

Year 1 History Notes

Chapter 1: From Temasek to Singapore (1299-Early 1800s)

Background

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Srivijaya emerges as the dominant kingdom in the Malay Archipelago.

1025

The decline of Srivijaya began with the invasion by the Chola Kingdom in India.

1299

According to Sejarah Melayu, **Sang Nila Utama**, also known as Sri Tri Buana, arrives in Temasek and renames the island Singapura.

1400

Parameswara (also known as **Iskandar Shah**), a prince from Palembang, establishes a trading port at Melaka.

1490s-1500s

European voyages of discovery and economic expansion result in the growing conflict between the European maritime countries extending into Asia.

1511

Melaka falls to the Portuguese.

1528

The Melaka Sultan's son, **Sultan Alauddin Riayat Shah II**, establishes the Johor Sultanate.

1600s - 1640s

Conflict between the Dutch, Spanish and Portuguese in Southeast Asia intensifies as they compete for trade and colonies.

1619

The Dutch establish a permanent trading base in Batavia (present-day Jakarta).

1641

Melaka falls to the Dutch.

1699

The Johor Sultan, **Mahmud Shah II**, is assassinated, plunging the Sultanate into political crisis.

How did Singapore's Geographical Location affect its connections with the Region and the World?

- Singapore is part of Southeast Asia, which lies to the south of China and the east of India.
- These two large countries were home to old and influential civilisations which traded extensively throughout the region and beyond.
- For example, Chinese goods, such as silk and ceramics, were in demand as far away as Europe, where products from Southeast Asia, such as spices, scented wood and shells, were highly valuable in China and India.

During ancient times, the most important trade link between the civilizations of Asia, the Middle East and Europe was the network of land routes known as the Silk Road. This route connected China through Central Asia to the Roman Empire, which controlled much of the Middle East and Europe for centuries.



(Silk Road)

However, this route became less safe for travellers due to the increased danger and difficulties of travelling via the maritime route.

In response to this, many trade centres emerged in Southeast Asia. Travellers from China, India, the Middle East and Southeast Asia who passed through this region would stop at various ports to:

- Pick up items for trade
- Acquire supplies such as food and water
- Repair their ships
- Wait for the favourable weather conditions before continuing on their journeys

Over time, the wealth gained from trade allowed some of these ports to grow into small kingdoms, also known as maritime kingdoms. Two examples in Southeast Asia were Srivijaya and the Melaka Sultanate.

Singapore lies off the Southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, along a waterway known as the Straits of Melaka.

Ships sailing from China to India would have to pass through the Straits of Melaka as the quickest route to their destination (by sea).

This:

- Reduced amount and cost of supplies they needed, such as food and water
- Reduced risk of pirate attacks and accidents

Other routes through the island further east, in what is today's Indonesia, would take a longer time to complete.

Singapore's location also allowed it to benefit from monsoon winds, which are seasonal rain-bearing winds. In the days of sailing ships, journeys by sea were almost utterly dependent upon wind patterns. The southwest monsoons blow from June to September, while the northeast monsoons blow from December to March.

Countries with economic interests in Asia would place great importance on the Straits of Melaka. Control over the Straits would allow them to move their ships quickly and safely within and beyond Asia. In different historical periods, the:

- Chinese
- Portuguese
- Dutch
- British
- Japanese

would attempt to control the Straits to secure maritime routes for their ships between the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean.

These attempts to control the straits were a key factor in shaping the development of Singapore over the centuries.

How did EARLY Singapore become an IMPORTANT TRADING CENTRE?

- Southeast Asia was positioned to benefit from the maritime trade taking place between China and the rest of the world.
- This trade enabled several trading centres to emerge and develop throughout the region.
- Srivijaya developed around the port of Palembang in Sumatra
- Over time, Srivijaya grew into a powerful empire that brought stability to places controlled by it.

- Its strong navy suppressed piracy within its empire, making it safer for ships to sail and trade in the region.
- However, from the 11th century onwards, Srivijaya started to decline due to external threats, such as invasions from:
 - The Chola Kingdom in southern India
 - The Siamese Kingdom (present day Thailand)
 - Majapahit (based in Java)

Due to the decline of Srivijaya, trade shifted northwards and parts in the area benefitted.

During this period, trade between China and Southeast Asia also increased.

These factors contributed to the rise of early Singapore, also known as Temasek then, as a trading centre in the 14th century.

Why had Singapore declined by the 15th century?

By the middle of the 14th century, Singapore had started to decline and would soon be overshadowed by a new port city to its north, Melaka.

- Climatic and economic changes that affected trade with China:
Weather patterns underwent severe changes in the 14th century, this contributed to famines and droughts in China, as the Chinese economy collapsed under this strain, trade between Southeast Asia and China would have also suffered accordingly.
- Like Srivijaya, Singapore also fell prey to external threats. As a small island, it was always vulnerable to the larger powers in the region, for example, the Kingdom of Majapahit and Ayutthaya (in Thailand) launched attacks on Temasek that weakened it by the end of the 14th century.
- In c. 1400, the Melaka Sultanate was founded along the Straits of Melaka, north of Singapore. The Sultanate became one of the dominant trading centres in the region, and soon extended control over much of the Malay peninsula and Sumatra. Like Singapore, Melaka was situated in a convenient location for traders travelling between the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea, providing them with a safe harbour during their long voyages.
- **Parameswara's** conversion to Islam and marriage to a Muslim princess from Sumatra also attracted Muslim traders to Melaka. Furthermore, **Parameswara** established Melaka's status as a vassal of China. This meant that it would pay tribute to the Chinese emperor in return for protection. This gave Melaka security from threats posed by rivals in the region.
- This peace allowed Melaka to grow into a greater trading centre, and attracted traders from Sumatra, India and the Middle East.

- Despite Singapore being overshadowed by Melaka, it was still important to the Melaka Sultanate as it was home to the Orang Laut, a seafaring people who were the backbone of Melaka's naval forces.

