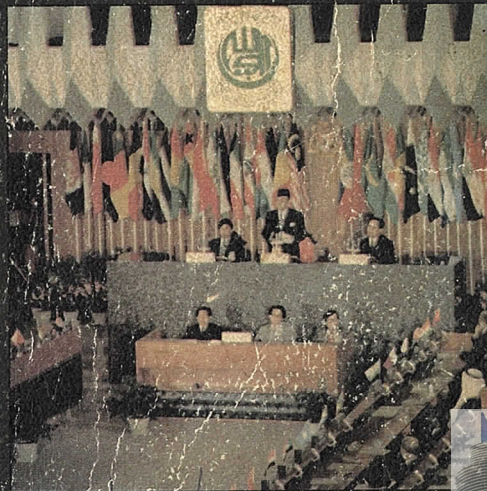
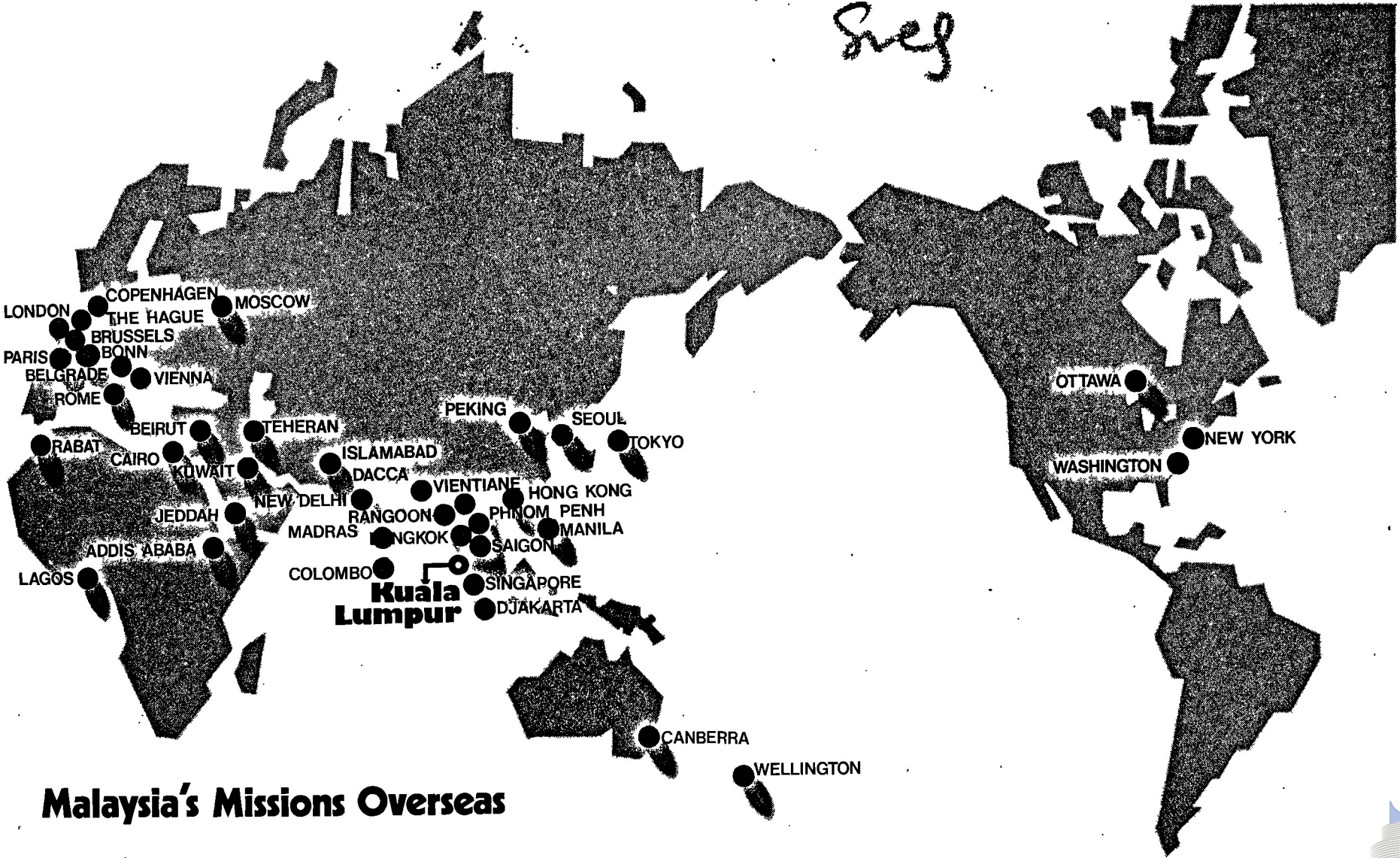


