. Hari Raya is celebrated with enthusiasm, with all wearing their best traditional outfits. Weddings (1) and engagements are important social events, when it is not unusual for an entire *kampung* (village) to be invited, while birthdays, although not part of Islamic tradition, are also celebrated on special occasions such as the 100th birthday of a village elder. Adad bin Liander in Rawang (2). Elders are highly revered in Malay society and are always included in family gatherings. They also play a major role in passing on their knowledge, such as this woman teaching girls how to read the Qur'an (3), and in traditional crafts like kite-making (5).



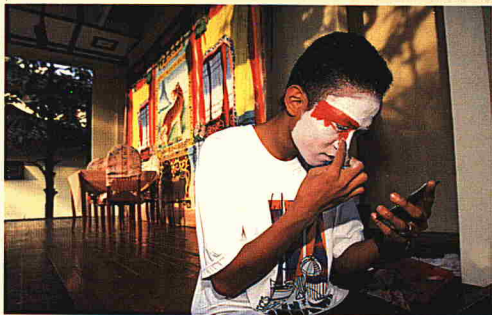


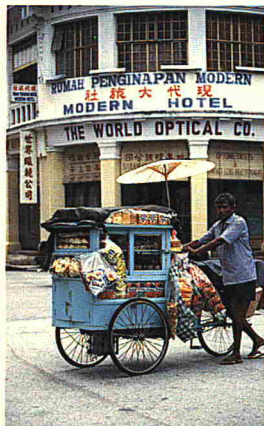


Although Chinese Malaysians number only 5.6 million, they constitute just over a quarter of Malaysia's population. They are highly visible as 90 per cent of them live in the urban areas and they can be found in every occupation. In reality, however, the proportion of Chinese Malaysians has been steadily declining—in 1970, they comprised 35.6 per cent of the population. This decline has been attributed to migration, a growing emphasis on career, delayed marriages and fewer children due to the higher costs of raising children and their education. Between 1980 and 1991, over 200,000 Chinese emigrated although this figure was much reduced in the following decade when only 31,000 emigrated.

The Hokkien, Khek (Hakka) and Cantonese constitute the major dialect groups, with significant numbers of Teochew, Henghua, Kwongsai and Foochow as well. Many Chinese are involved in occupations related to production, transport and sales, while those involved in agriculture have declined considerably. By 2001, only 11 per cent were employed in this sector. In the past, different dialect groups were associated with various occupations and although many of these categories are now obsolete, some still survive—the Teochew are mostly involved in rice-farming in Selangor, the Hokkien in pig-farming in Port Dickson and the Foochow in agriculture in Manjung, Perak.

Although many Chinese have moved from their hometowns to the anonymity of new suburbs, family and clan ties are still priorities for many of them, especially during the festive seasons such as Chinese New Year (7), a time for family reunions, feasting, and visiting friends to wish them prosperity. Making offerings to ancestors and gods is done all-year round at the many temples throughout Malaysia such as the Snake (5) and Goddess of Mercy temples (6) in Penang, the Tzen Sin Kung temple in Kelantan (11), and Sarawak's oldest temple Tua Pek Kong (1856), in Kuching (10).







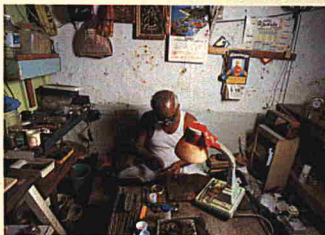
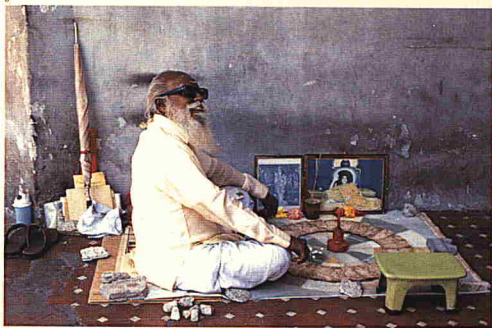
In 1991, Indian Malaysians numbered around 1.4 million, almost 10 per cent of the population. A decade later, their numbers increased to 1.6 million, yet they comprised only 7 per cent of the total population of 23 million. The proportion of Indians in the Malaysian population is expected to continue to decrease, especially as the other ethnic populations continue to increase. Other factors contributing to the decline include delayed marriages, a falling birth rate, and increased migration.

The largest group of Indians comes from southern India, with Tamils constituting 80 per cent of the total. There are smaller percentages of Sikhs, Bengalis, Keralans, Telegus, Parsis and Malayalis. Most Indians live in the west coast states of Selangor, Perak, Penang and Negeri Sembilan, although there are small numbers of Indians in every Malaysian state.

Although many Tamils still work as labourers on plantations, a legacy of the colonial era, there is a move towards urban lifestyles. As Malaysia gains economic prosperity, Indian communities are increasingly represented in many professions such as law (2), food services (5), grocery stores (8), fortune-telling (7), music (9) and goldsmithing (10).

In the northern states of Perak and Penang, Indian Muslims have a strong presence in the trading community where they are most prominent in the money-changing, textile and gold business as well as the restaurant trade. 'Mamak' restaurants, run by Muslims of mixed Malay and Indian parentage, are a well-known and growing feature of the urban scenery in Malaysia.

Indians are extremely diligent at conserving their culture and preserve their traditions of religion, dress and cuisine no matter where they live. The Hindu wedding (6) still adheres to its age-old form, as do the daily prayers known as puja (3). Indian-made textiles, such as those worn by classical dancers (4), are most often advertised on chick blinds, such as this one in Taiping (1).



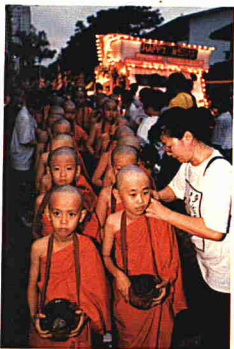


Malaysia's diverse cultures and religions can be easily gleaned from a glance at the annual calendar, on which all the major religious events of Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and Christianity as well as Sabah and Sarawak's harvest festivals, the high point of their traditional beliefs, are listed. This multi-cultural diversity is best summed up by a uniquely Malaysian event, the 'Open House'. This is when Malaysians of all creeds and ethnic persuasions invite their neighbours and friends to their homes to participate in the festivities and sample the cuisines and hospitality that the nation is famous for. The most celebrated Open House is staged by the Prime Minister every Hari Raya at his official residence.

During Ramadan, when Muslims fast from dawn to dusk, the evening meal, known as *berbuka puasa* (breaking of the fast), is a much anticipated event even in the most humble of circumstances. Before Hari Raya Puasa, many Malaysians journey to their hometowns by every available means, with plane, rail and bus tickets booked weeks in advance. On the day itself, families wear new clothes, pay their respect to their elders, enjoy traditional foods and embark on a month-long series of 'open-house' visits.

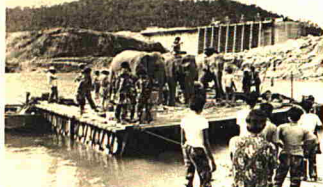
The most important Chinese festival is Chinese New Year when families are reunited, ang pow (cash gifts in envelopes) given out, and traditional foods eaten for a prosperous and healthy future. Buddhists celebrate Vesak Day, the birthday of the Buddha, and Hindus have a variety of festivals, the most important being Deepavali (Festival of Lights) and Thaipusam, which is a celebration of atonement.

Christmas as well as Easter and other festivals is widely celebrated in Malaysia by Christians. The celebration of St Peter's birthday (Festa de San Pedro) to thank the patron saint of fishermen for protecting the Portuguese fishing community is unique to the Portuguese-Eurasian community in Melaka.



