

people caught looting had their head cut off and being publicly (at main Building, bridges)

created fear, severe warnings

harsh punishments

Kampetai

- Arrested anti-Jap.
- Food and cash rewards to ppl who inform Jap
- imprisoned, tortured, killed
- create obedience

some Chinese became informants

coercing Chinese Business Community

targeted for generous contribution to China Relief Fund, which supports China's resistance against Japan

had to contribute 50 mil Straits dollars as a punishment for support of anti-Jap.

For All British, Australian And Allied Europeans

to forced to march in public from Bukit Timah

to change Prison

imprisoning of allied soldiers

Chinese viewed as potential source of competition

Jook Ching

(For 18-50 yrs old Chinese males)

control of people: Force

HYPERINFLATION: Not enough food

encourage home grown veg, tapioca, sweet potato

- derails and migrants

→ disease & death

Chapter 6: Life in Syonan

now Japanese rule SG

Resistance

Force 136: Lim Boeyong

7 Malay irregulars to pledge loyalty

→ Malayan People Anti-Jap Army (MPAJA)

control of people: Loyalty

Propaganda

portrayed themselves as liberators

to free the Asians from colonial rule

Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere

Free Asian nations from the control of Western colonial powers

messages spread through posters and radio broadcast

Cultivating Japanese spirit

- Kimigayo, bow to Jap. Emperor photo
- folk songs
- Broadcast daily exercise
- some learn Jap. martial arts

promising of stuff

winning support

Indians did not

India did not like British and wanted to get rid of them

Japan promised them to free India of British rule

Form the Indian National Army (INA) with Japan's support to fight against the British in India

Those who were loyal to Brit were imprisoned.

providing benefits to the locals

- provide schooling and accommodation, no cost
- Malay and Indians treated less harshly
- ↳ better life for Malays
- ↳ charged less than Chinese to cross the causeway

Imposing Japanese Culture

gaining support of Malays

help to pacify the neighbourhood

Leisure and Entertainment

- Radio programmes
- Jap. movies
- sports (foot ball)
- POWs organised activities

Rise of communism

Background of communism

- Nanyang communist party established in SG in 1927
- reorganised to form communist party of Malaya (CPM) / Malayan communist Party (MCP)
- focussed on anti-Brit activities like infiltrating trade unions but lost popularity and turned more towards fanning anti-Jap sentiments amongst the ppl.
- During JO, many joined MJAFA to fight against Brit Rule
- MCP had lots of support as they were anti-Jap.
- After JO, back to going against Brit Rule, stirred up anti-Brit sentiments in SG and Malaya thru infiltrating trade unions
- Led to strikes by workers

Malayan Emergency

- MCP adopted policy of insurrection (violence)
- 3 European miners killed in Ipoh due to attack of British tin mines in 1948
- Brit declared state ^{of} emergency throughout Malaya
- MCP declared illegal (WTS)

Addressing of Issues

Brit need to win support of ppl back by:

1. meeting housing challenge

- Post war baby boom led to overcrowding, and many lived in slums. SG Improvement Trust (SIT) accelerated building programmes → unable to meet targets. Many continued to live in cramped conditions in 1950s

2. Addressing food shortage

- growing & aggravated food shortage. Neighbouring rice producing countries produced enough for themselves, not for export. Food prices remained high amidst high unemployment.
- People's restraint was established (Brit colonial gov.) to provide ^{AFFORDABLE} food (1947?)

3. Managing industrial unrest

- workers unhappy as they faced unsatisfactory working conditions, housing and food shortage.
- Many joined trade unions who organised strike strikes to demand for better working conditions (1947, year of strikes → 300!) Laws were passed to control the trade unions from 1947 → had to register with gov. Yet, unrest continued to 1950s

4. Rebuilding economy

- Urgency to generate revenue and improve ppl's lives. Brit. repaired ports to restore SG as trading centre. ↓ → increase in worldwide demand for tin & rubber accelerated economic recovery

5. Allowing Local Political participation (with support of locals!)

- Brit. colonial gov. allowed locals to participate in elections. This reform is known as a constitutional development.
- SG path to self-rule and independence was a transition, more peaceful compared to other SEA countries.
- Experience was "shaped" and "determined" largely by Brit. colonial gov.
- Idea of political apprenticeship to prepare JG.

1948 Elections → failed to show interest

Voting of Brit. subject 2% population in SG

SPP → believed in Brit.