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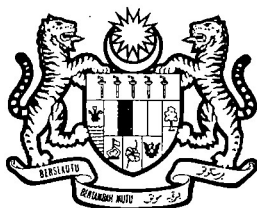


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SEMENANJUNG MALAYSIA, KUALA LUMPUR
1975



PREFACE

The Malaysia Official Year Book 1974 is the fourteenth edition in the series prepared each year by the Federal Department of Information, Ministry of Information, Malaysia, with the co-operation of other Government Ministries and Departments as well as national organisations and statutory bodies.

This Year Book is now an established work of reference which is widely used by libraries and Malaysian missions abroad in providing information concerning Malaysia.

The 1974 edition, which covers events up to December, 1974 (in some cases up to the time of going to press), gives a factual account of the administration and the national economy of Malaysia. It describes the activities of many of the national institutions, both Government and quasi-government, and shows the part played by the Government in the life of the community. The contents of this book are intended for easy reference with statistical data, both in the text wherever relevant as well as in the Appendices. Readers who require more detailed information should consult the Annual Statistical Bulletin and other Bulletins compiled by the Statistics Department, Malaysia.

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The Federal Department of Information, Malaysia wishes to thank all Ministries and Departments as well as all other organisations and statutory bodies for having contributed material for this Year Book.

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Malaysia**



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The year 1974 produced a mixed bag of exciting and challenging events.

Malaysians went to the polls in August, to elect their representatives to the enlarged Parliament and to the various State legislatures, except the Sabah State Legislative Assembly.

The National Front scored landslide victories in Parliament and State Legislative Assembly elections in Peninsular Malaysia, taking 104 seats in the Dewan Rakyat (House of Representatives) and 283 State seats, and made clean sweeps in three States—Kelantan, Pahang and Perlis. In most of the other States the Front won with overwhelming majorities the elections to the State legislatures.

For Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak, it was a personal triumph in as much as it was the first time he contested the General Elections as Prime Minister, having previously won over a number of opposition parties to his concept of coalition politics in order to reduce politicking to a minimum.

Under the banner of the Barisan National (National Front) Tun Abdul Razak led the nine-party coalition to a resounding victory. The electorate gave massive endorsement to the National Front for its multi-racial policies thus providing the mandate it sought to work towards greater unity and economic development and a strong, just and progressive society.

The turn-out in the incident-free election was satisfactory, with 2,220,186 voters or 75 per cent of 2,956,395 electors casting their votes for the Parliamentary seats and 75 per cent of the 3,125,167 electors voting in the State Legislative Elections.

In 1974, while most countries were filled with a sense of foreboding at the world-wide recession and continuing high rate of inflation, Malaysia was not unduly rattled by these adverse conditions. Undaunted, she rode rough-shod through the economic maelstrom which enveloped most industrial countries, fortified in the knowledge of her rich natural resources, efficient management and the resilience of her people, all of which were utilised to the full. Indeed, it can be said that 1974 was an excellent year for the Malaysian economy. Real GNP grew by 6.3 per cent while major industrial economies declined by $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

The rate of inflation continued to accelerate during the year and though at the year's end there were signs of slowing down, inflation was still at a high level.

