

ICOMOS MALAYSIA  
NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP

REPORT 3

(30 JUNE 2024)

The report is prepared by  
ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP (NVWG)



Website: <https://newvillageworkingg.wixsite.com/website-2>  
Email: [newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com)



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01

INTRODUCTION

## 01 INTRODUCTION

The ICOMOS Malaysia New Village Working Group (NVWG) aims to study the potential of showcasing selected New Villages (NVs) as National Heritage as well as candidates for UNESCO world heritage listing. NVWG will also act as a central Data Bank collecting research works and archive materials relating to New Villages in Malaya. In this regard, various aspects were scrutinized:

1. New Villages and Planning
2. New Villages and Security
3. New Villages and Management
4. New Villages and Religion
5. New Villages and the economy
6. New Villages and Education
7. New Villages and Social aspects
8. New Villages and Missionaries
9. New Villages and Food
10. New Villages and Culture

### 1.1 Summary

This publication will be our third annual report recording this endeavor. It was a fruitful and challenging year as we begin to outreach to other stakeholders, expand the capacity building in order to gather more data relating to current state of the New Villages in Malaysia, as well as organising writing workshop to consolidate the works, standardization in presentation of data for different new villages selected as preliminary list for listing as national heritage, and potentially for world listing. We also presented our works in oral and poster session during ICOMOS GA2023 in Sydney (see *Figure 1.1*). This allowing us to meet more experts who may work on the area of study to join effort especially in comparative analysis study in the future. Our members presented at ICOMOS CIWIH Asia-Pacific Sub-Committee Online Seminar with titled "The Malayan new Villages: Participatory Approaches in Village Conservation" (see page *NVWG/3/02/117-138*). With the rather active year, our initiative captured by general public, and receiving both 'positive' and 'negative' feedbacks on our endeavor for listing of new villages.



Figure 1-1

Presentation of research works (Poster and Oral) in ICOMOS GA2023, Sydney, Australia  
 Abstract no. 182: Oral Presentation (presented on 7 September 2023)

“The Deposition of Cultural heritage in The Malayan New Villages” by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee

Abstract no. 320: Poster Presentation (presented on 5 September 2023)

“Town Planning in New Villages in Malaya: Cha’ah New Village, Johor” by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee

As mentioned in the report 2, we adopted both top-down and bottom-up approaches in scrutinizing its potential. Writing up session was organized for members end-2023 to prepare draft write up for listing new village (see *Figure 1.2*). Additional workshop also organised to collect more information in order to ensure standardization of the paper works (see *Figure 1.3*).



Figure 1-2

Workshop organized by  
 Pejabat Pesuruhjaya  
 Warisan Negeri Pulau  
 Pinang on 9/10 Dec 2023.

- NVWG Members  
 Organiser & Rosli Hj Nor  
 Ar. Teh Yee Neng  
 Jacky Chew  
 Dr. Tan Chin Ling  
 Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee  
 Lim Gaik Siang  
 Dr. Francis Loh Kok Wah  
 Ar. Tiong Kian Boon & Spouse  
 Gan  
 Chin Soong Kead  
 Ooi Kah Biew  
 Eric Lee Lip Perng



*Figure 1-3*

Workshop at Papan New Village. Dr Francis Loh Kok Wah, Ar. Alan Teh Yee Neng and his team joined local team Jacky Chew, Ooi Kah Biew and others on 20 January 2024.

In February 2024, we presented our proposal with New Village Division, Minister of Housing and Local Government (see page *NVWG/3/02/1-23*), and subsequently ICOMOS Malaysia was invited to joined and brainstorming session on Draft Masterplan 2026-2035 for the New Villages (including fishing villages and regrouped village) in Peninsular Malaysia in April 2024 (see page *NVWG/3/02/24-25*) (see *Figure 1.4*).



*Figure 1-4*

(left) Briefing to New Village Division, Ministry of Housing and Local Government on 23 Feb 2024  
(right) Day Workshop on 29-30 April 2024 organized by Ministry of Housing and Local Government, New Village Division: Brainstorming with Experts on Draft Master Plan for New Villages from 2026 to 2035

To encourage better involvement of the communities, for Symposium in Sekinchan (Site A, Site B, Site C), we adopted the same format of symposium carried out in Cha'ah New Village, whereby the most of the presenters are from the local and community leaders, like sharing session for them. The key focal point be the researcher who are working and familiar with the area, and if possible one of their community leaders. ICOMOS members from Malaysia will act more like a facilitator and assisting them for this initiative (see page *NVWG/3/02/26-54*) (see *Figure 1.5*).





Figure 1-5  
Community leaders be the key organizer and presenters at the Symposium #4 at Sekinchan on 27 April 2024

For capacity building effort, one of our members presented in PAM Architectural heritage: Conservation Course for Architects with titled “Architectural heritage Conservation: Approaches and Procedure for Cha’ah New Village” (see page *NVWG/3/02/146-166*). To encourage better youth participating in the works, member presented paper titled “The Role of EP on NV: The Malaysian Examples” organized by International Correspondents and Youth Talents (see page *NVWG/3/02/139-145*).

Two (2) galleries display about history and life within the NV were visited. These galleries initiated by local communities and NGOs with support from the local councils. There are Heritage Corridor of Sungai Way New Village in Selangor, and Hakka Museum at Sekinchan in Selangor (see *Figure 1.6*).



Figure 1-6  
(left) History Corridor at Sungai Way New Village  
(right) Hakka Museum at Sekinchan

As outreach activities, ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG also presented the research works and sharing with local communities, such as the 1-day temporary exhibition in conjunction with the fund rising event for school hall organized at School Hall at SJK(C) Cha'ah in May 2024 (see *Figure 1.7*).



Figure 1-7  
Temporary Exhibition on History and Deveopment of Cha'ah New Village at School Hall, SJK(C)  
Cha'ah, Segamat, Johor on 25 May 2024

NVWG collaborates with experts (members of NVWG) from local universities such as University of Malaya, New Era University College, and Taylor's University, UCSI University and University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia for events and research works. In early 2024, we work with Koh Jing Hao, lecturer from Taylor's University for measured drawings elective course framed around new villages, and kicked start work Sungai Jarom New Village in Selangor, and course works in progress with first presentation on 28 June 2024 (see *Figure 1.8*).



*Figure 1-8*

Taylor's University Elective Course – measured drawings- Student presentation on stage 1 - history, housing, social economic of Sungai Jarom New Village (Part of NV and Part of extended area) on 28 June 2024 (Lecturer; Koh Jing Hao, Reviewer: Dr. Keith Tan, External Reviewer: Ar. Dr Goh Ai Tee

Working as project partner with University of Nottingham in the UK we received positive feedbacks on the proposed grant application with The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC). The collaboration works may allow us to gather other data that not available in Malaysia, at the same time allowing us to share our works with wider scholars and general public.

From June 2023 to June 2024, Scholars on from varies universities contacted us for sharing information prior to their visit to respective new villages. These include visit to Sungai Way New Village in Selangor by Haruka Saito and Prof Kengo Hayashi from University, visit to Sekinchan (Site A, Site B, Site C) by Chua Hui Lin from Southeast University, China, layout of Jinjang New Village in Kuala Lumpur by Laura Noble from bartlett School of Architecture and Planning, University College London, and visit to Papan New Village in Perak by Cheryl Cheah from Architectural Association School of Architecture, London. Last by not least, enquiry on support for research works by Lee Yuan Han, Doshisha University in Japan.

ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan for 2024-2026 is "Disaster and Conflict Resilient Heritage: Preparedness, Response, and Recovery". ICOMOS Scientific Symposium 2024 theme is "Revisiting the Venice Charter: Critical Perspectives and Contemporary Challenges" with 5 sub-themes: Historical Context and heritage Concepts; A Cross-Cutting Approach between Conventions; Universalism and diversity: Rereading the Doctrinal Documents from Diverse Perspectives; Contemporary Challenges in Heritage Discourse; and Disaster and Conflict Resilient Heritage. The research works of ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG research works fit well with the ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan, a paper prepared by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee titled "Malayan New Villages: Re-imagining the better Way of Life" was accepted for oral presentation at ICOMOS Scientific Symposium 2024 between 13-15 November 2024 at Ouro Preto Brazil.

## 1.2 Members of ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG

The NWWG started with 7 members from ICOMOS Malaysia and 8 invited experts on April 2021, and expanded to 35 members in total on June 2024 (see *Figure 1.9*).

### **Members of ICOMOS Malaysia:**

Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee (Chair, ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG, Board Member ICOMOS Malaysia)  
Rosli Hj Nor (Leader, National and UNESCO Listing)  
Ar. Tiong Kian Boon (Advisor, ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG)  
Dato' Ir Fong Tian Yong (Advisor, ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG)  
Faisal Abdul Rahman (Advisor, President ICOMOS Malaysia)  
Dr Shaiful Idzwan Shahidan (Secretary General, ICOMOS Malaysia)  
TPr. Afzal Hj Azhari (Board Member, ICOMOS Malaysia)  
Dr. Indera Syahrul Mat Radzuan (Board Member, ICOMOS Malaysia)  
Dr. Ts. Tan Chin Ling (Board Member, ICOMOS Malaysia)  
Kenneth Wong See Huat (Board Member, ICOMOS Malaysia)  
Ar. Ahmad Najib Ariffin  
Ar Steven Thang Boon Ann  
Dr Gwynn Jenkins  
Dr. Nik Mastura Nik Muhammad  
Lim Gaik Siang  
Assoc Prof Dr Keith Tan Kay Hin  
Assoc Prof Teoh Chee Keong  
Assoc Prof Dr Lew Bon Hoi  
Dr Ong Siew Kian  
Dr Masadliahani Masduki  
Norazwani bte Azmi (Student)

### **Invited Experts:**

Dr Francis Loh Kok Wah (Advisor ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG)  
Prof Dr Lee Kam Hing (Advisor ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG)  
Dr Tan Chee Beng (Advisor ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG)  
Dr Tan Teng Phee  
Dr Wu Ming Chu  
Dr Ling Tek Soon  
Ar. Anthony Too Kar Kiat  
Ar. Lee Sze Ee  
Ar. Alan Teh Yee Neng  
Chin Soong Keat  
Ong Kah Biew  
Dr Tai Kim Teng  
Eric Lee Lih Perng  
Jacky Chew



Figure 1-9  
Photos of 35 members of ICOMOS Malaysia NWWG

Please visit our website (<https://newvillageworkingg.wixsite.com/website-2>) for more information and updates. If you would like to contribute to the research we are working on, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at [newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com).

Funding is a vital component of our work, and is especially important for organizing events that encourage the participation of researchers/ students/ school children and the wider public. Hence, do let us know if you like to sponsor any activities and programmes under ICOMOS Malaysia New Village Working Group.

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02

SHARING SESSION:

SYMPOSIUMS/ WORKSHOPS/ VISITS

## 02 SHARING SESSION: SYMPOSIUMS/ WORKSHOPS/ VISITS

### 2.1 Government Liaison:

#### 2.1.1 Briefing to New Village Division, Ministry of Housing and Local Government on 23 February 2024



*Figure 2.1.1* Group photo at New Village Division, Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

### MALAYAN NEW VILLAGES

The best surviving examples of large-scale forced resettlement resulting from the British Military Plan during Post WWII (The Emergency, 1948 to 1960)

#### THE PROPERTY

The serial property includes a selection of three (3) sites, among the 480 sites established during the Emergency in Malaya between 1948 to 1960 as counter insurgency measures adopted to defeat the communist and to maintain a stronghold over vital economic assets by the British. The sites are spread across all 12 States in Malaya, from Perlis in the North to Johor in the South. In 1954, amongst the eleven states, Perak with the most number of sites (129) followed by Johor (94), Pahang (77), Selangor (46), Kedah (44), Negeri Sembilan (39), Kelantan (18), Malacca (17), Penang (8), Terengganu (4), Kuala Lumpur (3), and Perlis (1). In April 1950, some 18,500 people were resettled in new villages. By October 1954, just four years later, some 573,000 people had been resettled in over 480 new villages in Malaya with ethnic composition of 86% Chinese, 9% Malay, 4% Indian and 1% others.



The new villages in Malaya present the best surviving examples of large-scale resettlement resulting from the implementation of the Briggs Plan. The colonial expansion of the town planning concept changed the entire rural landscape of Malaya. Introducing a planned compact living in rural areas that provide better living conditions, healthier and safer living environment, and more importantly a civic-minded nation towards Independence. Not all the resettlement centres were new. In 1954, there are three (3) types of New Villages: proximately 32% of those which were entirely new (Type A); 24% of those which were built around and absorbed small existing villages (Type B); 16% those which were established as appendages to large villages or towns which maintaining a distinct identity of their own (Type C). The remaining 28% considered as unclassified.

### History and Development

The 1st “Emergency” was declared at certain district of Perak and Johor on 16 June 1948, after 3 European planters (Arthur Walker, the manager of Eiplhi Estate on Lintang road in Sungai Siput near Ipoh, John Allison, manager and his assistant Ian Christian of Phin Soon Estate), a Chinese’s head laborer (Senai Estate, Johore) and a contractor (who was a Kuomintang supporter, on an estate in Taiping Perak) were murdered by the Malayan National Liberation Army (MNLA), the armed wing of the Malayan Communist Party (MCP) on 16 June 1948. “A state of Emergency” was declared on 18 June 1948 for the entire Federation of Malaya as well as Singapore when the British government pressured by European community when MNLA began attacking rubber plantations, mines and police stations, derailing trains and burning workers’ houses.

The term ‘Emergency’ and not ‘War’ is declared as it is considered a civil issue. Economically, with the declaration of ‘Emergency’ the colonial government could maintain its interest in Malaya and also benefit financially from insurance coverage in London, as insurers would not have compensated plantation and mine owners if it had been labeled a ‘war’. Politically, Malayan Communist Party (MCP) was denied its political legitimacy, and the term ‘Communist Terrorist’ is used to strengthen its political purpose. Socially, it is time for the colonial government to seriously address the long standing squatter issues in the fridge of major towns and rural areas in Malaya with twofold, to bring these squatters to better governance under close monitoring, and also to cut the aid (food, medicine and information) to the CT.

The imperial policies experience in Malaya has led to development of an integrated civil-military response to the development of the use of minimum force. The Emergency lasted for 12 years (1948 to 1960), and can be grouped into 3 phases: The defensive period (June

1948 to Oct 1951) in which the government shaped its counter-insurgency tactics and policies; an offensive period (April 1952 to May 1954) when the administration struck back and gradually won the 'hearts and minds' of the people; and from June 1954 to 1960 as a period marked by eventual victory over the communists.

Malayan economy was one of the most prosperous and valuable assets in the British Empire at the time especially during the post-WWII period, whereby one-third of the world's total output of natural rubber, over half of the world's tin. On 25th June 1950 the Korean War broke out. The international tensions catapulted the price boom of raw materials, particularly rubber and tin since early 1950 providing economic impact and subsequently counter insurgency strategies and measures in Malaya.

Lieutenant-General Harold Briggs was appointed as the Director of Operations on 3 April 1950. He realized the importance of isolating the insurgents from their sources of food and creating a sense of security in populated areas so that people would be more willing to provide information. He also persuaded the High Commissioner, Sir Henry Lovell Goldsworthy Gurney, to set up committees containing representatives of all civil and military agencies involved in the campaign so that a coordinated response to the insurgents could be formulated. The policy was developed from "coercion and enforcement" in 1950 to win the "hearts and minds" of villagers in 1951 for British Government to defeat the communist insurgency - "resettlement and Regroupment.

A 3-tier command and committee (later named 'Brigg's Plan) to improve the Emergency administration and inter-agency coordination with aim to eliminate the MCP's forces and its mass organization (Min Yuen) – as counterinsurgency strategies: The Federal War Council (FWC), the State and Settlement War Executive Committees (SWEC) and the District War Executive Committees (DWEC). The FWC comprised the Director of Operations, the Chief Secretary, the General Officer Commanding, the Air Officer Commanding, the Commissioner of Police, and the Secretary of Defence. The SWECs were composed of the Chief Minister (Menteri Besar), the British Advisor, the Chief Police Officer, the senior Army commander, and a full-time Secretary. DWECs consisted of the District Officer, and senior police and army representatives. The FWC responsibility was to meet weekly and formulate policy, and coordinate all the necessary resources to implement these policies. The actual execution of policy lay with the SWECs and DWECs. The British Government in Malaya also tried to win over the 'hearts and minds' of the people of Malaya through a propaganda and psychological warfare programme, and the promise of a movement towards independence.

In January 1951, Briggs sent a memorandum to all the SWECs outlining major guidelines for resettlement and in June 1951, the resettlement programme was in full swing. A purpose built new villagers with clean water, proper housing, education and medical care were provided. The Resettlement involved 2 processes: Regrouping and Relocation, through 3 main methods: military force; providing financing support to rebuild new homes in NV; or to collaborate with MCA in resettling the squatters. There are ten (10) major principles/guidelines for resettlement outlined by Briggs in January 1951.

1. Where possible, resettlement villages were to be located on main roads or other major transportation arteries.
2. Villagers were to be relocated, wherever possible, on rolling terrain to promote drainage
3. Squatters were to be concentrated into compact villages which were fenced-in and protected by a police post capable of commanding the entire village, most particularly, the village gate
4. Villages were to be sited in such a manner as to minimize squatter dislocation, and apart from security, the most important aspect to be considered in deciding upon a site had to be the economy of the future settlers
5. Standardised disturbance grants were paid to all squatters forced to vacate their homes and a subsistence allowance to each individual forced to give up their land or job upon moving to the new site.
6. Generally, there should be no more than 6 houses (families) per acre of residential land. This permitted each family to have a vegetable garden on their house lot if they so desired
7. Sufficient water was to be supplied, either from adjacent towns, or from wells within the village, health and fire regulations were expected to be observed.
8. Amenities such as schools, dispensaries, community centres, et had to be provided as quickly as possible
9. Sufficient agriculture land of good quality was to be provided for all agriculturists forced to abandon their previous holdings. Agriculturists should have their land situated within 2 to 3 miles of the villages to enable them to transport manure from their stay in the villages to their fields.
10. Estate workers had to be within 2 miles of their places of employment

Sir Gerald Walter Robert Templer took over the post of High Commissioner and Director of Operations in Feb 1952, after Sir Henry Lovell Goldsworthy Gurney after killed in an ambused by CTs 6 Oct 1951, and Lieutenant-General Harold Briggs retired by end-1951. He

embraced Briggs Plan and ensures the command structure was established. He placed great emphasis on the need to win the 'hearts and minds' of the population, and continued the resettlement of squatters/ villagers, with promised independence once the communist insurgents had been defeated.

The new Citizenship Bill was passed by the Federal Legislative Council in May 1952. After each state had passed its own Nationality Laws, both the Federation of Malaya Agreement (Amendment) Ordinance and the State Nationality Laws came into effect. The new law conferred citizenship status on 2,727,000 Malays and Orang Asli, 1,157,000 Chinese, and 222,000 Indians as state nationals and citizens across the Federated colony. With citizenship, people were entitled to participate in future state and federal elections. The British then initiated the political process by introducing elections at the local and state levels and finally, at the federal level. The 1st elections were held in George Town, Penang on 1 Dec 1951, and saw a turnout of over 72% of registered voters. These elections were followed by the passage of the Local Councils Ordinance in 1952, whereby previously established village committees were gradually converted to councils. Local Councils acquired the power to impose taxes, rates and fees for maintenance and expenditure. The first local elections of national consequence were the Kuala Lumpur Municipal Council elections in 1952.