- 1 Celebrating the Indian festival of Thaipusam, Penang, 2002
- 2 Three generations celebrate Hari Raya, 1999 (NSTP)
- 3 Young monks lining up for Vesak Day, 1994 (NSTP)
- 4 Children reading cards at Chinese New Year, 1996 (NSTP)
- 5 Family celebrating Moon Cake Festival, Botanical Gardens, Penang, 2003
- 6 Fishermen breaking fast on their boat during Ramadan, 1994 (NSTP)
- 7 Devotees throng the temple stairs at Batu Caves during Thaipusam, 2003
- 8 Christmas nativity play, 1994 (NSTP)
- 9 Malay children lighting lamps before Hari Raya, 1999 (NSTP)
- 10 Chinese girls lighting incense to celebrate Chinese New Year, 1996 (NSTP)
- 11 Lion dancer, Chinese New Year, Kuala Lumpur, 1999 (NSTP)





Malaysia is a land of infinite geographical diversity; it contains some of the world's oldest rainforests and spectacular coral reefs. Much of Malaysia is covered with forests, oil palm and rubber plantations. The nation's first national park, Taman Negara, was gazetted in 1938, setting a trend that continues today as more nature reserves and state and national parks are proposed on both land and sea. The four largest in Peninsular Malaysia today are Taman Negara (4,343 square kilometres), Endau Rompin (789 square kilometres), Cameron Highlands Wildlife Sanctuary (649 square kilometres) and Krau Wildlife Reserve (530 square kilometres). Sarawak has 10 national parks and three wildlife sanctuaries, which total 2,901 square kilometres, while Sabah's protected areas total 5,270 square kilometres.

As the world's 12th most biologically diverse country, Malaysia is home to a wide range of plants and wildlife. Facilitated by government wildlife and forestry departments in conjunction with several non-governmental organisations such as the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Malaysia, the Malaysian Nature Society and the Malaysian Society of Marine Sciences a network of protected areas is set up for them.

Throughout the 1970s and the 1980s, land-development schemes, logging and agriculture contributed to the loss of much of the nation's lowland forests and a large percentage of wetlands. Many rivers have been polluted by industrial waste and effluents, while air pollution from open burning in both Malaysia and its neighbouring countries has become a regional concern. However, concrete efforts to preserve the nation's priceless environmental heritage have been made in the recent past as there is growing awareness of the effects of pollution on the environment and how it may affect the future wellbeing of Malaysians. Legislation provides for the protection of wildlife with heavy penalties imposed and imprisonment for those who infringe the laws on protected animals. The Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre Sanctuary in Sabah has had great success in the rehabilitation of captive orangutans, while the Elephant Relocation Programme has given new homes to elephants from settled areas.



1 Operation Jumbo—rescuing elephants trapped on an island in Kenya Dam, Terengganu, 1984 (NSRP)

2 Rhinoceros hornbill, 2002

3 Nepenthes sp. (pitcher plant), 2003

4 Rafflesia sp. flower, the largest flower in the world, 2003

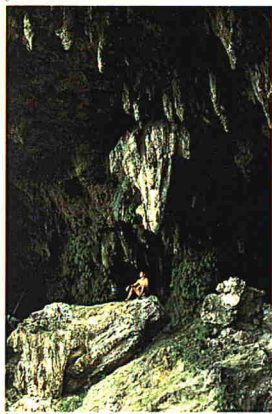
5 Lake Gardens with Maxwell Hill in the background, Taiping, 1995

6 Iban house at Sarawak Cultural Village, Kuching, 2003

7 Entrance of Lang Cave, Malu National Park, Sarawak, 2002

8 Forest view at the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre, Sabah, 2002

9 Canoeing at Malu National Park, Sarawak, 2002







With such a diverse population and wealth of natural wonders, it is not surprising that tourism has become an important part of Malaysia's economy and a major source of foreign exchange. In the 1970s, there were only a few deluxe-style hotels in the major cities. In the rural areas, travellers had no choice but to stay in old colonial-style resthouses or very basic *rumah tumpangan* (guesthouse). There were a few exceptions, however, such as Ye Olde Smokehouse Inn at Cameron Highlands, which still operates as a luxury hill resort and the Eastern and Oriental Hotel (commonly known as the E & O Hotel) in Penang.

By the year 2000, there was hardly any area of Malaysia that had not seen major tourism development. The east coast islands, which have long lured travellers with their pristine beaches and clear waters, saw tourist operations evolving from small, family-run chalets to luxury resorts complete with dive shops and water sports facilities. But nowhere is the change as apparent as on Langkawi, which has been transformed from a sleepy, off-the-beaten track island to one of the world's foremost tourist destinations. Much of its success has been attributed to former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Today, some of the world's top resorts can be found in Malaysia, such as Pangkor Laut off the coast of Perak, The Datai, The Andaman and Tanjung Rhu Resort in Langkawi, Tanjung Jara in Terengganu, and the mega-sized resort complex Sutera Harbour which was built on reclaimed land beside Kota Kinabalu in Sabah.

- 1 Mount Kinabalu, Malaysia's highest peak at 4,101 metres, the centrepiece of the nation's first World Heritage-nominated park
- 2 Luxury hotel on Payar Island, Langkawi, 1998
- 3 Canopy walk at the Forest Research Institute Malaysia, Kepong, 2002
- 4 & 9 Islands in Sabah, 2003
- 5 Rafting in Taman Negara, 2002
- 6 Birdwatching on the canopy walk at the Borneo Rainforest Lodge, Danum Valley, Sabah, 2000
- 7 Small ferryboats ply the river in front of the Antana in Kuching, 2002
- 8 Beachfront Burau Bay, Langkawi, 2003
- 10 Royal Mulu Resort, Sarawak, 2002



After decades of disregard, Malaysia's historical buildings are finally being recognised as an integral part of the nation's past as well as a vital part of its future. Saving the built environment is not only important in creating a sense of historical continuity, it also attracts tourists, who more often than not prefer the architecture of the past rather than that of the present.

From the 1970s to the 90s, much of the nation's built heritage was protected under the Rent Control Act. When the Act was repealed in 2000, great concern arose over what would happen to the thousands of old shophouses across the nation when their occupants were forced to move due to increasing rents. However, although many families and traditional businesses had to move out, some shophouse owners restored their buildings and used them for a range of businesses, from boutique hotels to art galleries and restaurants.

Two of Malaysia's most famous historical towns, Melaka and George Town in Penang, are at the forefront of heritage conservation, and are expected to receive World Heritage listing by 2005. Penang leads the way with its vocal and hardworking Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion (6, 8 and 9) which won UNESCO's Asia Pacific Conservation prize in 2000, the Aschew Street Mosque, the Khoo Kongsi and the Eastern & Oriental Hotel.

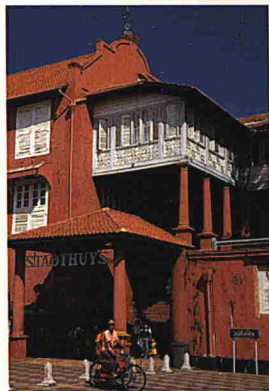
However, there are still many other historical buildings which are slowly disappearing. These include the unique traditional wooden houses of the Malays that are vanishing in the wake of popular brick homes in the Western style. Much still needs to be done to educate Malaysians to appreciate the built environment of the past as much as they enjoy that of the present.



1. Shophouse converted into an antique gallery, Melaka, 2002
2. Wrought iron latticework on a Penang mansion, 2000
3. Originally located in Kedah, this Malay headman's house was restored by Badan Warisan Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, 1998
4. The Istana Kenangan in Kuala Lumpur, Perak, now houses the Royal Museum, 1998
5. Old China Café, Kuala Lumpur, 2000
6. Craftsmen were brought to Penang from China to restore the intricate Chinese nién porcelain shard decoration, a major feature of Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion, Penang, 2003
7. Tiled five-foot way in front of George Town shophouses, 2001
- 8 & 9. Cheong Fatt Tze Mansion, Penang, 2002
10. Built by the Dutch, the Stadthuys in Melaka is a popular tourist stop, 2002

