



TAMPINES MERIDIAN JUNIOR COLLEGE JC2 PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

CANDIDATE
NAME

CIVICS GROUP

H2 HISTORY

Paper 2 Making of Independent Southeast Asia (1945-2000)

9752/02

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3 hours

Additional materials: 12 Page Answer Booklet

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

An answer booklet will be provided with this question paper. You should follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.

Section A

Answer **Question 1**.

Section B

Answer **two** questions.

The number of marks is given in brackets [] at the end of each question or part question.

SECTION A

You **must** answer Question 1.

Interstate Tensions between Malaysia and Thailand

1 Read the sources and answer the questions that follow:

Source A

During the 1970s and early 1980s, Thai-Malaysian border cooperation was plagued by political difficulties. The 1959 agreement allowing border crossing by Malaysian troops into Thai territory in pursuit of Malaysian Communist Party (MCP) guerillas sparked off protests in Thailand on the grounds that it compromised Thai sovereignty. A new agreement signed in 1965 had to be revised in order to reflect Thai sensitivities, which sought specification that the right of hot pursuit would be given to Malaysian 'police field forces' rather than Malaysian 'soldiers.' However, when the MCP sought to exploit the situation by organizing demonstrations in May-June 1976 demanding the expulsion of Malaysian Field Police Units stationed there, the Thai government asked for the withdrawal of Malaysian units.

Extract from a paper on international strategic studies, "A survey of military cooperation among the ASEAN states: Bilateralism or Alliance?", 1990.

Source B

In 1980 and 1982 respectively, then-Prime Minister General Prem issued two executive orders, resulting in a combination of military operations and political-socioeconomic measures. In addition to stepping up military operations and improving cooperation with Malaysia to control border areas and pressure members of separatist groups, the government of General Prem sought to remove grievances and causes that had sparked insurgency against Thai authorities. In 1981 the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Committee (SBPAC) and the Civilian-Police-Military Taskforce 43 (CPM 43) were established to enhance mutual understanding and trust between Bangkok and the ethnic Malay Muslim community. SBPAC was well known for being able to listen to complaints from the ethnic Malay Muslim population concerning corrupt, abusive, or inept government officials, and was believed to be able to order the transfer of those officials within a day. In January 1998, Malaysia arrested PULO leaders Abdul Rohman Bazo, Haji Daoh Thanam, Haji Mae Yala, and Haji Sama-ae Thanam, and handed them over to Thai authorities.

Human Rights Watch website, a non-governmental organisation, 2006.



Source C

Thailand played a major part in mediating the Communist Party Malaysia (MCP) amnesty, and also allowed MCP members to settle in the South. A more cooperative relationship quickly became apparent, with the finalisation of the Malaysia-Thailand Joint Authority to cooperate in the exploitation of offshore petroleum resources in 1990, and the establishment (together with Indonesia) of a growth triangle covering the southern region in 1993. Thailand then handed over the head of a deviant Islamic section, *Darul Arqam*, to Malaysia in 1994. Thus, Malaysia substantially withdrew its covert support for southern insurgent groups, and, in 1998, permitted remaining Thai insurgent leaders to stay in Malaysia on the clear understanding that they not put Malaysia in an “unwanted spotlight”.

Journal Article in the Contemporary Southeast Asia Journal, 2010

Source D

The complexity of the situation is further compounded by the fact that Malaysia has long hosted members of southern Thailand’s separatist old guard, some of whom reside in the country while others are permitted to travel to and meet there. The Malaysian Government has been candid in their recognition of these activities, with former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir explaining that while the separatist old guard are permitted to reside in and travel to Malaysia, from where they may speak on behalf of the Malay–Muslim population in southern Thailand but without disparaging the respective governments, the Malaysian Government would not tolerate them taking up arms against the Thai state.

A study of Thailand’s Southern Insurgency by the Associate Dean of an international studies school in Singapore and a senior reporter for a Thai Newspaper who covered Southeast Asia since 1994, 2010.

Source E

In November 1945, Pattani elites lobbied the British to liberate the southern provinces from Thai rule. The petition closely identified with the Malay identity of Patani and reasoned that, “... Patani is really a Malay country, formerly ruled by Malay Rajas for generations, but has been Siam’s (Thailand’s) dependency only since about fifty years ago. Now the Allied Nations ought to help the return of this country to the Malays, so that they can have it united with other Malay countries in the peninsula.” After the War, the British wanted to penalise Thailand by annexing Pattani and Satun. But geo-strategic concerns such as the rising threat of communism and the need to stabilise fledgling Southeast Asian economies overrode the initial plan. American pressure also played a decisive role in Britain’s decision not to support the creation of an independent Pattani state or its incorporation into Malaya.

A working paper on “The case of the Southern Thailand Discord”, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies Singapore, Nanyang Technological University Singapore, 2006



Source F

In November 1999 some forty academics and Malayan Emergency experts gathered the Australian National University in Canberra to meet the 75-year-old Chin Peng. After the signing of the 1989 peace agreement, the MCP secretary-general lived in Thailand, overseeing the welfare of ex-MNLA men and women, and enjoying fame as an ex-leader of a communist revolution. A celebrity, he gave interviews and held court in his Bangkok hotel room, and these media pursuits eventually led to the invitation from the ANU to meet the Academics. The 'dialogue session' was held outside Malaysia, so it ignited no ideological flame; and those who took part were an objective, cool-headed lot, among them his former nemeses who, serving with Malayan police, had spent years pursuing him and trying to kill him off.

Sochou Yao, The Malayan Emergency, 2016

Now answer the following questions:

- (a) Compare and contrast sources A and B on the relationship between Thailand and Malaysia in responding to the Southern Thai separatist movement.

[10]

- (b) How far do sources A-F support the assertion that Thailand-Malaysia tensions were a result of Malaysia's actions?

[30]



SECTION B: ESSAY QUESTIONS

You must answer **two** questions from this section.

You must support each answer with examples drawn from **at least three** countries.

EITHER

- 2** How far do you agree that the political styles of local leaders played the most important role in influencing the rise and consolidation of power of authoritarian governments in Southeast Asian nations?

[30]

OR

- 3** 'National Unity was best encouraged through language policies.' How far do you agree with this statement?

[30]

AND EITHER

- 4** How effective were government policies in overcoming the economic challenges of newly-independent Southeast Asia from 1945-2000?

[30]

OR

- 5** How far do you agree that the responses to the Asian Financial Crisis were more detrimental than beneficial?

[30]



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