The Arrival of the Europeans

At the beginning of the 16th century, religious, political and economic rivalries were intensifying among the major powers of Europe. With the voyages of discovery in the late 15th century in which European sailors opened new maritime routes into Asia and other parts of the world, this conflict and competition began spreading into Asia.

Some famous voyages were those of **Christopher Columbus**, who landed in North America, and **Vasco de Gama**, who established a maritime route from Europe to India, passing around the Cape of Good Hope (along the Coastline of Southern Africa). This was particularly important as it allowed Europeans to bypass the Eastern Mediterranean, which was under the control of the Ottoman Turks. The Ottoman Turks were constantly at war with the European countries in this period.

The rivalry between the maritime nations of Spain, Portugal and the Netherlands began to focus on Asia.

- They raced to tap its markets and establish trading settlements in the region.
- European influence started growing in the region
- Made the kingdom of the Melaka Sultanate vulnerable.
- When the well-armed Portuguese decided to take over Melaka, they easily conquered the city.
- The Melaka Sultan fled south
- His successor would establish a new kingdom along the Johor river, which came to be known as the Johor Sultanate.

How Important was Singapore Under the Johor Sultanate?

- Singapore revived some of its trading functions that had been lost during the period of Melaka dominance.
- Trade between the Johor Sultanate and China.

What caused Singapore to decline again?

- Political changes in the region in the mid-17th century, causing yet another decline.
- After 1610, the Dutch turned their attention southwards towards the Sunda Straits and Java, away from the Straits of Melaka.
- The Dutch also established their main base in Asia at Batavia, (present day Jakarta)
- The political crisis that resulted from the assassination of the childless **Sultan Mahmud Shah II** in 1699
- By the 18th century, Riau and other regional ports had replaced Singapore as centres of trade that linked the Indian Ocean with the South China Sea.
- As Singapore had lost importance, shipping now bypassed the island, Singapore and nearby coastal regions became sparsely populated places where inhabitants lived off the sea and pirates visited to raid and hide.

Chapter 2: How Did Singapore become a British Trading Post?

By the 18th century, Singapore had little trade or economic activity. It would gain prominence later in the 19th century as a British trading post and port city.

Background

1600

The British East India Company (EIC) is founded.

1602

The Dutch East India Company (VOC) is founded.

1784

Following the Dutch defeat of Johor-Riau and its Bugis allies in war, Johor-Riau signs treaties which result in it becoming a vassal of the Netherlands.

1786

The British establish a trading post in Penang

1789

War breaks out between France and other European powers. (Napoleonic wars)

1811

Britain takes over Java from the Dutch and **Sir Stamford Raffles** becomes its Lieutenant-Governor

1812

Sultan Mahmud Shah dies unexpectedly in the Riau Islands. His younger son, **Tengku Abdul Rahman**, becomes Sultan instead of the heir and eldest son, **Tengku Hussein**.

1814

The Anglo-Dutch Treaty of 1814 (also known as the Convention of London) is signed. The British agree to return Java and Melaka to the Dutch.

1818

March: **Raffles** becomes Governor-General of Bencoolen.

November: The Dutch sign a treaty with Johor-Riau by which the treaties of 1784 are renewed.

1819

The British establish a trading post in Singapore. **Sir Stamford Raffles** appoints **Major William Farquhar** as the first Resident of Singapore.

1822

Raffles visits Singapore for the final time and appoints **Lieutenant Philip Jackson** to draw up a plan for the future layout of Singapore.

1823

Raffles appoints **Dr John Crawfurd** as the second Resident of Singapore.

1824

The 1824 Anglo-Dutch Treaty between Britain and the Netherlands are signed. The Dutch formally drop their legal claims to the island of Singapore.

Crawfurd signs the Treaty of Friendship and Alliance with **Sultan Hussein** and **Temenggong Abdul Rahman**, which gives the British control over the whole of Singapore.

1826

The East India Company (EIC) forms the Straits Settlements by grouping Penang, Melaka and Singapore together.

- Most British trade in Asia was conducted by the British East India Company.
- EIC exported cotton and opium from India, wool from Britain to China and bought silk, porcelain and tea from China (highly sought after by Britain)
- Trade between India and China was under the control of the EIC.
- To protect its lucrative trade, the British needed to control the Straits of Melaka and the waters surrounding Singapore. However, this was controlled by the Dutch.
- The EIC's trade was confined to Bengkulu, therefore there was a need to find a suitable place for the trade that was free from Dutch control.
- Moreover, the Europeans were competing in Southeast Asia for the Spice trade; spices were useful for preserving food as refrigeration and artificial preservatives were not developed yet.

- In the 17th century, the British and the Dutch had been fierce competitors for trade outside Europe.
- The VOC (Dutch East India Company) monopolised the Spice trade in Southeast Asia
- Dutch control over the Sunda waterways meant that British trade was confined to Bengkulu.
- Both British ports (Melaka and Bengkulu) were unsuitable for trading due to their location, on the West of Sumatra, it was not along the common routes of trade.
- **Thus, a new port was needed.**

British search for a new port

- The Dutch were angry with Raffles' initiatives because the British could possibly compete with them for trade should they be able to claim a trading port in Southeast Asia.
- The British, wanting to maintain their friendship with the Dutch, decided to forbid Raffles from claiming any territory that could possibly be claimed by the Dutch by sending a letter to India. However, by the time the letter arrived, Raffles had already left.
- When Raffles and Farquhar arrived at S'pore, they were informed that it was not occupied by the Dutch, thus, S'pore was chosen as a trading port.

Why Singapore?