- Won 3/6 of seats elected by popular ballot (Independence won other 3)

RENDEL CONSTITUTION - 1955

1953 - George rendel led rendel commission → set how locals could be more involved in gov.

Recommendations:

- Started political apprenticeship
- more power transferred to legislative assembly.
- Increase no. of elected in legislative assembly.
- ↳ Local chief minister (D.M. & Lim Yew Hock!)
- ↳ 6 local members
- ↳ 3 nominated Brit. members
- ↳ include 25 elected non-officials.

9 in assembly

Local ministers took charge of:

- Education
- Health
- Housing
- trade & industry

Brit nominated ministers (3):

- law
- external affairs
- finance
- internal security
- external development

1955 Elections - slightly more interested ppl.

DM of Labour front won, LKY opposition member in assembly.

↳ both wanted democracy for SG.

- Brit saw D.M. as a name and did not offer him full support. they were not eager to cooperate w LF (as they wanted to end colonial rule)

- Brit lost confidence in D.M. administration as he was not willing to make any arrest and imprison the communist involved in HLB riots (Nice to locals)

1st Merdeka Talks, London, 1956

- reluctant to grant permission, failed

↳ D.M could not protect Brit. Interest

↳ LF could not maintain law and order or deal communist threat effectively

D.M resigned as promised

Lim Yew Hock took over...

↳ worked cooperatively w Brit gov- to control communist activities, gain confidence of Brit to grant full internal self-gov.

- MISS notes impressed the Brit.

2nd Merdeka Talks, London, 1957

- granted full control of internal matters, compromise on internal security, external affairs and external defence

↳ Head of state (Yang-di-Pertuan Negara)

↳ PM.

↳ 51 members to be elected

1959 Elections - loved it all → known as a "running dog" of British.

Lim Yew Hock alienated locals due to his actions, LF no longer popular, lost PAP won, LKY was PM.

- increase no. of voters (everyone eligible to vote including ppl not born in SG, compulsory)
- 13 parties participated, total of 194 candidates contesting for 51 seats.

Before 1955 elections

1. Maria Hertogh Riots — 11-13 Dec 1950

Malays felt unfairly treated and that the Brit biased the Dutch. The Malays felt that they deserved more respect than what they are given. They thought of the Brits as racist in a way!

Maria Hertogh was raised by Dutch-Eurasian Catholics. During the war, Adeline Hertogh (Mum) decided to place Maria in the care of Cinc Aminah (a muslim), her neighbour and friend. Maria's Dad was imprisoned in 1942. Maria was renamed Nadra binte Ma'arop and raised in the Muslim faith. At 30, Adeline wanted Maria back (make a court case in SG). The court decided to grant custody of Maria to her Biological Parents set off violent riots as many Muslims felt their religion was slighted. 18 deaths & 173 injured, 72 vehicles burnt, 119 damaged and damage to physical property

- mainly targeted at Europeans. Malays suspected of collaborating w colonial administration.

2. Anti-National Service Riots — 1954

The post-war Brit gov. felt that the responsibility of defending SG should spread more evenly among the population. The (Malayan) Emergency Ordinance increased the urgency of improving the defence of SG. The National Service Ordinance was passed in 1953, requiring all males aged 18-20 (Many just started/continued on their schooling due to 10 disruption) to register for National service by May 1954. Those who failed would be jailed or fined. NS could disrupt their studies again. Students from Chung Cheng Hoon held a demonstration to protest against the proposal of NS. On May 13, 500 students created havoc in the streets, and another 1000 locked themselves in CCH. 40 injured and 48 arrested. As such, the Brit gov. postponed the registration.

- Boosted morale and strength of students, formed Singapore Chinese Middle School Students' Union (SCMSSU)

- Highlighted Brit. was a foreign power.

★ Why the Chinese only?

In 1950, 80% of the gov. education budget went to English-medium schools while only 6% was allocated to Chinese medium schools. They felt that the Brits discriminated against Chinese.

SG - Immediate Post WW2

1. Chaos

- Chaos wks aft. Jap. surrendered and before the return of Brit. troops
- Malayan Peoples Anti-Japanese Army (MPAJA) came out of the jungles and assumed control over Malaya while killing suspected traitors/Jap. collaborators.
- Brits set up Brit Military Army to cope w problems the Jap had left behind.

2. Disruption to Economy

- crime was common
- serious unemployment
- Brit. gov. face w task to rebuild Malaya & SG
- ↳ reestablishing tin & rubber industries, repairing & building bridges, docks and warehouses and communication networks.