The Colonial government pushed for the creation of the Home Guard to boost the numbers and effectiveness of the police force in Malaya. The Emergency (Home Guard) Regulations introduced in 1950 authorized the male aged between 18 and 55 to perform part-time duties as a Home Guard. At the initial stage, their role is just to provide a small local force to assist the police with certain static duties, and was unarmed due to the concern of trust. Sir Gerald Templer involved the local population in the fight against the communist terrorist by increasing the number of Malay battalions and strengthening the Home Guard raised to defend the new villages. Major General E.B. de Fonblanque was appointed as Inspector General in April 1952 to reorganize Home Guard Units. The Home Guard organization and training was at the Federal level, and State Commander and District Home Guard Officer were made responsible for Home Guard training at the State and District level, as well as to administer the Home Guard Units. Both of them were also staff officers of the SWEC and DWEC. At the local level, the Home Guard Committees controlled the nomination of Home Guards. Additionally, the State and District Advisory Committees consisting of representatives of all the communities, as well as the planters and miners, and Home Guard Units were organized into battalions, companies, platoons and sections. These measures helped unite the racially divided Malayan people.

The China Inland Mission has spent 85 years devoted its entire work in China in providing schools and churches. John Sinton (China Inland Mission – Oversea Missionary Fellowship) announced at Shanghai to totally evacuate (600 Mission workers plus over 200 kids) from China between 1950 and 1953, after China Communist took over the China government in 1949. The colonial government view missionary bodies can provide important medical (free and medical for all), welfare (scholarship), educational (literacy class, night-school and adult education programmes, training on modern agriculture techniques) and evangelistic (prayer meeting and services, home and group visits, youth fellowship programmes, administering the sacraments such as baptisms) works as temporary measure to the settlers until the infrastructure for each new village is built up. On 24 Aug 1950, the colonial government in Malaya requested Stanley H Dixon, the General Secretary of the conference of missionary societies of Great Britain and Ireland, to persuade many of the ex-china missionaries in England to work in Malaya. In April 1951, Mr L.T.Lyall, a mission representative in Malaya, was making a survey in Malaya of the needs in Malaya. Although about 300 Mission workers have left China, the remaining 300 Mission may temporary be placed at Malaya to aid federation squatters, and these missionary workers will need to return and continue to their work. The workers, especially European missionaries, will be able to read, write and speak Mandarin. They will undergo training in the Hokkien, Hakka, Cantonese and other Chinese dialects before being sent to the new villages. In 1952, the Overseas Missionary Fellowship (China Inland Mission) will have about 60 Christian welfare workers missionaries that include Doctors, nurses, teachers and agriculturists working in new villages in the Federation of Malaya. On 6 June 1952, 18 of them were already serving in 10 new villages in Johore and Selangor.

Sir Gerald Templer also set up a co-coordinating committee of representatives of Churches, missionary bodies and voluntary organizations in Feb 1952. The Malayan Christian Council (MCC) includes the Anglican Church in Malaya, Methodist Church in Malaya, Women's Methodist Missionary Society, Chinese Presbyterian Church in Malaya, Overseas Missionary Fellowship (China Inland Mission), Overseas Missionary Fellowship (Anglican Section), English Presbyterian Church in Malaya, United Lutheran Mission in Malaya, Salvation Army, and the Chinese Native Evangelistic Crusade. Other group not working with MCC are Life (Bible Presbyterian) Church, Church of Christ, Independent Church of Tai Hong, Cha'ah Christian Church, Evangelise China Fellowship, and Honolulu Church Mission.

The colonial government also acknowledged of the important of education especially primary education in New Villages to create a 'contented communities' and insulate them

from the communist terrorist. During the emergency, with the help from its American and other allies, the colonial government tried to prevent the School Management Committee from being infiltrated by communists, by expanding the number of staff in the Chinese section of Education Department. The number of Chinese inspectors was increased from 10 in July 1948 to 35 by the end of 1953. Their tasks include supervising the school registration, finance, curriculum, textbooks, health requirements and building maintenance and registering all schools, teachers and members of School Management Committee, under Registration of School Ordinance no 7, 1950. The Resettlement Officer able to choose suitable local leaders (pro-colonial government and anti-communist) for the School Management Committee (or the Education Committee of the Local Council) when granting the village government aid. This process indirectly controls recruitment curriculum and textbooks. In May 1952, full time training school for Chinese teachers in Malaya was set up to equip local Chinese to teach in English, Malay and Chinese. For the first time, Chinese teachers were also given training for citizenship with special attention being given to all kinds of extra-mural activities such as scouts and guides. All teachers were politically vetted by several government departments including Chief Education Office, Special Branch and Central Criminal Records Office. The primary school is for children ages between 7 and 12, but 'Emergency Classes were provided for children over 12 and there were evening classes for adults, who had had their schooling interrupted or terminated during the Japanese Occupation and postwar period. The local branch MCA donated money to build Chinese Schools at the initial stage, and in 1951 federal government with assist and missionary group to fund school buildings and teachers' quarters (construction and maintenance), and the role of school maintenance was taken over by the state government. In Feb 1952 out of the 500 new villages, 216 schools were constructed with total of 957 classrooms to accommodate 39,744 students or 39% of primary school population. This support for education was seen as a means to assert more control over and assist in the remaking of Chinese new villagers, with some flexibility in matters of culture and local identity, for instance, Sungai Blank New Village (Min Tek) School. School names of 'Chung Hwa', 'Hwa Chiao' and 'Mah Hwa' were discouraged and in favour of Malayan place names.

For economic sustainability, lands for agriculture were provided within 2 to 3 miles of these new villages so to ensure villagers can commute between new home and farm land easily. Besides, the colonial government also encouraged villagers to form co-operative to market their products. This initiative through a month-long training course to AROs in managing stores and marketing, then having AROs to assist villagers in setting up their own producers. A later stage, the government provided a 14 days training course for New Village managers and bookkeeping for local members across the country.

Within the New Village (NV), witness the setting up of omnipresence of government agents (District Officer, Assistant District Officer, Chinese Affairs Officer, Assistant Chinese Affairs Officers, New Village Headmen in charge of daily administration), assistant in development of community based institutions (Village Committee later known as local council, Home Guard unit as self-defense organization, MCA as political party, co-operatives for taking care of farming by villagers, missionary bodies as religion, brigade for fire safety, St John ambulance, etc), including the Chinese/ Malay/ Tamil education system.

The British government also recognized the strategic importance of the Malayan aborigines (Orang Asli) to the MCP, who use the tribes as effective 'radar', warning them of approaching security forces or as guides, porters and cultivators of food for communist units. In 1953, with the appointment of Richard Noone for Department of Aborigines, jungle forts as military outposts were set up, whereby each fort with a police post under the command of a British Lieutenant, and was manned by a platoon trained in jungle warfare. In addition to security, the government provided socio economic incentive to win Orang Asli support and friendship by setting up trading posts, building elementary schools and providing medical aid. There were 10 outpost-forts deep in the Malayan jungles by end-1954. By March 1953, the attributes necessary for a successful NV had been defined as " a modicum of agriculture land and the granting of long-term land titles, and adequate water supply, a reasonably well functioning village committee, a school which could accommodate at least a majority of the Children, a village community centre, road of possible standards and with side drains, reasonable conditions of sanitation and public health, a place of worship, trees along main street and padang, an effective perimeter fence, a flourishing Home Guard, a reasonably friendly feeling towards the Government and the Police."

When Sir Gerald Templer finally left his post in Oct 1954, most of Malaya was secured (within the barbed wired). Before April 1950, a total population of 18,500 resettled in new villages, while by end-1954, a total population of 572,917 resettled in over 480 new villages in 12 states of Peninsular Malaya. By the end of 1955, MCP's armed forces were reduced from 8,000 jungle fighters in 1951 to an estimated 3,000 men and women. Besides, the frequency of incidents had decreased from a maximum of 500 to 65 per month. Additionally, more areas in Malaya were declared 'white areas'.

Three (3) external factors forced the MCP leaders to adjust their political strategy towards a peace negotiation to end the Emergency and anti-colonial war:

1. The war had shifted from 'armed struggle' to 'peaceful coexistence', ie the First Indochina war against the French
2. The communist and Workers' Parties of the British Commonwealth held a meeting in London in April 1954, and advocated negotiations and ceasefire resolutions
3. The China's Prime Minister Chou En Lai took a moderate line on colonialism and its future at the Afro-Asian Conference at Bandung in 1955.

On 28 and 29 Dec 1955, the peace talks between the Alliance Government (The chief minister of Federation – Tunku Abdul Rahman, Chief Minister of Singapore – David Marshall, the President of MCA – Tan Cheng Lock) and the MCP (Chin Peng, head of central Propaganda Department – Chen Tian, senior MCP leader and representative of the Malayan Malay Nationalist Party – Rashid Maidin) were held at a local school in Baling, Kedah. Although both parties not able to finalize the detailed due to its positions, the discussion proceeded and resulted in a press statement signed by both whereby MCP would end all hostilities, and lay down its arms and disband the guerilla forces, if the newly elected government of the Federation obtained complete control of internal security and local armed forces.

In Jan and Feb 1956, Tunku Abdul Rahman led a delegation to London for a Constitutional Conference, with the press statement signed by both parties during the Baling Talk, the British Government agrees to both conditions that led to the independence of Malaya on 31 August 1957. With the independence, Tunku Abdul Rahman became the Minister for Internal Defence and Security apart from being a Chief Minister. However, the Emergency only officially declared as ended on 31 July 1960.



Below slides presentation prepared by Ar Dr Goh Ai Tee, and shared with Ministry of Housing and Local Government, New Village Division on 23 February 2024, during the briefing session. The information shared include the brief history of the Emergency, the Briggs Plan, shortlisting New Villages, selection criteria, proposal for serial nomination, attributes and activities involved by members of NVWG in research, workshop and presentation from mid-June 2023 to mid-February 2024. Besides, it also includes the proposed schedule for the ministry to consider in listing of NVs in Malaya in respect to the inclusion of the programme under the upcoming TGA 2026.

**SECOND GLANCE:  
NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*

Prepared by **Ar. Dr. GOH Ai Tee**

Board Member, 2022-2024, ICOMOS Malaysia  
Chair, ICOMOS Malaysia New Village Working Group (NVWG)  
President, 2023-2025, Persatuan Warisan Budaya Chaah Segamat Johor  
Principal, A T GOH ARCHITECT  
Industry Advisor Panel, Master of Architecture Program, Lee Kong Chian Faculty of Engineering and Science, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman, 9 Nov 2023 to 8 Nov 2026.  
Industry Advisor Panel, PhD (Mixed Mode) Program, Faculty of Built Environment, University of Malaya, 10 Oct 2023 to 9 Oct 2024

23 February 2024, Friday  
KPKT, Putrajaya Malaysia

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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Support by:

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA  
NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP**

ICOMOS MALAYSIA MEMBERS					INVITED EXPERTS		

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*

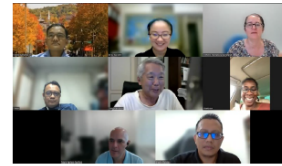
Support by:

**ICOMOS**  
Triennial Scientific Plan (TSP) 2024-2027

**Disaster and Conflict Resilient Heritage:  
Preparedness, Response, Recovery**

**Theme for 2026:  
Living Heritage  
Respect – Enhance - Accept – Partnership**

1. Theme ICOMOS GA 2026 - Living Heritage: REAP
2. Regional Collaboration at TSP (Partnership)
3. Development and Protection: Heritage and Culture
4. Intangible cultural heritage aspect (eastern tradition)
5. New Villages research work under ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG fit well into the framework of the TSP 2024-2027, and may be included in the program



Pre-TGA2023 meeting 13 July 2023.



Meeting on Proposal for Theme 2026  
7 Sept 2023 / Venue: ICC Level 2  
(From Left to right) Nancy Pollock-Ellwand / Luna Rajab/  
Ishanlosen Odiaua/ Zeynep Gul Unal/ Kerime Danis/  
Tiong Kian Boon/ Goh Ai Tee

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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**Working Schedule**

	KPKT & State Govt & JWN		ICOMOS Malaysia & ICOMOS Triennial GA 2026
		03.2024	Submission of Proposal to KPKT
04.2024-09.2024	KPKT, State & Local Government evaluation and proposal		
10.2024-11.2024	Submission of Tentative List for National Listing and UNESCO Listing		
12.2024-01.2025	Jabatan Warisan Negara (JWN) to submit Tentative List to UNESCO		
02.2025	Tentative List	03.2025	Include Listing of New Villages in UNESCO into ICOMOS Triennial GA 2026 program
02.2026	Application for Preliminary Assessment	06.2025	Call for Paper (include New Villages in Malaya) for ICOMOS Triennial GA 2026 (International Symposium)
		07.2025-12.2025	Draft Program for ICOMOS TGA 2026 & Website ICOMOS Triennial GA 2026
		01.2026-05.2026	Review selection of paper for Symposium in ICOMOS Triennial GA 2026
		10.2026	ICOMOS Triennial GA 2026 with ICOMOS ADCOM Meeting & Scientific Committee Meeting, Kuching Sarawak

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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**UNESCO WHS: 6 Criteria for Cultural Heritage Site**

- To represent a **Masterpiece** of human creative genius;
- To exhibit an important **Interchange** of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- To bear a unique or at least exceptional **Testimony** to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living or which has disappeared;
- To be an outstanding example of a Type of Building (**Typology**), architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history
- To be an outstanding example of a **traditional** human settlement, **land-use, or sea-use** which is representative of a cultural (or Cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; Significant interaction between people and the Natural environment have been recognized as Cultural Landscapes
- To be directly or tangibly **associated** with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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## Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)

### 1. Criteria (i to vi)

### 2. Integrity and Authenticity

### 3. Protection and Management

- **Attributes** (tangible and intangible elements)
- **Comparative Analysis** (local and international examples on similar site, value & significance to international context, develop the narrative, and rationale)
- Inventory
- **Protection and Conservation Management Plan for different types of the site**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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Support by:

#### Serial Nomination:

- clear link between the component parts of series and for each part to contribute substantially to the OUV of the whole- potential unmanageability of some very large serial protection
- serial nominations are not a catalogue/ series of sites, each property must have some component to justify for the serial approach.

Type	%	No of NVs (1958)	Description	Names of NVs for inclusion in Proposed Tentative List
A	51.64	285	Entirely New Villages	Chaah New Village, Segamat Johor Pandamaran New Village, Selangor Jenjarom New Village, Selangor Machap Baru New Village, Melaka Rasah New Village, Negeri Sembilan Titi New Village, Negeri Sembilan Salak Selatan New Village, Kuala Lumpur
B	40.03	221	New Villages attached to other communities other than towns	Berapit New Village, Bukit Mertajam, Penang Sekinchan New Village (Site A, B, C), Selangor
C	8.33	46	New Villages attached to older towns	Papan New Village, Perak
	100.00	552		

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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Support by:

**"The outstanding development of the Emergency in Malaya was the implementation of the Briggs Plan...about one million two hundred thousand rural people were corralled into more than 600 'new' settlements, principally New Villages...."**

Source: Kernal Singh Sandhu in Ray Nyce (1973)

**The Malayan 'Emergency'**  
(1948 to 1960)

In Early 1950s, over one million persons in Malaya were regrouped or resettled.

**Regrouped: 650,000 persons**  
42.2% Indian, 37.8% Chinese, 16.0% Malay & 4% Javanese and Others  
78.5% on estates, 12.3% in mines and 9.2% in other areas

**Resettled: 573,000 persons**

	Population in NVs	No. of NVs	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
1954	10%	480	86%	9%	4%	
2000	1,250,000	450	82%	13%	4%	1%

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES**  
 A institution of the National Library Board  
 Academic works, Thesis – Master and PhD  
 Community Participation – Private collection  
 Oral History

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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Support by:

**The Briggs' Plan** Civil + Military

A 3-tier command and committee (later named Brigg's Plan) to improve the Emergency administration and inter-agency coordination with aim to eliminate the MCP's forces and its mass organization (Min Yuen) – as counter insurgency strategies:

The Federal War Council (FWC)

The State and Settlement War Executive Committees (SWEC)

The District War Executive Committees (DWECS).

Notes:  
The FWC comprised the Director of Operations, the Chief Secretary, the General Officer Commanding, the Air Officer Commanding, the Commissioner of Police, and the Secretary of Defence.

The SWECs were composed of the Chief Minister (Menteri Besar), the British Advisor, the Chief Police Officer, the senior Army commander, and a full-time Secretary.

DWECS consisted of the District Officer, and senior police and army representatives. The FWC responsibility was to meet weekly and formulate policy, and coordinate all the necessary resources to implement these policies. The actual execution of policy lay with the SWECs and DWECS.



**Sir Gerald Walter Robert Templer**

- High Commissioner & Director of Operation in **Feb 1952**.
- He embraced Briggs Plan and ensures the command structure was established.
- He placed great emphasis on the need to win the **'hearts and minds'** of the population, and continued the resettlement of squatters/ villagers, with **promised independence** once the communist insurgents had been defeated

**Lieutenant-General Harold Briggs**

- Director of Operation **3 April 1950**
- Introduction of the Briggs' Plan (3-tier command and committee)
- Retired by **end-1951**

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**major principles/ guidelines for resettlement outlined by General Briggs in 1951**

- Where possible, resettlement villages **were to be located on main roads or other major transportation arteries**.
- Villagers were to be relocated, wherever possible, **on rolling terrain to promote drainage**
- Squatters were to be **concentrated into compact villages** which were **fenced-in and protected by a police post capable of commanding the entire village**, most particularly, **the village gate**
- Villages were to be sited in such a manner as **to minimize squatter dislocation**, and apart from **security**, the most important aspect to be considered in deciding upon a site had to be **the economy of the future settlers**
- Standardised disturbance **grants were paid to all squatters forced to vacate their homes and a subsistence allowance to each individual forced to give up their land or job** upon moving to the new site.
- Generally, there should be **no more than 6 houses (families) per acre of residential land**. This permitted each family to have a vegetable garden on their house lot if they so desired
- Sufficient water** was to be supplied, either from adjacent towns, or from wells within the village, **health and fire regulations** were expected to be observed.
- Amenities such as **schools, dispensaries, community centres**, etc had to be provided as quickly as possible
- Sufficient agriculture land of good quality** was to be provided for all agriculturists forced to abandon their previous holdings. Agriculturists should have their **land situated within 2 to 3 miles of the villages** to enable them to transport manure from their stay in the villages to their fields.
- Estate workers had to be **within 2 miles of their places of employment**

**General Notes On Design and Layout of Resettlement Area in 1951**

Category	Criteria
A Selection of Site	1. Planning Survey & Socio Economic
	2. Data
	3. Procedure
	4. Cost of Land
B Layout of Site	1. Socio Economic Data
	2. Topography/ Road Pattern
	3. Connectivity
C Design and Layout	1. Size of Lots
	2. Road Pattern
	3. Public and Communal Buildings
	4. Water Supply
	5. Open Spaces
	6. Security

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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State	< 1940	Years of Establishment										Total					
		1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957		1958	1959	1960	Unknown	
Johor	1	8	9	29	16	6	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	84
Melaka	1	0	3	4	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	19
NS	1	0	5	5	16	1	5	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	43
WPKL	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Perak	0	3	13	11	70	15	8	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	5	134
Perlis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Selangor	0	8	5	10	9	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	42
Pahang	1	4	17	11	10	3	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	4	55
Terengganu	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Kelantan	3	5	2	1	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	24
Kedah	0	2	1	0	5	2	16	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	33
Penang	0	0	1	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>450</b>

**The Emergency (1948-1960)**  
**383 NVs (85.11%)**

- \* 156 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 34.67%) established b4 1950
- \* 147 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 32.67%) established in 1950
- \* 127 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 28.22%) established in 1951-60
- \* May 1950 Briggs Plan in full swings

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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1954: W.C.S. Corry's report of the NVs listed a total of 438 NVs

- 69% supposedly permanent
- 20% 'intermediate'
- 11% supposedly impermanent and likely to disappear with the Emergency

1962: Ray Nyce - these supposedly impermanent NVs still existed.