FOLLOWING PAGES

Kuala Lumpur skyline, 2002







SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

BOOKS AND ARTICLES

- Ahmad Sarji (1996), *The Chief Secretary to the Government*, Malaysia: Kuala Lumpur: Pelanduk Publications
- Ahmad Sarji and James Harding (2002), *P Ramlee: The Bright Star*, Kuala Lumpur: Pelanduk Publications
- Andaya, Barbara Watson & Andaya, Leonard Y. (2001), *A History of Malaysia*, 2nd edn, London: Palgrave
- Arasatnam, S. (1970), *Indians in Malaysia and Singapore*, London: Institute of Race Relations
- Barlow, H. S. (1995), *Sweetenham*, Kuala Lumpur: Southdene
- Bhanu, Shamira (ed.) (1994), *The Crafts of Malaysia*, Singapore: Archipelago Press
- Bird, Isabella L. (1883), *The Golden Chersonese: Travels in Malaya in 1879*, reprinted Singapore: Oxford University Press, 1985
- Blythe, Wilfred (1969), *The Impact of Chinese Secret Societies in Malaya: A Historical Study*, London: Oxford University Press
- Bock, Carl (1881), *An Illustrated Guide to the Federated Malay States*, reprinted Singapore: Oxford University Press, 1991
- Brooke, Margaret (1989), *My Life in Sarawak*, Singapore: Oxford University Press
- Brown, C. C. (transl.) (1952), *Sejarah Melayu* JMBRAS, Vol XXV, Part 2 & 3, Singapore: Malaya Publishing House
- Butcher, John G. (1979), *The British in Malaya 1880-1941: The Social History of a European Community in Colonial South-East Asia*, Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press
- Chai, Hon-Chan (1964), *The Development of British Malaya 1896-1909*, Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press
- Chang, Tommy and Hutton, Wendy (1996), *Sabah Malaysian Borneo People & Place*, Kota Kinabalu: Tommy Chang Productions
- Cheah Boon Kheng (vol. ed.) (2001), *The Encyclopedia of Malaysia*, Vol. 7 *Early Modern History*, Kuala Lumpur: Archipelago Press
- Chen Yoon Fee (vol. ed.) (1998), *The Encyclopedia of Malaysia*, Vol. 5 *Architecture*, Kuala Lumpur: Archipelago Press
- Chen Yoon Fee and Chin Kon Yit (1998), *Kuala Lumpur: A Sketchbook*, Singapore: Archipelago Press
- (2001), *Penang Sketchbook*, Singapore: Archipelago Press
- (2003), *Landmarks of Selangor*, Kuala Lumpur: Jugra Publications
- Chew, Daniel (1990), *Chinese Pioneers on the Sarawak Frontier 1841-1941*, Singapore: Oxford University Press
- Chiang Hai Ding (1978), *A History of Straits Settlements Foreign Trade 1870-1915*, Singapore: National Museum
- Chin Peng (2003), *My Side of History*, Singapore: Media Masters
- Chin, Lucas and Mashman, Valerie (eds.) (1991), *Sarawak Cultural Legacy: a Living Tradition*, Kuching: Society Atelier Sarawak
- Cowan, C. D. (1961), *Nineteenth Century Malaya: The Origins of British Political Control*, London: Oxford University Press
- Cubitt, G., Lau, Dennis and Payne, Junaidi (1994), *This is Borneo*, London: New Holland
- Cubitt, G. and Moore, Wendy (1995), *This is Malaysia*, London: New Holland
- Falconer, John (1995), *A Vision of the Past: A History of Early Photography in Singapore and Malaya*, The Photographs of G.R. Lambert & Co., 1880-1910, Singapore: Times Editions
- Frizot, Michel (ed.) (1998), *A History of Early Photography*, Cologne: Konemann
- Gallop, Annabel Teh (1994), *The Legacy of the Malay Letter*, London: British Library for the National Archives of Malaysia
- Gulick, J. M. (1988), *Indigenous Political Systems of Western Malaya*, rev. edn, London: Athlone Press
- (1988), *Kuala Lumpur 1880-1895*, Kuala Lumpur: Pelanduk
- (1989), *Malay Society in the Late Nineteenth Century: The Beginnings of Change*, Singapore: Oxford University Press
- (1992), *Rulers and Residents: Influence and Power in the Malay States 1870-1920*, Singapore: Oxford University Press
- (1993), *Glimpses of Selangor 1860-1898*, MBRAS Monograph No. 25, Kuala Lumpur: MBRAS
- (1994), *Old Kuala Lumpur*, Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press
- (2000), *A History of Kuala Lumpur 1856-1919*, JMBRAS Monograph no. 29, Kuala Lumpur: MBRAS
- Halim, N. A. (1981), *Tempat-Tempat Bersejarah Perak*, Kuala Lumpur: Jabatan Muzium
- Harrison, Cuthbert Woodville (1923), *An Illustrated Guide to the Federated Malay States*, reprinted Singapore: Oxford University Press, 1985
- Hill, A. H. (transl.) (1955), *The Hikayat Abdullah* in JMBRAS, Vol 28, Pt. 3, Singapore: Malaya Publishing House
- Holman, Dennis (1958), *Nosone of the Ulu*, London: Heinemann
- Hose, Charles (1926), *Natural Man: A Record from Borneo*, London: Macmillan
- Hovi, Sarnia Hayes (1991), *Old Penang*, Singapore: Oxford University Press
- Hutton, Wendy (1997), *East Malaysia & Brunei*, Singapore: Periplus Editions
- Kennedy, J. (1993), *A History of Malaya*, 3rd edn, Kuala Lumpur: A Abdul Majed & Co.
- Khasnor, Johan (1984), *The Emergence of the Modern Malay Administrative Elite*, Singapore: Oxford University Press
- Khooy Kay Kim (1972), *The Western Malay States 1859-1873: The Effects of Commercial Development on Malay Politics*, Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press

- Khoos Salma Nasution and Malcolm Wade (2003), *Penang Postcard Collection 1899-1930s*, Penang: Janus Print & Resources.
- Khoos Su Nin (1994), *Streets of George Town Penang*, Penang: Janus Print & Resources.
- King, Victor I. (1993), *The Peoples of Borneo*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.
- Lau, Dennis (1995), *Penans: The Vanishing Nomads of Borneo*, Kota Kinabalu: Inter-State Publishing.
- Linehan, W. (1973), *A History of Pahang*, Kuala Lumpur: Charles Grenier (previously published as Volume XIV, Part II, JMBRAS, May 1936).
- Ling Roth, Henry (1980), *The Natives of Sarawak and British North Borneo*, Kuala Lumpur: University of Malaya Press.
- Liu, Gretchen (1999), *Singapore: A Pictorial History 1819-2000*, Singapore: Archipelago Press and National Heritage Board.
- Lloyd, R. Ian and Moore, Wendy (1986), *Malacca*, Singapore: Times Editions.
- (1987), *To Know Malaysia*, Singapore: R. Ian Lloyd Productions.
- Lockard, Craig A. and Kennedy, Graham E. (1992), *Old Sarawak: A Pictorial Study*, Kuala Lumpur: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka.
- Loh, Laurence Kwong Yu and Ooi Keat Jin (eds.), (2002), *Early Views of Penang & Malacca (1660-1880)*, Penang: Lembaga Muzium Pulau Pinang.
- Marryat, Frank S. (1848), *Borneo and the Indian Archipelago, with Drawings of Costume and Scenery*, London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longman.
- Mills, J. V. (transl.) (1997), *Ereola's Description of Malacca, Meridional India & Cathay*, JMBRAS Reprint 14, Kuala Lumpur: MBRAS.
- Moh, Alex and Li-En Chong (eds), *Malaysian Photography: History and Beyond*, Kuala Lumpur: National Art Gallery Malaysia.
- Mohanlal, Premilla (2002), *Green Malaysia: Rainforest Encounters*, Kuala Lumpur: Malaysian Timber Council.
- Mohar bin H. Md. Dom (1979), *Malay Superstitions and Beliefs*, Kuala Lumpur: Feral Press.
- Moore, Wendy (1991), *Introduction to Malaysia*, Hong Kong: Odyssey.
- (ed.) (1993), *Peninsular Malaysia & Singapore*, Singapore: Periplus Editions.
- Nik Abdul Rashid bin Nik Abdul Majid (1997), *A Century of the Conference of Rulers 1897-1997*, Kuala Lumpur: Officer of the Keeper of the Rulers' Seal.
- Nik Hassan Shuhaimi Nik Abdul Rahman (vol. ed.) (1998), *The Encyclopedia of Malaysia, Vol. 3 Early History*, Kuala Lumpur: Archipelago Press.
- Noor Aini Syed Amir (1991), *Malaysian Customs and Etiquette*, Singapore: Times Books International.
- Ord-Smith, T. J. (1998), *Carcosa: The First Century*, Kuala Lumpur: Carcosa Sdn. Bhd.
- Pan, Lynn (ed.) (1998), *The Encyclopedia of the Chinese Overseas*, Singapore: Archipelago Press and Landmark Books.
- Reece, Bob (2004), *The White Rajahs of Sarawak: A Borneo Story*, Singapore: Archipelago Press.
- Shuttleworth, Charles (1981), *Malaysia's Green & Timeless World*, Kuala Lumpur: Heinemann Asia.
- Spruit, Ruud (1995), *The Land of the Sultans: An Illustrated History of Malaysia*, Amsterdam: The Pepin Press.
- Suárez, Thomas (1999), *Early Mapping of Southeast Asia*, Singapore: Periplus Editions.
- Syed Ahmad Jamal (1994), *Form & Soul*, Kuala Lumpur: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka/Ministry of Education Malaysia.
- Tate, D. J. (comp.) (1988), *Rajah Brooke's Borneo*, Hong Kong: John Nicholson.
- (comp.) (1989), *Straits Affairs: The Malay World & Singapore*, Hong Kong: John Nicholson.
- Tate, D. J., Ng, David and Tan, Stephen (1987), *Kuala Lumpur in Postcards 1900-1930*, Kuala Lumpur: Penerbit Fajar Bakti Sdn. Bhd.
- Tregonning, K. G. (1985), *Straits Tin*, Singapore: Tien Wah Press (Pte) Ltd.
- Vaughan, J. D. (1992), *The Manners & Customs of the Chinese*, Singapore: Oxford University Press.
- Winstedt, R. O. (1932), *A History of Johore (1365-1941)*, reprinted Kuala Lumpur: MBRAS Reprint No 6, 1992.
- (1935), *A History of Malaya*, reprinted Kuala Lumpur: Marican & Sons, 1982.
- (1947), *The Malays: A Cultural History*, Singapore: Graham Brash.
- (1951), *The Malay Magician*, Singapore: Oxford University Press.
- Wong, C. S. and Pinsler, R. (1987), *An Illustrated Cycle of Chinese Festivities in Malaysia and Singapore*, Singapore: MPH Ltd.
- Wright, A. and Cartwright, H. A. (1908), *Twentieth Century Impressions of British Malaya*, London: Lloyd's Greater Britain Publishing Co.
- YM Che Puan Temenggung Perlis (1995), *Putra: An authorized biography on the private life of HRH the Raja of Perlis, Tuanku Syed Putra Jamalullail*, Singapore: Times Editions Pte Ltd.

