an SRC special

MALAYSIA DAY



16th Sept 2021

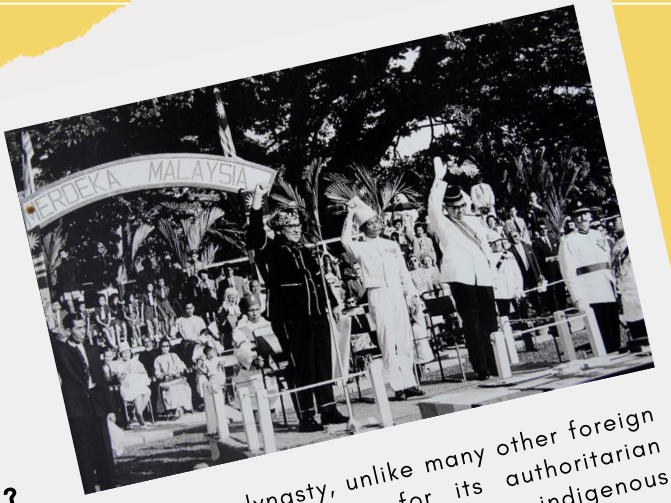
HAPPY malaysia DAY!

Selamat Hari Malaysia everyone!
This Malaysia Day magazine is brought to you by all the members of the Student Representative Council who worked really hard throughout the past week. We thank you for reading this edition of the SRC magazine and hope you enjoy it and find out something new from this!

A BRIEF HISTORY

MALAYSIA DAY: WHAT IS IT?

AND WHY DO WE CELEBRATE IT?



Malaysia Day commemorates the founding of the Malaysian Federation on September 16, 1963. Malaysia was formed when the East Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak, as well as the former British colony of Singapore, joined the Malaya Federation. Singapore left the Federation two years later, on August 9, 1965.

Both the Philippines and Malaysia sought to get their hands on Sabah, which was a petroleum-rich state. Sarawak was a British colony for 17 years prior to joining the Malaysian Federation.

The Indonesian Islands of Sipadan and Ligitan were officially designated part of Sabah as a result of the influx of Indonesian immigrants in the 1970s and a disagreement over Sabah's right to several surrounding islands. The Brooke dynasty controlled Sarawak for a century and was known as the "White Rajahs," a status akin to that of Indian state rulers inside the British Empire. The Sarawakian lands were substantially expanded under their influence, primarily at the expense of areas under the jurisdiction of the Sultanate of Brunei.

The Brooke dynasty, unlike many other foreign rulers, was notorious for its authoritarian policies in order to protect the indigenous population from exploitation. The Brookes ruled with the support of the Malay Muslim populace and enrolled the Ibans and other Dayak (indigenous people) as a militia force. The White Rajahs also encouraged Chinese merchants to come to Sarawak, but they forbade them from living outside of towns in order to limit their impact on the Dayak way of life.

In 1963, both of these states became members of the Malaysian Federation. Malaysia Day was not declared a public holiday until former Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak requested it in 2010.

Since then, it's been referred to as Malaysia's birthday — this year, Malaysia turns 64!





SOURCES
National Today
Malaysia my 2nd Home

HOW DO WE celebrate HARI MALAYSIA?



PRE- COVID

- Parades! + Flag raising ceremonies
- National acrobatic airshows
- Recital of "Rukun Negara" and national songs
- Fireworks, cultural performances
- Decorating government buildings with national colours

DURING COVID

- Hybrid events in certain states (limited guests with strict SOP compliance)
- Celebrating only at home, without relatives
- Nationwide celebration broadcasts on TV3, RIA
- No eating outside/open house/mamak

A TEACHER'S *say*






This Malaysia Day, we asked some of our teachers to let us in on their uniquely *Malaysian* experiences. Let's see what they say, **lah**!

How long have you stayed in Malaysia?


Since 2016. It's my 6th year here!


7 years


5 years


5 years too!

What was the biggest culture shock you had in Malaysia?


Morning prayer at 6am... Waking up to voices coming from the mosque.


Batu caves... and Thaipusam and the body impalement... *shivers*


A lot of fried food and chicken. I like chicken but... so much of it was initially a bit overwhelming ><


Coming from Egypt, the thing I was most shocked (and excited) about was Village Grocer. It was so beautifully stocked and so clean! I also couldn't get over how cheap and delicious eating out is.