Number of NVs and Categories (in 1958)

Type	Description	No of NVs	%
A	Entirely New Villages	285	51.64
B	New Villages attached to other communities other than towns	221	40.03
C	New Villages attached to older towns	46	8.33
<b>Total</b>		<b>552</b>	<b>100.00</b>

30th Oct 1952: 4 Asst Town Planner assigned for

Source: Ray Nyce (1973)

States
1 Selangor
1 Perak
1 Kedah, Perlis, Penang, Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang
1 Johor, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka

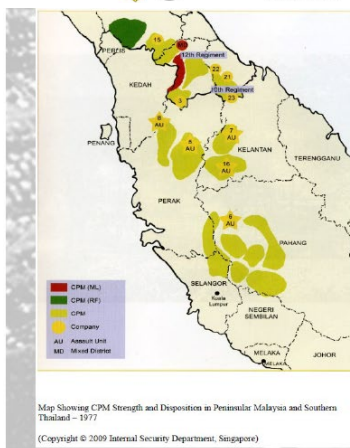
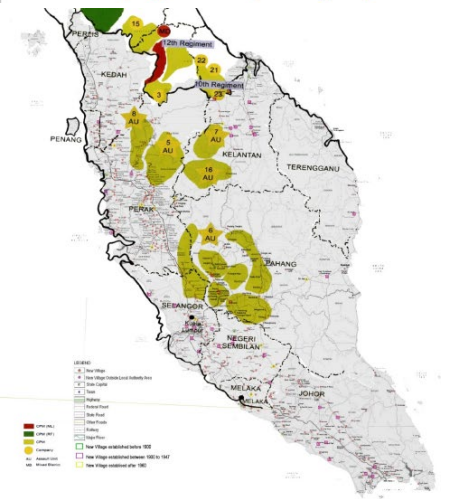
Federal Level:  
Town Planner,  
Federation of Malaya -  
T.A.L. Concannon

TABLE 9  
CLASSIFICATION OF THE NEW VILLAGES ACCORDING TO DEGREE OF PERMANENCY, 1954-5

STATE	TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW VILLAGES	NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE IN EACH CATEGORY		
		Type 'P'	Type 'I'	Type 'T'
Johore	No: 88 %: 100.00	55 62.50	22 25.00	11 12.50
Malacca	No: 17 %: 100.00	14 82.35	3 17.65	—
Negeri Sembilan	No: 37 %: 100.00	16 43.24	14 37.84	7 18.92
Selangor	No: 47 %: 100.00	38 80.85	12 27.77	6 12.77
Perak	No: 123 %: 100.00	107 86.99	12 9.76	4 3.25
Kedah	No: 32 %: 100.00	21 65.62	10 31.25	1 3.13
Penang & P.W.	No: 9 %: 100.00	7 77.78	—	2 22.22
Perlis	No: 1 %: 100.00	1 100.00	—	—
Pahang	No: 67 %: 100.00	40 59.70	9 13.43	18 26.87
Terengganu	No: 3 %: 100.00	1 33.33	2 66.67	—
Kelantan	No: 14 %: 100.00	3 21.43	9 64.28	2 14.29
<b>MALAYA</b>	No: 438 %: 100.00	303 69.18	87 19.86	48 10.96

Notes: Categories of New Villages  
Type 'P' — Supposedly permanent.  
Type 'I' — Intermediate.  
Type 'T' — Supposedly impermanent or temporary and likely to disappear at the end of the Emergency.

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO



Source:  
Ong Wei Chong (2010). 'Securing the Population from Insurgency and Subversion in the Second Emergency (1968-1981). PhD Thesis. Research in History, August 2010, University of Exeter

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

COMPLEX PASTS: DIVERSE FUTURES

Brought to you by ICOMOS MALAYSIA'S NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP

**MALAYSIAN 'NEW VILLAGES'**

17 April 2021  
3pm-5.30pm

Moderated by:  
Dr. Francis Loh Kok Wah  
Dr. Nik Mastura Nik Muhammad  
Dr. Tan Teng Phee  
Dr. Dato' Ir. Fong Tian Yong

New Villages in Malaysia: Origins and Evolution  
by Dr. Francis Loh Kok Wah

Malaysian New Villages: Moving Forward  
by Dato' Ir. Fong Tian Yong

Malaysian New Villages: Planning Perspectives  
by Dr. Tan Teng Phee

Listing Malaysia's New Villages  
by Roshdi Haji Nor

**NWWG Webinar Series 2**

18 December 2021  
9.00 A.M. - 11.00 A.M. (GMT+8)

Moderated by:  
Dr. Nik Mastura Nik Muhammad

A Social History of Pulau New Village During the Malayan Emergency (1948-1960)  
by Dr. Tan Teng Phee

A Disappearing Hukla Village: Kampung Hukla, Malaya  
by Dr. Dato' Ir. Fong Tian Yong

Discussions with Prof. Dr. Shuanie Cantores

Dr. Dato' Ir. Fong Tian Yong  
Principal, Perunding Alza Alza

Dr. Ong Siew Kuan  
Senior Lecturer, Department of Chinese Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaysia

Icomos Malaysia New Village Working Group talk series #3

Moderator: Ar. Tiong Kian Boon, President, ICOMOS Malaysia

Speakers:  
Chin Song Keat, Curator, Chinese Heritage Museum of Negeri Sembilan  
Kereneeth Wong See Huan, Founder, Perak New Culture  
Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tei, Principal/Researcher, A+SOH ARCHITECT

**NEW VILLAGES**  
Planned Villages?

16 April 2022, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 (GMT+8)

Live on Zoom & Facebook (Icomos Malaysia)  
Certificate of Attendance will be provided.  
More info at <https://www.facebook.com/icomosmalaysia>

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**SIMPOSIUM**  
**Second Glance:**  
**New Vision for New Village**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**SIMPOSIUM**  
**Second Glance:**  
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**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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**ICOMOS MALAYSIA @ ARCHIDEX 2023**  
26 JULY 2023 | 11:00-12:00  
Hospitality Lounge 5, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

**AI Tee GOH**  
TOWN PLANNING IN NEW VILLAGES IN MALAYA: CHAH'AH NEW VILLAGE, JOHOR

**PAM ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION COURSE FOR ARCHITECTS**  
4 NOVEMBER 2023  
8:50 AM - 5:00 PM  
DEWAN RESIDEN, LEVEL 2, PAM CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Researchers**

- Haruka Saito & Prof Kengo Hayashi, **University of Tokyo** (2&3 Aug 2023)
- Chua Hui Lin, Master student in Architecture Program, **Southeast University, China** (visit Sekinchan NV - 30 June 2023)
- Esme Barrell - Master Degree in History, **University of Nottingham, UK** (research on Malayan during the Emergency) - 2023
- Elena Yeo, **creative producer based in Singapore**, who is working on an audio project that references the New Villages during Malayan Emergency - 2023
- Len Yuan Han, a senior sociology student, **Doshisha University in Japan** - creation and reconstruction of the "New Chinese Village": between postcolonialism, national integration and ethnic politics - 2022
- Gedeon Lim, HKU Business School, **the University of Hong Kong** (Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Symposium at Penang Aug 2022)

**Publications**

- Annual Report (15 May 2022)**, <http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2703/>
- Annual Report (15 June 2023)**, <http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2907/>
- Taylor's University (Book Chapter) May 2023**

**Collaborations with Universities**

- New Era University Collage** - prepared Posters (Symposiums at Jenjarom NV & Chaah NV)
- University of Nottingham, UK** (workshop, sandpit at Jenjarom NV)
- University of Liverpool, UK** (information on neighbourhood concept in South Africa)

**International Symposium ICOMOS GA2023 (Sydney)**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

### Berapit New Village, Penang (12.08.2022)



**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*



### Sg Jarom New Village, Selangor (12.11.2022)



**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*



### Cha'ah New Village, Johor (25.02.2023)



**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*





**Pandamaran New Village, Selangor (25.06.2022)**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*



**Papan New Village, Perak (16.09.2022)**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*



**Sekinchan New Village, Selangor (30.06.2023)**  
**Site A, Site B & Site C**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*







**Berapit New Village, Bukit Mertajam, Penang (24.06.2023)**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO



**Sg Way New Village, Petaling Jaya, Selangor (03.08.2023)**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO



**Workshop #1, Perak (9-10.12.2023)**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO





**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO



### The Malayan 'Emergency' (1948 to 1960)

- The Briggs' Plan:** 10 general strategies and notes from Town Planning Department, FMS
- The Omnipresence of Government Agents :**
  - District Officer (DO), Assistance District Officer (ADO)
  - Resettlement Officer (RS), Assistant Resettlement Officer (ARS)
  - Chinese Affair Officer (CAO), Assistant Chinese Affairs Officers (ACAO)
  - New Village Headmen
- The development of **Community based institutions:**
  - Village Committee later known as Local Councils (administrative organization)
  - Home Guard unit (self-defence organization)
  - the MCA (political party)
  - co-operatives
  - missionary bodies
  - voluntary organizations such as the British Red Cross Society and the St John Ambulance Brigade
  - Other social organizations include Boy Scouts and Girl Guides
- Education System: SRJK(C) Cha'ah - Malaysianization

### Attributes:

- New Village + Planning**
- New Village + Security**
- New Village + Management**
- New Village + Missionaries**
- New Village + Education**
- New Village + Social**
- New Village + Economy**
- New Village + Religion**
- New Village + Food**
- New Village + Culture**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO



**Process:**  
after the survey of existing population done, initial layout proposed by administrative office (Batu Pahat) and to be reviewed by Special Branch, District War Committee Segamat.

**7 January 1951:**  
the initial layout for improvement before finalize are as below  
"to include all 500 add families...involvement without disturbing the Malay or any of the existing Govt Reserve"  
Initial road network expanded, plots for Police Station and JKR Quarter visible

**Cha'ah (1941)**

**Cha'ah Resettlement Area (1951)**

The layout prepared by Chief Surveyor Johor on 8 March 1951 (S.O. 132.51)  
house lot: 40'x80' - 80 lots  
house lot: 60'x120' - 436 lots  
Shop lot: 20'x80' - 96 lots  
Shop lot: 20'x70' - 18 lots

**12 April 1951:**  
Resettlement Officer Johor J.S.H Cunyngham Brown

Town Planning (Better condition)  
Security (adequate protection)  
Carry on trade and agriculture in peace and safety

**Cha'ah NV (2021)**

**Cha'ah NV (1960)**

**Cha'ah NV, Segamat, Johor**  
1951 - 76.013 hectares  
NVs over 5,000 person  
Total # households (1953):  
716 Houses +198 (shophouse)

**NV + Planning**

**Books**  
**Malaysian Chinese Contributions**  
 By Mei Kam

The Malayan Army Chinese Veterans' Association (MACVA) was formed some three years ago following widespread concern that the Chinese community did little to contribute to the defence of the nation. The responsibility of these veterans trained, mobilised by one war only, is to place the community in proper light, associations members, during an anniversary, joined a book detailing the various activities and contributions made by Malayan Chinese.

The 600-page book about "Memoirs" tells the many varied stories of officers and men from the Chinese community who showed army valour and have come to fight a common enemy during the First Malayan Emergency (1948-1960), the Indonesian Confrontation (1962-1966) and the Second Malayan Emergency (1968-1990).

In the intervening years, they too served the nation in United Nations peacekeeping in the Republic of Congo (1963) and again in Somalia (1992-1995). A few were in the Republic of Congo (1993) and again in Somalia (1992-1995). A few were in the Republic of Congo (1993) and again in Somalia (1992-1995). A few were in the Republic of Congo (1993) and again in Somalia (1992-1995).

The book will be an eye opener for the young. However, a pre-launch session is now available for early birds. It is priced at RM70 a piece.

Readers keen in getting an advance copy of "Memoirs" should contact at 811 4212 \*908 or Captain Ho Fook (Email at h123022001). Ipoh Ede will review the book once and receive a copy from the association.

**theSun**  
 In the service of the nation  
 A long list of names who served in the Malayan Army.

**NV + Security**

**New resettlement area opened in Johore**  
 Newspaper: The Straits Times  
 Date: 27 August 1961  
 Real Number: NL02509

A PHOTOGRAPH taken at the opening of the new resettlement, Johore, showed (left to right) — Insam Chah, Insam Abdul Rahman, Mr. I. E. Abbey, Insam Yehou, Mr. Ali Insam, Haron, Mr. S. F. Hamilton, Mr. D. H. I. Macky Collier, Mr. Marrables, O.S.P.C. Segamat, Mr. B. I. Gopal, Administrative Officer, Batu Pahat, Mr. Long Yew Chew, Mr. De Silva, Insam Othman bin Mohamed, Dr. E. A. Headrick, Towkay Tan Soong Lian, Mr. Cheng Chue Yeng and Mr. Tan Heek Feng.

**2 resettlement officers in Segamat**  
 1. G. Scott (16.4.51 to 20.1.53)  
 2. Davod T. Luscomber (20.2.52 to 27.6.56)

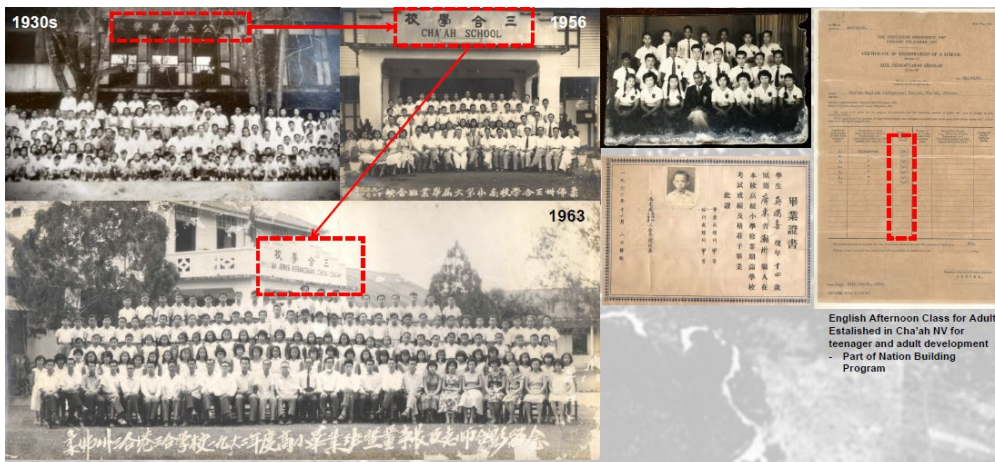
**2 Assistant Resettlement officers working in Cha'ah NV**  
 1. George Lim (2.9.52 to 16.1.59)  
 2. Robert Goh

**NV + Management**

**1954年初，三合港基督教會禮拜堂建成**  
 教堂建成后，主日崇拜人数达40人左右

**初期的主日学**  
 教堂石现

**NV + Missionaries**



Early version of the Certificate for graduate from Cha'ah School with record of origin (TeoChew, Guangdong) in 1950s

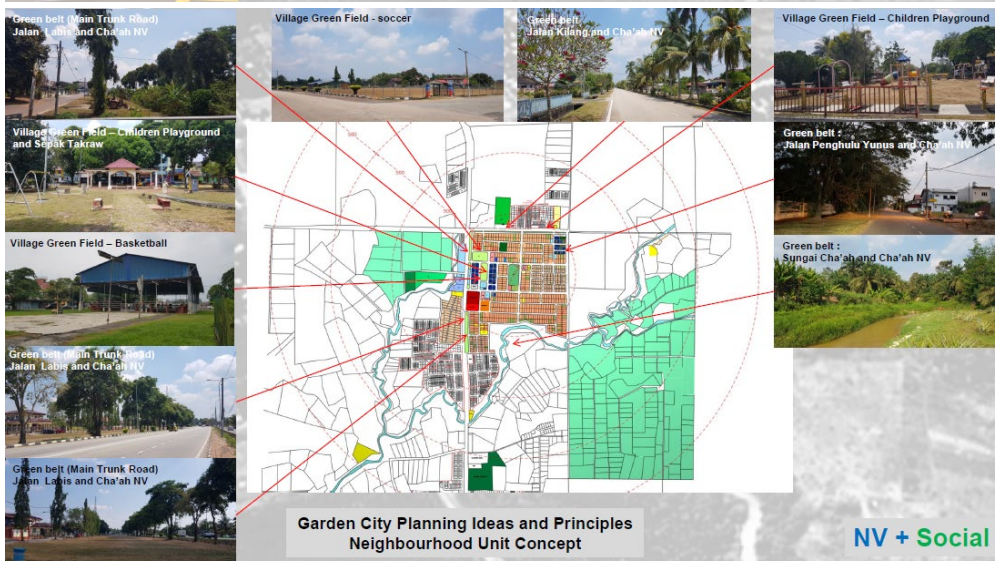
System evolved into SRJK (C/T) in 1960s and now SJK (C/T) with more Malaysian ideology as Nation Building but still maintaining the important of language and culture

NV + Education



Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles Neighbourhood Unit Concept

NV + Education



Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles Neighbourhood Unit Concept

NV + Social

Cha'ah Pos Office

Cha'ah Community Hall

Cha'ah Village Representative Centre

Cha'ah Old Folk Home

Cha'ah Bus and Taxi Station

Cha'ah Police Station

Cha'ah Rets Fire Department

Cha'ah Health Clinic

Cha'ah Hawker Centre

Cha'ah Columbarium Centre

Cha'ah Wet Market

**NV + Social**

Cha'ah Farmer's Recreational Centre

Hokkian Association

Buddhist Association (Phor Tor Festival)

Tai Chi Chuan Association Cha'ah branch

Hakka Association

Hainan Association

Kwangxi Association

Hakka Association Community Hall

MIC Cha'ah branch

MCA Cha'ah branch

**Clan Associations and Community Centres**

**NV + Social**

Cha'ah Low Cost Housing in 1970

Cha'ah Low Cost Housing in 2000

300 acres farm land Cha'ah NV

Cha'ah NV

Workers' Housing Quarter  
4 rows double storey  
2 shops  
Tami School

Workshop & store

Palm Oil Mill

Mechanical Engineering and Transportation

Rubber Processing Factory & Packing Socfin Matured Rubber

Source: Mahendran Kutty (Sofin Group Berhad Ex-resident at JLE)

1960  
Socfin's Largest Palm Oil Mill IN SEA  
Socfin Matured Rubber = Rubber Processing Factory

**Community based institution: Co-operatives**

**NV + Economy**



2.1.2 2-Day Workshop on 29-30 April 2024 organized by Ministry of Housing and Local Government, New Village Division: Brainstorming with Experts on Draft Master Plan for New Villages from 2026 to 2035.



Figure 2.1.2: 2-Day Workshop on 29-30 April 2024 organised by Ministry of Housing and Local Government, New Village Division

The planning, social cultural, and economic perspectives were reviewed, and suggestion from experts were collected by the current government to scrutinized and planning forwards. More efforts are required to educate the public for the important of conservation for cultural heritage, and capacity building on management and maintenance of cultural heritage within new villages. Voices from residents in new villages particularly on the initiative for listing new villages are one of the main concerns of government. The balance between development plan by maintaining the cultural heritage value within the new villages are crucial in ensuring the success of listing of new village.