3. Lowering of Brit. prestige

- Humiliating defeat of Brit at the hand of Jap. lowered much of respect the people had of the former colonial ruler
- subsequent hardship and trauma suffered by the ppl served to remind them of failure of the Brit to protect them.
- confidence in Brit. rule was shaken.

4. Rise of Communism.

- stronger treats of communists
- communist helped war & the MPAJA
- MPAJA forced to break up after war.
- ↳ soldiers asked to surrender weapons and each was given \$350 for services during war.

B. Change of Brit. Policy

- Economic, social and political changes that occurred during and aft. the JO necessitated a change in the policy of the Brit administrators towards Malaya & SG
- Brit. now ready to prepare ppl. for independence.

Colony

↓

Independent

Country

- change in

who control laws

and politics

- entail change in

process of deciding

the independent

gov., laws, and

how gov. shall

function.

↓

SG: Constitutional

reform and

developments

by the Brit.

* change in locals attitude to Brit. aft JO, aspired for self-rule and eventual independence.

* Brit gov. realised continued control not feasible given change in mood, post-WW2 Brit's colonies posed

financial burden on country, but: HOW TO GRANT SELF RULE & INDEPENDENCE.

* EXTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS LEADING TO SG CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS.

- rise of nationalism and independence movements in SEA and other parts of world.

- rise of communism (esp. aft. 1945) great concern for the Brit.

↳ fear colonies fighting for independence would establish communist gov.

- speed up constitutional reforms and granting of independence in these countries.

After 1945 Elections

3. Hock Lee Bus Riots — 1955

★ In 1955: 275 strikers in all

The Hock Lee Bus Amalgamated Bus company was a small company in SG. Some joined the Hock Lee Bus Employees' Union. The rest joined the Singapore Bus Workers' Union (SBWU). In late 1955, ^{pro-communist} workers from SBWU, led by Fong Sze Juan, went on strike over what they felt was unfair treatment. For instance, they were not allowed to attend union meetings. They also felt that workers from the Hock Lee Bus Employees' Union was given better treatment. The bus company responded by dismissing the 229 workers. They went on a hunger strike and protested against the new work roster and the formation of rival unions. On 27 April ^{morning}, the strikers sat in front of the depot to stop the buses from leaving. The entire transport system was paralysed. Students from Chinese schools joined the strikers to show support. They organised donation drives, brought food and money, and even entertained the workers with songs and dances. David M. tried to settle the dispute ^{between the company and SBWU}, but to no avail. The police were called to disperse the crowd, which led to the riots. Two police officers and an American press correspondent, Gene Symon, were killed by the rioters. (A police detective was badly burnt, and the last thing he did was pass his gun to Otman Wok before he died at 1 pm.) Students stopped the police from rushing a 16-year old boy to the hospital, causing him to die (to show that the police were violent.) 31 were injured. The workers felt that the strike was a success and reinstated without any loss in income.

4. Chinese Middle School Riots — 1956

Lim Yew Hock (took over D.M.) wanted to check growing communist influence in Chinese schools. He announced the closure of the SCMSU in October 1956 and arrested 4 Chinese School students who were involved in communist activities. The gov. issued an ultimatum that the schools be vacated. As the deadline approached, rioting started at HCI (aka Chinese High School). After 5 days, 13 ppl were killed and >100 were injured. The Chinese school students reacted by starting a riot. Students ^{camped} at ECH and HCI for abt 2 wks.

Merger and separation.

No.:

Date:

Background to merger

- Idea of merger or union of the Malay states and Singapore was first mooted in 1946 under the Malayan Union Plan.
- SG suggested a merger w/ Malaya in 1955 → rejected by Malayan gov.

① Why did Tunku Abdul Rahman reject merger?

It was disadvantageous to Malaya:

1. There would be a disrupt in the racial balance. The Chinese population in SG was big and added to the Chinese in Malaya, the Chinese would outnumber the Malays if they merged.
2. SG was centre of communist activities. The pro-communist Chinese in SG might influence the Chinese in Malaya and disrupt its security.

② Why did LKY want the merger?

bigger market
for
manufactured
goods.
(economic
reasons)

- SG lacked natural resources and hinterland. It experienced rapid population growth, leaving many without jobs (we need more job opportunities). The entrepôt trade was also declining. Malaysia had hinterland & natural resources → could allow us to grow economically (more job opportunities).
- Malaya imposed trade tariffs on goods exchanged, reducing the profits earned by companies and businesses as part of the revenues collected from the trade activities is used to pay taxes.
 - ↳ Merger will allow common market to be set up so that we will not be taxed, increasing trade, expanding the industries to create more job opportunities.

political
reasons.

