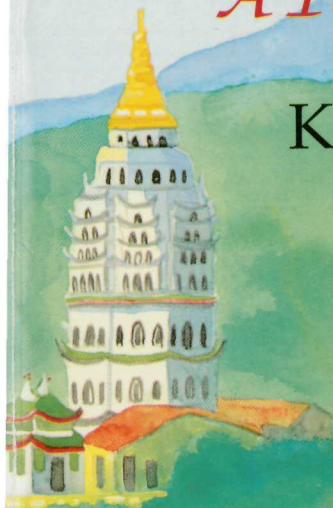


My Island in the Sun

A Penang Perspective

Khor Cheang Kee



INSTITUT MASYARAKAT
SOUTHBOUND

Contents

Foreword	iii
An introduction to Penang	v
Getting away from this <i>Pesta</i> madness	1
All about those Penang misers	4
The best place to save money and to retire	8
Come Monday it's time for togetherness	12
Where have all the <i>sangguls</i> gone?	15
When your in-laws keep you in style	19
Satay sell-out in Adelaide	24
Drugs: Big hoax, but big business	28
The footprints of five centuries in Batu Maung	32
Now it's time to remember the dead	35
Of old school ties and nostalgia	38
Is this the way to train teachers?	42
Sons, daughters and dad's will	46
A weekend doing gloriously nothing	50
Best foot forward with Pretty Toes	53
The ivory tower school planners	57
Are teachers less strict with students?	60
Six years to gain campus personality	64
Everything you'll want to see in Penang	68
The men who want to work—for no pay	72
Generation gap in books, films and lifestyle	76
Whatever happened to the fine art of visiting?	80
A glimpse of the Penang of yore	84
When the Big Top came to Penang	88
Dignity in their old age	92
Over to Kuala Lumpur for a change of cuisine	95
Who says girls and figures won't click?	99
A taste of home in brash, new PJ	102
O, for the boria of the good old days . . .	105
Born 1786—and still going strong	109

- And what were YOU doing on Merdeka Day? 113
 My one-day stint in the Penang prison 117
 Up on a shabby old coach to Penang Hill 120
 It's Eighth Moon feasting time again . . . 124
 The other face of Penang . . . 128
 That 'little bit of paper' decides 131
 Act of faith in the Nine Emperor Gods 134
 Trip to 'instant' country 138
 Here, where all the action is 141
 The slow, long road back to Penang . . . 145
 What's right, what's wrong 148
 All that's left of free port 152
 Suffolk House in danger of going with the wind 156
 It's double *pesta* time in Penang 159
 Festival of instant friendship 163
 I remember, I remember, those terrible times of war 167
 Gambling at the *Goraku* in Occupation Days 171
 Penang's year of ups and downs 175
 Penang's man of the year—Chong Eu 178
 Stop this outrage on public health 181
 The Tun's ardent fans in Penang 184
 Choosing our girl with the Mostest 187
 Everything that's red and happy 190
 A dimpled girl in search of a job 193
 Falling in love on 15th night 196
 The life and times of a patriarch 199
 The world of deadlines and headlines 203
 East meets west on Penang's tourist beaches 206
 Are our young losing their good manners? 209
 The star students—and the wordless ones 212
 A museum within a museum piece 215
 Colour bar from the other side 219
 Foodstall 'explosion' in Glugor 222
 Dying Juru—a victim of progress 225
 Road after road a golden carpet of welcome 228
 Crowds on the night of the Pill 231
 The 5,000 who will get in 234