The Malayan New Villages may be good exemplars of disaster and conflict resilient heritage. The built form reflecting the socio-cultural of the communities at the time, with socio-events reflecting the communities' beliefs. However, the built structure likely be adopting concept of continually upgrade that follow the socio-economic development. Therefore, argument within this study on what to preserve, tangible or intangible heritage especially with cases of total rebuilding of villages and restructured of the communities. The discourse and analysis on these models may provide insight on resilience strategies in safeguarding cultural heritage and suggest guidelines beyond the Venice Charter



## 2.2 SYMPOSIUM #4: Sekinchan New Village (Site A, Site B, Site C)

“Second Glance: New Vision for New Village – Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO” was held on 27 April 2024 at Sekinchan. One day event jointly organised between ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG, and Persatuan Kebajikan Tiong Hua Sekinchan. Below photos taken at Hakka Association, Sekinchan, Selangor, Malaysia.

27 April 2024, Saturday	
Venue: Hakka Association, Sekinchan, Selangor, Malaysia	
8:00	Registration
9:00	Site Visit to Sekinchan Site A, Site B and Site C
11:20	Workshop Opening Speech by Ar. Tiong Kian Boon, President ICOMOS Malaysia Presentation of Proposal for Nomination for Sekinchan Site A, Site B, Site C by Eric lee Lih Perng
12:40	Lunch
13:30	Visit to Hakka Museum in Sekinchan
14:00	Workshop Presentation by Village Head of Site C Presentation by Village Head of Site B Presentation by Village Head of Site A Presentation by Hakka Association Sekinchan Presentation by Hokkien Daerah Kuala Selangor Sabak Bernam Presentation by Teo Chew Association, Sekinchan Presentation by Ko Chow Association, Sekinchan Presentation by Kwangsi Association, Sekinchan Presentation by Hai Nam Association, Daerah Sabak Bernam
16:00	Tea Break
16.30	Summary remarks and next NV for Symposium (Tiang Dua NV, Melaka) by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee, Chair of ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG
16.45	Closing remarks by Rosli Hj Nor, Former Director of Conservation and Archeology, National Heritage Department
17:00	End

Jointly Organised by:



# SYMPOSIUM

## *Second Glance: New Vision for New Village*

### *Nomination of New Villages in Malaysia as UNESCO World Heritage Site*

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
27 APRIL 2024 (Saturday)



Map 3 : Map of Sekinchan paddy area

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**Tentative** \_\_\_\_\_

**8.00am – Registration**  
and Breakfast

**9.00am – Site Visit**  
To Sekinchan Site A, Site B, Site C

**11.20am – Workshop**  
Opening Speech by Ar. Tiong Kian Boon, President ICOMOS Malaysia  
Presentation of Nomination for Sekinchan Site A, Site B, Site C by Eric Lee Lih Perng

**12.40pm – Lunch**

**1.30pm – Workshop**  
Visit to Hakka Museum in Sekinchan  
Presentation by Head of Village Site C  
Presentation by Head of Village Site B  
Presentation by Head of Village Site A  
Presentation by Rep. Hakka Association, Sekinchan  
Presentation by Rep. Hokkien Association, Kuala Selangor & Sabak Bernam District  
Presentation by Rep. Teo Chew Association, Sekinchan  
Presentation by Rep. Ko Chow Association, Sekinchan  
Presentation by Rep. Kwangsi Association, Sekinchan  
Presentation by Hai Nam Association, Sabak Bernam District

**4.00pm – Tea Break**

**4:30pm – Closing Speech**  
by Rosli Hj Nor, Former President of Archeology, Department of National Heritage.

**5.00pm – End**

**Location** \_\_\_\_\_  
Hakka Association, Sekinchan, Selangor, Malaysia

**Jointly Organised by** \_\_\_\_\_  
ICOMOS Malaysia  
ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG  
Persatuan Kebajikan Tiong Hua Sekinchan

**Support by** \_\_\_\_\_  
Persatuan Kebajikan Tiong Hua Sekinchan  
Hakka Association Sekinchan Selangor  
Hokkien Association Kuala Selangor & Sabak Bernam District  
Teo Chew Association, Sekinchan  
Ko Chow Association, Sekinchan  
Kwangsi Association, Sekinchan  
Hai Nam Association Sabak Bernam District  
MPKK Village Site A  
MPKK Village Site B  
MPKK Village Site C

Figure 2.2.1 Flyer - Symposium #4



Figure 2.2.2

Symposium #4 – Sekinchan NV (Site A, Site B, Site C) at Hakka Association Sekinchan



Figure 2.2.3 Sekinchan NV (Site C)



Figure 2.2.4 Sekinchan NV (Site B)



Figure 2.2.5 Sekinchan NV (Site A)

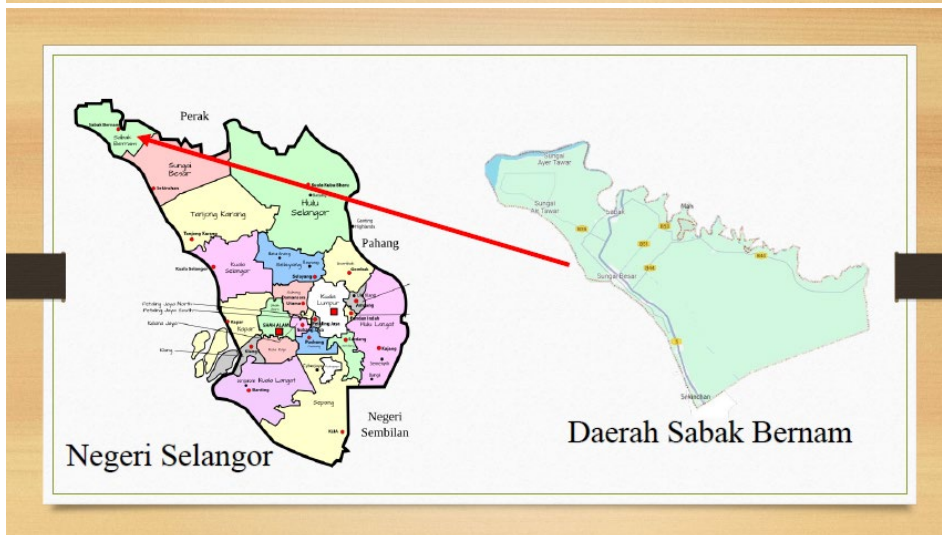
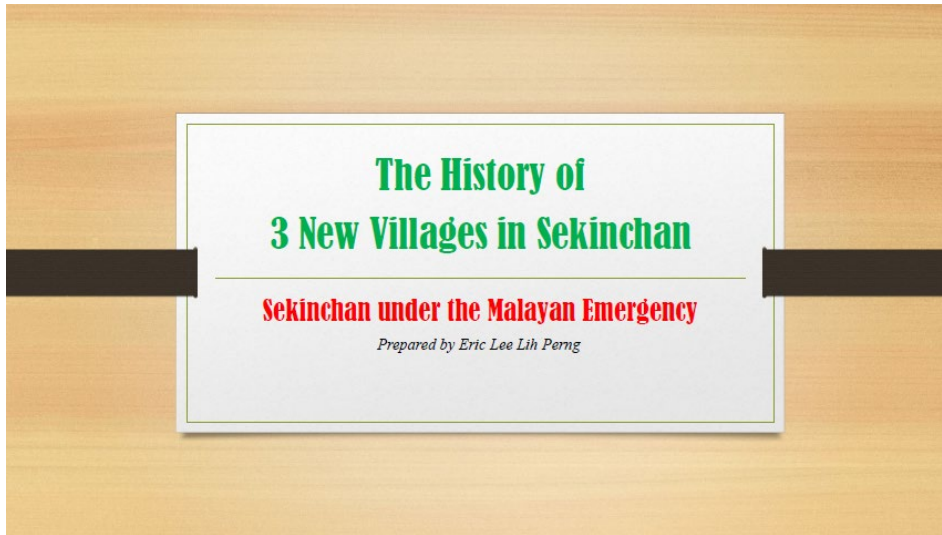


Figure 2.2.6: Visit: Army camp close to Sekinchan Site A



Figure 2.2.7 Visit to Hakka Museum, Sekinchan Selangor

Below slides presentation prepared by Eric Lee Lih Perng on Sekinchan NV (Site A, Site B, Site C) and presented during the Symposium #4 for sharing.



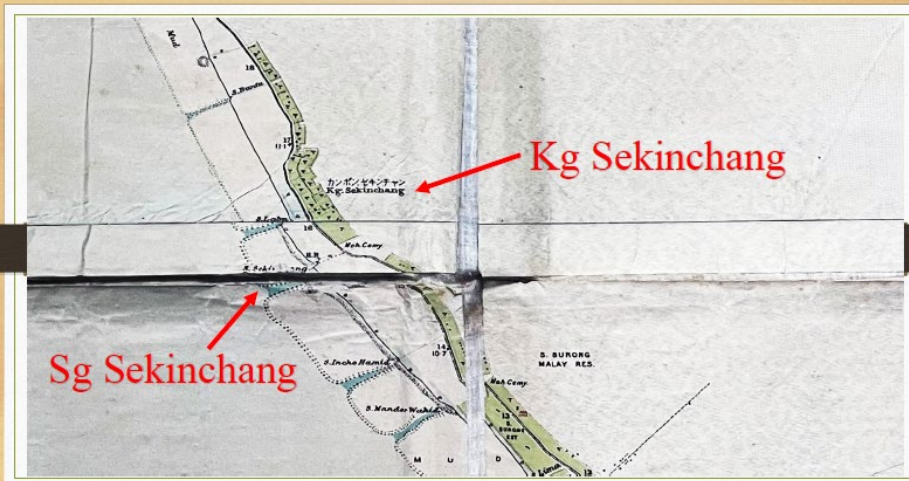
## SEKINCHAN

Sekinchan consists of Bagan fishing village and 3 New Villages: Site A, Site B and Site C. The villagers are entirely ethnic Chinese, and different ethnic groups live in different villages.

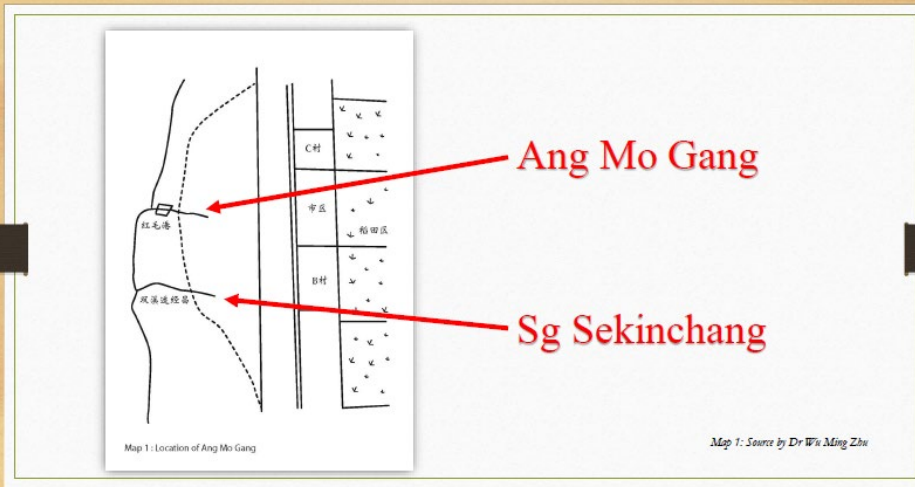
Site A comprises the Kwangsi and Hokkien people, Site B comprises the Hakka and Cantonese people, while Site C comprises mainly Hokkien people. Meanwhile, the fishermen Village are predominantly Teochew people.

The historical context of these New Villages deserves attention. Sekinchan was founded on the back of the fishing village, previously known as Ang Mo Gang. The Teochew and Hainan people established themselves here during the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and set up the early industries of fishing and fishmongering.

After 1930s, to accommodate British colonial plans to build a 5,100-acre paddy field. 4 Local leaders of the various ethnic groups reached out via their networks in Malaya, attracting many Chinese labourers who lost their jobs in the mining and coal industries to come to Sekinchan, work in the paddy fields, and plant rice.







### 4 Local Leader (Head Man On The Town)



Tan Seng Rui



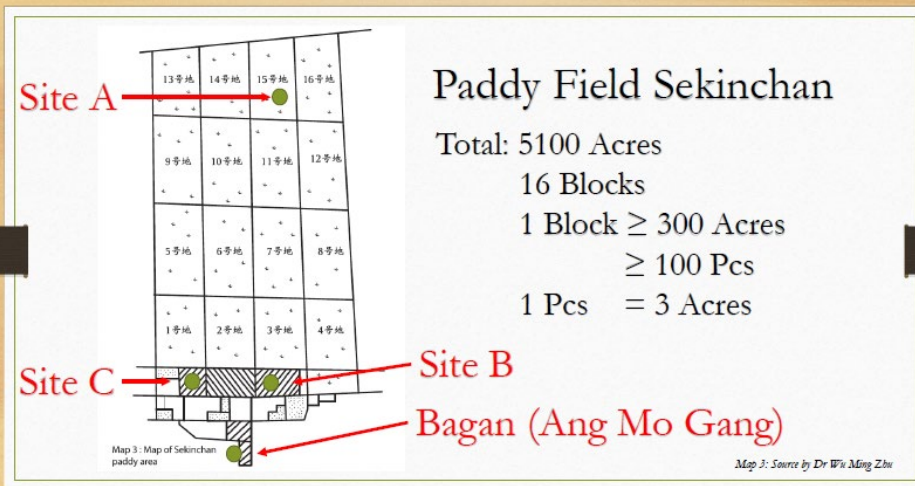
Lim Rong Tam



Chia Xi Wen

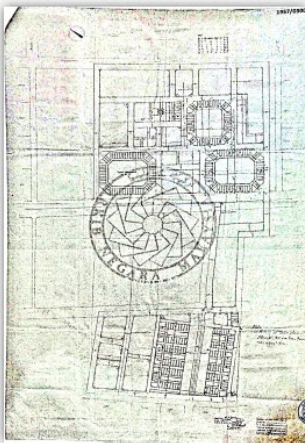


Chia Yong Xian



Unfortunately, right after the chaos of Japanese occupation of Malaya, the Malayan Emergency was declared. They were forced to leave the paddy fields and relocate into 3 different concentration camps, which were heavily monitored and guarded.

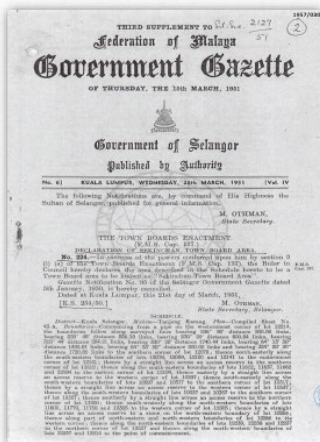
Following the peaceful surrender of the Malayan Communist Party, all three camps were liberated. With the barbed wires removed, villagers regained their freedom and their lives. The camps turned into “New Villages”, which is present-day Site A, B and C. All three received commendable planning and management, and they began to develop. As basic amenities improved, quality of life in the villages increased as well, and the villagers felt content to settle down.



## TOWN PLANNING IN SEKINCHAN

On the 20<sup>th</sup> October of 1949, the Malayan federal government started drafting a town-planning proposal of Sekinchan, with plans to develop the area into a town with comprehensive infrastructure. J.A. Buck, a federal town-planner, collaborated with the Kuala Selangor district office on this proposal.

According to the proposal, the main roads, shoplots, market, bus station, cinema, post office, clinic, community hall, school, Chinese temple, social club, light industries and recreational spots, would all be located in east Sekinchan. There would also be reserved land for government departments, public services, and government quarters.



## GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

On 15<sup>th</sup> March 1951, the Malayan federal government officially gazetted the Declaration of Sekinchan Town Board Area.

(Arkib Negara Malaysia, *New Town at Sekinchan: Town Planning*, Selangor Secretariat 2127/1951, 1951/0300887.)

## THE MALAYAN EMERGENCY

- On the 16<sup>th</sup> June 1948, the British colonialists announced that Perak and Johor be under a state of emergency. Two days later, the whole of Malaya was declared to be under an emergency.
- This measure by the British colonial government was aimed at disconnecting civilians from the communists and severing the latter's supply of food and intelligence.

## CONCENTRATION CAMPS

- Between 1950 to 1960, the Briggs Plan forced a million people to leave their plantations, farms and homes, where they have toiled and laboured, and move into the so-called New Villages and "reorganised area" (for mining and plantation workers), which are essentially concentration camps.
- These New Villages and reorganised areas are heavily surrounded by barbed wire, with strict food rationing. The multiple sentry posts, manned by policemen, carried out checks.

**Patrol Sentry Post**



**Sentry Posts**



## COMMUNISTS IN SEKINCHAN

- Beginning in 1948, the 33th Regiment of the Malayan Communist Party garrisoned in Sekinchan, led by Yang Kang. The conflict between the colonial military and the communists was intense, owing to the fact that the latter had seized more than a dozen British rifles from Paddie Field Block 1.
- According to a China Press report on 24<sup>th</sup> September 1957, the Secretary to the Sekinchan branch of the Communist Party, Ah Huat Chai, a famous militant, was shot dead by the police. He led a group of Malayan communists, 13 of them, and hid in the forest area of Sekinchan.

## THE COMMUNIST CADRE OF SEKINCHAN

- Yang Kang was the team leader of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Regiment under the Malayan Communist Party's chapter in Sekinchan. He led his men into Sekinchan in 1948.
- Ah Huat Chai, Kwangsi, was originally a Sekinchan farmer. He joined underground work during his time in Rasa in 1948, and was entrusted by the MCP to mobilise its members in Sekinchan.  
*24/09/1957 China Press*
- Yap Kim Dai, born in 1935 at Sikamat, Seremban, joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division of the MCP when he was 12 years old. He became the squad leader of the MCP's junior squad. In 1953, he settled down in Sekinchan with his family. Yap secretly helped the MCP cause in his capacity as squad leader.

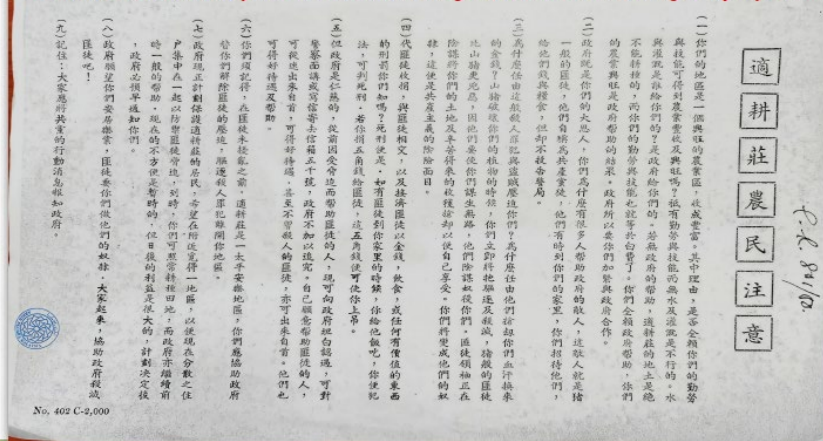
## MEMOIR OF YAP KIM DAI

- According to former MCP member Yap Kim Dai, the British military, in an act of revenge, once deployed air-strikes against Block 5, an area suspected of harbouring communists. The bombing resulted in the death of a baby.
- Yap's duties were to supply food to the MCP in Sekinchan and provide logistical support. For his own safety, he bribed some of the local police force, enabling him to carry out his work safely and effectively.