- Singapore:
 - Had a natural sheltered harbour
 - Was not occupied by the Dutch
 - Had deep waters, could let big ships sail up to it
 - Good supply of drinking water
 - Its location meant that Singapore was the half way point between India and China. (Strategic Location that facilitated trade between major importers)
 - Was at the tip of the Malay Peninsula, which allowed ships to easily access S'pore.
- Raffles asked for permission to set up a trading port as permission from the EIC.
- However, Singapore was part of the Johor-Riau Sultanate; only the Sultan of Johor-Riau could grant the EIC permission to set up a trading port in S'pore. Moreover, it was a vassal state of the Dutch
- When Sultan Mahmud passed away, only his younger son, Abdul Rahman, was present. Since the older son, Tengku Hussein, was away for his marriage, Abdul Rahman was appointed as Sultan.

- After Raffles knew more about the crowning of the Sultan, he decided to bring Tengku Hussein, the actual heir of the late Sultan Muhammad Shah, to Singapore to recognise him as the rightful Sultan.
- The Dutch were angry that the British had established a trading port in Singapore, which was part of their sphere of influence.

Resolving Anglo-Dutch disputes over Singapore

- Despite hostility between the Dutch and the British, neither declared war on the other
- Government wanted to maintain good relations
- Recent European wars allowed the British to realise the importance of the Netherlands to their defence and security
- After the wars, the Dutch borrowed heavily from Britain
- The Dutch did not want to be involved in more wars to damage their economy

1824 Anglo-Dutch Treaty

- British and Dutch settle their disputes
- Dutch withdrew objections to British presence in Singapore
- Malay Peninsula and East Indies (Indonesia) were divided into 2 spheres of influence
- British transferred Bencoolen to Dutch in exchange for Melaka
- Malay Peninsula and Singapore came under British sphere of influence
- Sumatra and all islands to the south of the Straits of Singapore were Dutch Influenced

1824 Treaty of Friendship and Alliance

- Treaty signed on 6 February 1819 did not give British full control over Singapore, only allowing them to build a trading post
- Between Britain (Dr John Crawfurd) and Sultan Hussein
- British were given full control over Singapore
- Sultan and Temenggong got larger sums of money

Treaties

Treaty	Who signed it?	What was the Outcome of the treaty
1819 Treaty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sir Stamford Raffles - Sultan Hussein - Temenggong Abdul 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - British were allowed to set up trading post in southern part of

	Rahman	island
1824 Anglo-Dutch Treaty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representatives of British government - Representatives of Dutch government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dutch dropped legal claims over Singapore - Areas in the Malay Peninsula and the East Indies were separated into Dutch and British spheres of influence - Achieved peace between the British and the Dutch
1824 Treaty of Friendship and Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr John Crawfurd - Sultan Hussein - Temenggong Abdul Rahman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - British given control of whole of Singapore

What did The British do to develop Singapore between 1819 and 1826?

- Raffles signed 1819 Treaty, however, he was not the only person to help develop Singapore

Major William Farquhar

- Set up defence positions at the Singapore River and Government Hill, due to fear of a Dutch attack to enforce claims over Singapore (note: this was before 1824 Anglo-Dutch treaty)
- Made Singapore a free port
- Fees were not collected from ships entering the port
- Taxes only imposed on a selected few products, such as Opium
- Attracted many people
- To raise funds to help fund Singapore, Farquhar went against Raffles orders and sold licence for gambling and the sale of opium and liquor
- Using these funds, Farquhar set up the police force

Sir Stamford Raffles


- Based in Bencoolen, Sumatra from 1818 to 1824 (exchanged for Melaka to the Dutch in 1824)
- Only made three visits to Singapore during this period
- October 1822, Raffles realised that Farquhar had not developed the island the way he wanted
- With Lieutenant Philipps Jackson, Raffles designed the Singapore Town Plan, allocated areas to the respective ethnic groups


- Shut down gambling dens (felt that gambling was harmful to population)

Dr John Crawfurd

- Appointed by Raffles as second Resident of Singapore
- Reintroduced gambling licences, sale of opium and liquor after Raffles left
- Maintained policy of free trade
- Played an important role in signing 1824 Treaty of Friendship and Alliance

Chapter 3: How did British rule and External Developments affect Singapore as a port city?

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How The British developed Singapore into a port city

Free Port Status

- Traders came in ships from different places and could trade freely with one another in Singapore.
- Traders are not required to pay taxes for the goods they carried.
- Result: Singapore flourished

Administrative Changes

- Singapore went through many administrative changes
- Influenced its growth as a port city
- 1819-1823, all decisions regarding Singapore was made by Sir Stamford Raffles (Lieutenant-Governor of Bencoolen)
- Placed under control of India after Raffles returned to England for good (June 1823)
- Singapore was formally transferred to the EIC (1824 to 1858)

1824-1858 In 1824, Singapore was formally transferred to the EIC and came under British control. In 1826, It became part of the Straits	1858-1867 Singapore came under administration of the India Office in London after the EIC was dissolved in 1858.	1867-1942 Singapore became a Crown Colony and was transferred to the Colonial Office in London in 1867.
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Settlements together with Penang and Melaka.		
William Butterworth, Governor of Straits Settlements (1843-1855) ↓ Government in British India ↓ British government's Board of Control and EIC Directors in London.	Sir William Cavenagh, Governor of Straits Settlements (1859-1867) ↓ Government in British India ↓ British government's India Office in London	Sir Harry Ord, Governor of the Straits Settlements ↓ British government's colonial office in London
↓ =reported to		

- The government in Singapore was struggling to manage the needs of the expanding population and the increasing size of Singapore's trade. At the same time, it had trouble raising money to pay for better port facilities
- When the government wanted to impose taxes, the traders protested, they argued any proposals to tax trade would affect Singapore's free port status, which in turn would affect their business.
- So, the government had to turn to taxing gambling, opium and liquor. Owners of gambling houses were granted the right to collect taxes
- When gambling was banned in 1829, tax on gambling houses could no longer be collected.
- Greatly reduced the government revenue
- Insufficient money for improving conditions in Singapore for providing social services
- To make up for this shortage, the EIC supplied the Singapore government with money. This changed in the 1830s when the EIC lost its dominant control of trade with China as the British government opened up to other British traders.
- As EIC founded the settlements in Penang and Singapore to protect and promote China's trade, it lost interest in the Straits Settlements. The EIC prioritised maxing profits.
- Straits Settlements being run at a loss
- Cut costs and refused to spend more money to improve the Straits Settlements
- Dismissed many officials and cut the pay of those who remained