A TEACHER'S say

What is your favourite part about Malaysia?


Beaches!!


The islands... and the beaches too! :)


The mix of culture (the fusion of food!), holidays, the mix of being in the city and also the greenery.


How kind and respectful the people are!

Speak a sentence in malay!


clears throat Maafkan saya, saya nama Gavin.


Boleh! Boleh!!!


“NO.” *laughs* XD


Malaysia Boleh!

What is the name of the Malaysian National Anthem?


Ummm... Bersatu...?


Melayu... I love you!!


Uhh... No idea.. 5 years of singing it every assembly though...


Negarakuuuu〜〜

Make a sentence with the word ‘lah’.


"Cannot make sentence lah"


"Cannot lah" HAHAHA


“Issok lah!!”


"Cannot lah" (after lessons with Malaysian students)

What is your favourite malaysian food/drink?


Hmm... Hokkien Mee and Kopi Kosong PANAS!!


My fave Malaysian food is chicken satay!! Esp from Jalan Alor or Jijay satay on whatsapp delivery, you can order 100!!


Roti Canai, Pizza on with a roti base and Milo Ice


Roti Canai, Beef Rendang, Char Kuey Teow! Coffee is my favourite beverage.

What is something that is normal in Malaysia but considered weird/ not normal in your country?


Eating rice for breakfast...


Not indicating when driving!!!


Hmm... Using a knife and a spoon to eat here, compared to knife and fork eating back home...


For some reason drinking tea tarik out of a plastic bag is weird, but drinking Capri Sun out of an aluminum pouch is not weird.

A TEACHER'S *say*

What is your most memorable Malaysian experience?


My first holiday to Pangkor Islands!


Trekking in the jungle in Borneo and seeing Orangutans irl!


When I was on holiday in Langkawi... and the monkeys stole all my food :(


There are too many! Any jungle day is a memorable one, though (white water rafting, ATV riding, so many hikes...)

What one thing in Malaysia do you want to bring back home?


My family and memories... and NO CORONAVIRUS!!!


Hmmm... The sunshine and the monkeys!!


The free forks and spoons you get with your meals!! And... the sunny weather. It makes me really happy :)


All the kampung puppies I foster :)

— Thank you to all the teachers for your responses. *All of you are* SANGAT BAGUS LAHHHHH!~~

HOW DOES THE

SJIIM COMMUNITY *celebrate* malaysia day?

"Badminton TIME!"

When I was much younger, Malaysia Day was a holiday that I never thought much of. However, during this day, I would often play badminton with my Malay and Indian neighbours. Reminiscing back, there was always something urging us to pick up the racquet and play, and that was the Malaysian spirit.

- CLEMENT KHOO (YEAR 13)

"Let's go for a cycle?"

During Malaysia Day, I would often go for a cycle with some of my friends from the Malaysian National Triathlon Team. Although we all come from different backgrounds, cultures and races, the one thing that connects us all is our passion for the same sport and the love for the country that we are representing.

- DARRELL TAN (YEAR 13)



"Boss, satu roti canai!"

Back in Penang, my friends and teachers from school would meet up during the Malaysia Day holiday. The teachers would treat us to a meal at our local 'mamak' where we indulged in the many Malaysian treats and dishes there are to offer!

- TAN SHAO QIN (YEAR 13)

CELEBRATING THE

malaysian spirit

AT TOKYO 2020 GAMES

23 July 2021 - 5 September 2021

The exceptional

Malaysian **Olympic** and **Paralympic** athletes have once again gone and produced massive results at the recent Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo!



LEFT: The Malaysian Olympics team, with **30** athletes competing in 10 sports.

13 of them were first time competitors — showing their years and years of hard work and dedication to compete for a spot in the Games!

MALAYSIA PARTICIPATED IN: Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Cycling, Diving, Golf, Gymnastics, Sailing, Shooting and Swimming.



RIGHT: The Malaysian Paralympics team, with **22** athletes.

This year was Malaysia's most successful year in the games —our para-athletes brought home 5 medals, 3 of them being gold!

MALAYSIA PARTICIPATED IN: Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Boccia, Cycling, Powerlifting, Swimming, Table and Wheelchair Tennis.

