

MONOGRAPHS ON SOUTHEAST ASIAN SUBJECTS

Edited by
JOHN BASTIN

ESSAYS ON INDONESIAN AND
MALAYAN HISTORY

Knollig lexon
1961

MONOGRAPHS ON SOUTHEAST ASIAN SUBJECTS

No. 2

ESSAYS ON INDONESIAN AND
MALAYAN HISTORY

by

JOHN BASTIN

*Professor of History in the University
of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur*



EASTERN UNIVERSITIES PRESS LTD.
SINGAPORE

1961

Published by
EASTERN UNIVERSITIES PRESS LTD.
SINGAPORE

Copyright
JOHN BASTIN
1961

M
959.8
BAS

DN **6701**

Printed by
ART PRINTING WORKS
KUALA LUMPUR

12 SEP 1972
Perpustakaan Negara
Malaysia

P R E F A C E

FOUR of these essays relate directly to the period of the British occupation of Java and its dependencies (1811-16), and another to the years immediately following the restitution of these possessions to the Netherlands. The remaining essays are concerned with the somewhat broader theme of Western influence in Indonesia and Malaya. Any unity which the essays possess derives from their main, though not exclusive concern with events in the Indonesian and Malayan region during the early years of the nineteenth century.

I am grateful to the editorial board of the *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde* (The Hague) for permission to re-publish in a revised form essays III and V,¹ and to the editor of the *Journal of the Malayan Branch Royal Asiatic Society* (Singapore) for permission to re-publish essay VI.² The first essay is a revised and shortened version of an inaugural lecture given in the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur during 1959. Both this and the second essay have already been published in a limited edition in the series *Papers on Southeast Asian Subjects*.³ Essay IV, which incorporates some new material, was originally published in the now defunct journal, *Indonesië*.⁴

Throughout these essays the term *Spanish dollar* has been used in its widest sense, and has been regarded as the equivalent of approximately five shillings sterling, although in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries its sterling value was rather less. *Rijksdaalders*, or *Rix dollars*, and *Java rupees* may be considered as the

¹ "Palembang in 1811 and 1812", *BKI*, CIX (1953), 300-20, CX (1954), 64-88; and "The Working of the Early Land Rent System in West Java", *ibid.*, CXVI (1960), 301-12.

² "Raffles and British Policy in the Indian Archipelago, 1811-1816", *JMBRAS*, XXVII (i) (1954), 84-119.

³ *The Western Element in Modern Southeast Asian History* (Kuala Lumpur, 1960); *The Changing Balance of the Early Southeast Asian Pepper Trade* (Kuala Lumpur, 1960).

⁴ "The Chinese Estates in East Java during the British Administration", *Indonesië*, VII (1953-4), 433-9.

equivalent of three shillings and eightpence, and half a crown sterling respectively.⁵

For information on weights and measures, the reader should refer to Appendix M of T.S. Raffles, *The History of Java* (London, 1830), II, clxv-clxvii. A kati was equal to about $1\frac{1}{4}$ avoirdupois lbs., and 100 katis made a pikul of 125 (Dutch) lbs., or $133\frac{1}{3}$ (English) lbs. The Dutch *koyan* was 3,400 lbs., and was considered equal to a last, or two tons. The *bahar* varied between 360-600 lbs.⁶

In citing directly from manuscript sources I have sometimes altered the punctuation; and for the sake of clarity I have removed many of the capital letters and replaced the abbreviated & by and.

To the following persons who, in one way or another, have contributed something to this book of essays I offer my sincere thanks: Professor V.T. Harlow, Professor W. Ph. Coolhaas, Sir Richard Winstedt, Professor A.A. Cense, Dr. P. Voorhoeve, Dr. H.R.C. Wright, Professor R. Roolvink, Dr. C. Hooykaas, Professor K. Glamann, Dr. D.K. Bassett, J. Ngai, and Miss Khoo Gaik See.

J. B.

Kuala Lumpur

August 1961.

⁵ See F. Pridmore, *Coins and Coinages of the Straits Settlements and British Malaya, 1786 to 1951* (Memoirs of the Raffles Museum, 2, (Singapore, 1955); C. Scholten, *The Coins of the Dutch Overseas Territories 1601-1948* (Amsterdam, 1953); E. Netscher and J. A. van der Chijs, "De Munten van Nederlandsch Indië", *VHG*, XXXI (1864), 1-230.

⁶ See Art. "Maten en Gewichten", *Encyclopaedie van Nederlandsch-Indië* (The Hague/Leiden, 1917-39), II, 684-8. (All future references to this *Encyclopaedie* are to the first edition of 1895-1905).