Administration as a Crown Colony in 1867

- Allowed Singapore to enjoy nearly 75 years of peaceful administration

Law and Order

Crime

- Singapore's population was barely 150 in 1819 to about 6000 in 1821.
- Large numbers of settlers continued to come to Singapore thereafter

- Census in 1911 showed that there were 57 languages spoken by the population
- Influx of migrants and growth in trade meant more murders, robberies and other crimes
- Maintaining Law and Order was a challenge

Police Force

- In 1820, William Farquhar made his son in law, Francis James Bernard the chief police officer.
- Bernard had other duties - could not give his time and attention to police work
- Police force was very small, consisted of the chief police officer, a writer, a jailor in charge of prison, a European Sergeant and eight Asian policemen
- Hardly enough to keep the peace in a population of a few thousand settlers
- Police force remained small and weak
- In 1843, some European and Asian traders in Singapore called a public meeting to talk about the inability of the small police force to maintain law and order.
- Traders wrote to governor to ask for a stronger police force
- As a result, Thomas Dunman was appointed as Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Superintendent of Police in 1843, and as Singapore's full time commissioner of police in 1857
- During his tenure, Thomas Dunman made the police force more appealing by fighting for better working conditions and higher wages, which allowed him to attract better men into the police force, enlarging it.
- Although Dunman's men did their work well, it did not solve all problems.
- Rioters often outnumbered police in riots, which often made the government send soldiers
- By the time Dunman retired in 1871, he had achieved much by reducing gang robberies and improving the quality and morale of police officers
- By the 1930s, telephones, motor cars and radio communications made the police force more efficient
- Police force was about 2000 strong, unlike the small team it started with in the early 1820s. All these improvements made Singapore a safer and more peaceful place.

Labour Abuse of Coolies

- Sinkehs - Chinese migrants who came to Singapore
- Some had money to pay for their passage from China. When they arrived in Singapore, they were free to take any job they found.
- Others who were too poor had to find a coolie agent to pay for their passages to Singapore
- The coolie agents then sold the coolies to employers, and the employers paid the coolie agents a large sum of money, often more than the coolies passage itself.
- The coolies would have to work for free for a year or more to pay off their debts
- Coolie agents were tempted by huge profits, thus willing to obtain coolies through any method possible, such as being tricked and kidnapped by coolie agents in China
- Conditions from the voyage to Singapore was very poor

- Overcrowding and lack of food and water caused some coolies to die
- Locked up in houses that were cramped and unhygienic to prevent them from escaping
- Closely guarded by gangsters

Secret Society Problems

- Many of people from China found it useful to join a Secret Society
- Poor and uneducated young men
- Befriended by members of the secret society
- Helped them find work or lodgings
- Provided them with a sense of security and brotherhood
- If they were sick, the secret society would take care of them
- Although providing support to migrants, it was also the source of many problems
- Members often took part in gang robberies and fights
- Responsible for many riots
- Government took no steps to tackle this problem for a long time
- Until the 1870s, no British officials understood the various Chinese dialects
- Could not find out anything about the secret societies

Measures taken to handle Secret Societies: The Dangerous Society Ordinance

The dangerous society Ordinance:

- Gave Singapore governor the power to banish migrants involved in dangerous secret societies back to their homeland
- Effective because most Chinese migrants would be executed once they returned to their homeland as it was during the Qing dynasty.
- Gave the government power to banish any society which proved to be threatening
- Helped to reduce the overall number fights by large-scale Secret Societies.

Prostitution

- There was an unbalanced ratio of men to women migrants as it was usually the man's job to leave and earn money for the family
- Working conditions were hard for male migrants, causing them to turn to smoking, drinking, gambling and visiting brothels
- This caused a great demand for prostitutes
- Brothel Owners and traffickers potentially could make great profits.
- Many young female migrants from China were tricked into this when they came to Singapore, being promised well-paid jobs and then sold to keepers of brothels to earn money for them

Measures taken to handle Prostitution: The Po Leung Kuk

The Po Leung Kuk:

- Rescued many young girls from being tricked into prostitution
- Also provided shelter for those treated poorly as servants

Chinese Protectorate

- Only after transfer of Singapore to the colonial office in 1867 that the government made a greater effort to control the Chinese population
- In May 1877, the Chinese protectorate, a government department was set up to tackle problems such as labour abuses, poverty and prostitution among the Chinese community
- William Pickering - the first protector of the Chinese - HOD of Chinese protectorate
- The 1890 **Dangerous Societies Ordinance** gave the Governor power to banish migrants and abolish any society deemed too dangerous
- The **Po Leung Kuk** rescued many young girls from being tricked into Prostitution and provided shelter to those who were treated with poor living conditions as servants.