MALAYSIA'S 2020/2021 TOKYO olympic CHAMPIONS



AZIZULHASNI AWANG

Cycling - Men's Keirin

SILVER



AARON CHIA & SOOH WOOI YIK

Badminton - Men's Doubles

BRONZE

THE paralympic CHAMPIONS



ABDUL LATIF ROMLY

Athletics - Men's Long Jump T20 (intellectual impairment)

GOLD



CHEAH LIEK HOU

Badminton - Men's Singles SU5 (standing/upper limb impairment)

GOLD



BONNIE BUNYAU GUSTIN

Powerlifting - Men's 72kg

GOLD



JONG YEE KHIE

Powerlifting - Men's 107kg

SILVER



CHEW WEI LUN

Boccia - Mixed Individual BC1 (cerebral palsy)

SILVER

Despite the heartbreak with Paralympic Shot Putter Muhammad Ziyad Zolkefli's world record attempt and gold medal being stripped from him, our Malaysian athletes competed valiantly to earn seven medals in total: 2 coming from the Olympics and the other 5 from the Paralympic Games.

Their inspiring performances proved that **if we put our minds to it, nothing is impossible.**

We look up to them and **thank them for representing Malaysia so well on the big stage!**





MALAYSIA'S *unsung* heroes

unsung heroes

IDIOM

Someone who does great deeds but receives little to no recognition for them. This section of the magazine will showcase some of Malaysia's national heroes whose stories go unnoticed; we hope that they will be remembered and their stories and achievements will be heard.

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1. The Talalla Brothers

Henry (right) and Cyril (left) Talalla were sons of the business tycoon Hewage Benjamin Talalla. They played an important role in providing air support for the Allied invasion of Nazi-occupied France during WW2.

The two were courageous pilots for the British Royal Air Force, and Cyril was the first Asian and Non-European to pass the strict Royal Air Force entrance test.

Henry and Cyril had an unbreakable brotherly bond until July 25, 1949, when Henry was killed in action in France due to his fighter-bomber being shot down by the Nazis. Henry's remains were exhumed a few years later and were reburied at the Banneville-la-Campagne British War Cemetery at Calvados, France.



THEY WERE THE BEST OF FRIENDS.

Can you imagine? With all the war and enemy aircraft everywhere,
Cyril went out alone with no fighter support to look for Henry when he heard that his plane had been downed. It was like looking for a needle in a haystack.

It takes lots of *courage* to do that,"

– **RICHARD TALALLA**,
younger brother of the two war heroes.



*She was awarded the **George Medal** at Buckingham Palace by King George VI.*

for her bravery during the Japanese occupation, and was the

ONLY MALAYAN WOMAN

IN HISTORY TO HAVE RECEIVED THE AWARD.

2. Dato' Mohd Mokhtar bin Dahari

Dato' Mohd Mokhtar bin Dahari is a legendary Malaysian football player who played in the 20th century. Originally from Setapak, Selangor, he represented F.A. Selangor for the majority of his prolific career, where he scored 177 goals in 375 games. Internationally, he scored a gargantuan 89 goals in 142 international appearances for the Malaysian football team, solidifying himself as the 3rd top goalscorer in the world.

2. Sybil Kathigasu

Sybil Daly was born to an Irish planter and an Indian mother. She was trained as a nurse and midwife. Born in Medan, Sumatra, Dutch East Indies and, having grown up in British Malaya where a large population of Chinese ex-patriots resided, she spoke fluent Cantonese. She married Dr Abdon Clement Kathigasu in 1919 and eventually had two daughters and one adopted son.

They operated a clinic in Ipoh, Malaya, from 1926 until the day before Japanese troops arrived on 26 December 1942. They went into hiding in the nearby town of Papan, where they kept a shortwave radio to listen to BBC broadcasts and at times provided medical assistance to members of the 5th Independent Regiment of the communist Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army. Dr Kathigasu was arrested in July 1943, and Sybil Kathigasu was arrested in the following month, both thrown in prison and tortured. In February 1945, he was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, and she received a life sentence. They were freed in August 1945 by communist forces, and she was flown to the United Kingdom in September 1945 for medical treatment.

While in Britain, she began to write her memoirs, later published under the title No Dram of Mercy in 1954. She passed away in the United Kingdom in 1948 as the result of injuries sustained from being tortured. She was initially buried in Lanark, Scotland and was later re-interred at the Catholic cemetery beside St. Michael Church in Ipoh.



Dato' Mohd Mokhtar led Malaysia to

THE 61ST PLACE

IN THE GLOBAL RANKINGS;

the **highest** malaysian football has ever been.