- wanted to be independent of Bnt rule, but Bnt were concerned that SG would fall under communist control due to instability caused by strikes and riots.
 - ↳ Belief that merging with Malaya would be easier to get independence from Bnt.
- Left wing communist would be politically neutralised in a merger headed by a right-wing and anti-communist gov. → many supported communism, were expelled by LKY to form Barisan Sosialis.

③ Why Tunku Abdul Rahman agree to merger at 1963?

1. To check communism in SG (AFT ANSON-BY ELECTIONS)
- worried that communism would use SG to spread communism into Malaya as they were communist (instigated strikes in SG like Hock Lee)
2. Feared that moderates in PAP were losing their hold over the party & country.
- PAP lost the by-election in Hong Lim constituency in April 1961 to Ong Eng Guan & Anson by-election to D. Marshall of Workers Party in 1961.

⑥ How did other stakeholders react?

1. United Kingdom

- Believed that Malaysia would provide peace and stability to the territories merged
- British investments in these territories would be protected
- Communism would be kept in check in merged territories
- Independence could be granted to Singapore, Sabah and Sarawak

2. United Nations (UN)

- A UN survey, the Cobbold Commission, was set up to survey the wishes of the people with regard to the merger
- Results: Majority of the ppl in the territories was in favour of Merger
- ↳ Philippines accepted the findings
- ↳ Government of Indonesia did not accept findings

↓

★ Konfrontasi

- Indonesia gov. became openly anti-British & anti-Malaysia
- broke off diplomatic relations w Malaysia
- sent a grp of soldiers (commandos) who landed on SG shore to secretly plant bombs and commit acts of sabotage here

→ Malaysia House Bombing
→ 2 girls SL
(18-19)

Separation of SG and Malaysia

⑦ What were the reasons as to why SG and MY separated? → tensions!

1. POLITICAL :-

Differing political ideologies → political rivalry.

Federal government: Pro-Malay Policy (Malay Malaysia)

SG gov: "Malaysian Malaysia"

SG state election: Sep 1963

- Alliance leaders from KL came to support UMNO-Singapore Alliance.
- contested in 2 traditional Malay areas of Geylang Serai & Kampung Kembangan.
- Results: SG Alliance - 0 PAP - 37 (seats)
- ↓
- became angry :-

Federal Elections: 1964

- PAP sent 17 candidates
- ↳ called for non-communal approach in Malaysian politics
- Alliance (UMNO, MCA and MIC) saw PAP participation as direct challenge to its supremacy in Malaysia

- During campaigns, PAP criticised MCA (Chinese!) as poor representative of the urban Chinese in MY. MCA was ineffective partner in Alliance.
- Tan Siew Sin (MCA chairperson) believe PAP competing w him for Chinese voters.
- UMNO further disturbed when PAP tried to convince the Malays in Malaysia of its programme to create a just and equal society.
- Results: PAP: 1 (1% of votes) → Alliance angrier !!!

CAMPAIGN TENSIONS - racial politics, July 1964.

- Accused PAP did not support giving special rights to the Malays in Malaysia.
- PAP wanted all races to be treated equally → certain Malay newspaper (Utusan Melayu) and Malay leaders (esp. Syed Jaafar Albar, Sec-general of UMNO) started to attack PAP (started PAP campaign) for not looking aft. Malays' interest in SG. They made an issue of the PAP resettlement project in which Malays were involved [Many Malays reluctant to move out of Kampung Glam and Rochore]. There are even more misleading articles of PAP ill-treating the Malays: eg. "PAP treats Malays as stepchildren."

Racial Politics

- Konfrontasi-Sukarno's anti Chinese tirade → exploited situation in SG - further whipped up Malay sentiments (Indonesian announcer claiming that 1 Chinese driver did not stop for Malay old lady, she fell down, and 1 Chinese passer-by spat and laughed at her.)
- 2. SOCIAL - (due to racial politics)

★ Riots broke out in SG on 21 July 1964 (Prophet Muhammad's birthday procession from Padang to Geylang) at Padang

↳ scuffle broke out between some Chinese and Malays (word of fighting spread, riots spread)

↳ anti-PAP speeches at Padang

- Clashes between Chinese and Malay, causing island-wide curfew (very serious), 25 SL and 4541 injured

★ Another one in at Geylang Serai & in Sep 1964

↳ some Chinese believed to have caused death of a Malay rickshaw puller - provoked by Indonesian agents

- clash between Malay & Chinese, causing island-wide curfew, 13 SL and 1061 injured

EFFORTS TO RESTORE PEACE (No avail.) - In SG

- Set up good will committees to calm fears and establish peace.

