



**MALAYSIA**

**COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA  
ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE  
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA  
CHINESE LANGUAGE SOCIETY**



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## CONTENTS

	Para. Nos.
FOREWORD BY THE HON'BLE THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS	
INTRODUCTION ... ..	1-3
DECLARED FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF UMCLS ...	4-6
CULTURE AS A TOOL ... ..	7-10
THE FIRST MOVE ... ..	11-13
THE TAKE OVER ... ..	14-17
FORMATION OF THE ANCILLIARY BODIES:	
Dramatic Study Sub-Committee ... ..	18
Cultural Exchange Preparatory Committee ... ..	19
THE PROPAGANDA OFFENSIVE ... ..	20
THROUGH LITERATURE ... ..	21-22
The "Berita" ... ..	23
The "University Literature" ... ..	24-34
The "Hsueh Hsih" ... ..	35-38
The "Torch" ... ..	39-40
The "New Shoot" ... ..	41-45
THROUGH DRAMATIC ACTIVITY ... ..	46-47
First Concert ... ..	48
"Spring Comes From The Human World" ... ..	49-52
"Song of Life" ... ..	53-55
"1973 Spring Comes From The Human World" ... ..	56-59
THROUGH OTHER ACTIVITIES ... ..	60
Social Gatherings ... ..	61-63
Greeting Cards ... ..	64
Song Books and Records ... ..	65-67
Picnics ... ..	68-69



	Para. Nos.
GROWING INFLUENCE ... ..	70-72
THE CPM LINKS ... ..	73-80
THE SPRING THUNDER GRAND AMALGAMATED PERFORMANCES ... ..	81-89
EXPLOITATION OF THE TASEK UTARA ISSUE ... ..	90-99
LATEST RECOVERIES ... ..	100
CONCLUSION ... ..	101-106
ABBREVIATIONS	
APPENDIX "A"	
APPENDIX "B"	
APPENDIX "C"	
APPENDIX "D"	



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## INTRODUCTION

Attempts to subvert the youth of this country have been frequently manifest ever since communism emerged onto the local scene as an alien ideology and eventually took permanent form in the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) over four decades ago.

2. Students in schools using the Chinese language as the medium of instruction became the principal targets of such CPM attention and this has remained basically the case until today. However, with the introduction of higher education in this country, CPM attention in this area has spread to a significant extent to the institutions of higher learning.

3. Recent developments have shown that the University of Malaya Chinese Language Society (UMCLS) has been singled out for penetration by the CPM for conversion into a propaganda vehicle to spearhead the promotion of subversive activities.

## DECLARED FUNCTIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF UMCLS

4. The UMCLS was established in 1962 under the University of Malaya Act, 1961 with the following objectives as tabulated in its Constitution:

- “(a) to encourage, promote and assist the learning of the Chinese language;
- (b) to promote the knowledge, appreciation and understanding of the Chinese language, arts and culture; and
- (c) to promote the understanding and appreciation of all other cultures with particular emphasis to the cultures represented in ‘Malaya’.”

The membership of the Society is open to students of all races but it has little appeal to those who are not of Chinese origin.



and peasants, bring them in line with the fulfilment of the revolution and to participate in the struggle against the enemy and embark on the road of the revolution under the leadership of the Communist Party”.

10. Since then, the student role in this country has become more specific. It is to provide the leadership through the UMCLS in waging a concerted propaganda offensive in order to undermine the country's existing social order.

#### **THE FIRST MOVE**

11. In mid 1970 a pro-CPM student of the University of Malaya penetrated into the Society and contrived his election to the important post of Publications Secretary of the Society. The selection of this particular post as the first target for penetration was obviously governed by the fact that it would provide the access so necessary for changing the legitimate character of the Society's publications into that of CPM propaganda mouthpieces.

12. In early March 1971 a small clandestine group of students within the University of Malaya which called itself the “Young Socialists” led by the pro-CPM student mentioned in the preceding paragraph planned to capture control of the UMCLS. The plan called for members of this underground organisation to penetrate the Society and manoeuvre themselves into the key positions within it through vote manipulation at election time.

13. Their intention was to further the cause of CPM through the media of literature, art and culture, and this was to be done by converting the Society's publications and other cultural facilities into ideological propaganda platforms. It was their view that the most important task at this period for the CPM was the political subversion of the people in order to range them on the side of the CPM, and that unless and until this mass conditioning of the public mind had been achieved, it would be premature to think in terms of “armed struggle” at this juncture.

#### **THE TAKE-OVER**

14. In June 1971, this underground group of pro-CPM students succeeded in gaining control of the UMCLS Executive Committee as planned, with its leader moving