The economic ills having been carefully diagnosed, a series of anti-inflationary measures were prescribed and these proved successful to a large extent in containing the painful economic malady.

Some of the more important measures ranged from the imposition of export surcharges, the exemption of import and excise duties, the provision of subsidies and wage allowances and restraining the increase in money supply, all of which had a dampening effect on inflation.

Lending for consumption and speculation was strictly discouraged. The nation-wide anti-hoarding campaign was launched on March 1, and the 1974 Control of Supplies Regulation implemented to curb trading malpractices and the hoarding of essential commodities. In addition, the National Savings Bank was launched on December, 5, and this was followed by a campaign to step up saving and to promote the savings habit in order to curb inflation.

High priority was given to the campaign to increase food production, and in the launching of the Green Book Plan, on December 20, a clarion call to the nation was sounded for increased production, particularly rice, beef, poultry, meat, fish and dairy products, as part of the Government's anti-inflationary programme.

In 1974 the impetus to growth in the Malaysian economy emanated primarily from persistently strong private sector investment expenditure, reinforced by continuing buoyant consumer spending. However, the continuing economic expansion was accompanied by rapidly rising prices.

In the first half-year, output and employment rose significantly and heavy pressures were placed on productive capacity, especially in the manufacturing industries. The situation changed in the second half-year, as the economy began to experience the effects of the fall in output in most of the major industrial countries and the slackening growth in world trade. Being more sensitive to world developments, growth in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector slackened appreciably.

Real output increased by about 6 per cent in 1974, compared with 12 per cent in 1973. As in the previous year, growth in domestic output in real terms was insufficient to meet the continuing sharp increase in demand for goods and services during the year. This resulted in a 16 per cent increase in the volume of imports of all categories of goods.

The rate of unemployment was not markedly different from the 7 per cent of the labour force in 1973.

Overall demand remained high throughout the greater part of the year. Expenditure on the gross national product at market prices increased by nearly 21 per cent, compared with 27.5 per cent in 1973. Business fixed investment provided a considerable stimulus to demand, despite the tightening of monetary policy and higher interest rates during the year. Indications were that private fixed capital formation rose sharply by nearly 50 per cent in nominal terms and 30 per cent in real terms in 1974, compared with 28.2 per cent and 11.6 per cent respectively in 1973.

Private consumption rose in the region of 24 per cent in 1974, reflecting mainly the increased incomes, although the rapidly rising inflation also encouraged a shift towards greater consumption for fear of further price increases. Real private consumption was estimated to have risen by about 9 per cent, compared with 12 per cent in 1973.

Public sector operations in 1974 continued to be one of moderate expansion for the greater part of the year in order to avoid adding further to domestic capacity problems in certain segments of the economy and to the inflationary situation. In real terms, public consumption increased by 10.8 per cent, compared with 6.8 per cent in 1973. At the same time, expenditure on the development effort was confined largely towards ensuring that the momentum already generated in the direction of eradicating poverty and restructuring society as well as the redistribution of income, was not held back.

The balance of payments recorded an overall surplus of \$452 million in 1974, the seventh consecutive year of surplus. The value of gross exports increased by 38 per cent with virtually the entire increase being due to prices. The strong pressure of domestic demand, mainly to meet the sharp rise in investment, led to an import growth of 65 per cent during the year, or an increase of 16 per cent in volume terms.

Foreign Relations

In her foreign policy, Malaysia continues to adhere steadfastly to the principles of non-alignment. Tangible expression of this policy was the establishment of diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China during the year, following the visit of Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak to China during May-June.