## BRITISH versus MCP

- The British forces regularly bombarded the paddy fields from the old town square in the fishing village, with hopes to eliminate the hiding communists.
- The communists hid in the jungle alongside the Tengi River, located behind the plantation New Village. They often requested for donations, rice, and other daily necessities, from the villagers. They only operated at night to avoid detection by the authorities. This resulted in hardship for the villagers, who had limited revenue in the early days.
- Villagers who refused their requests, or who were suspected of having secret relations with the British military, were murdered by the communists. Some villagers, with the help of the British, began to conduct anti-communist activities. The British authorities regularly distributed leaflets in Mandarin and English to remind the farmers who were living in the paddy fields to not give aid to the communists.

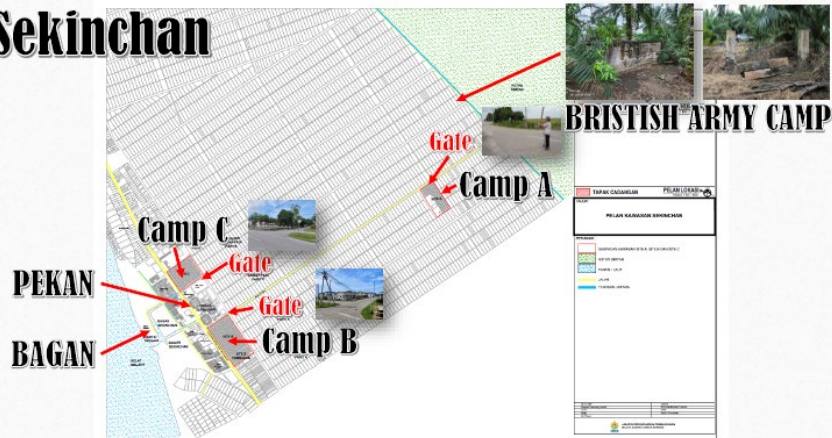
A anti-communist leaflet sent by the British authorities on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1950 to Chinese farmers living in the paddy fields.



## THREE CONCENTRATION CAMPS IN SEKINCHAN

- In 1953, the British colonialists built concentration camps in three locations in Sekinchan, which are the present-day locations of Site A, Site B and Site C.
- The British relocated the Chinese farmers from the paddy fields to these camps for their protection and to cut off supplies from the communists.

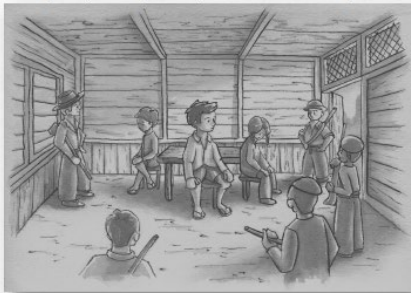
## Sekinchan



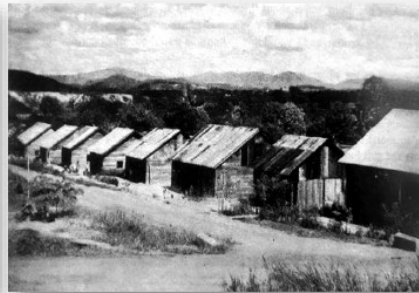
## BEGINNING OF LIFE IN THE NEW VILLAGE

- Forced to relocate on short notice, the Chinese immigrants living in different paddy fields tore wood from their homes and, slowly cycled them with other furniture to their allotted concentration camps. Each family received 100 dollars in allowance, along with a 60-foot long, 100-foot wide land to rebuild their home.
- Through working together with their relatives and neighbours, the villagers built simple wooden houses, using the wood from their former homes in the paddy fields. Poorer villagers could only use atap leaves and tree barks as material for the body and roof of their homes, while the richer villagers used aluminium for the rooms inside their home.

Suspected to be communists, military police and the Home Guard surrounded some Chinese villagers, pending an inspection for hidden guns?



Moving to the New Villages



- These houses were situated alongside a 10-foot wide dirt road, with a 3-foot wide river in between. The villagers had to build a small wooden bridge in order to cross the river.
- 1 toilet was to serve the needs of 6 households. The toilets were basic and unhygienic, and the stench was unbearable. Some villagers built toilets within their own homes.
- The villagers dug wells and used the water for shower and laundry. However, the water was unfit for drinking. They had to gather rainwater for drinking and cooking purposes.



Outdoor wells are only used for shower and laundry



Indoor wells are used to store rainwater for drinking and cooking



When they first settled in the camps, the villagers only had the public toilets, with its extremely bad hygiene and unbearable stench.



The richer villagers could afford this wooden door for better safety.

- In addition to planting rice, the villagers spent their free time planting vegetables and fruits on their land, as well as rearing livestock such as pigs, chickens, and ducks, to make a living. Some villagers dug up small ponds to raise freshwater fish, increasing their meal choices and income.
- Villagers are required to hang up a picture of their entire household, so as to inform the military police. Any new members must be reported to the police station, and a new picture be added.

## A RESTRICTED AND ORDERLY LIFE

- These camps are surrounded with barbed wire, the only entry and exit being a 7-foot length, 8-foot wide gate which was guarded around the clock by military police and tall African soldiers. The gate opens from 5 to 7 in the morning to allow villagers to go out and plant rice, opening again at 12 noon to 2pm for them to return to have lunch, rest and return to the fields. They must all return by 7pm, no exceptions allowed, or they are forced to spend the night in the paddy fields.

The Gate



Sentries search entering and exiting villagers





## THE RULES FOR BUYING DAILY NECESSITIES

- The daily lives of those living in the three concentration camps were strictly regulated. Not only were they to only enter and exit at fixed periods of time, they were only allowed to go to town to buy daily necessities on certain days.
- Camp A villagers were required to gather at the gate, 1-2pm every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Under escort from the military police, the villagers would cycle to town for their shopping. They were not allowed to carry excessive money, and had to borrow from others if they were short. After the shopping is done, the villagers were promptly escorted back to their village.
- For camps B and C, shopping days are Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
- During this period of time, villagers could return to their hometowns or visit relatives elsewhere. They were forbidden from carrying too much money, or too many clothes in their luggages, and after a search by the police, they could leave the New Village.

## THE HOME GUARD

- The British organised the villagers into the Home Guard, a self-defense group who received three weeks of military training. The Guards were armed with guns and villagers welcomed the initiative, as they took to patrolling in turns at night. One man from each household must enlist, and each squad had ten members who began patrolling at 7pm until 7am, in shifts.

### SEKINCHAN HOME GUARD







## SENTRY POSTS

- The Home Guard had sentry posts installed at the four corners of Camps to monitor for any communist activities. They took turns to patrolling at night in order to defend their home.
- The patrol team on duty would report to the Sekinchan police station at 7pm, and took a rifle with them to their respective sentry posts. At certain time, squads of three and four would patrol all four corners of the New Villages.



## IN 1956, THE HOME GUARD CEASED TO EXIST

- Apart from their weapon, members of the Home Guard wear green uniform and carry identification with them while they stood guard. The British authorities would often lead them to practise shooting in vacant land. Sometimes, they were led to a small hill near the Sasaran, to be trained to use the machine gun.
- Every day, the authorities would bombard the jungle with artillery hoping to eliminate the communists.
- The Home Guard ceased to exist in 1956.

## 1958: PEACEFUL SURRENDER OF THE MALAYAN COMMUNIST PARTY

- After the MCP announced their unconditional peaceful surrender in 1958, Sekinchan was declared a white zone. The barbed wire was removed, and villagers could freely enter and exit the New Villages.
- In the same year, villagers gathered at the field of present-day SMJK Yoke Kuan for an anti-communist procession. A “Merdeka platform” was set up to celebrate Malaysia’s independence.
- Leading the procession was a five-person bicycle team. Four bicycles carried four male scarecrows, representing male communists, while one had a pregnant scarecrow, representing a female communist. The rest of the villagers followed, marching from the field and passing by the town area, Site B and C, and then back to the field, where the procession concluded.



## RECOLLECTIONS BY VILLAGERS

- "I remember that the MCP had caused many innocent deaths during its insurgency. Sekinchan was still known as Ang Mo Gang, and I was living at Paddie Field Site 14. Someone by the nickname Big Canon (Zhu Da Pao), he was shot to death by the communists."
- "I remember most vividly those who refused to give monthly donations, or were unfriendly towards communist sympathisers, these people were falsely accused as leaking information to the authorities and they were snatched at night. These villagers were forced to kill some communists and dig up the ground to bury the bodies, a lot were buried at Paddie Field Site 16."
- "I had a good friend whose father lived on Paddie Field Site 12, he was beaten to death with a hammer. Another friend's parents who lived on Paddie Field Site 11 were lucky to escape."

## RECOLLECTIONS BY VILLAGERS

- "There was a communist messenger, he wanted to deliver secret documents to his comrades in Tanjung Karang. So he walked in the jungle for two weeks. The journey was perilous, and he was alone in facing the threat of dangerous animals, as well as navigating the difficult terrain. He managed to deliver the documents, but he left the MCP and ran away in hiding."
- "There was a woman who followed her communist husband into the jungle. She got pregnant and found it difficult to care for the baby there. She contacted people in the New Village, and dug a hole under the fence at night, so that the villagers could take her baby."

## RECOLLECTIONS BY VILLAGERS

- "A woman once joined the MCP, but she left and married a businessman. A few years after her marriage, she was arrested and jailed by the colonial authorities. She was already pregnant and delivered in prison. However, she became depressed, and died of leukemia."
- "A rice farmer took his harvested paddy to a factory for sale. The person in charge intentionally made things difficult and had the farmer wait for three days. While waiting for his paddy to be sold, the farmer went to a nearby coffee shop for food. When he returned, he saw that one of his paddy bags is missing. During his journey home, the communists heard his story. That night, a few communists went to the factory and shot the manager. A Malay policeman who was drinking tea in the coffee shop nearby was afraid and got up to run, and unfortunately the communists shot him too."

## THREE NEW VILLAGES IN SEKINCHAN

### SEMI PERMANENT NEW VILLAGE

## SITE A

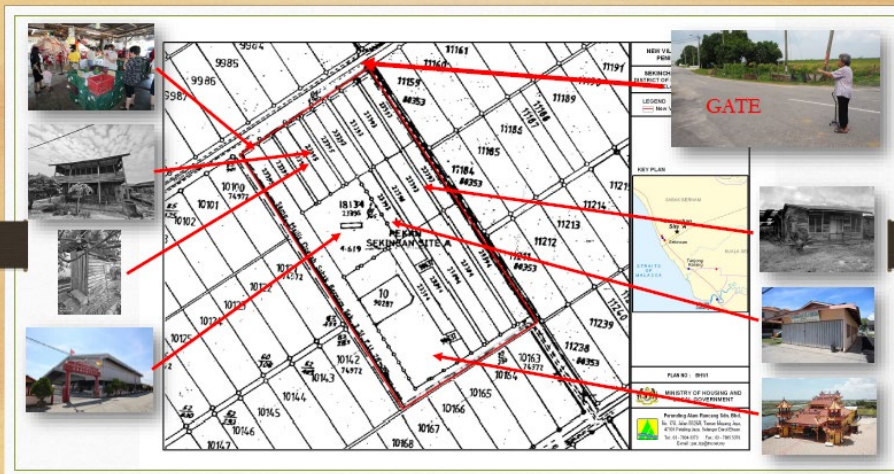
- Site A is Sekinchan's plantation New Village, about five kilometres from the fifth federal road and town area. It is surrounded by a large jungle, paddy fields, and orchards. The area is far from the bustling town area, making it a natural paradise. Despite being the first of its kind, Site A has the smallest population in around 160 households, who lived among four lanes.
- The village has 40% Hokkien, 30% Cantonese, 10% Fuchow, 10% Teochew, and 10% Kwangsi.

## SITE A

- Beginning in 1953, the British implemented a policy to fence-in Sekinchan in order to effectively curb assistance for the communists among the Chinese. As such, Camp A was set up between Paddy Field Block 15. Chinese farmers living here in these paddy fields were relocated to present-day Site A.
- Apart from farmers who were Kwangsi, the British relocated the Hokkien people from Tanjung Karang, Kampung Tiram Setia, Klang and Pandamaran to Site A. The village was closed up with barbed wire, and there were military police patrols around the clock, who monitored the comings and goings of the villagers.

## SITE A

- In 1948, in his efforts to find shelter for a group of Kwangsi people coming from Lenggong, Perak, the late Tun H.S. Lee applied to the Kuala Selangor District Office for them to be placed in Sekinchan. When the 350 households arrived in Sekinchan, they were brought to Site A and put in charge of working the lands between Paddie Field Block 13 to 16. Leong Hai Chin was appointed as village head.
- In 1950, under arrangements by the Kwangsi Association of Selangor and Kuala Lumpur, a group of 480 Kwangsi people moved from Bentong to Sekinchan. They were allotted Paddie Field Block 9 to 12 to clear and plant rice. Leong Sheng was appointed as village head. When he was murdered by the communists, Hokkien man Teoh Lian Fang replaced him.
- Site A is a semi-permanent New Village. It is equipped with a Chinese primary school, a community hall, basketball court, two temples, and a Villagers' Committee hall.



Military camp situated in Site A



Kian Sit Chinese Primary School



Kian Sit New Village Committee



Nantian Temple



Villagers using extra space to sell local produce







Single-storey wooden house for a Kwangsi household



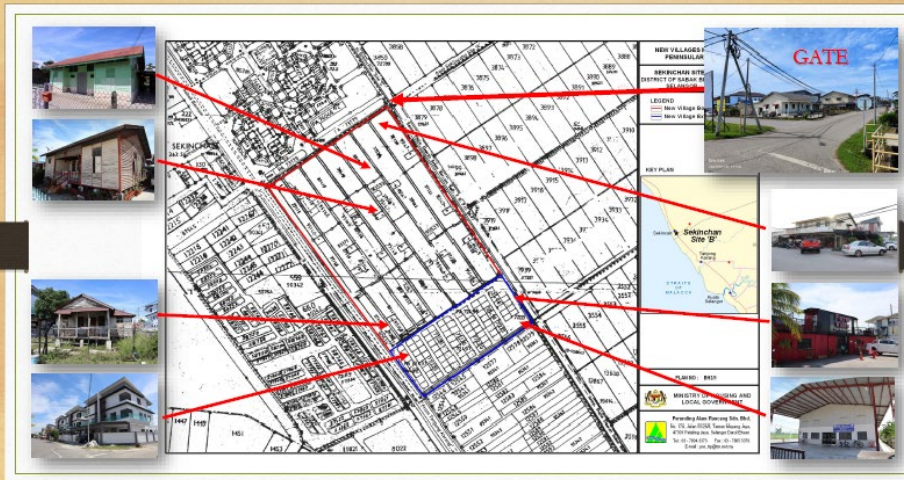
Double-storey wooden house for a Hokkien household

## SITE B

- Site B, also known as Parit Lima, is the biggest of the Sekinchan New Villages. Occupying 8 acres, the village has 457 households living among its six and a half lanes.
- Teochews account for 20%, the Hokkiens for 17%, the Hakka for 15%, the Cantonese 26%, while the Kwangsi make up 22%.
- Teochew man Cheah Rong Xuan was the village head who was in charge of developing Paddie Field Block 4, which is right next to Site B. He summoned the Teochews and Hakkas for this task, who moved here in groups. The Hakkas were mostly from Batu Arang, Selangor.
- The Hakkas had heard that the land was fertile, and that the British were willing to give them out to the Chinese for development. Hakkas came from Batu Arang, Batu Caves and Kepong, Kuala Lumpur, as well as Negeri Sembilan and Perak. When they discovered that the port area was occupied by the Teochews, they went further inland, and gathered in the area of Block 4.

## SITE B

- During its construction in 1953, Site B saw the Hakka people becoming its backbone, along with the Cantonese. They were mostly originated from Pahang and Rawang, Selangor. The Hokkien people were another sizeable group, hailing from Kampung Tiram Setia and Kuala Selangor. Meanwhile, the Kwangsi people were the minority in the village.
- In the 1950s, the coal industry suffered a slowdown, resulting in the British ceasing its operations. This prompted a group of Hakka from Batu Arang to migrate into Site B. In addition, a group of Teochew migrants from Sungai Besar dan Pulau Ketam, both in Selangor, moved to Site B as well, causing the village to increase its population to 457 households, making Site B the largest New Village in Sekinchan.
- When the Japanese surrendered, most of the Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army joined the Malayan Communist Party to continue their armed struggle, this time against the British. The MCP's Batu Arang and Hulu Selangor chapters were becoming increasingly active in Block 4, and the British decided to relocate the Chinese living around Paddie Field Block 4 into Concentration Camp B, which is present-day Site B.



Restaurant



Site B New Village Committee



Elevated wooden houses

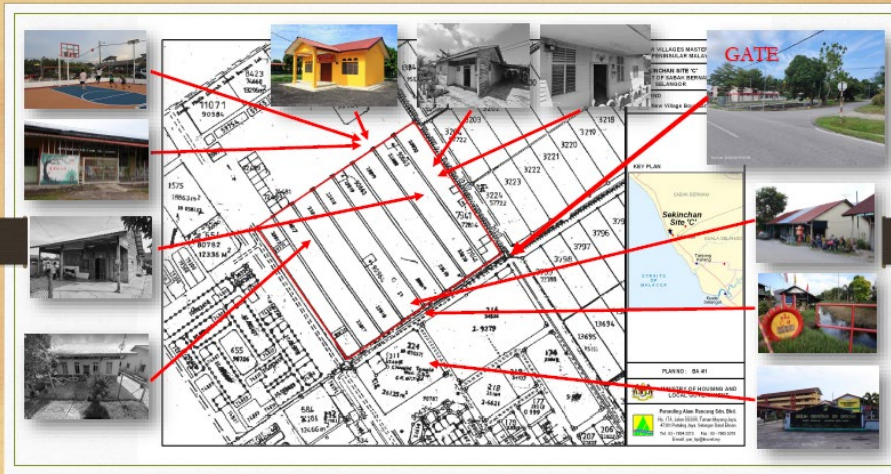


## SITE C

- Site C is a de facto Hokkien village, where the dialect could be heard everywhere within.
- The Hokkiens account for 65% of the village, with the Cantonese at 18%, Kwangsi at 8%, Hakkan at 4%, Hainan at 3%, and the Teochew at 2%.
- Hainanese Tan Shen Joo and Hokkien Lim Rong Tan were each in charge of clearing Paddie Field Block 1 and 2. They brought their clansmen and started planting rice on their new land.

## SITE C

- As such, there were people moving in from Tanjung Karang and Kampung Tiram Setia to clear the forest. At the end of 1941, when the Japanese invaded southwards, these people sought shelter in Sekinchan.
- When the British returned at the end of World War II, Sekinchan became a hotbed for communist activity. The Emergency was declared in 1948. In 1953, the British moved all surrounding Hokkien villagers into a fenced concentration camp (Camp C), creating a “Hokkien village” in Sekinchan at Site C.