Piracy

- Attacked trading ships sailing between Singapore and Penang
- Ships travelling through the Straits of Melaka was often attacked by pirates, cargoes taken, and travellers killed or sold as slaves
- Pirates could be seen attacking ships just outside Singapore's harbour
- So, many traders stayed away, causing Singapore's trade to suffer
- After many attempts, British and other European ships started patrolling the shores in the 1870s, making piracy less of a problem

Education (1819-1867)

- For most part of the 19th century, the British government provided little education and healthcare services for the people in Singapore
- Governments lack of funds created a situation where social services were insignificant
- Many schools were established by Christian missionary groups and European traders and were not government schools
- Chinese education, besides Singapore Institution (present-day Raffles Institution) was almost non-existent

Education (1867-1942)

- Educational activities in Singapore grew
- Based on meeting the needs of British colonial administration
- Necessary to provide English education to create a supply of English-speaking clerks
- Christian missionary sponsored schools and Chinese schools had a free hand

Healthcare

- Government did not provide much healthcare

- Before 1860s, Asian population suffered from malnutrition, overcrowding and poor sanitation due to poverty
- High death rate among Asian population
- After becoming a Crown Colony in 1867, coordinated attempts were made to improve the public health
- Public Health Department set up by government
- Improved housing condition, reduced living quarters in Chinatown
- Malaria committee to supervise draining of swamps and a modern water carriage sewage system
- Quarantine Law in 1886 - passengers arriving in Singapore had to be checked by a doctor
- Those found with infectious diseases were isolated to prevent spread
- Despite this, the death rate was still higher than the birth rate
- Due to overcrowded and unhygienic living conditions in the town area
- Caused tuberculosis and cholera, which affected many workers that stayed in shophouses
- Poor understanding of diseases
- Mistrust for western medicine

Facilities

- New harbour built in 1852 (Keppel harbour)
- More space along river banks to build more warehouses for storing goods and coal
- New harbour had deep waters, allowing steamships and sailing ships to sail right up to it
- Sheltered from strong winds by two smaller islands; Pulau Brani and Pulau Blakang Mati
- Rapid opening of tin and rubber plantations
- Railway system built
- Causeway between Singapore and Johor built
- Machinery such as tractors, forklifts and cranes were used
- Docks, storehouses and machine shops built

What role did External Developments have on Singapore's growth as a Port City?

Suez Canal

- Ships travelling from Europe to Asia took at least 120 days
- After the opening of the Suez canal on 17 November 1869, it took only about 50 days
- This allowed people to save more in distance and time (lower shipping costs)

- It increased the volume of ships passing through the Straits of Melaka and calling at the port of Singapore to refuel and collect food supplies
- Straits of Melaka overtook Sunda Straits as the main route from Europe to the far east
- Increased use of steamships
- Enhanced Singapore's role in the coaling station
- Made Singapore even more important as a coaling station

Tin and Rubber Industries

- Singapore was used as a port for Malayan tin and rubber to be exported to the world
- Growth of trade between Malaya and the Straits Settlements, especially Singapore
- Amount of tin produced in Malaya increased rapidly
- Malaya became 4th largest tin producer in the world
- Tin became most important item of trade among the imports and exports handled by traders
- Brought in handsome profits
- Singapore also exported rubber in large quantities
- Motor car industry caused the demand of rubber tyres to increase
- Price of rubber skyrocketed due to insufficient rubber from Brazil and Africa

Great Depression

- Singapore was hit hard as its economy relied largely on overseas trade, especially export of tin and rubber to the United States Market
- Tin and rubber prices dropped drastically
- Difficult to find jobs and make money
- Many unemployed people had to depend on friends or relatives
- Migrants had to return to homelands when their friends and relatives could no longer support them
- To improve this, the government passed a series of laws from 1828 restricting the amount of migrants entering Singapore, especially unskilled Chinese migrants.
- Arranged for large numbers of of unemployed Chinese and Indian migrants to return to their homelands
- Exports from Singapore started increasing again in 1934

Chapter 4: What role did People in Singapore play in its development as a port city from 1819 - 1942?

Migrants in Singapore

- People were flocking to Singapore within a few years of its founding.
- These migrants were from:
 - **Europe:** Most in Singapore were British. Other Europeans included the Dutch, French, Germans, Portuguese and Swiss.
 - **Arabia:** Mostly from Hadhramaut in Southern Arabia (southeast of present-day Yemen). Many came as traders.
 - **China:** Most Chinese who arrived in Singapore were from the southern provinces of China.
 - The Hokkiens came from Fujian, the Cantonese, Teochews and Hakkas from Guangdong, and the Hainanese from Hainan Island
 - **India and Ceylon:** (present-day Sri Lanka):
 - India: Tamils from Madras (present-day Chennai) and Nagapattinam.
 - Northern India: Punjabis and Sikhs from Punjab, Bengalis from Bengal, Gujaratis from Gujarat and Parsees from Bombay (present-day Mumbai)
 - Ceylon (Sri Lanka): Tamils and Sinhalese
 - **The Malay Archipelago:** From the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra, Java and Celebes (present-day Sulawesi)

Why did Migrants come to Singapore after 1819?

Push Factors (unfavourable circumstances that motivate people to settle elsewhere)

Poor Living Conditions

- Some experienced **hunger and poverty**. These problems were often brought by overpopulation, natural disasters and conflicts.
- China, India and Southeast Asia were affected by unrest and instability by **wars, rebellions and lawlessness** in the 19th and early 20th centuries.
- People worried about their own and their families safety
- Thus they left to seek more **peaceful and prosperous lives elsewhere**.

Pull Factors (favourable conditions that attract people to move to a new place)

Trade and Business Opportunities (better job prospects)

- There were many trading and business opportunities available in Singapore which attracted people from Europe, India, China and neighbouring countries.
- The British needed to develop roads, bridges and other infrastructure to support the increase in port activities and provide for the growing population who had started coming in increasing numbers since Singapore's founding.

Excellent Geographical Location

- Singapore served as a meeting point for traders from many parts of the world to stop and replenish their fuel and food supplies.
- Numerous traders came to Singapore for many diverse goods that could be found and traded. By exchanging or selling their goods, they could acquire what they wanted and return home.