Malaysia's policy in West Asia is directed towards promoting closer relations with countries in the region in the political, economic and trade fields. In June, Kuala Lumpur hosted the Fifth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers, which was attended by delegates from 37 countries. Early in the year Tun Abdul Razak led a Malaysian delegation to the Second Islamic Summit Conference in Lahore, Pakistan, and in August the Governor of Bank Negara, Tan Sri Ismail bin Mohamed Ali, led the Malaysian delegation to the Second Conference of Islamic Finance Ministers in Jeddah.

ASEAN has been recognised as an important regional organization which would contribute greatly to the peace and stability of the region.

The continuing dialogue with the EEC has resulted in a special concession for ASEAN under the EEC's Generalised System of Preferences and the implementation of the Cumulative Rules of Origin with respect to certain products originating from ASEAN.

As the world's largest producer of natural rubber, Malaysia is deeply concerned over competition from synthetic rubber. Through ASEAN, Malaysia has entered into dialogue with Japan to solve this problem.

Malaysia was included in the *ad hoc* Committee of Fifteen, set up by the UN General Assembly to study the implications and implementation of the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. Malaysia also participated in the Special Committee on Apartheid.

Malaysia enjoys friendly relations with countries of South Asia and the Pacific; the relations being increasingly strengthened by return visits of Heads of State and Government representatives.

The process of developing relations with Eastern Europe, particularly the Soviet Union, has led to the establishment of economic, cultural and political co-operation. Western Europe remains one of Malaysia's most important markets and source of investment and technological expertise.

The role played by South American countries in formulating co-operation amongst developing countries, and the rapid development of international communications are some of the contributing factors towards politico-economic relations between Malaysia and South America.

For Malaysia, the sea has been an important area for mineral resources and for the development of the fishing industry. Two new issues of special interest to Malaysia at the Law of the Sea Conference are the question of the Straits and the Archipelagic Concept. Malaysia was represented at the Law of the Sea Conference in Caracas, from June 20 to August 29.

State Visits

Their Majesties, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong made State Visits to the United Kingdom (July 9-11), to Bangladesh (Dec. 3-6), to India (Dec. 6-9), to Pakistan (Dec. 9-12) and a private visit and pilgrimage to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (Dec. 17-29).

The Prime Minister of Japan, Mr Kakuei Tanaka, paid a official visit to Malaysia in January (12-14) and the Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Gough Whitlam visited Malaysia also in January (28-31).

During the year Tun Abdul Razak visited Burma (April 6-8), and Geneva (June 9-16) where he addressed a Special sitting of the 59th Session of the ILO on June 11.