Site C Village Committee Meeting Hall



Basketball Court



Kindergarten



In their free time, villagers often gathered here to drink tea and chit-chat



Single-storey wooden house for a Hakkan household



Single-storey wooden house for a Hokkien household



Single-storey wooden house for a Hainan household



## 2.3 Workshop: Writing Up for Listing Proposal

### 2.3.1 A Brief Introduction of Berapit New Village by Bukit Mertajam New Village Cultural Mapping Project Group

Prepared by Alan the Aug 2022 & Nov 2023 (Edition)



### A Brief Introduction of Berapit New Village by Bukit Mertajam New Village Cultural Mapping Project Group

Prepared by Alan Teh Aug 2022 & Nov 2023 (Edition)

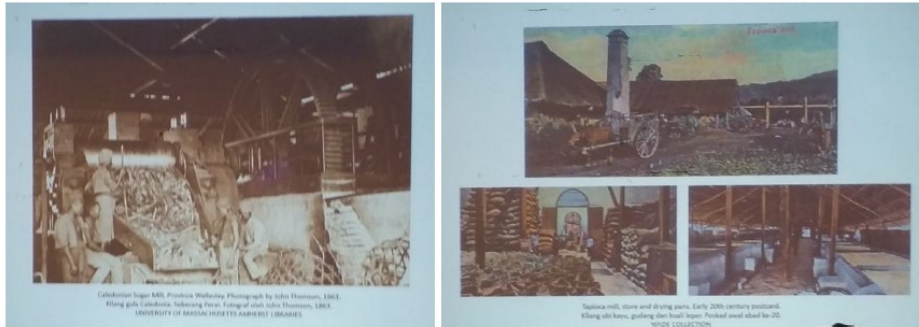
大山脚新村考察计划:武拉必

History of Province Wellesley  
Est. 1798



BMNV 大山脚新村考察计划

History of Province Wellesley  
Est. 1798



Credit: Seberang Perai Stories (Areca Books)

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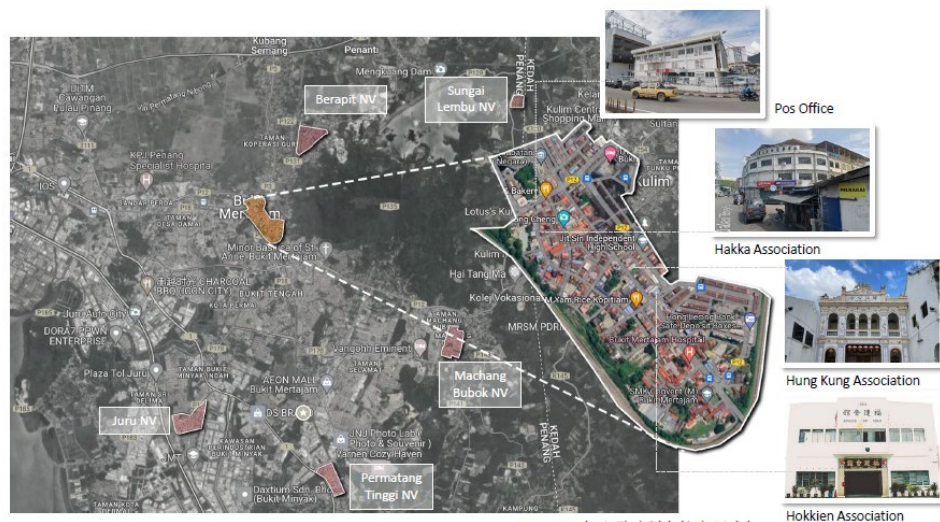
The Development of Bukit Mertajam was closely knitted to the 5 new villages (long before they were NV).

BM has 5 NVs:

1. Berapit
2. Machang Bubok
3. Sungai Lembu
4. Permatang Tinggi
5. Juru

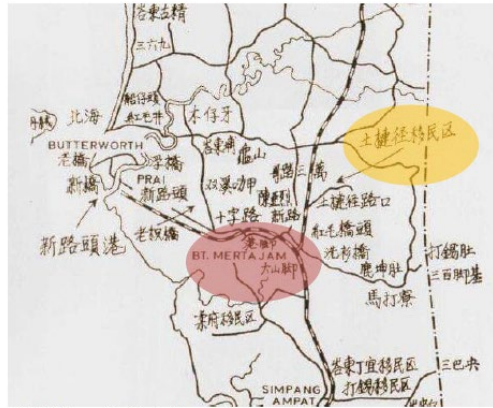


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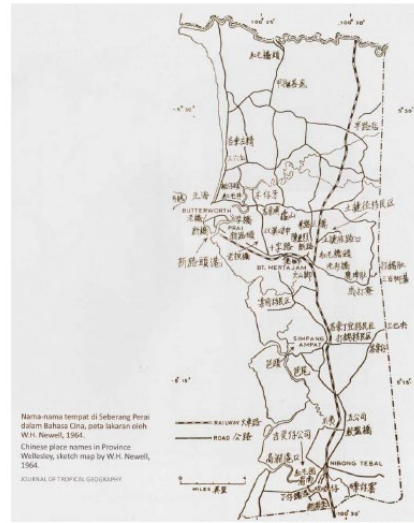


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Local History of Berapit



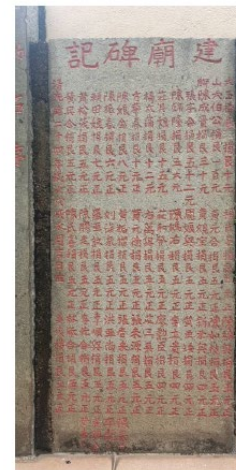
Credit: Seberang Perai Stories (Areca Books)



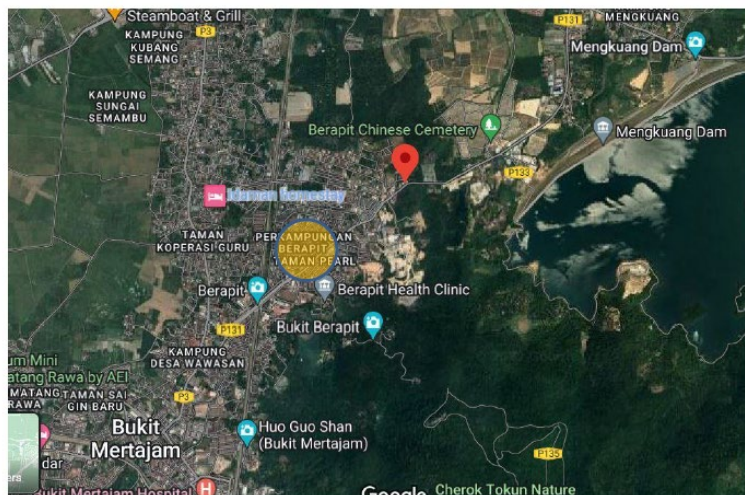
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Local History of Berapit

塗蓮徑 (Durian Lane)  
Foundation stone dated  
Guang Xu 24<sup>th</sup> year reign  
(1898) 124 years old



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Berapit regional context within BM

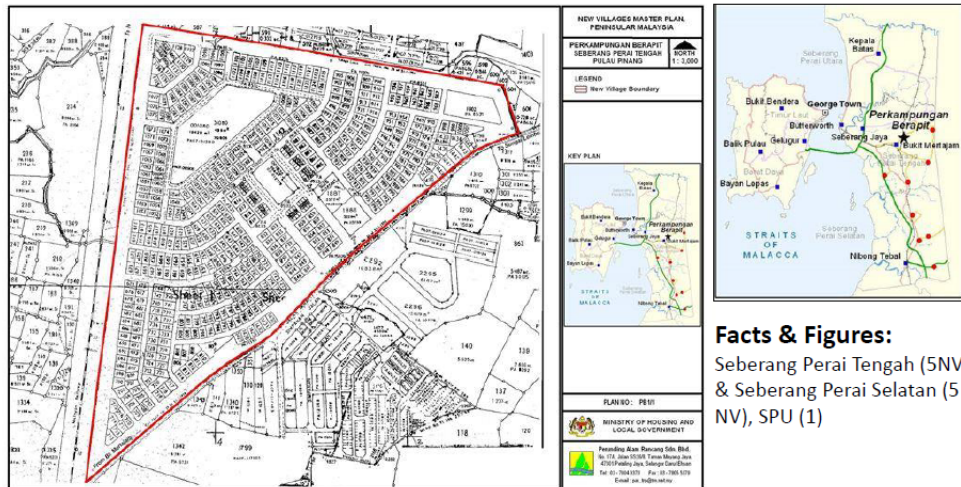
- similar to Balik Pulau
- nutmeg & durian
- padi field nearby
- hilly terrain



Remnant of Mengkuang village

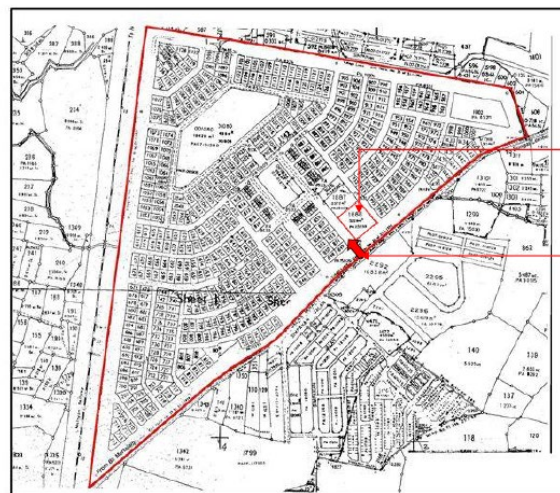
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**Facts & Figures:**  
 Seberang Perai Tengah (5NV)  
 & Seberang Perai Selatan (5 NV), SPU (1)

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Police Station



Entrance

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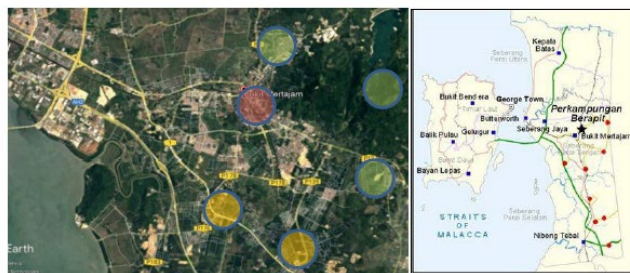
**Facts & Figures:**  
 Land area 370,000 m<sup>2</sup> (91ac)  
 539 housing plots  
 32 shop lots  
 7 religious institutions  
 >10 traditional trades  
 3 public facilities  
 1 primary school

Average lot size of housing plot is 50W x 80L (4000sqft)

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The new villages in Bukit Mertajam forms the largest network of NVs in the state of Penang with its own unique characters. However, nobody has conducted any mapping prior to this.

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The setting up of this BM task force is timely to assist Icomos Malaysia to gather information on NVs in Bukit Mertajam. What the task force is interested in covers place, people and its intrinsic intangible cultural heritage. This can be reflected in the questionnaires used in the cultural mapping survey.



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Sinchew Press 13 Aug 1952:  
Gun fight at Durian Lane  
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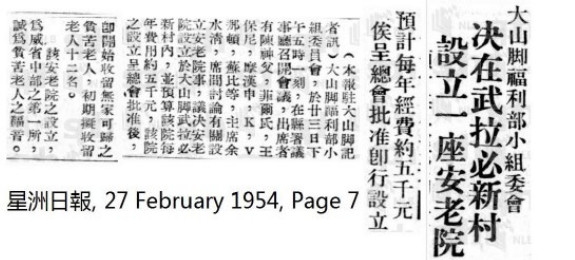


Sinchew Press 4 Apr 1954:  
Home Guard established  
BMNV 大山脚新村考察计划

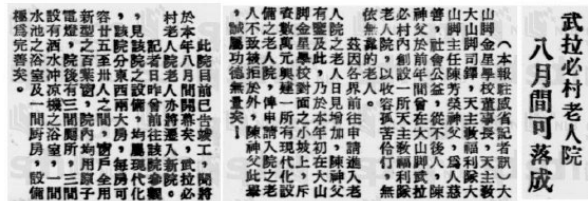


Establishment of the Berapit Primary School as shown in this picture dated 1956. Also present was the first Chief Minister of Penang, Tan Sri Wong Pow Nee

Establishment of Berapit Primary School in 1956  
BMNV 大山脚新村考察计划



星洲日報, 27 February 1954, Page 7



南洋商報, 5 June 1957, Page 11

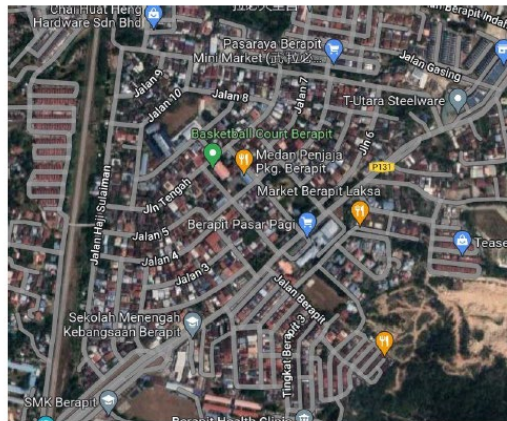
Establishment of Old Folks Home in 1954, 1957

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Cultural mapping status: So far only conducted once with 44 households interviewed (8% sampling)

Cultural Mapping  
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**Early findings (deduction):**

Number of household interviewed: 44  
 Total family members: 163  
 Average household family members: 3.7  
 Age group:  
 1-18 years old: 28 (17%)  
 18-65 years old: 96 (59%)  
 >65years old: 39 (24%)

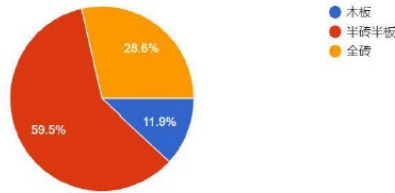
Median age: 55.76

Interesting facts (Chinese dialect groups):  
 Teochew 36.6%  
 Hakka 29.2%  
 Hokkien 22%  
 Cantonese 12%

The survey also suggested that many of the families' traditional trades were related to plantation and agriculture (rubber, durian and fruits).

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属于什么屋型? (材料)  
 42 responses

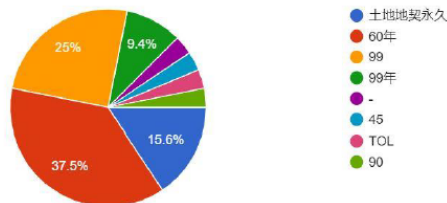


**Early findings (important facts): types of houses**

12% are timber houses (1<sup>st</sup> generation)  
 59.5% are half brick houses (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation)

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地契有效期  
 32 responses



**Early findings (important facts): land title tenure**

60 years (36.5%) 99 years (34%)

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Intangible heritage of Seberang Perai New Villages

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Intangible heritage of New Villages :  
The making of Hungry Ghost Festival effigy



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Intangible heritage of New Villages :  
The making of Hungry Ghost Festival effigy



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Recent field survey 26 Nov 2023:



General Typology Found in Typical New Village

1st Gen	2nd Gen	3rd Gen	4th Gen	5th Gen
- Full Timber	- 3ft height brick wall - Timber structure above brick wall	- Half Brick - Half Timber	- Full Brick	- Luxurious Bungalow

Typology Found in Berapit New Village

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Typical vs Berapit New Village House Typology



First Gen	Typical	Berapit
Building Level	1-2 Storey	1-2 Storey
Material	Vertical Timber Strips (front elevation) Horizontal Timber Strips (Side elevations)	Vertical Timber Strips (front elevation) Horizontal Timber Strips (Side elevations)
Window	Wooden flush window with vertical grille behind	Wooden flush window with vertical grille behind

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**Typical vs Berapit New Village House Typology**



Second Gen	Typical	Berapit
Building Level	1-2 Storey	1-2 Storey
Elevation	3ft tall brick wall from ground level Horizontal Timber Strips (all elevations)	3ft tall brick wall from ground level Wide Vertical Timber Strips (front elevation) Horizontal Timber Strips (Side elevations)
Window	Wooden flush window with vertical grille behind Metal grille with patterns at clerestory level	Wooden flush window with vertical grille behind Metal grille with patterns at clerestory level

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**Typical vs Berapit New Village House Typology**



Third Gen	Typical	Berapit
Building Level	1-2 Storey	1-2 Storey
Elevation	Brickwall from ground to beneath roof level Vertical timber strip façade at gable end	Brickwall at ground level Vertical timber strips at Level 1 (front elevation) Horizontal timber strips at Level 1 (front elevation)
Balcony	-	RC Structured balcony at Level 1
Window	Louvre Window with translucent glass Vent block with nature motive at clerestory level	Louvre Window with translucent glass Vent block with nature motive at clerestory level
Fencing & Gate	Application of metal fencing and sliding gate	Application of brick fencing and metal sliding gate

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**Typical vs Berapit New Village House Typology**



4th Gen	Typical	Berapit
Building Level	1-2 Storey	1-2 Storey
Elevation	Full Brick Wall	Full Brick Wall
Window	Metal frame sliding window with square grid grille behind	Metal frame sliding window with square grid grille behind
Fencing & Gate	Application of brick fencing and metal sliding gate	Application of brick fencing and metal sliding gate

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**Berapit New Village House Typology**



Earliest Gen	Berapit
Building Level	1 Storey
Elevation	Vertical Timber Strips (front elevation) Horizontal Timber Strips (Side elevations)
Window	Timber sliding window with timber rail

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**Berapit New Village House Typology**



Malay House Hybrid Typology	Berapit
Building Level	1 Storey
Elevation	Horizontal Timber Strips
Window	Wooden flush window with vertical grille behind/ Louvre Window with translucent glass
Height from Ground	~ 0.3- 1.0 meter
Verandah	Existence of verandah at the entrance

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**Typology Mapping (3<sup>rd</sup> Gen 2 Storey Half Brick, Half Timber & Malay House Hybrid)**

**Legends**

- 2 storey, Half Brick, Half Timber
- Malay House Hybrid

This recent survey suggests that Berapit NV has high numbers of traditional village houses that are still intact today. It also shows that our pre-conception of new village house typology is not totally correct and further investigation is needed to discover the unique features of each NV.



Selection criteria

- (i)  
to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii)  
to exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design; **NEW VILLAGE TOWN-PLANNING & RESILIENT SELF-SUSTAINING ARCHITECTURE/COMMUNITY**
- (iii)  
to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv)  
to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history; **INSURGENCE OF COMMUNISM / HUMAN RESETTLEMENT**
- (v)  
to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;
- (vi)  
to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria); **RELATED TO BRIGGS PLAN / RESETTLEMENT**
- (vii)  
to contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;
- (viii)  
to be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;
- (ix)  
to be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x)  
to contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.

The current task force led by Ar Alan Teh is supported by YB Heng Lee Lee for Berapit cultural mapping project:

1. Chew Phaik Sen(Berapit)
2. Lai Lizen (Berapit)
3. Tan Szu Zhi (Permatang Tinggi)
4. Nyong Chye Loon (Sg Lembu)
5. Jeff Yong (Machang Bubok)



### Speaker Profile

Ar. ALAN TEH 郑宇能

Born in Bukit Mertajam. Received early education from Kim Sen Primary School and SMJK Jit Sin before pursuing further studies in Architecture overseas.

**Current Positions:**

Principal Architect & Founder of ATELIER ALAN TEH ARCHITECT since 2005

Atelier Art Space (2011-2018).

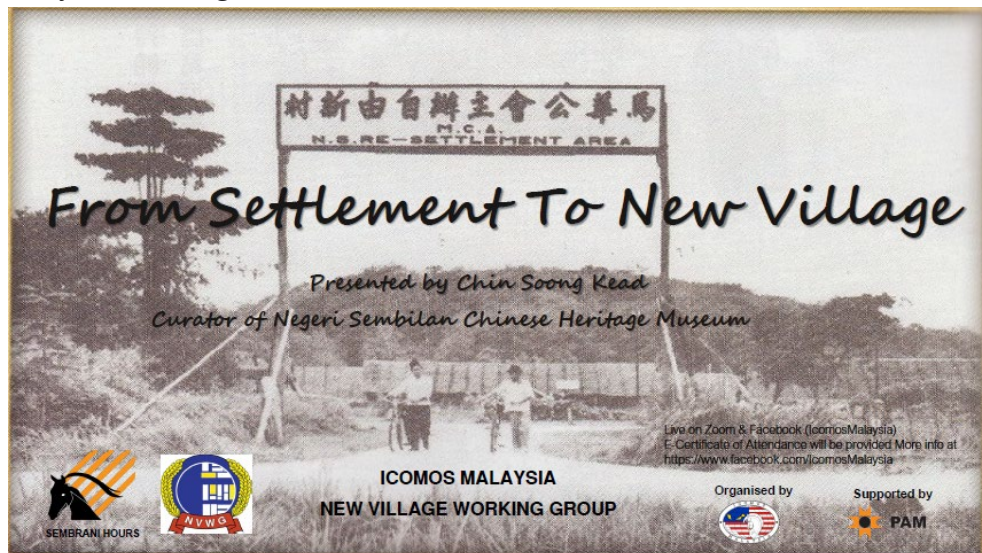
Founding member of Rakan Bukit Mertajam

Part-time lecturer at UCSI University and Universiti Malaya

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## 2.3.2 Rasah New Village: From Settlement to New Village

Prepared by Chin Soong Kead



### 1. Introduction

- Rasah new village of seremban, Initially known as Freedom Resettlement Village, the Chinese New Villages in the early stage of their existence was an attempt to counter Communist insurgence during the period of emergency after the 2nd WW.
- There was evidence that many Chinese settlements which were wedged between the outskirts of the urban centres and the fringes of the dense jungle were being coerced to supply food and other essential items to the guerrillas in the jungle.
- The Freedom Resettlement Village was the first step by the colonial government at that time to break the chain of contact.