JOURNALS AND COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATIONS

- Cheah Boon Kheng (1994), 'Feudalism in pre-colonial Malaya: The Past as a Colonial Discourse', *Journal of Southeast Asian Studies*, 25 (2) 243-69.
- MBRAS (1949) first published as *Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Volume XXII, Part 3, republished 1982 as reprint, *Papers Relating to Terengganu*, Kuala Lumpur.
- Sempena Hari Pertabalan (2001) *Commemorative book on the Installation of the Raja of Perlis, 1 May 2001*.
- Berita Publishing (1998, 2000, 2001, 2002), *Information Malaysia Yearbook*, Kuala Lumpur.

INDEX

A

- A Famosa 22, 23, 28, 30, 58, 124
 Aa, Pierre van de 23
 Abbas Abdul Manan 277
 Abdul Aziz, Raja (Perak) 196
 Abdul Aziz, Sultan (Perak) 222
 Abdul Aziz, Tunku (Kedah) 81, 126
 Abdul Aziz, Tunku (Terengganu) 171
 Abdul Aziz, Ungku 269, 303
 Abdul Halim, Sultan 247, 287
 Abdul Hamid Halimshah, Sultan 81, 127, 168, 219
 Abdul Rahman, Tuanku 222, 225, 250, 251, 253, 254, 255, 257
 Abdul Rahman Putra, Tunku 197, 214, 215, 219, 220, 225, 228, 229, 231, 234, 235, 250, 251, 269, 272, 283, 286, 287, 288
 Abdul Razak bin Hussein 221, 236, 237, 253, 255, 256, 257, 260, 283, 284, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291
 Abdul Samad, Sultan 61, 61, 66, 67, 95, 99, residence 67
 Abdullah, Munshi 23, 25
 Abdullah, Sultan (Perak) 61, 64, 65
 Abdullah Ahmad Badawi 285, 293, 296-9
 Abraham, Dr 54, 113
 Abu Bakar, Sultan (Johor) 43, 61, 129, 173, 202, palace 129
 Abu Bakar, Sultan (Palang) 7, 165, 170, 171, 186, 187, 206, 222, 271
 Adad bin Lander 318
 Ahmad Muazzam Shah, Sultan 61, 95, 134, 135
 Ahmad Sarip 293
 Air-traffic controllers course 270
 Airports 270-1
 Alaeddin Suleiman Shah, Sultan (Selangor) 14, 99, 168
 Albert, Prince 45
 Albuquerque, Alonso de 21-2, 28
 Alexandria Hotel Bath Establishment 80, 81
 Ali, Muhammad 306
 Alliance 220, 222, 225
 Ali Star, Balai Besar 247
 Amang Sultan Nasional 284
 Amee, Mr, house 33
 Amnah, Rajah 149
 Ampang, high-rise apartments 305
 Anderson, Sir John 83, 105, 136, 138, 141
 Anglo-Chinese School, Ipoh 108
 Anglo-Dutch Treaty 25, 30
 Anglo-Johor Treaty 173
 Anglo-Siamese Agreement (1902) 141, Treaty (1909) 126
 Anson, A.E.H. 61
 Anson, Lt Col, residence 53
 Anti-communist rallies 15, 218, 220, 228
 Antimony 73
 Anwar Ibrahim 285, 293, 296
 Archer, John 41
 Ariffin bin Haji Sulaiman 213

Arita, P. 165

- Armed Forces 164, 237, 277
 Armistice Day 14
 Artists 25, 33, 315
 ASEAN 289, 290
 Australian Infantry Force (AIF) 213
 Auto Mail Service 158
 Azman Hashim 296

B

- Bahas 153
 Badlishah, Sultan 215, 222, 228
 Bagan Serai ferry 208, 209
 Bakhay, Tuanku 247, 303
 Bajau 316
 Baling 201
 Banting 201
 Bangsar, eating stalls 305
 Bangsawan 149, 201
 Baram Fort 73
 Barent, Langens 29
 Bariah, Tengku 247, 277
 Barisan Nasional (BN) 283, 288
 Batik 315
 Batu Caves 96, 97, 325, Railway Station 102
 Batu Gajah 108, 109, Government English School hockey teams 166
 Behn Meyer office 146
 Bellamy, H.F. 71
 Bellamy, H.F. 316
 Birch, James W.W. 43, 64, 65
 Bird, Isabella 58, 77, 78, 100, 157
 Bisayah 316
 Boats, cargo 180, fishing 120, Malay 26, 27, 84, 123, regatta 189, sailing 179, sampan ferry 179
 Boh Plantations 182
 Boria 201
 Borneo Airways 270
 Borneo Rainforest Lodge 328
 Bot, Raja, house 66
 Briggs, Harold 228
 British Residents 42, 43, 6, rule 23-4, 30, 43, 61, 166-7, 168
 British East India Company 23, 24, 30, 53, 74
 British Military Administration 217
 British North Borneo Company 73, 146, 219
 Brooke, Charles 73, 145
 Brooke, James 25, 34, 35, 37, 38, 73, 145, 151, residence 34, 35
 Brooke, Margaret 145
 Brooke, Vyner 168, 219
 Brown, David 33
 Budriah, Tuanku 251
 Buffalo fight 138
 Bugner, Joe 306
 Bukit Bintang Secondary Girls' School 259
 Bukit Larut, see Maxwell Hill
 Bullock carts 84, 125, 130, 158, 159, 213
 Bunga mas 137
 Buses 208, 209
 Butterworth, doctor's house 56, hospital 56