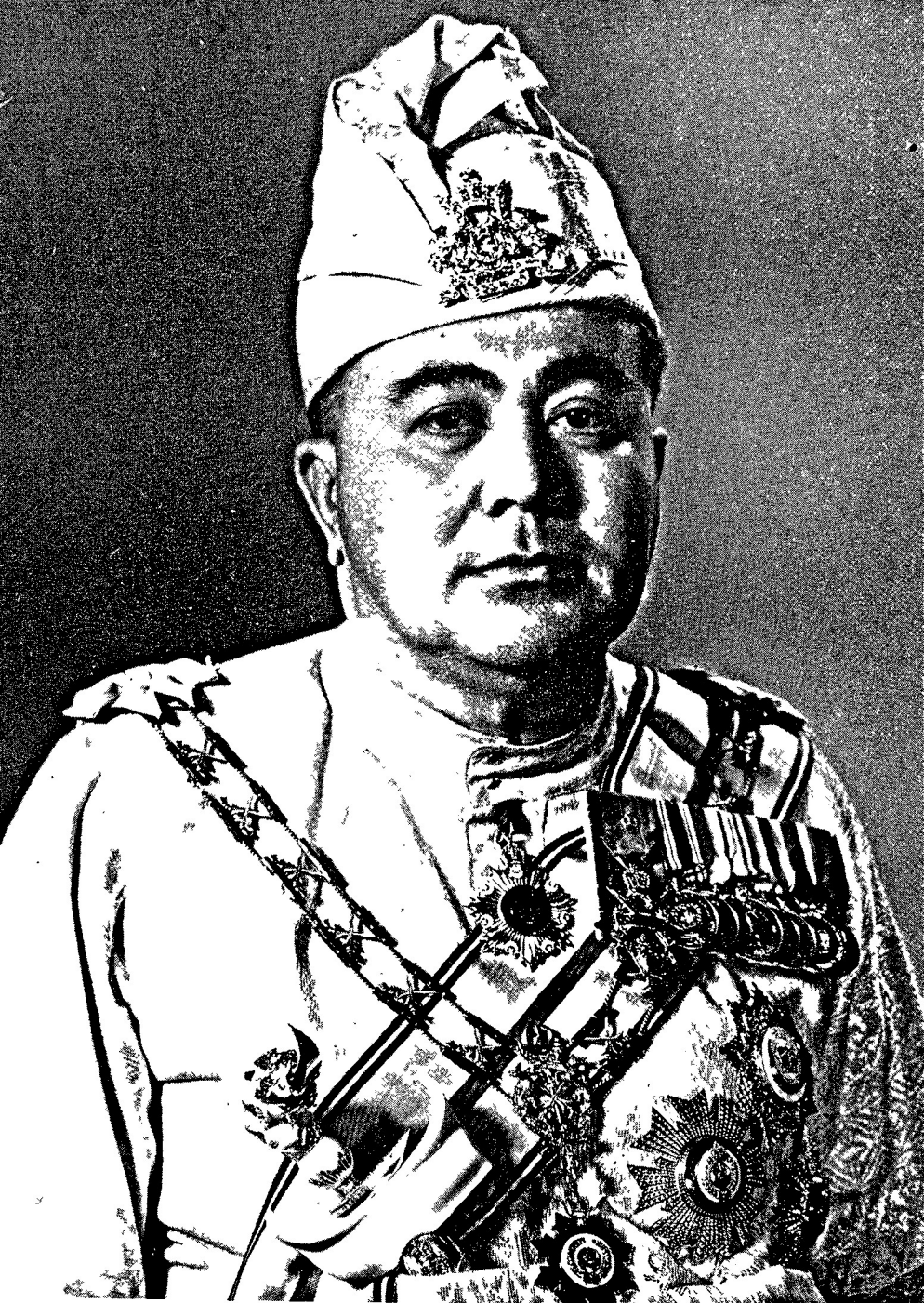
Conferences

Major conferences and meetings held in Kuala Lumpur were the Asian Regional Mass Media Seminar (Jan 9-11), the First Meeting of the ASEAN/JAPAN Forum on Synthetic Rubber (Feb. 19-21), the 7th Annual Meeting of the Asian Development Bank (April 25-27), the Fourth Annual Conference of the Study Group on Asian Tax Administration and Research (SGATAR) (July 22-27), the ASEAN Meeting of Experts on Grain Handling and Storage and Transportation of

Livestock and other Perishable Foodstuffs (July 23-27), the 25th Session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific Region (September), the Financial Times Conference on Southeast Asia's Natural Resources and the World Economy (September 17-20), and the 15th Session of the International Tin Council Meeting (October 24-28).







THE SULTAN OF KELANTAN
(Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong)

His Royal Highness Tuanku Yahya Petra Ibn Almarhum Sultan Ibrahim, D.K., D.M.N., S.P.M.K., S.J.M.K., S.P.S.K., D.K. (Trengganu) D.K. (Selangor), D.K. (Kedah), D.K. (Brunei), S.M.N., was born on 10th December, 1917. He ascended the throne on 10th July, 1960. His Royal Highness was elected the new Timbalan Yang di-Pertuan Agong on 21st September, 1970.