- LKY tour of island

- Tunku Abdul Rahman and Tun Razak visit SG

- Sep 1964: Signed an agreement to avoid sensitive issues for 2 years

Sub Qn ⑧

How did the riots cause separation?

- Riots showed how easily peace / "unity" of the country was disrupted.

- UMNO extremist view LKY as communist and an enemy of MY.

- Federal gov. fear riots spreading to other parts of MY.

- Question of future of SG in federation → QUIT!!!

★ Further tensions: "Malaysian Malaysia" (May 1965)

- PAP started the Malaysian Solidarity Convention (MSC)

- Argued to provide an alternative to the Alliance gov.

- Gathered opposition parties in Malaysia

- Began to talk openly on equal treatment of all races in Malaysia

↳ Alliance Angrier

- Relationship between PAP and Alliance leaders turn from good to worse with calls of arrest of LKY.

3. ECONOMIC ISSUE -

- No common market was set up.

↳ no increase in trade (no job opportunities, no advance in economy)

↳ Instead, SG trade was badly affected by Indonesia's boycott of MY (Konfrontasi)

- SG's loan to Sabah & Sarawak for development purposes were withheld.

- Complaints on discrimination against businessmen from SG

↳ not given pioneer status certs and allotment of textile export quotas

- Announcement of Closure of Bank of China

↳ December 1964 - Federal gov-made announcement → closed in July 1965 despite pleas from SG gov.

↳ Bank served channel for ppl. to send money to relatives in China.

↳ SG adversely affected due to bank's role in SG's trade w China

- Increment in contribution to Federal Gov.

↳ Tan Siew Sin ~~the~~ wanted to increase SG financial contribution to Federal Gov from 40% to 60%

↳ Help KL pay for the expenses incurred with dealing the Konfrontasi

↳ Dr. Gan Keng Swee (SG Finance Minister) objected

★ All this would cripple SG's economy

3. Racial Composition issue was resolved.

- with inclusion of Brunei, Sabah & Sarawak, which had predominantly Malay population
- Chinese population will not hit the ethnic ratios → safeguard Malay Rights.

4. Economic Advantage

- SG was prosperous trading centre. Sabah, Sarawak & Brunei had natural resources
- would enable pooling of resources and cooperation of the diff. territories for development
→ prosperity, a wealthy country

5. Protection of Power in SG

- had representative in SG Internal security Council
- heard that if SG was not part of Federation and became an independent state, Malaya would lose its representative in this council to have a say over security matters in SG ⇒ cannot contain communist threats easily.

④ Why did Barisan Socialist disagree on Merger?

Led by Lim Chin Siang, he attempted to capture the leaders of PAP to reject merger, resulting in power struggle.

Won support by some in the legislative Assembly, but not enough to overthrow LKY.

The expelled 13 pro-communist Assemblyman created Barisan Socialist

- Did not agree w the status of the SG population in new federation
would not be granted citizenship automatically aft. merger
would only be known as federal nationals & could only vote in SG elections
- Allocation of seats in parliament was fewer due to the exchange (SG wanted to rule their own education, security etc. had to give up these states)
- Unfair, second class status and was underrepresented.

⑤ What are some other countries that oppose merger?

1. Philippines → territory conflict.

→ claimed that Sabah was part of historical Sulu Sultanate, hence, it should belong to the Philippines and not Malaysia.

- felt that they rightfully owned Sabah, Malaya had no rights to claim it at all.
- prolonged the time to the agreement of Merger.

2 Indonesia → fear of their power

- Feared that a strong Malaysia would threaten Indonesia; Indonesia's dominant regional position was at stake
- perceived Malaysia as British proxy
- Confrontation [Konfrontasi] (covered later on)

Conclusion

- Tension continued to grow between UMNO extremist & PAP leaders
- Tunku (who was in London for Commonwealth PM's conference) felt that to avoid bloodshed and violence, SG separates
- LKY & PAP told on 6 Aug to leave immediately
- Tunku not persuaded that SG shld stay even as part of a looser federation w MY
- PAP no choice but accept

9 Aug 1965, SG was proclaimed as a sovereign, democratic and independent nation.