Free Port Status

- Traders did not have to pay taxes to trade.
- Traders made larger profits in Singapore than any other ports in the region
- Attracted traders to come to Singapore and trade goods

Free immigration policy

- Migrants could come and go as they pleased
- Not required to pay for immigrant passes and papers or apply for permission to enter or leave Singapore (Migrants still had to possess a pass)
- Made it easier for people from India, China and surrounding regions to come to Singapore
- Traders could come as often as they liked for trade and business.
- They did not have to treat Singapore as their permanent home
- Planned to return to homelands after earning enough money

Different Occupations and Groups of Migrants

Entrepreneurs

Traders

- First group of people who came when Singapore was founded.
- Attracted to Singapore by favourable trade policies (free port status etc)
- Engaged in commercial activities along the Singapore river

- Europeans set up agency houses
- The Bugis were also attracted by Singapore's free port status

Street Traders

- Many different types (food traders, small scale farmers, fishermen and hunters)
- Food traders made up the largest group. They sold quick and cheap meals to coolies and other workers.

Moneylenders

- As Singapore grew as an entrepôt, it attracted Indians skilled in trade, accounting, banking and credit.
- These skills were in high demand due to commercial activities carried out in the port city
- Different groups of traders would borrow money from these moneylenders as very few banks would lend them money. This contributed to Singapore's commercial importance.

Labourers

Male Coolies

- Made up a large number of migrants.
- Many were Chinese men who had come to Singapore in the latter part of the 19th century
- Workers needed to load and unload goods in ports, so coolies provided much of the required labour.
- Worked at various plantations in Singapore and Malaya
- Heavily involved in coaling, or the loading of coal into steamships (an essential service required by major shipping companies)
- Coolies hard work helped Singapore's reputation for efficiency
- More coolies were brought in as trade grew
- Also employed in construction work while others cleared land for plantations
- Employed as rickshaw pullers; played an important role in providing inexpensive means of transport. (for a wide range of people including European businessmen, local street traders and even school-going children)

Samsui Women

- Came from the Sanshui (Samsui in Cantonese) from the Guangdong province, China
- Female labourers
- Work they did was physically demanding
- Had to balance heavy pails of cement on the two ends of the stick slung across their shoulders

Convict Labourers

- Main source of labour from 1825 to 1873
- Indian convicts brought over by the British
- Tasked to clear jungles, sweep the streets, lay the earliest roads, tend to the towns gardens and parks, and construct buildings

Craftsmen

Boatmakers

- Communities like The Bugis engaged in boat making
- Established a thriving shipbuilding industry
- Transporting goods along the Singapore River

Notes on Rubber Industry:

☰ MN1012023 GOVINDARAJAN NIKHILESH - Template on rubber industry

Notes on Industrial Revolution & Suez Canal : ☰ The Industrial Revolution

Mindmap on Great Depression:

<https://www.figma.com/file/bApLoy9ds6f9B92iLNkVoe/Untitled?type=whiteboard&t=482Lg57HJlpKarvk-O>

Slides on Industrial Revolution, Suez Canal and Great Depression:

P Copy of MN1012023 GOVINDARAJAN NIKHILESH - Chp 5 PP.pptx

Chapter 5: Japanese Invasion of Singapore in 1942

Notes for TA4 10% PEEL: ☰ Reasons for British Defeat in 1942

Notes for TA4 About Similarity in PEEL: (Someone please add and give access to everyone)

Reasons for Japanese Victory

Excellent Pre-War Preparations

1.1 The Japanese came up with excellent pre-war preparations, sending undercover spies before the Japanese invasion to gather information about Singapore's main defences and weaknesses for the Japanese. The spies, disguised as barbers or tourists, found out that Singapore was geared for a seaward attack, and focused on defending the East and South of Singapore by setting up big guns in those areas facing the sea.

1.2 They also found out that Singapore had neglected setting up defences for the North Coast of Singapore.

1.2 b The Japanese had also been able to rebuild the causeway the British had blown up to cross to Singapore. General Percival had spread Singapore's forces on the Northern Coast, due to not being able to know where the Japanese would invade. The Japanese invaded their forces through a highly concentrated attack on the Northwest, due to it being the narrowest. General Percival's troops stationed at the Northwest were not enough to be able to counter the concentrated and powerful Japanese troops.

1.3 This information led to the Japanese exploiting Singapore's lack of Northwestern defences, and carrying out the attack from Southern Thailand, down Malaya, and along Singapore's Northern Coast. Singapore, who did not expect an attack from the Northern Coast, was caught by surprise.

1.4 Before the war, a research unit was sent to Singapore to gather information about Jungle Warfare and how to train and prepare the troops.

1.4b Also found out British troops' movements, location of fields... not trained in Jungle warfare—research units in Japan.

1.5 Troops were given pamphlets to motivate them to be ruthless and to give them tips on Jungle Warfare.

1.6 The Japanese had already taken control over Indochina and the South China sea, allowing them to launch more attacks and supply their troops without interference from the British.

War Strategy

2.1 The Japanese mainly travelled through the western area of Malaya, such as Jitra and Alor Star. As the British had built many ports and rubber plantations in that area, due to it being along the Straits of Melaka, the Japanese could exploit the many roads in that area to get their bicycle infantry through Malaya quickly.

2.2 General Yamashita had set up his headquarters in the palace of the Sultan of Johor. This gave him a clear view of Northern Singapore from the five storey tower. Yamashita was also sure that the British would not fire at the home of their old friend, the Sultan, making it a clever choice.

2.3 The Japanese were able to trick the British by bombarding the Northeast of Singapore, Pulau Ubin, this caused the British to move their troops, forces and precious supplies to the Northeast, just as the Japanese wanted, so they could invade Singapore through the Northwest.

2.4 Japanese forces crossed the Straits of Melaka from the Northwest, where it was narrowest, as the British troops were spread along Singapore's northern coast, they were unable to combat the Japanese's highly concentrated army when they were invading Malaya.

2.5. There were many correct assumptions about the British strategy, allowing the Japanese to easily counter their attacks.