C

- Cameron, William 182
 Cameron Highlands 165, 182-5, 274
 Campbell, John 14
 Carcosa 91
 Chakrabong House, Penang 126
 Chan Chew Photo Studio 134
 Chan Sui Mei 269
 Che Long 62
 Che Matt bin Haji Kassim 14
 Cheah Chen Eok 116
 Cheng Tan 231
 Cheng Biam Festival 281
 Cheong Hong Kok Klub 79
 Cheong Fatt Ee Mansion 330, 331
 Chik, Tengku 141
 Child labour 16
 Children and Youth Rally 259
 Chin Peng 219, 228, 231
 Chinese: farmers 74, 265, goldminers 13, 14, hawkers 78, 194, 195, 238, 239, immigrants 42, 153, 166, merchants 166, New Villages 220, 228, 278, New Year 324, 325, occupations 265, 278, 279, 321, portraits 198-9, 278-9, 320-1, Residency 116, Sarawak 145, secret societies 43, 61, 62, 69, shophouses 15, temples, 30, 153, 154-5, 321, theatre 200, 201, tin miners 43, 78, 104, 166, vegetable gardens 185, women 239, 264, 265
 Chingap procession 154
 Chitties 316, 317
 Chow Kit & Co. 91, 93
 Chulalongkorn, King 138
 Chung, May 303
 Churches: Anabaptist, Penang 112, Christ, Melaka 123, St Francis Xavier's, Melaka 122, St Georges, Penang 47, St Paul's, Melaka 58, 123, 124, St Peter's, Melaka 123, 125, Sandakan Catholic 146
 Clementi, Cecil 167, 168, 210, 220
 Clifford, Hugh 95, 134
 Colombo Plan 269, 271
 Commonwealth Games 285, 306, 307
 Communists 221, 228, 231, 266
 Conference of Rulers 222, 251
 Conservation 330-1
 Constitution 225
 Cowie, William Clarke 146
 Crafts 194, 193, 314-15
 Crag Hotel, Penang 81
 Cree, Edward 33
 Cyberjaya 284

D

- Daguerre, Louis 41
 Daniell, I. 26
 Daniell, William 25, 26, 33
 Dato' Khan, residence 66
 Dato' Naim, installation 248-9
 Davis, J.I.H. 231
 Dayabumi Complex 306, 309
 Dayaks 73, 150, 151, 281
 Dayang Salsila 145
 Defence forces 212-13
 Democratic Action Party (DAP) 221, 266
 Deng Hsiao Peng, China 291

- Dent, Alfred 73
 Department of National Unity 221
 Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka 258
 Dlamini, Nkosazana Clarice 299
 Dol Said 248
 Dondang Sayang troupes 200, 201, 270
 Duff, Robert 141
 Duff Development Company 141
 Duke of Edinburgh: 1869 visit 42, 43, 47
 Duke of Edinburgh House 52
 Durbars 16-17, 93, 149, 160, 161, 171
 Dusun Iua 84, 96
 Dutch Melaka 28-9
 Dutch East India Company 28
 Duttonique, Gaston 41
- E**
 Eastern & Oriental Hotel 117, 178, 180
 Eastern Hotel, Cameron Highlands 185
 Edaran Modenas motorcycle plant 313
 Education 166, 202-3, 258
 Elections 221, 258, 266, 296-7
 Elephants 23, 63, 69, 85, 130, 138, 160, 179, 186, 187, 196, 207, relocation programme 326
 Elizabeth, Queen 290
 Emergencies 219, 220, 228, 231, 232
 Endon Mahmood 294, 297
 Engineers Institute 117
 Enkissakhan, M. 294
 Entertainment 200-1
 Environment 326-7
 Eredia, Godinho de 21, 26
 Essex Lodge, Penang 52
 Europeans 53, 56, 62, 63, 80-1, bungalow 112, murders 228
- F**
 Factories 194, 283, 384, 312, 313
 Falconer, John 41
 Fashions 274
 Fatimah binte Ismail, Raja 275
 Fatimah binte Sultan Iskandar, Raja 171
 Fauquier, Henri 85, 96, 159
 Federal Council 168, 169
 Federal Dispensaries, Kuala Lumpur 238
 Federal Photographic Studio 165
 Federated Malay States (FMS) 83, 91, 95, 166
 Federation of Malaya 220, 222
 Feilberg, K. 41-2, 47, 48, 62, 77
 FELDA resettlement schemes 221, 262-3
 Festivals 319, 321, 324-5
 Financial crisis 285, 293
 Fishing 73, 194, 195, 206, 207
 Floods 18-19, 181, 190-1, 258, 259
 Foreign policy 283, 293
 Forest clearing 74, 142, 162, 205
 Forest Research Institute Malaysia 328
 Formula One motor racing 307
 Fort Cornwallis 45, 47, 117
 Frasers Hill 182, 242