### Rasah New Village of Seremban



## 2. Background

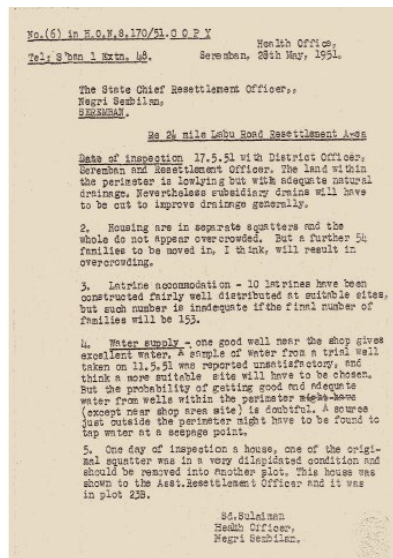
- Under the colonial government, 1500 insurgent suspects were caught in early February 1949 when British military and police surrounded Ulu Temiang and Sikamat and were detained in Kluang to be later deported to China.
- However, on the plea of politicians (MCA) only 146 were deported. But the remaining detainees had to be housed away from their original settlements.
- A joint effort by MCA and local leaders identified a site at the 2 1/2 Mile Mambau Road and called Freedom Resettlement Village.
- Archive photographs of Freedom Resettlement Village shows the original appearance of the earliest arches. On it is written in English, that the village was for the Chinese settlers who were not deported to China were finally settled on the 2 1/2 mile of Seremban Rasah Road.

## Freedom Resettlement Village



## 3. Letter Address to Chief Resettlement Officer

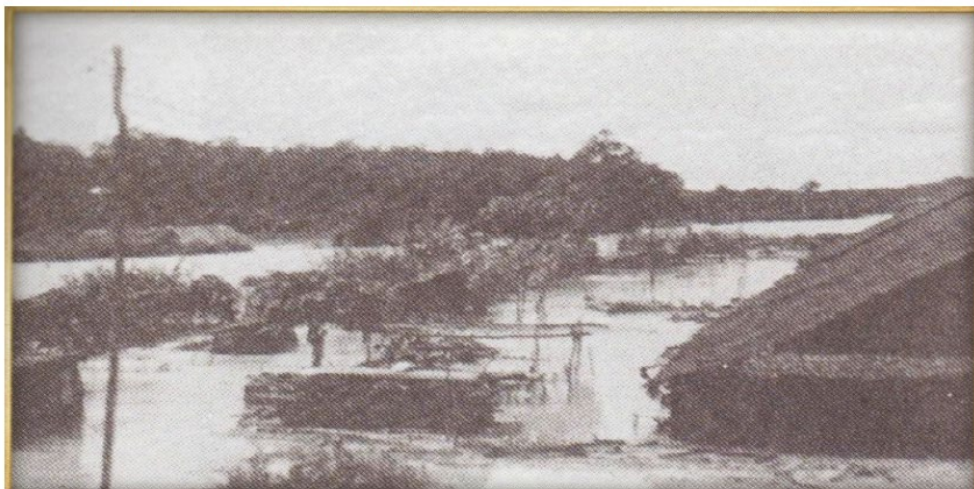
- At the beginning, there were only 11 longhouses in this Freedom Resettlement Village, which had to accommodate 200 households and about 1,000 settlers.
- The Seremban Health Department in a letter dated 28 May 1951 to the Chief Resettlement officer of Negeri Sembilan, mentioned that the well water samples in the village were not ideal, but to obtain sufficient and hygienic water supply in the village was found to be not feasible..



## 4. The Birth of Rasah New Village

- At the end of the same year, as the site was on the banks of the Linggi River, floods submerged the village and brought on the search for an alternative site.
- The search ended up on higher ground on which sits the present Rasah New Village. The layout for different precincts and locations of different activities were properly planned and marked out by the authorities.

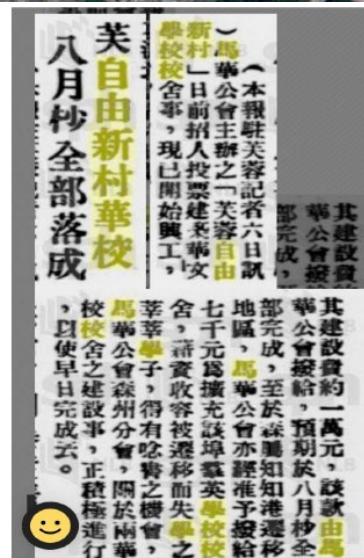
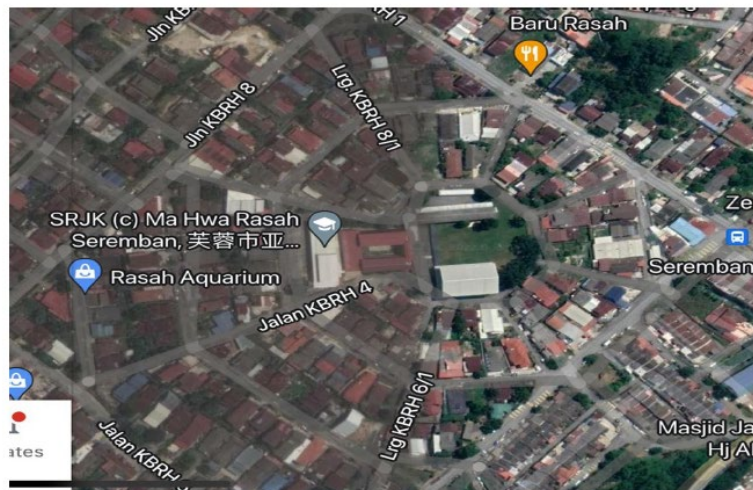
## Village Heavily Hit by Floods



## 5. Relocation of School

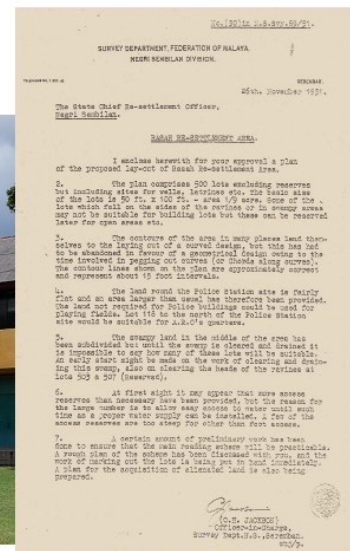
- In the development plans of the New Village, the plans for the location of the Ma Hwa Elementary School was initially planned despite the fact that the school was already 2 years old in its previous premises.
- To the Chinese, education was of utmost importance and this oversight was finally sorted out in the demarcation of a site of its present premises of Ma Hwa Primary School.
- From an aerial view, the site had the shape of having 8 trigrams or pa gua in Chinese.
- For a long time, there were discussions on why the Ma Hwa Primary School in Rasah New Village and the surrounding houses look like a “Ba Gua” diagram. However, there are no archival documents to substantiate the significance of it.

### School surrounded by “Ba Gua” Like Diagram



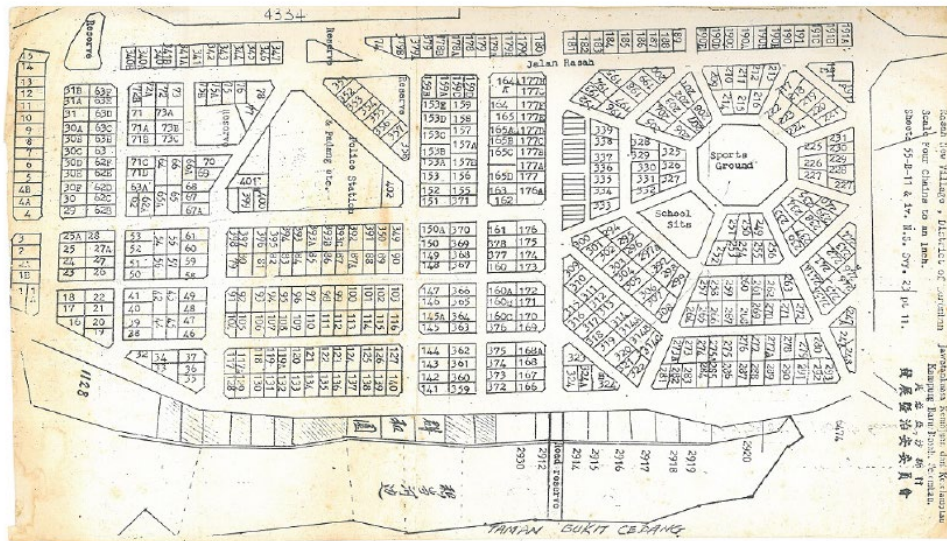
## 6. Planning of the School

- An official document dated 26.11.1951 issued by the Seremban Survey Department to the Chief Officer of Negeri Sembilan Reclamation Area, gives light to the planning of the overall layout of the new village as well as to the new location of the school.
- In it was mentioned that the new village survey map had identified 500 lots for housing and 2 hillocks, one of which was suitable for a school.
- The one on higher ground was earmarked for a police station. The smaller hill seem like chord along curves and a solitary circle became Rasah New Village Ma Hwa Primary School established in 1952.
- In the early days of founding of the school, which had an initial enrolment of more than 100 students also made provisions for accommodation in dormitories for the headmaster and the teachers.



## 7. The Briggs Plan

- The establishment of Freedom New Village and later Rasah New Village was a precursor to the an overall country wide-strategy to cut off support for the insurgents in the jungle and what developed and became the Briggs Plan named after General Sir Harold Briggs of the British forces during a period declared as Emergency.
- The British colonial government realised that the harsh use of force through the repatriation process in an effort to cut off the ties with the Communist Party of Malaya was not solving the problem. More important was to cut off the existing ties between the Communist Party of Malaya and the settlers in the supply of essential items for their survival.
- The Plan was formalised and enforced in June 1950 and thus began the great collection and movement of sporadic Chinese settlements from the jungle fringes to cordoned and guarded areas of organised settlements away from the dense Malayan forests.



## 8. Typical Chinese New Village

- The initial resettlement involved more than 570,000 residents in Chinese New Villages scattered in various parts of the country.
- The Brigg's Plan had several guidelines that needed to be adhered to in the relocation process. Sites had to be located near major transportation hubs and must have basic facilities, including schools, community halls, etc., and even with land provided for farming.
- With such exacting guidelines, not every new village could meet these basic requirements, but today, Rasah New Village has become a town by itself with complete infrastructure with additional amenities.

## Rasah New Village





## 9. Towards Modernization

- Today, in Rasah New Village, there is a school and an affiliated kindergarten, business area, and a large alumni gymnasium, which has produced many good badminton players.
- More importantly, it is a new village with a highly concentrated population, and villagers living and working and contributing to the nation's economic activities in peace and harmony.

### Persatuan Bekas Pelajar MA HWA Seremban



## 10. Conclusion

1. The success of the Freedom New Village and later known as Rasah New Village gave the colonial government a good blueprint to work on and to improve.
2. The growth of the new villages in the latter years contributed to the urbanization of the country. As towns grew they became merged with the new villages on the outskirts as evidenced in the names of areas and streets of the bigger cities today.

3. I wish to highlight in conclusion that Rasah New Village was a historical milestone that saw the transition from a resettlement village to the Briggs Plan, which brought out a more proper and well-planned new village for national implementation.

From the very beginning, the use of force to deport settlement villagers shifted to a softer stance to move villagers to concentration camps, which provide basic amenities.

4. When it comes to the question of whether the distinctive "natural" pattern of the eight trigrams known as "Bagua" that surrounds Rasah New Village School was intentionally created by the planners, there is currently no evidence to support this theory. However, this does not rule out the possibility that the building contractor used a unique circumferential ground pattern and arranged the houses in a "Bagua" pattern around the school compound.



~ Thank You ~

### 2.3.3 Papan New Village: Transforming a ghost town into a heritage gem

Prepared by Jacky Chew



#### The Origin of Papan New Village

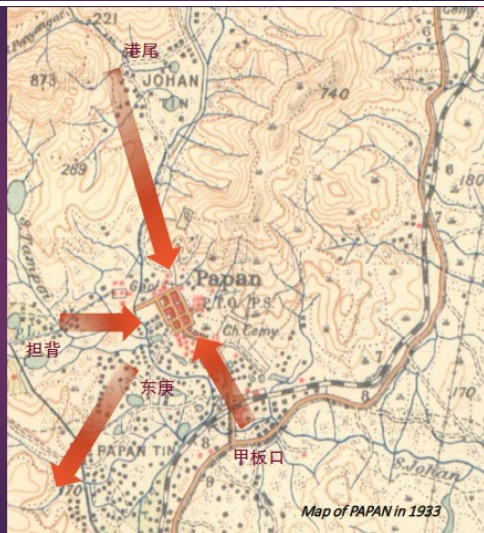
Prior to the implementation of the Briggs Plan, there were four traditional villages located near Papan town. Three of these villages were forcibly relocated to the Papan town area, resulting in the establishment of Papan New Village. This relocation was classified as a Type C New Village, which are suburbs or appendages to existing towns or large villages but have a unique identity of their own.

These traditional villages were:

- (A) 港尾 Kong Mei (Johan Tin area)
- (B) 淡背 Tampoi (near Tampoi River)
- (C) 甲板口 Kap Ban Hao (near railway station)
- (D) 东庚 Tongkang (near Papan Tin)

The village of Tongkang was compelled to relocate to the Sungai Durian Resettlement Camp in Tanjung Tuslang by the British Military Administration. This was due to the village's close ties with the Malayan Peoples' Liberation Army (MPLA), which was controlled by the Malaya Communist Party.

Due to decades of mining, agricultural and development activities in the area, there is no longer any trace of these villages except for memories of the older generation and records salvaged from a deserted school building that provide evidence of their existence. Some pre-resettlement wooden houses before 1950 still stand alongside the new village houses, as well as two rows of Straits Eclectic Style shophouses on the main street dating back to 1887.



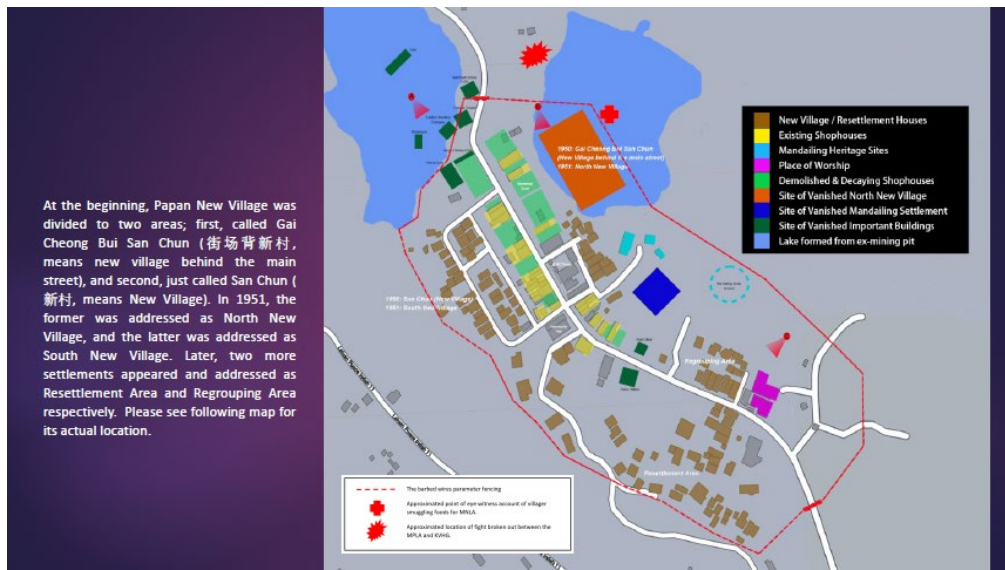
Prior to the resettlement in the 1950s, Papan had a population of approximately 2,000 inhabitants. From 1950 to 1952, the population rose to 3,000 and occupied an area of approximately 40 acres behind barbed wire fencing. In 1950, the only Chinese school in Papan, Wah Kiew, applied for a grant from the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA) to construct three additional classrooms to accommodate the increasing number of students.



Mr. Ng Kon Sing, 91 (second from left, who passed away in Dec 2022) told the interviewer the location of his house in Tongkang village, Papan.

年級 學期學生登記表															
班級	姓名	年齡	籍貫	籍址	父母姓名	職業	地址	住址	住址	住址	住址	住址	住址	住址	住址
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

Students record of Wah Kiew Chinese School in 1950 shown New Village addresses started to emerged.



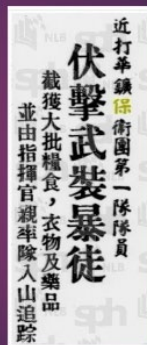
At the beginning, Papan New Village was divided to two areas; first, called Gai Cheong Bui San Chun (街场背新村, means new village behind the main street), and second, just called San Chun (新村, means New Village). In 1951, the former was addressed as North New Village, and the latter was addressed as South New Village. Later, two more settlements appeared and addressed as Resettlement Area and Regrouping Area respectively. Please see following map for its actual location.



**Caught in between**

Despite being enclosed by barbed wire fencing and closely monitored by armed forces and home guards, Papan was not a safe place during the Emergency Period. In November 1953, a fierce battle broke out between over 20 members of the Malayan People's Liberation Army (MPLA) and seven Kinta Valley Home Guards (KVHG) just 50 meters from the perimeter fencing of Papan. The KVHG seized a large quantity of supplies that had been gathered by sympathisers of the communist party, the min yuan (民运, the people movement organization), in Papan. However, according to eyewitness accounts, some villagers still managed to smuggle food and supplies to the MPLA. The min yuan also collected food from Papan villagers from time to time, entering their homes through purposely unlocked back doors at night to pick up the supplies. Families were instructed to stay in their rooms and not to come out if they heard anything unusual.

However, not all villagers were willing to take the risk of helping the MPLA. Many were extorted by the MPLA, who threatened to harm them or their families if they did not comply with their demands. Some villagers were falsely accused by their enemies and subsequently kidnapped, unfairly tried, and ruthlessly killed by the MPLA.



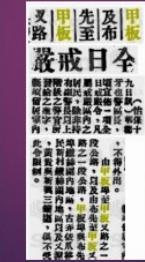
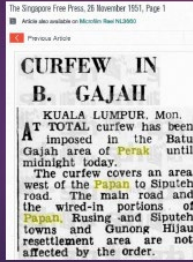
Picture showing an A25 pounder crew in action against terrorists entrenched on hills. Similar action happened during the Emergency Period at the entrance of Papan town to bomb the MPLAs hiding in the Kledang Range.