Nicknamed "Supermokh",

He had offers from various European football clubs, like Real Madrid C.F., but chose to stay in Malaysia due to his loyalty towards his club and country. After an illustrious career, he chose to delve into the coaching realm, where he helped improve the up and coming younger generation.



4. Dr Wu Lien-Teh

Dr Wu Lien-teh was a Malayan physician who became well-known for his public-health activities, particularly during the Manchurian plague of 1910-11.

HE INVENTED THE

WU MASK;

a predecessor to the **N95 respirator** we use today.

Wu was the University of Cambridge's first Chinese-born medical student; In 1935, he was the first Malayan to be nominated for the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine.

Wu was dispatched to Harbin in the winter of 1910 by the Imperial Qing government to examine an unknown sickness that claimed the lives of 99.9% of its victims. This marked the start of Manchuria and Mongolia's massive pneumonic plague pandemic.

Wu adapted surgical masks into more substantial ones with layers of gauze and cotton to filter the air after learning from the autopsy that the plague was airborne. Gérald Mesny, a well-known French doctor who was brought in to replace Wu, refused to wear a mask and died of the plague a few days later. Wu oversaw the fabrication and distribution of 60,000 masks during a later pandemic. It is believed that the N95 mask is the descendant of Wu's design.

Wu ordered isolation, arranged for structures to be sanitized and the old plague emergency clinic to be burned to the ground and replaced. The action that Wu is best associated with was in requesting supreme approval to incinerate plague victims. Cremation of these contaminated casualties ended up being the defining moment of the plague; days after incinerations started, the plague started to decline, and inside the space of months, it had been eradicated.

5. Chew Wei Lun

Chew Wei Lun was born on August 26th 1995 in Johor Bahru Malaysia. He recently participated in the 2020 Tokyo summer Paralympics representing Malaysia in Boccia and won a silver medal.





However, Wei Lun did not have it easy growing up. At the age of 4, he was abandoned by his mother, and his grandfather raised him. At the age of 9, he was sent to a home for people with impairments. He relied on his love for Boccia to help him through his tough upbringing.

1ST MALAYSIAN

TO WIN A MEDAL IN BOCCIA
(precision ball sport similar to bocce)

"Ever since I can remember, I've always had to be independent. ***But throughout it all, I always loved playing Boccia."***

- Chew Wei Lun

There were so many people who mocked me for wanting to play against able-bodied players when I couldn't even win against the para-athletes.

But they never broke my spirit because I wanted to prove to them that I could do it.

- CHEAH LIEK HOU
2020 PARALYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST (BADMINTON)





If we dare to win, we should also dare to lose.

- DATUK LEE CHONG WEI
3 TIME OLYMPIC SILVER MEDALIST (BADMINTON)

President's Address

Malaysia Day is a holiday which many people often confuse with Merdeka (Malaysia's Independence Day). Merdeka Day on August 31, 1957, marks Malaya's independence from the British, while Malaysia Day on September 16, 1963, was when the peninsula allied with Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore to create **Malaysia**. It can be said that the former is the birthday and the latter is a form of unity and anniversary.

This year, we planned to emphasise the importance of Malaysia Day as it is one of the key dates which led to the formation of our nation. Not only does it represent the establishment of the Malaysian Federation, but it also poses as a symbol for the unity of cultures; making *Malaysia, truly Asia*.

In the spirit of Malaysia Day, The SRC wanted to celebrate this often forgotten holiday, despite being in isolation; by sharing a little bit of our nation's history, and recap on our triumphant successes in the Olympics. A section of the magazine that I personally enjoyed reading was the 'Malaysian Unsung Heroes' where we tell the momentous stories of unacknowledged national figures who contributed so much to Malaysia and the world.

I sincerely hope that after reading this magazine, everyone would be able to value the importance of Malaysia Day and what it means to this great nation; and to you, reading this.

Before I end, I would like to personally thank the members of the SRC for working on this wonderful project in the past week, especially Neha Goswami and Kim Kyu Ri for helping with the creative design of the magazine. Last but not least, I would also like to thank Mr O'Connor, Ms Cole, Mrs Moden and Mr King for sharing their uniquely Malaysian experiences. And you, fellow Lasallian, for reading this.

Once again, I would like to wish you all a 'Selamat Hari Malaysia!'

- CLEMENT KHOO
2020-2021 SRC PRESIDENT