THE SULTAN OF PAHANG

His Royal Highness Sultan Abu Bakar Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mu'adzam Shah ibni Al-Marhum Al-Mu'tasim Billah Al-Sultan Abdullah, D.K., S.I.M.P., D.M.N., D.K. (Brunei), D.K. (Johor), D.K. (Kedah), D.K. (Perak), S.P.D.K. (Sabah), and G.C.M.G. Yang Di-Pertuan Negeri Pahang Darul Makmur, was born on 29th May, 1904. He ascended the throne on 23rd June, 1932.

THE RAJA OF PERLIS

His Royal Highness Tuanku Syed Putra Ibni Al-Marhum Syed Hassan Jamalullail, D.K., S.P.M.P., D.K. (M.), D.M.N., S.M.N., D.K. (Sel.), S.P.D.K. (Sabah). He ascended the throne on 4th December, 1945.



THE SULTAN OF TRENGGANU

His Royal Highness Tuanku Ismail Nasiruddin Shah, D.K., D.K. (M.), D.M.N., S.P.M.T., D.K. (Kel.), D.K. (Sel.), Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Zainal Abidin Sultan Dan Yang Di Pertuan Bagi Negeri Trengganu Serta Jajahan Takluknya, Darul-Iman, was born on 24th January, 1907 at Kuala Trengganu. He ascended the throne on 16th December, 1945.

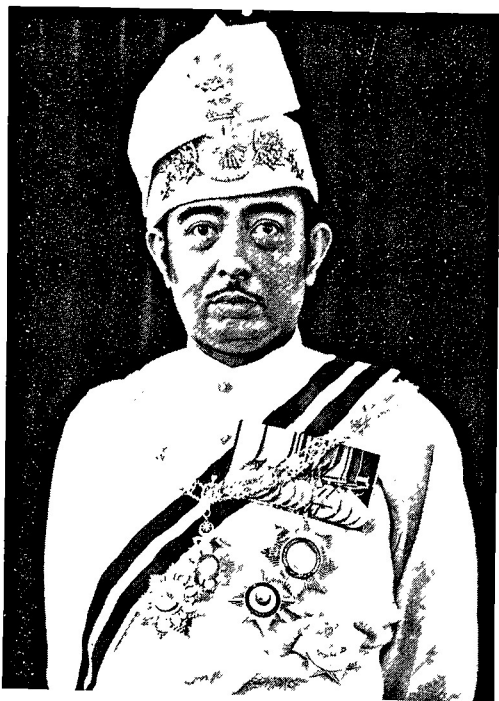


THE SULTAN OF JOHOR

His Royal Highness Sultan Ismail Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Ibrahim, D.K., S.P.M.J., S.S.I.J., D.M.N., S.M.N., S.P.M.K., D.K. (Brunei), D.K. (Pahang), D.K. (Perak), D.K. (Selangor) etc., was born on 28th October, 1894. He ascended the throne on 8th May, 1959.

THE SULTAN OF SELANGOR

His Royal Highness Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah ibni Al-marhum Sultan Hisamuddin Alam Shah Alhaj, D.K., S.P.M.S., D.M.N., The Sultan and the Yang Di Pertuan Negeri of Selangor Darul-Ehsan was born on 8th March, 1926 and ascended the throne on 2nd September, 1960.



THE SULTAN OF PERAK

His Royal Highness Sultan Idris Al-Mutawakkil Allahi Shah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Iskandar Shah Kadasallah, D.K., D.M.N., D.K. (Johor), D.K. (Pahang), S.P.C.M., S.P.M.P., P.J.K., C.M.G., was born on 28th August, 1924. His Royal Highness ascended the throne on 6th January, 1963.



**THE YANG DI PERTUAN
BESAR OF NEGERI SEMBILAN**

His Royal Highness Tuanku Ja'afar
Ibni Al-Marhum Tuanku Abdul
Rahman, D.M.N., D.K. (Brunei),
D.K. (Kelantan), was born on 19th
July, 1922. He ascended the throne
on 18th April, 1967.