- G**
 Gamelan 148, 149, 200
 Gandhi, India 252, 253
 Gap. The: resthouse 130; tin mining 104
 Gent, Sir Edward 220
 Geographikhe Hupheges 21
 George Town set Penang
 George V. King: coronation festivities 89; Silver Jubilee celebrations 188, 189
 George VI, King 217
 Gerah rampong tree 163
 Ghazali bin Mohamed Nor 255
 Ghee Hin secret society 62, 69
 Glugor House 33
 Goh Chok Tong 299
 Gold mining 13, 14, 130, 134, 141, 146
 Gopeng 108
 Government flats 261
 Great Depression 166, 179, 194
 Green Hall 52
 Guillemaud, Sir Lawrence 168
 Gumung Pasir 120; Serapi 34; Tahan 133
 Gurkhas 216
 Gurney, Sir Henry 220, 228
- H**
 H.M.S. *Gulata* 44, 45
 H.M.S. *Rinaldo* 60
 Ha San 69
 Hamidah, Tunku 171
 Harris Ribu 314, 315
 Harrison, C.W. 96, 107
 Harrison, Cuthbert 174
 Harun Idris 288
 Hashimoto, Ryutaro 294
 Hassim, Raja Muda 34
 Hawkers 194, 195, 267
 Health services 204-5
 Hedst, J.W. 29
 Hill stations 81
 Hindu: processions 201; temples 123, 255, 256
 Hisamuddin, Sultan (Selangor) 171, 222, 251
 Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank building, Penang 117
 Hornbill 326; carving 314, 315
 Horse-racing 80, 81, 161
 Horse, Charles 85, 151
 House of Palms 96
 Houseboats 132, 133, 149
 Humphreys, J.L. 188, 189
 Hunting 81, 206, 207
 Hussein Onn 283, 288, 289, 290
 Huttula, A. 26
- I**
 Iban 145, 151, 313, 316, 317
 Ibrahim, Sultan (Johor) 129, 168, 172, 173, 222, 223
 Ibrahim, Sultan (Kelantan) 138, 222
 Ibrahim, Temenggong (Johor) 43, 61, 74
 Ibrahim bin Sidek 213
 Idris, Sultan (Perak) 60, 61, 93, 100, 101; consort 100; second wife, 148
 Idris II, Sultan (Perak) 289, 292
- Illustrated London News* 45, 65, 66, 83, 142
 Independence 219, 220, 222, 225; celebrations 224-7
 Indian: dancers 280; festivals 324; immigrants 156-7, 166; labourers 74, 142, 157, 166, 194, 195, 265; railway officials 280; occupations 323; portraits 322-3; rubber tappers 14; traders 265; wedding couple 281
 Industrialisation 284, 293, 312
 Infrastructure development 261, 284, 311
 Inglefield, Sir Gilbert 286
 Ipoh 108, 179, 181, 242; Airport 271; Hugh Low Street 43; Jalan Sultan Iskandar, 302; Station Road 110-11; Supreme Court 108
 Iskandar, Sultan (Perak) 167, 168, 206
 Islam: introduction of 22
 Islamic education 193
 Islamisation 304
 Ismail, Sultan (Kelantan) 138, 171, 210
 Ismail, Sultan (Terengganu) 222, 251
 Ismail bin Datu Abdul Rahman 260
 Ismail bin Tengku Muhammad, Tengku 170
 Isshi, T. 165
 Istana Bukit Serene 173
 Istana Kenangan 330
 Istana Lela Tunggal, Pekan 191
 Istana Negara, Kuala Kangsar 95, 100
 Itagaki, General 217
 Iyer, Jules 41
- J**
 Japanese Occupation 167, 214-17, 219, 222, 239
 Jelai River 190
 Jelebu 120
 Jempul 120
 Jenderam 232, 233
 Joget Pahang 200, 201
 Johnson, L.B. 252, 253
 Johol 120
 Johor 43, 173; plantations 74; royal family 129; sultanate 61
 Johor Bahru 128, 129; General Hospital staff 205; market 128; Power Station 261; Royal Mausoleum 128
 Johor Causeway: opening 165, 168
 Johor Fire Brigade 159
 Johor Gardens 129
 Johor-Singapore 2nd Link Bridge Run 307
 Johore Hotel 128
 Jugah anak Barieng, Temenggong 234
- K**
 Kadazandusun 316, 317
 Kakap Hussein 133
 Kamaruddin bin Haji Ibrahim 277
 Kampar 105; Railway Station 229
 Kampong Bahru Malay Boys' School scouts 202
- Kampong L.B.J. 252
 Kamunting 69
 Kangar: Hospital Besar staff 204
 Kauffuss, August 84-5
 Kamm Ibu 236, 237
 Kayan 150
 Kedah: history 25, 61, 83, 126, 167; nobles 127; rice production 43; State Council 126
 Kedayan 316
 Kelabit 151
 Kelantan: history 25, 61, 83, 138, 141, 167; state council 139
 Kelantan Rubber Estates Ltd 141
 Kelian Bharu 69
 Kelian Pauh 69
 Kennedy, Robert F. 252, 253
 Kenyah 316
 Keppel, Captain Henry 34, 37
 Khadijah, Raja 196
 Khir Johari 261
 Kien Tek Kong 62
 King Edward VII School 106, 202
 King George V National Park 133
 Kinta Valley 108
 Klang 99; Health Centre 205
 Klang Gates Dam 260, 261
 Klang River 175
 Kleingrothe, Charles 84, 86, 107, 119, 123, 130, 149, 157, 158, 162
 Kleingrothe and Stadhell 84
 Kompleks Tun Abdul Razak (KOMTAR) 308, 309
 Konfrontasi 221, 236
 Kota Bharu 138, 303; airport 271; Balai Besar 138; floods 190, 191; Residency 210
 Kota Kinabalu 243; airport 271
 Kuala Kangsar 100, 101
 Kuala Lebir 140, 141
 Kuala Lipis 134, 149
 Kuala Lumpur 10-11, 70-1, 86, 88, 89, 175, 176-7, 240-1, 309, 332-3; Baby Health Centre 204; Batu Road 238, 239; Central Market 174, 175; Colonial Restaurant 175; floods 18-19, 91; Foch Avenue 4-5, 239; government buildings 86; High Street 4-5, 174; high-rise buildings 220, 239, 308-9; history 70, 86, 91, 174, 283; Jalan Ampang 91; Jalan Bukit Bintang 301, 304; Jalan Hang Kasturi 302; Jalan Rajah 303; Java Street 174; Lake Gardens 91; market 91; Market Square 174, 239; Market Street 174; Market Street Bridge 92-3; Oriental Building 175; Petaling Street 91; Railway Station 86, 300; Sentral Station 311; squatter settlements 261; street scene 85; Sultan Abdul Samad Building 86, 87, 235; Town Hall 87
 Kuala Lumpur City Centre (KLCC) 284, 304, 308
 Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) 284, 310, 311
 Kuala Muda Old Fort 127
- Kuala Selangor 99
 Kuala Teh chiefs 132, 133
 Kuala Terengganu 136-7, 189; Government English School 189
 Kuantan 134, 135, 186
 Kuching 145, 244-5; Astana 34, 145, 328; Courthouse 144, 145; main bazaar 243; nineteenth century 34, 35, 72-3
 Kudin, Tunku 60, 70
 Kurshiah, Tuumko 251
- L**
 Labuan 38, 39, 72, 73; Government English School 280
 Lambert, G.R. & Co. 43, 70, 83, 84, 85, 93, 137, 138, 141, 157, 165
 Langkawi 328
 Laplace, Cyrille 30
 Larut 69, 104
 Laut, Raja 71
 Le Tour De Langkawi 307
 Leaning Tower of Perak 108
 Lee & Sons 217, 219
 Lee Kuan Yew 234, 235, 255
 Leith, George 57
 Lembaga Urusan Tabung Haji Building 308
 Lifestyles 300-5
 Light, Captain Francis 23-4, 33, 47, 157
 Lim, Judy 303
 Locker, Edward 25
 Loke Yew 42
 Long Jaafar 69, 104
 Long Pokon (Sichop) 151
 Lope, Raja 213
 Lowinger, V.A. 133
 Lucy S.H.R. 133
 Lundayeh 316
- M**
 Mackinnon, Dr: residence 32
 Madhi, Raja 66
 Magellan, Ferdinand 38
 Magic-lantern shows 165
 Mal Meri 315
 Mahathir Mohamad 283, 284-5, 287, 288, 289, 292-6, 303, 312, 329
 Mahmud, Raja 61
 Mahmud, Sultan (Terengganu) 247, 277
 Mahmud, Tunku (Kedah) 126
 Mahmud Shah, Sultan (Melaka) 28
 Majlis Ugama dan Adat Istiadat Melayu 193
 Malay chiefs 43, 66, 77; entertainment 149; headman's house 331; leaders 172, 188; nationalist movements 166, 217, 222; noblemen 149; police constables 9; rights 168; rulers 42, 43, 61, 166, 168, 171, 214, 219, 220, 247; sultanates 22; villages 12, 27, 57, 71, 83, 149
 Malay College 166, 202
 Malay Court of Justice 76
 Malay Regiment 167, 212, 213, 217
 Malay Reservations Enactment 149
 Malay Special Police Force 228
 Malaysian Airways Limited 270
 Malaysian Chinese Association (MCA) 153, 220, 222

Malayan Collieries: workers 266
 Malayan Communist Party (MCP)
 220, 228, 231
 Malayan Information Agency 165,
 194, 205
 Malayan Microwave Trunk System
 255
 Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army
 (MPAJA) 231
 Malayan Races Liberation Army
 (MRJA) 232
 Malayan Union 219-20, 222
 Malays: dress 277; economic
 involvement 283; lifestyle 26, 42,
 149; occupations 194, 265, 277,
 319; population 197, 319;
 portraits 76, 77, 196-7, 276-7,
 318-19; poverty 277, 283;
 religion 193, 319; women 197,
 319
 Malaysia: formation 219, 220, 235
 Malaysia-Singapore Airlines (MSA)
 270
 Malaysian Airlines System Berhad
 (MAS) 270
 Malaysian Airways Limited (MAL)
 270
 Malaysian Nature Society 326
 Malaysian People's Movement
 (Gerakan) 221, 266
 Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra
 305
 Malaysian Society of Marine Sciences
 326
 Malik, Adam 236
 Mandala, Nelson 295
 Mansur, Raja 61
 Maps: Malay Peninsula 21, 29
 Mariah binte Sultan Sulaiman,
 Tengku 170
 Marina, Tengku 277
 Markets: Johor Bahru 128; Kuala
 Lumpur 91, 174, 175; Melaka
 124, 178, 300
 Marshall, David 231
 Mason, F. 269
 Mat Salleh 166
 Matelief, Cornelius 23, 28
 Maxwell, Sir George 168
 Maxwell Hill 80, 81, 107, 327
 Megz projects 284
 Melaka 122-5; airport 271; artists
 30; Chinatown 242; English
 School 203; Free School 202;
 history 21-5, 28-31, 58-9;
 market 124, 178 300; population
 58; railway, 123; River 122-3;
 shophouse 330; town plan 28-9
 Melanau 316
 Menara Kuala Lumpur 285, 308
 Menara Maybank 308
 Mendoca, Dom Andre Furtado de 22
 Menzies, R.G. 252
 Merdeka Football tournament 290,
 306
 Mesimajau Building 309
 Milne, A.B. 182
 Minangkabau 120
 Mitchell, Sir Charles 95, 100
 Mohamed Hamid 296
 Mohamed Shaid Mohd Taufek 296
 Mohamed Shah bin Mohamed Said
 248

