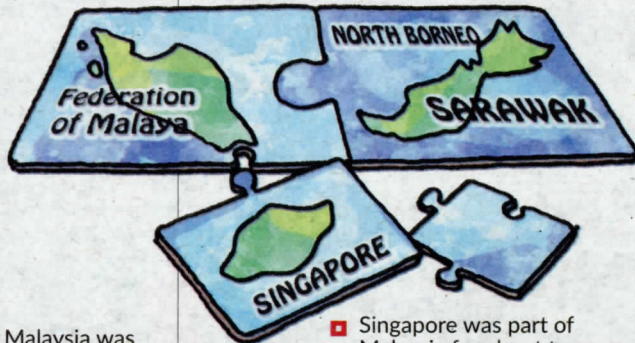
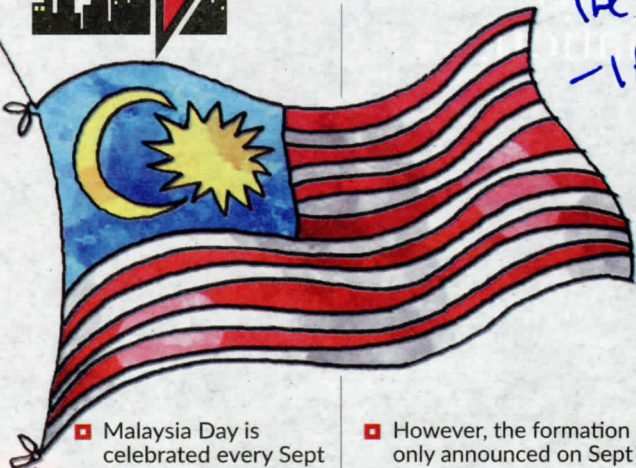


DO YOU KNOW ...

about Malaysia Day?

The star
-16/9/2010

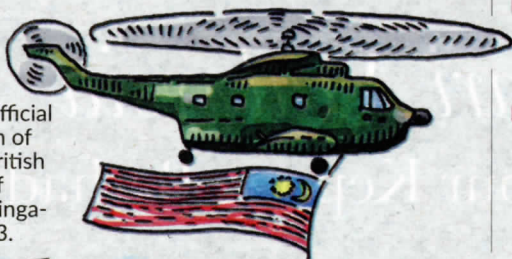
M-6 (Special)



Malaysia Day is celebrated every Sept 16 to commemorate the formation of Malaysia in 1963.

However, the formation of Malaysia was only announced on Sept 16, 1963, at Stadium Merdeka, Kuala Lumpur.

The Malaysia Agreement, an official document to ink the formation of Malaysia, was signed by the British government, the Federation of Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore in London on July 9, 1963.



Under the Malaysia Agreement 1963, Sabah and Sarawak have more autonomy and even their own immigration laws.

Singapore was part of Malaysia for about two years before going separate ways.

Sabah government spent \$1 million to celebrate the event with barbecued buffalo meat and local rice wine, tapai, thrown in for the local folks.

In Singapore, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew shouted "Merdeka" three times when he declared the island-state as part of Malaysia.

Singapore marked the occasion with a week-long celebration and lifted the fireworks and firecrackers ban.

Kelantan government tried to derail the formation of Malaysia by suing the Federation of Malaya and Tunku Abdul Rahman six days before the event.

But the suit was dismissed by Chief Justice of Malaya Datuk Sir James Thomson in less than 24 hours before Malaysia was proclaimed.

A public ceremony to proclaim the formation of Malaysia was only officially made and read out by Tunku Abdul Rahman on Sept 17.

The one-day delay was to allow Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore heads of state to attend the ceremony in Kuala Lumpur. The proclamation ended with a 101-gun salute, just like the 1957 Merdeka the declaration.

Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj's son, Capt Tunku Ahmad Nerang, raised the new Malaysia flag at Stadium Merdeka.



Malaysia Day was not a public holiday until 2010.



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