Strong Japanese forces

Air superiority:

3.1 Buffalo fighters were no match for the Zero fighters and hence lost their air superiority, leading to their defeat.

- The Zero fighters with their lighter airframe were faster.
- The Japanese had more modern planes than the British air force did
- Japanese air forces easily overcame the old and outdated Buffalo Brewster fighters Britain had sent, mostly from WW1.
- More manoeuvrable than the British fighters
- The British also had most of their airfields

Disabling of the British airfields:

The Japanese air force was able to shoot down many of the slow British fighter planes.

The Japanese raided and destroyed Sembawang airfield in Singapore, disabling the air force in Singapore.

Army superiority:

Well trained

The Japanese infantry was trained in Hainan, and were able to cope with the Tropical heat and Jungle warfare.

Well armed

They were also able to take British supplies that the British had left behind in an attempt to retreat, making their military significantly stronger after every minor battle.

Good Morale

They believed that surrender was a dishonour and were willing to fight to the death, influenced by Japanese propaganda that it was their duty to die for their country. They also believed that their souls would go to heaven if they died on the battlefield.

The Japanese, unlike the British, were willing for their tax money to be used for military efforts. The locals were willing to buff up their military equipment and training, along with using the money to create special research units.

In conclusion, the strong Japanese army, imbued with zeal for their country, caused them to fight valiantly. Their army was well-supported by their air force, equipment, and their community, which allowed them to easily take down the British's weaker forces and less buffed by their community military, resulting in British defeat.

Naval Superiority:

The Japanese managed to attain naval superiority by taking down Force Z. This enabled the Japanese to support their infantry in many different ways.

Fake attack + British Blunders

4.1 The Japanese bombarded the northeast of Singapore heavily and attacked Pulau Ubin

4.2 This tricked the British to move troops to the Northeast, just as the Japanese wanted

4.3 The Japanese then crossed the Straits of Johor in the Northwest where there was less military there.

4.4 General Percival's plan to withdraw from the Kranji - Jurong line to the city centre were misunderstood.

4.5 The Japanese managed to make quick repairs to the Causeway, which the British had blown up, allowing the Japanese to move troops (bicycle infantry) across quickly,

Reasons for British defeat in 1942

PROBLEMS WITH THE BRITISH AIR FORCE

(a) The British air force was insufficient and lacked quality as the British air force was composed of buffalo fighter planes which were aged and outdated. On the other hand, the Japanese army was mainly composed of modern Zero fighter planes, with experienced pilots, resulting in the

destruction of many British planes and them being unable to sufficiently defend against the Japanese.

(a)(ii) The pilots were also given minimum equipment and training.

(a)(iii) This made the weak British air force succumb to the Japanese's modern fighter planes, which allowed the Japanese to take control of the skies, which gave them a major advantage in the battle of Singapore.

(b)

(c)(i) The British also had more planes lost on the ground, with 60 lost on the first day.

(c)(ii) The British only sent 51 hurricanes to Malaya, all disassembled. They were also fitted with 12, instead of 8, Machine guns, which increased drag and weight, making them slow to climb and unwieldy to manoeuvre

(c)(iii) Many British planes had to resort to Kamikaze to defend Singapore against the Japanese.

PROBLEMS WITH THE BRITISH ARMY

(b)(i) Some of the British forces were not motivated or did not feel that it was necessary for them to sacrifice themselves for the sake of the defence of Singapore or Malaya. Only a small handful of the British forces felt willing to sacrifice themselves for the sake of the British's colonies.

(b)(ii) The British forces also had a variety of soldiers from different countries, such as Britain and India, which may have caused a language barrier and a lack of coordination when they were attacking.

(b)(iii) The British forces were also not well trained for Jungle Warfare, compared to the experienced and battle hardened Japanese forces, which, despite the British troops' numerical superiority, ended with the Japanese victory.

(b)(iv) There were not enough commanders to lead the British army; with only General Aurther Percival leading the military, and he had never led such a diverse and large army into battle despite his experience.

FAILURE OF THE SINGAPORE STRATEGY

(c) The Singapore strategy was flawed and unrealistic as it was assumed initially that the situation in Europe would be peaceful, thus Britain would be able to send a large fleet of warships over to Singapore to aid with war, while the naval base in Sembawang held off the enemies. However, due to Britain's involvement in other war fronts, namely the European theatre of war, the North African campaign and countering Operation Barbarossa, it was unable to spare a lot of forces for the defence of Singapore as it needed all defences for itself. This meant that most of the forces that Britain could spare for Singapore were lacking in number and quality. Since the Singapore strategy heavily relied on large numbers of troops and British naval warships to be able to arrive to defend their vast territories, the Singapore strategy was ineffective due to the lack of the necessities for success.

(c)(ii) The British, thinking that an attack from Northern Singapore would be difficult for the Japanese to land in due to the dense jungles of Malaya, only planned and sent guns that were effective against a seaward attack from Sembawang, the South, and the East of Singapore. The guns, although they were able to point towards the inland areas, were not loaded with the correct ammunition for firing at the Japanese Soldiers.

PROBLEMS WITH THE BRITISH NAVY

d) (i) When Force Z sailed to Kuantan, the suspected location of the Japanese, HMS Repulse and HMS Prince Of Wales were spotted by the Japanese Air force and were sunk, causing the British to utterly lose naval control and power in the Southeast Asia region, giving the Japanese an advantage of the sea.

d) (ii) Force Z comprised only two battleships and a small number of warships, making the naval force weak and unable to effectively defend against the Japanese.

d) (iii) The British destroyed the naval base to prevent its facilities from being used by the enemy.

The loss of this naval base was one of the greatest military setbacks ever suffered by the British.

This made the navy in Singapore significantly weaker, which resulted in the Japanese achieving naval superiority and control over the sea around Singapore.

Test

- Reasons for British Defeat
- You will be given 2 points:
 - a) _____
 - b) _____
- Write 2 PEELs
- 10 mins - 1st PEEL
- 10 mins - 2nd PEEL

A possible question: Why was Singapore poorly defended by the British air force?

(Don't infer anything)

Example of a point: Weak Navy

Example for P: Flawed

Pre-War defence plans

These examples could be used for both points.