Mohammed Sulfian 303
 Mohd Aroop bin Abdul Rani 208
 Mohd Ibrahim, Munsu 54
 Monsoon 190
 Moses, Charles Lee 73
 Mosques 192-3; Alor Star 193;
 Jamek 86, 175, 193; Kampung
 Raja 193; Kampung Hulu 123,
 Kampung Kling 123; Kapitan
 Kling 77, 192, 193; National 261;
 Putra 284; Sibu 192; Sultan Abu
 Bakar 128, 129; Sultan Sulaiman
 193; Ubudiah 100, 101, 192,
 University of Malaya 277
 Motorcars 158, 159, 208, 209, 239
 Motorcycles 208, 159
 Mount Erskine 32
 Mount Kinabalu 38, 39, 328
 Mountbatten, Lord 217
 Muhammad, Tuanku 60, 95, 120,
 121; bodyguards 121
 Muhammad II, Sultan (Ierenggamu)
 137
 Muhammad IV, Sultan (Kelantan)
 138, 139, 141
 Muka Head 118, 119
 Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC)
 284, 311, 312
 Mulo Gaves 327
 Murray, Captain 66
 Murut 316
 Musa Berima, Raja 61
 Musa Eddin, Tengku 14
 Musa Ghiathuddin Riayat Shah,
 Sultan 215
 Muslim traders 23
 Mustapha, Datu 292

N
 Najib Tun Razak 297
 Nakajima, M.S. 165
 Naming War 248
 National Art Gallery 308
 National car project 283, 284, 302,
 312
 National Defence Bonds 258
 National Language Week 221, 238
 National Library 308
 National Monument 255
 National Operations Council 221,
 283, 287
 National parks 326
 National Service Centre 309
 National Service 221, 236, 304
 National Solidarity Week 258, 259
 National Theatre 308, 309
 Nationalisation 283, 284
 Negeri Sembilan: history 60, 120;
 Volunteer Regiment Band 213
 Nehru, Pandit Jawaharlal 222
 Nepenthes 38, 326
 New Economic Policy (NEP) 283,
 288, 319
 Newman, J. 41
 Ng Boo Bee 105
 Ng Liam 302
 Ngah Ibrahim 69
 Ngo Dinh Diem 251
 Nicholls, O.H. 65
 Nippon Mining Company 189
 Nixon, Richard 290
 Non-Aligned Movement 299
 Nonyas 153

North Borneo: history 73, 219;
 railway 103, 146; village 72
 North-South Expressway 284, 311

O
 Odeon Cinema, Kuala Lumpur 238,
 239, 272
 Oil 283, 312, 313
 Old China Cafe, Kuala Lumpur 330
 Omar Ali, Sultan (Brunei) 34
 Ong Ka Ting 297
 Onn Jaafar 172, 200, 217, 219, 222,
 283-4
 Oppenheim, Alexander 268, 269
 Orang Asli 26, 162, 228, 280, 281,
 316, 317
 Orang Ulu 315, 316, 317
 Organisation of Islamic Conference
 287, 299
 Ossain Hall, Penang 52
 Overbeck, Baron von 73
 Oyong Nyaring 151

P
 Pa Seh 133
 Pahang: history 43, 61, 130, 134;
 interior 130, 132-3; population
 186
 Pahang Corporation 134
 Pahang River 130, 149
 Pan-Malayan Federation of Trade
 Unions (PMFTU) 266
 Pangkor Tengk 43, 61, 65, 69
 Panglima Kinta 61
 Pantai Aceh Forest Reserve 119
 Parameswara 21
 Part Buntar 179
 Parliament 225; building 255, 261
 Parti Islam Sa-Malaysia (PAS) 221
 Pedu Dam 257
 Pekan 134, 135, 186; floods 190, 191
 Penang 316, 317
 Penang airport 271; artists 25, 33;
 Beach Street 45, 48, 49, 50-1,
 112, 113, 117; Botanic Gardens
 54, 55, 119; buildings 53, 116;
 coastline 118, 119; convict lines
 54; Downing Street 178;
 Esplanade 47, 116, 181; Great
 Ruots 42, 62-3; Great Waterfall
 44, Great Hall Beach 45
 Harbour 119; history 23-5, 32-3,
 41-3, 47, 48, 54, 113, 179; Jalan
 Gedung 45; King Street 49; Light
 Street 47, 53; Little India 303;
 mansions 53; municipal
 bandstand 116; Municipal
 Council Building 113, 116;
 Northam Road 118; Padang 47,
 116; Penang Road 178, 243;
 Perak Road School 203; Port
 44-5; shophouses 330; street
 scene 302; Supreme Court 47,
 113, 116; Sweetenham Pier 113,
 114; Town Hall 47, 116, 117;
 Waterfall Gardens 54, 55; Weld
 Quay 2-3, 82, 113, 115

Penang Club 113
 Penang Free School 202, 275
 Penang Golf Club 113
 Penang Heritage Trust 330
 Penang Hill 33, 54, 80, 81, 119, 178,
 179

Penang Sports Club 116
 Penang Swimming Club 118
 Pengiran Indera Mahkota 35
 Pensionnat Notre-Dame 185
 People's Action Party (PAP) 221, 235
 People's Progressive Party (PPP)
 221
 Perak: history 43, 61, 65
 Perak River 100
 Perlis: history 25, 83, 126, 167
 Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB)
 284
 Perrot, Major General 138, 139
 Persatuan Islam Sa-Tanah Melayu
 221
 Perusahaan Otomobil Kedua Sdn
 Bhd (PERODUA) 312
 Perusahaan Otomobil Nasional Bhd
 (PROTON) 284, 312
 Petaling Jaya 220, 261; high-rise
 buildings 304; shopping centre
 301
 Petronas 284, 312; Twin Towers 282,
 284, 285, 308, 312
 Pewter 315
 Philip, Prince 252, 253
 Photographers/photographic studios
 83-5, 165, 198
 Photography: development of 41-3,
 83
 Photojournalism 165
 Pilgrims 270
 Pirates 25, 26, 34, 36, 37
 Pires, Tome 21
 Pitcher plant 38, 326
 Plantations: cocoa 146; coconut 75,
 146; coffee 42, 74, 146; gambier
 74; oil palm 265; pepper 74, 265;
 rubber 14, 141, 142-3, 146, 162,
 165, 194, 205; sugar cane 56, 57,
 tea 74, 182, 185; tobacco 40, 73,
 146
 Planters bungalows 75, 210-11
 Police Aboriginal Guard (P.A.G.) 221
 Pollution 326
 Poole, Captain M. 30
 Poomeedie Sellarathu 297
 Population 1931 106, 197, 1963
 221, 2000 319, 321, 323
 Port Dickson 84, 120, 121
 Port Klang 99
 Port Swettenham 99
 Porta da Santiago 38, 124
 Portuguese 21-2, 25, 28; Eurasians
 280, 318
 Pottery 214, 315
 Poverty 106, 221, 277, 283
 Prai Port 114
 Prem Tinsulanonda 294
 Prince of Wales' Theatre Group 149,
 201
 Privatisation 284
 Province Wellesley 56-7
 Ptolemy, Claudius 21
 Pulau Duyong 189
 Pulau Tikus Bay 32
 Putin, Vladimir 299
 Putrajaya 284; Seri Wawasan bridge
 310-11