THE GOVERNOR OF MALACCA

His Excellency Tun (Dr) Haji Abdul Aziz bin Haji Abdul Majid, S.M.N., D.U.S.M., was born in Kajang, Selangor in March, 1908. He was sworn in as Governor on 31st August, 1971.



THE GOVERNOR OF PENANG

His Excellency Tun Datuk Syed Sheh Barakbah Al-Haj bin Syed Hassan Barakbah, S.M.N., S.S.M., D.U.P.N., S.P.M.K., P.S.B., was born on 10th November, 1906. He was appointed Governor on 5th February, 1969.



THE GOVERNOR OF SARAWAK

His Excellency Tun Datuk Patinggi, Tuanku Haji Bujang bin Tuanku Haji Othman, S.M.N., P.S.M., D.P., was born on 12th December, 1898. He was first appointed Governor on 2nd April, 1969, and re-appointed Governor for a further term of four years in 1973.



THE PRIME MINISTER
The Hon'ble Tun Haji Abdul Razak bin Datuk Hussein

GEOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

Malaysia covers an area of about 130,000 square miles, occupying the Malay Peninsula and the States of Sabah and Sarawak in the north-western coastal area of Borneo Island. The two regions are separated by about 400 miles of the South China Sea. Peninsular Malaysia, covering 52,000 square miles has its frontiers with Thailand while Sabah and Sarawak, about 78,000 square miles border the territory of Indonesia's Kalimantan.

The Federation of Malaysia consists of the following States: Perlis, Kedah, Pulau Pinang, Perak, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka, Johor, Kelantan, Trengganu and Pahang in Peninsular Malaysia, and Sabah and Sarawak.

Climate

Malaysia lies near the equator between latitudes 1° and 7° north and longitudes 100° and 119° East. Malaysia is subject to maritime influence and the interplay of wind systems which originate in the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea. The year is commonly divided into the South-west and North-east monsoon seasons.

The average daily temperature throughout Malaysia varies from 70° to 90°F. Humidity is high.

Flora

The natural vegetation of Malaysia is Tropical Rain Forest. Such forest is characteristically evergreen, broadleaved, complex in structure and rich in species. Indeed more species of plants are found in Malaysia than in any other part of the world of a comparable land area.

Of flowering plants, there are about 9,000 species; 3,000 species are trees, 1,000 are orchids, and 300 are palms. Small grasses are poorly represented compared to other parts of the world but their giant relatives the bamboos, represented by about 60 species, are common throughout the country. Conifers are scarce; fewer than two dozen species are found in Malaysia mainly on the mountains. There are 500 species of ferns and innumerable lower plants of which a proper inventory has not been taken.

Tropical Rain Forest, in its most luxuriant form, is found on the lowlands and hills of Malaysia. Such forest has a closed canopy at 120 to 150 feet above the ground, consisting of the crowns of large trees closely fitted together like the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, and supported on stout, straight, cylindrical, pillar-like trunks. Here and there, an outstanding tree breaks through to emerge above the canopy.

One of the emergent species is the Tualang (*Koompassia excelsa*), which can attain a height of 260 feet and is believed to be the third tallest species in the world.

Under the canopy are smaller trees, shrubs and herbs which have adapted themselves to life in the shade. On the trees themselves, smaller plants cling on wherever they can find a perch. Most of these plants, especially orchids and ferns, are epiphytes i.e. depending on the host only for mechanical support. Some, especially of the well-represented mistletoe family, are parasitic. On the forest floor, fungi, aided by termites and other insects, rapidly break down any dead trees and fallen litter thereby completing Nature's recycling process.

The real opportunists of the Tropical Rain Forest are the lianes. These are woody climbers armed with hooking, clawing, clasping and twining devices which enable them to climb over other plants until they can bask in the full sun on the canopy. The most useful lianes are those of the palm family. Their slender, flexible and tough stems appear in commerce as rattan furniture and Melaka canes.