For Singapore Strategy

Prepared for a seaward attack

The British were only prepared for a seaward attack from the Japanese, with their naval base and the guns set up in the South and the East.

15" guns

Along Sentosa (Southern)

Northern was under defended as the British believed that the Malayan jungles were dense enough for a natural defence as they would be able to deter the Japanese.

THE BRITISH WERE SCARED

(e) The British could not place troops in Southern Thailand due to fear of offending the Thai government, which made it easy for the Japanese to invade by landing in Southern Thailand and Northern Malaya.

POINT: British pre-war defence plans were flawed

POINT: The British army was poorly trained and did not have the proper equipment, were no match for the Japanese army.

POINT: the British navy was almost non-existent

BRITISH WEAK AIR FORCE loss of superiority to Japs

SG AIRFORCE COMPRISED

They were nicknamed flying coffins

British keeps more modern planes – the Hurricanes in

Most of the fighters were destroyed and the rest evacuated to the Dutch East Indies and Australia

The airfields were not protected in Malaya by sufficient troops

The unprotected Airfields in Malaya were captured by the Japanese who used them to attack Singapore.

Sembawang Airfield was heavily raided and damaged by Japanese bombers

Explanation

The slow-moving Buffaloes meant that they were easily

Point A: Britain was fighting in the European theatre of war and could not give its attention to the war in Singapore. (North African Campaign, German invasion of the Soviet Union (Operation Barbarossa), German invasion (bombing) of Britain (The Blitz))

Point B: Britain did not want to send a powerful fleet of warships to Singapore due to the Nazi Germany and the subsequent outbreak of World War II in Europe.

Point C: Britain had an outdated air force and could not defend Singapore well, in addition, the British sent few anti-tank guns and tanks due to them believing that tanks will be hard to use in the rough and dense vegetation of the Malayan jungles.

Point D: Britain was exhausted by World War I and the public was unwilling to keep up Military spending to defend Singapore after a horrible experience of the war, hence, they were not able to maintain a large permanent military force to protect its colonies in Singapore.

Point E: Britain pre-war defence plans were flawed.

Point F: The British army was poorly-trained and no match for the Japanese army.

Point G: Britain's weak air force led to loss of air superiority against the Japanese.

Point H: The British army was almost non-existent, and the soldiers in the British army came from many different parts of the British empire, such as India, Britain and Australia, which may have led to cultural differences and made it harder to synchronise with the different troops when planning and executing strategies.

- 1.1 They were nicknamed the flying coffins.”
- 1.2 Britain kept the more modern planes - the Spitfires in Europe, Britain or the motherland to defend itself against Nazi attacks.
- 1.3 There were not enough planes sent to Singapore.
- 1.4 Winston Churchill had promised to send more planes to Singapore but they only arrived after Singapore fell.
- 1.5 Most of the fighters were destroyed and the rest evacuated to the Dutch East Indies and Australia.
- 1.6 The airfields were not protected in Malaya by sufficient troops.
- 1.7 The unprotected airfields in Malaya were captured by the Japanese who used them to attack Singapore.
- 1.8 Sembawang Airfield was heavily raided and damaged by Japanese bombers.

Explanation:

- 1.10 The slow-moving Buffaloes **meant** that they were easily shot down by the fast-moving Japanese zero fighters.
- 1.11 The evacuation of the planes out of Singapore **meant** that the British had given up on defending Singapore, and considered it as already lost to the Japanese, hence focusing on defending Australia and the Dutch East Indies instead.

REMEMBER FOR EXAM USE THE PHRASE “MEANT THAT” TO EXPLAIN REASONS

SBQ COMPARISON SKILL

SIMILARITY

Step 1	<p>Overarching idea from both sources <u>Correct way:</u> Both Sources A and B are similar in saying that (OI)... (My <u>Own</u> Words; cannot lift/paraphrase from source)</p> <p><u>Wrong to write like this:</u> Source A says _____ and Source B also says (NOT AN OVERARCHING IDEA) [Your teacher does not want to see this: 0 marks]</p>
Step 2	<p>My own words of what the 1st source says (p)</p> <p>Source A tell us/ me that...(own words)</p>

	Make sure there is a <u>MATCH</u> with the <u>P from source B</u> /(the next source)
Step 3	Give SE (source evidence) from 1st source (very, very briefly) Start with: This is evident/ seen in "....."
Step 4	Explanation of SE from 1st source (very, very briefly) This means ... (Do not repeat same words in P)

Explaining the 2nd source	
Repeat Step 2	Start in my own words: Similarly , Source B shows that ... (P <u>in my own words</u>) Warning : Make sure there is a MATCH with first P, keep it succinct)
Repeat Step 3	Give SE (Source evidence) from 2nd source <u>This is evident / seen in "..."</u>
Repeat Step 4	Explanation of SE from 2nd source (very, very briefly) This means ... (Do not repeat same words in P)

Structure	
Red: First Source	Green: Second Source
Overarching Idea (OI)	Own words

Point	
Evidence	This is seen in " "
Explanation	This means " "
Point	Own words
Evidence	This is seen in " "
Explanation	This means " "

*TWO Similarities in EOY exam (Structure x2)
(One only get 5m (if all correct))

Useful extra resources

-  History
-  History Comparison Notes
-  5 big reasons for British Defeat in 1942 (Aidan Chong, Elliot, and Rishabh)
-  History notes
-  Reasons for British Defeat in 1942
-  Reason for Japanese Victory during World War II (Invasion of Singapore and Malaya)
-  Reasons for British Defeat in World War II (Invasion of Singapore and Malaya)
-  Summary of Hist syllabus
-  History SBQ comparison notes
-  Industrial Revolution
-  History Chapter 3 slides
-  History mind maps
-  History Answer for 2023 TA4
-  History Lesson Notes
-  2023 Format of Year 1 EOY Section A