Q
 Qur'an reading competitions 258,
 290

- R**
 Race riots (1969) 219, 221, 266, 267, 287
 Radio Malaya 228, 272, 273
 Raffles, Stamford 24
 Rafflesia 38, 326
 Rafiee Ghani 315
 Railways/trains, 84, 102, 158; east coast 165; express rail link 311; funicular, Penang Hill 178, 181; Johor 129; Kuala Lumpur-Port Swettenham 99; Light Rapid Transit (LRT) 310, 311; monorail 284, 311; North Borneo 103, 146; Seremban-Port Dickson 120; Taiping-Port Weld 69; Tampin-Melaka 123
 Ramlee, P. 273
 Rashid Mahdeen 231
 Ratna, David 303
 Raub 130; gold mine 130
 Rawlings, Jerry 295
 Red Flag secret society 62
 Religions 324
 Rembau 120
 Residency: Kuala Kangsar 100; Penang 52, 53, 113
 Ridley, H.N. 142, 143
 Roads/road building 158, 209; Cameron Highlands 183; east coast 186; east-west trunk road 200, 261; Kelantan 141; Kuala Kubu-Raub 158; Kuala Lipis-Raub 131; Tanjung Malim 208, 209; west coast trunk road 158, 165
 Robinson, H.C. 133
 Robinson Falls, 184
 Rodgers, J.P. 71, 95
 Ross, Brigadier General 65
 Royal Air Force 217
 Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve 213
 Rukunegara 283
 Rungus 315, 316, 317
 Rural Industrial Development Authority (RIDA) 262
 Rural-urban migration 239, 283, 284, 301
 Russell, J.A. 182
- S**
 Sabah 38, 146; peoples 316
 Sabah Foundation Building 308
 Sachtiler, August 73
 Sachtiler, Hermann 41
 Sachtiler & Ferlberg 41
 Sago 73, 123
 St John's Fort, Melaka 123, 124
 San Souci 32
 Sandakan 72, 242; Customs House 146
 Saqqaf, Dr. 291
 Sarawak Brooke rule 25, 34, 73, 145, 151, 168, 193, 242; crown colony 219; peoples 316
 Sardion bin Haji 261
 Schools 202-3
 Segama River 146
 Segarlah Melayu 21
 Sekolah Menengah Melayu Kuala Lumpur 258
 Selangor history 43, 61, 66, 99
 Selangor Museum, Kuala Lumpur 86, 214, 215
 Selangor State Band 201
 Selangor State Council Meeting 223
 Semenyih: anti-communist rally 15
 Semporna: fishing village 316
 Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre 320, 327
 Seremban 120, 121
 Setapak Malay School pupils 148
 Shah of Iran 252
 Sharafuddin Idris Shah, Sultan (Selangor) 298
 Siamese princes 126
 Silk-weaving 194, 195
 Singapore 24, 221, 235
 Singapore-Kuantan steamer 187
 Siti Hasmah 283, 292, 294
 Smith, Captain Robert 33
 Smith, Mr and Mrs Kellie 159
 Songket 315
 Sousa, De Manuel de Faeia y 29
 Speedy, Captain 65
 Spices 74
 Spinning 151
 Sports 160-1, 206-7, 274, 306-7; badminton 274, 306; cricket 161, 207; football 161, 206, 214, 215; polo 206; shooting 81; tennis 206
 Sri Menanti 67, 120
 Srinivasa 22
 Stadthuys, Melaka 30, 99, 123, 331
 Stephens, Fiad 234
 Stereoscope 83-4
 Stewart, Duncan 219
 Strait of Malacca 26
 Straits Chinese 78, 79, 153, 201, 316; mansions 116, 200; women's dress 198
 Straits Settlements 25, 42
 Straits Steamship Company 99
 Strikes 221, 266
 Subang International Airport 261, 270
 Sudirman 312
 Suez Canal 43
 Suffolk House 32, 53
 Sugar 146, 157
 Suhaila, Datin 289, 290
 Suharto, General 236, 290, 294
 Sukarno, President 236
 Sulaiman, Junku 197
 Sulaiman Badrul Alam Shah, Sultan 171
 Sultan Abu Bakar Museum, Johor Bahru 186
 Sultan Idris Training College 202, 203
 Sultan 316
 Sungei Best Airport 270, 271
 Sungei Puri Towers Scheme, Ipoh 261
 Sungei Ujong: chiefs 121; Dato Kiana 61; Dato Kiana's residence 66; history 43, 61, 66, 120
 Swettenham, F.A. 64, 65, 70, 81, 91, 95, 100, 113, 137, 220
 Syed Alwi, Raja (Perlis) 14
 Syed Mohamed Alatas 62
 Syed Putra, Sultan (Perlis) 221, 222, 235, 246, 247, 251
 Syed Sirajuddin, Sultan (Perlis) 246, 247, 298
- T**
 Taiping 68, 69, 106-7; Lake Gardens 327
 Talbot, William Henry Fox 41
 Tama Kuleng 151
 Taman Negara 131
 Tan Cheng Lock 153, 231
 Tan Cheong Aun 78
 Tan Thiam Hok 302
 Tang, Alvin 303
 Tanjung Tokong 118, 149
 Tanjung Tuan 20
 Taula'Ahua Tupon IV, King of Tonga 294
 Teachers' training colleges 202
 Television Malaysia 272, 273
 Telok Chempedak 186, 187
 Teluk Anson 108, 109
 Teluk Merbau Estate 265
 Tembeling region 133
 Temerloh Bridge 260, 261
 Templer, Lady 280
 Templer, Sir Gerald 228, 280
 Temples (Chinese): Cheng Hoon, Melaka 153; Ipoh 154, 155; Kek Lok Si, Penang 154, 155; Kelan Pau 155; Melaka 30; Sam Poh Tong, Ipoh 154; Tua Pek Kong, Kuching 321
 Temples (Hindu): Sri Maha Mariamman, Bentong 255, 256; Sri Poyyathir Vinayagar Moorthi, Melaka 123
 Temples (Sikh): Kuala Lumpur 281
 Tenom 146
 Terachi 120
 Terengganu: history 25, 61, 83, 137, 165, 167, 189; population 189; silk-weaving 184
 Terengganu River 189
 Textiles 315
 Thambusamy Pillai 71
 Thomas Kiritakachorn 291
 Thomas, Sir Shenton 213
 Thomson, John 41, 45, 84
 Timber industry 146
 Tin mining 43, 66, 69, 104-5, 108, 134, 165, 264
 Toh Seang Tast 53
 Touanne, J.E.B. de la 30
 Tourism 328-9
 Trade unions 241, 266
 Trains see Railways/trains
 Trams 158, 159, 179
 Transportation 158-9, 208-9, 283
 Traipad, Elisha 23, 25
 Tras 232, 233
 Treacher, Mr and Mrs 80
 Treacher, W.H. 95
 Trinder, Lady 286
 Trinder, Sir Charles 286
 Tun Dr Ismail Mansions 260, 261
- U**
 Ulu Klang 96, 97
 Ulu Langat 97
 Ulu Muar 120
 Unfederated Malay States (UMS) 166, 168, 171, 173
 United Malays National Organisation (UMNO) 220, 221, 222, 266
- University of Malaya 220, 268, 269, 300, 303
 Uth Mariah, Chc 148
- V**
 Valliant, August-Nicholas 30
 Venning, Alfred 91
 Verhoef, Pieter Willemszoon 21, 23, 28
 Victoria, Queen: Diamond Jubilee celebrations 85
 Victoria Institution 166, 202, 206; fashion show 274; football team 161; science exhibition 275; swimming team 167
 Victoria Memorial Clock Tower 116, 117
 Victory Parades 216, 217
 Vision 2020 285, 299
- W**
 Waldseemüller, Martin 21
 Wallace, Alfred Russel 62
 Wan Ahmad see Ahmad Muazzam Shah, Sultan
 Wan Azizah Ismail 297
 Wang Kang festival 154
 Warin, William 185
 Wathen, James 25, 30, 33, 52
 Weld, F.A. 113
 Weld, F.J. 133
 Weldon, Felix de 255
 Whiteaway Laidlaw Building, Kuala Lumpur 239
 Williamson, Sir W.J.F. 127
 Winstedt, Lady Sarah 205
 Wisma Tun Mustapha 308
 Women Home Guards 228, 229
 Wong, K.F. 219
 Woodcarving 315
 World War II 167, 214-17
 World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Malaysia 326
 Wran, Neville 295
 Wubeizi Chart 21
- Y**
 Yang di-Pertuan Agong 251
 Yang Ah Loy 42, 70, 71; house 70
 Yang Loong Hin
 Ye Olde Smokehouse 185
 Young, Alex 312
 Young, Sir Arthur 133, 137
 Yusuf, Sultan (Perak) 61
- Z**
 Zafrin Shah Sabikin 307
 Zainab, Sultanah 138
 Zainal Abidin III, Sultan (Terengganu) 136, 137, 189