But the main economic product of Malaysian forest is timber. The most important timber producing family is the *Dipterocarpaceae*, from which is obtained well-known timbers such as Meranti, Chengal, Keruing, Kapur and Balau. The next most important family is *Leguminosae* from which comes Kempas and Merbau. Nyatoh is from *Sapotaceae*, Ramin from *Gonystylaceae*.

Tropical Rain Forest now occupies about 70 per cent of Malaysia's land area, mainly in the hills and mountains. The lowlands have been largely converted to agricultural use. In the 70 per cent, intensive logging followed by replanting operations is changing the nature of the forest. It is unlikely that the original structure and diversity of a virgin forest can ever be recovered after heavy logging. Faster-growing species, both native and introduced, are replacing the original stands of trees, and the spread of weedy species is inadvertently encouraged by the changing circumstances.

Apart from coconut, rice and sugar cane, the agricultural lowlands are populated by plants such as rubber, oil palm, pineapple, cocoa, tapioca, maize and coffee, introduced into the country during the colonial era.

Wild Life

The Malayan animals and birds are forest species. Wild life inhabit only the forest-covered land. The opening of large tracts of forest for development has resulted in the disappearance of most of the wild life with only a few species having succeeded in adapting themselves to changed conditions. Areas which were once rich in wild life, with elephants, rhinoceros and other large animals, do not now hold anything larger than deer or wild pig.

The elephant which is the largest indigenous Malayan fauna is found throughout the Peninsula wherever there is suitable habitat. It lives mainly in family parties, each group requiring suitable feeding grounds. By virtue of its size, it requires great tracts of forest in which to live. The Malayan Seladang is an inhabitant of the larger river valleys where the terrain is not too hilly. Seladang may be found in family herds of up to twenty animals controlled by a master bull. Both species have management problems requiring well conceived plans for their survival. The Seladang takes unkindly to encroachment while loss of habitat has created crop depredation problems from elephants.

Of the two species of rhinoceros, the Sumatran rhinoceros remains in small numbers scattered singly or in pairs in the most remote and uninhabited terrain. Formerly plentiful, both species were depleted by unscrupulous hunters and trappers in quest of the horn wanted for its supposedly medicinal value. This has resulted in the extinction of the Javan Rhinoceros.

The Malayan Tapir is quite common in the riverine sandbanks of jungle country. This bicoloured animal with black fore and hind quarters and grey-white body has no enemy except the tiger which preys on it. The tapir is very fond of water and spends a great deal of time in riverine areas. There are two species of deer, apart from the mouse-deer. The sambar deer is found throughout Peninsular Malaysia in almost any type of terrain and is much persecuted, but given protection, can hold its own. Its antlers are quite impressive in mature animals. The barking deer is smaller and is reddish coloured with preference for forested undulating country as its habitat.

Two species of mouse-deer are to be found in Peninsular Malaysia in all types of forest except the hills. There are also two species of pigs; the more common species is found in all sorts of forests. This species (*Sus scrofa*) is a pest. The bearded pig is less common and may be found in swampy areas of south-east Pahang and Johor from which it makes periodical migrations. During these migrations the species suffer great casualties when they swim across rivers.

Among the cats the most famous is the tiger which feeds mainly on wild pigs. The leopard appears in two forms, the more common is the black panther. The other form which is rare is typically spotted. The handsome clouded leopard is smaller than the leopard and is distinctively marked with dark lines and blotches and the tail is bushy. It is arboreal as well as terrestrial, and hunts a great deal on the ground. A beautifully coloured animal resembling the leopard is the leopard cat. It inhabits secondary jungle and more open country than the other cats. The marbled-cat is coloured in a similar manner as the clouded leopard but is smaller, about 3 feet 6 inches in length. Two other species, the Golden cat and the flat-headed cat also exist in Peninsular Malaysia.

One species of wild dog is to be found in the forests of Peninsular Malaysia. It is a savage beast, generally hunting in packs, but is seldom