Images credited to Imperial War Museum

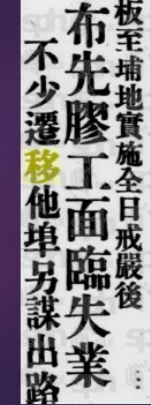
南洋商報, 28 November 1953, Page 11

**Curfew, Food Restriction, Surveillance & Lost of Livelihood**

During the Emergency, curfews were imposed in Papan and nearby areas from time to time. The longest 24-hour curfew was imposed in 1951, along with nearby Pusing New Village, following the killing of a British Resettlement Officer in Pusing town. No one was allowed to leave the perimeter fencing of Papan during this time. The Pusing villagers were ultimately fined \$40,000 as punishment. Despite the challenges, the people of Papan persevered and tried to make the best of their situation.



南洋商報, 20 March 1952, Page 7



南洋商報, 18 June 1957, Page 10

**Decade of living in terror**

For a decade, the people of Papan lived in constant terror and hardship until the death of Tan Liew Kiew, the leader of the 9th Division of the MPLA and District Committee Member, in February 1958. Tan had gone into hiding at the start of the Emergency in 1948 and had built a fearsome reputation for himself as the "Terror of Papan" through his ruthless and brutal tactics. He was one of the MPLA leaders most wanted by the 2nd Battalion Malay Regiment. With Tan's death and the surrender or death of almost half of his followers, the threat from the MPLA in Papan was substantially reduced. In 1958, Papan and nearby towns were declared as "White Area," free from all restrictions, inconveniences, and dangers.



**Danger looms for town with tin fortune**

The brief period of peace for the residents of Papan was soon disrupted in 1964 when the state government gazetted the entire town as mining land and opened it for mining tenders. In response, a committee was formed by the residents to protest the decision. The government instructed the winning mining company to provide proper compensation to those who would be affected before any mining activities could begin. However, the company failed to comply, and the villagers felt deceived, leading to rising tensions and frustration.

### Resettlement of resettlement due to mining activities

The conflict between the mining company and the villagers persisted for a decade until 1975, when the company, feeling increasingly frustrated, began mining at the North New Village, despite the fact that some villagers still lived in the homes that stood on the site. The situation became chaotic, and the state government had to step in to negotiate a settlement between the two sides. Eventually, the mining company agreed to provide a new location and compensation to the 52 households that remained in the North New Village. This new location is now known as New Papan New Village.



### Transforming a misfortune into a heritage gem

After the mining gazette in 1964, residents of Papan began to leave and relocate to nearby towns, while land ownership shifted to the tin mining company. Papan was expected to disappear from existence, but ironically, the crash of tin prices in 1985 put a stop to all mining activities and saved the town from being completely destroyed. Many of the remaining residents in Papan were low-income earners who could not afford to demolish their old houses and build new ones. As a result, about 80 houses in the new village, with approximately 150 inhabitants, remained untouched, with their original design and materials intact. This unexpected turn of events has resulted in Papan being one of the best-preserved New Villages in Perak, serving as a reflection of the hardship and history of the forced resettlement movement during the Emergency Period in Malaya.



A New Village house in Papan, stand firmly on its original structure, materials used, and land size. Under its zinc roof still could find layers of attap (palm leaves) underneath.



These pictures were captured during the Movement Control Order (MCO) in 2020, where charitable organizations were distributing food assistance to the residents of Papan. The recipients of these aids were predominantly elderly citizens, some of whom live alone. As many of their younger relatives have already moved out, these individuals may very well be the last group of residents to inhabit Papan, if no changes being made.

Current views of Papan New Village



*Drone view A:* These rows of village house initially called South New Village. Some houses on the left row were built on vacant lots that originally were commercial lot. Both Papan Heritage Gallery and Malaysia New Village History Gallery were located at this row. The middle and right rows have 4 double-storey wooden shophouses built before Briggs Resettlement Plan and some of the most authentic and best-preserved New Village houses, together it formed the best combination that inspired the Papan Conservation Group to make these rows of house as "Live Museum of New Village" in the State.

Photo credit to Korbu Air Malayan Explorer's YouTube Video: Papan, Batu Gajah, Perak, 2020.

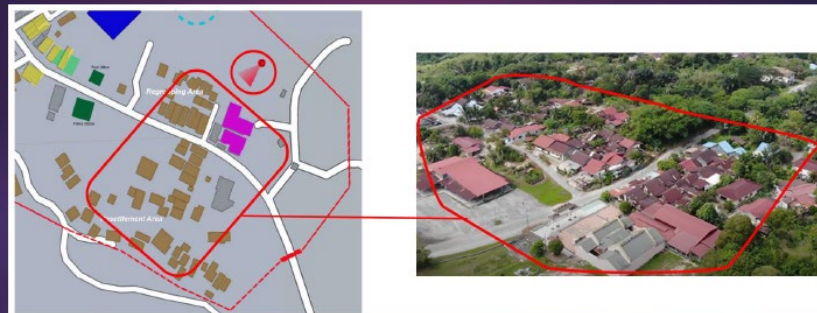
Current views of Papan New Village



*Drone View B:* The lake on the left was the site of vanished North New Village. Mining excavation had stopped at the edge of compound of Raja Bilah's Mansion. Mining activities had stopped completely in 1985 when the price of tin crash drastically. If not, Papan had turned into a big mining pit. The last 52 houses were moved out in 1975 to a new ex-mining site compensated by the mining company and called New Papan Village, 300 meters away from its original site. The remaining village houses in this area consists of the old quarters of the caretaker of the reservoir, village house of some Chinese and Indian families which sited on the old Mandailing's Settlement area.

Photo credit to Korbu Air Malayan Explorer's YouTube Video: Papan, Batu Gajah, Perak, 2020.

Current views of Papan New Village



*Drone View C:* The village houses on the right addressed as Regrouping Area and the village houses on the left addressed as Resettlement Area. The year of establishment of this area should be 1952 or later. However, some of the houses in these areas existed before the Briggs Resettlement Plan. This has enhanced the richness of village house architectural collection for Papan. This part of the village consists vanished Police Station, Post and Telegram Office, Old Chinese School, Funeral Halls and Railway Station, but the Temple of the Goddess of Mercy still thriving since rebuilt in 1898. Next to the temple is Papan Chinese Cemetery, one of the oldest and biggest in Kinta.

Photo credit to Korbu Air Malayan Explorer's YouTube Video: Papan, Batu Gajah, Perak, 2020.

### Papan today

Total area covering Papan Old Town and New Village is around 69 acres (including the cemetery). Currently Consists of around 60 shophouses and 80 village houses. There are around 60 odd houses with residence only, and only about 150 people living in the village. Papan Town and Old Village are now under the administration of Majlis Daerah Batu Gajah (MDBG). The only surviving businesses seem to be two coffee shops.

Papan's population throughout the years:

Year	1883	1892	1901	1920	1960	1980	1990	2020
Population	500	1,523	2,441	1,285	3,000	2,000	1,000	200

Papan has been known as the most renowned "ghost town" in Kinta for over twenty years. Numerous houses have remained unoccupied and have fallen into disrepair, with banyan trees growing on top of the roofs and their roots penetrating the walls. A line of ten shophouses has crumbled and been consumed by dense vegetation, with no apparent signs visible to the naked eye. Papan has attracted a diverse group of visitors over the years, including photographers, travellers, looters, antique seekers, ghost hunters, paranormal psychics, horror film makers, and others. While some visitors had good intentions and caused no harm, unfortunately, many took things that did not belong to them, and some tarnished Papan's reputation.

One man's trash is another man's treasure. Back in 2008, two shophouses at the main street that were over a century old were torn down with the intention of selling their century-old bricks to a Japanese agency for MYR 20 cents each. These bricks were to be exported to Japan for use in restoration projects.

### Transformation Plan: Towards a community of heritage tourism

Papan Heritage Trail in 2022 which consists of the following sites and galleries:

- Site of wartime heroin Sybil Kathigasu's Clinic
- Mandailing's heritage site: Raja Bilah's Mansion, Rumah Asal, Papan Mosque
- Site of vanished new village
- Old Reservoir
- Straits Eclectic Style shophouses at main street
- The Miner Mansion
- Papan Heritage Gallery (opened in 2021)
- Malaysia New Village History Gallery (opened in 2022)
- Middle Lane's floor drawings and installation arts
- Chinese New Village
- Rooted walls (5 sites)
- Temple of the Goddess of Mercy
- Hall of Old Tombs
- The Temple's Relics Hall



In 2024, two additional galleries will be unveiled. The first, titled *Papan Archives Gallery* will showcase historical documents and imagery related to Papan. The second gallery, named *Papan Art Gallery*, will feature works of art that explore the town's history as well as its present and future potential. *Sybil Kathigasu Memorial Square* is in the plan as well.















### Conclusion

Papan town had developed before Ipoh. Although it has left us not many tangible heritage treasures, its rich history and unyielding spirit are invaluable intangible assets. It serves as an ideal location to recount the glorious tin mining era in Kinta Valley, the harmonious relationship between the foreign Malays and Chinese immigrants, the hardships and fears experienced during the Japanese Occupation, the sacrifices and despairs of the Emergency Period, the struggles and losses incurred when homes were gazetted for mining, and the battles and suppression in the face of hazardous toxic waste disposal plans. Papan town and its new village are perfectly staged to retell these significant historical events for generations to come.



One of the largest forced resettlement in human history

- 572,000 Chinese
- 25% of total Chinese population, 10% of country population

Successfully fanned off the threats of communism influences.

- Military strategic studies

Had shaped a unique community until today

- Cultural, social economy
- Governance

## 2.3.4 Cha'ah New Village: An Unique 'Rural' Cultural Landscape in Malaysia – Colonial Planning Idea with Community Architecture

Prepared by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee

# Cha'ah New Village

## 三合港新村：

### An Unique 'Rural' Cultural Landscape in Malaysia: Colonial Planning Idea with Community Architecture

Prepared by Ar. Dr. GOH AI Tee

Principal, A T GOH ARCHITECT  
 Chair, ICOMOS Malaysia New Village Working Group (NVWG)  
 Board Member, 2022-2024, ICOMOS Malaysia  
 Vice President, 2021-2023, ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Shared Built Heritage (ISCSBH)  
 President, 2023-2025, Persatuan Warisan Budaya Chaah Segamat Johor

9 December 2023, Saturday  
 Komtar, Penang

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**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"

Jointly Organized by: Support by:

**"The outstanding development of the Emergency in Malaya was the implementation of the Briggs Plan...about one million two hundred thousand rural people were corralled into more than 600 'new' settlements, principally New Villages...."**

Source: Kernal Singh Sandhu in Ray Nyce (1973)

### The Malayan 'Emergency'

(1948 to 1960)

In Early 1950s, over one million persons in Malaya were regrouped or resettled.

**Regrouped: 650,000 persons**  
 42.2% Indian, 37.8% Chinese, 16.0% Malay & 4% Javanese and Others  
 78.5% on estates, 12.3% in mines and 9.2% in other areas

**Resettled: 573,000 persons**

	Population in NVs	No. of NVs	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
1954	10%	480	86%	9%	4%	
2000	1,250,000	450	82%	13%	4%	1%

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**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"

Source: Ong Wei Chong (2010), "Securing the Population from Insurgency and Subversion in the Second Emergency (1968-1981)", PhD Thesis, Research in History, August 2010, University of Exeter

Map Showing CPMS Strength and Disposition in Peninsular Malaysia and Southern Thailand - 1977  
 (Copyright © 2009 Internal Security Department, Singapore)

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**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"

Jointly Organized by: Support by:

**Length of Lease**

The provisions of the Rules and the settlement of Malacca have provided that the length of lease to be granted for all new villages are to be for a term of 30 years, or such shorter term as may be determined by the Government.

In such cases, it is the usual practice to grant all the leasehold interests in the land to the Government, and the Government to grant the leasehold interests to the occupants of the land.

The usual length of lease for land in and around new villages is 30 years. However, in Johore, the usual length of lease is 21 years. In other parts of the country, the usual length of lease is 30 years, except in Negeri Sembilan (25 years) + 30 years, Kelantan (30 years) + 99 years, and Pahang (10 years if within half a mile of a town board).

“...realize that not all the occupier will remain after the Emergency period.”

Usual Length of lease for land to and around NVs is 30 years, except

- Johore (21 years)
- Negeri Sembilan (25 years) + 30 years
- Kelantan (30 years) + 99 years
- Pahang (10 years if within half a mile of a town board)

**Other Considerations**

In Johore, Pahang, Negeri Sembilan, Kelantan, and other parts of the country, the usual length of lease is 30 years. However, in Johore, the usual length of lease is 21 years. In other parts of the country, the usual length of lease is 30 years, except in Negeri Sembilan (25 years) + 30 years, Kelantan (30 years) + 99 years, and Pahang (10 years if within half a mile of a town board).

**Johor: Dwelling house lots in NV normally 1/6 of an acres in area**

**Johor: Agriculture land adjoining NVs - 2 or 3 acres**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
**Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO**  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"

Jointly Organized by: Support by:



State	Years of Establishment												Total				
	< 1900	1900-1909	1910-1919	1920-1929	1930-1939	1940-1949	1950-1959	1960-1969	1970-1979	1980-1989	1990-1999	Unknown					
Johor	1	8	8	9	29	16	6	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	84
Malaka	1	0	3	4	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
NS	1	5	5	5	16	1	5	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	43
WPKL	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Perak	0	3	13	11	70	15	8	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	134
Perlis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Selangor	0	8	5	10	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	42
Pahang	1	4	17	11	10	3	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	55
Terengganu	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Kelantan	3	9	2	1	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Kedah	0	2	1	0	5	2	16	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
Penang	0	0	1	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>450</b>

- \* 156 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 34.67%) established b4 1950
- \* 147 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 32.67%) established in 1950
- \* 127 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 28.22%) established in 1951-60
- \* May 1950 Briggs Plan in full swings

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
**Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO**  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"

Jointly Organized by: Support by:

1954: W.C.S. Corry's report of the NVs listed a total of 438 NVs

- 69% supposedly permanent
- 20% 'intermediate'
- 11% supposedly impermanent and likely to disappear with the Emergency

1962: Ray Nyce - these supposedly impermanent NVs still existed.

**Number of NVs and Categories (In 1958)**

Type	Description	No of NVs	%
A	Entirely New Villages	285	51.64
B	New Villages attached to other communities other than towns	221	40.03
C	New Villages attached to older towns	46	8.33
<b>Total</b>		<b>552</b>	<b>100.00</b>

30<sup>th</sup> Oct 1952: 4 Asst Town Planner assigned for

States	Federal Level:
1 Selangor	Town Planner, Federation of Malaya - T.A.L. Concannon
1 Perak	
1 Kedah, Perlis, Penang, Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang	
1 Johor, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka	

Source: Ray Nyce (1973)

TABLE 9  
 CLASSIFICATION OF THE NEW VILLAGES ACCORDING TO DEGREE OF PERMANENCY, 1954-74

STATE	TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW VILLAGES	NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE IN EACH CATEGORY		
		Type 'P'	Type 'I'	Type 'T'
Johore	No: 88 %: 100.00	55 62.50	22 25.00	11 12.50
Malacca	No: 17 %: 100.00	14 82.35	3 17.65	—
Negeri Sembilan	No: 37 %: 100.00	16 43.24	14 37.84	7 18.92
Selangor	No: 47 %: 100.00	38 80.85	6 12.77	3 6.38
Perak	No: 123 %: 100.00	107 86.99	12 9.76	4 3.25
Kedah	No: 32 %: 100.00	21 65.62	10 31.25	1 3.13
Penang & P.W.	No: 9 %: 100.00	7 77.78	—	2 22.22
Perlis	No: 1 %: 100.00	1 100.00	—	—
Pahang	No: 67 %: 100.00	40 59.70	9 13.43	18 26.87
Terengganu	No: 3 %: 100.00	1 33.33	2 66.67	—
Kelantan	No: 14 %: 100.00	3 21.43	9 64.28	2 14.29
<b>MALAYA</b>	No: 438 %: 100.00	303 69.18	87 19.86	48 10.96

Note: Categories of New Villages  
 Type 'P' - Supposedly permanent.  
 Type 'I' - Intermediate.  
 Type 'T' - Supposedly impermanent or temporary and likely to disappear at the end of the Emergency.

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
**Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO**  
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Jointly Organized by: Support by:

**major principles/ guidelines for resettlement outlined by General Briggs in 1951**

1. Where possible, resettlement villages **were to be located on main roads or other major transportation arteries**.
2. Villagers were to be relocated, wherever possible, **on rolling terrain to promote drainage**
3. Squatters were to be **concentrated into compact villages which were fenced-in and protected by a police post capable of commanding the entire village**, most particularly, **the village gate**
4. Villages were to be sited in such a manner as **to minimize squatter dislocation**, and apart from **security**, the most important aspect to be considered in deciding upon a site had to be **the economy of the future settlers**
5. Standardised disturbance **grants were paid to all squatters forced to vacate their homes and a subsistence allowance to each individual forced to give up their land or job** upon moving to the new site.
6. Generally, there should be **no more than 6 houses (families) per acre** of residential land. This permitted each family to have a **vegetable garden on their house lot** if they so desired
7. **Sufficient water** was to be supplied, either from adjacent towns, or from wells within the village, **health and fire regulations** were expected to be observed.
8. Amenities such as **schools, dispensaries, community centres**, etc had to be provided as quickly as possible
9. **Sufficient agriculture land of good quality** was to be provided for all agriculturists forced to abandon their previous holdings. Agriculturists should have their **land situated within 2 to 3 miles** of the villages to enable them to transport manure from their stay in the villages to their fields.
10. Estate workers had to be **within 2 miles of their places of employment**

**General Notes On Design and Layout of Resettlement Area in 1951**

Category	Criteria
A Selection of Site	1. Planning Survey & Socio Economic
	2. Data
	3. Procedure
	4. Cost of Land
B Layout of Site	1. Socio Economic Data
	2. Topography/ Road Pattern
	3. Connectivity
C Design and Layout	1. Size of Lots
	2. Road Pattern
	3. Public and Communal Buildings
	4. Water Supply
	5. Open Spaces
	6. Security

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"



**The Briggs' Plan** **Civil + Military**

A 3-tier command and committee (later named Brigg's Plan) to improve the Emergency administration and inter-agency coordination with aim to eliminate the MCP's forces and its mass organization (Min Yuen) – as counter insurgency strategies:

The **Federal War Council (FWC)**

The **State and Settlement War Executive Committees (SWEC)**

The **District War Executive Committees (DWEK).**

Notes:  
 The FWC comprised the Director of Operations, the Chief Secretary, the General Officer Commanding, the Air Officer Commanding, the Commissioner of Police, and the Secretary of Defence.

The SWECs were composed of the Chief Minister (*Menteri Besar*), the British Advisor, the Chief Police Officer, the senior Army commander, and a full-time Secretary.

DWEKs consisted of the District Officer, and senior police and army representatives. The FWC responsibility was to meet weekly and formulate policy, and coordinate all the necessary resources to implement these policies. The actual execution of policy lay with the SWECs and DWEKs.



**Sir Gerald Walter Robert Templer**

- High Commissioner & Director of Operation in Feb 1952.
- He embraced Briggs Plan and ensures the command structure was established.
- He placed great emphasis on the need to win the 'hearts and minds' of the population, and continued the resettlement of squatters/ villagers, with **promised independence** once the communist insurgents had been defeated

**Lieutenant-General Harold Briggs**

- Director of Operation 3 April 1950
- Introduction of the Briggs' Plan (3-tier command and committee)
- Retired by **end-1951**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*  
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**The Malayan 'Emergency' (1948 to 1960)**

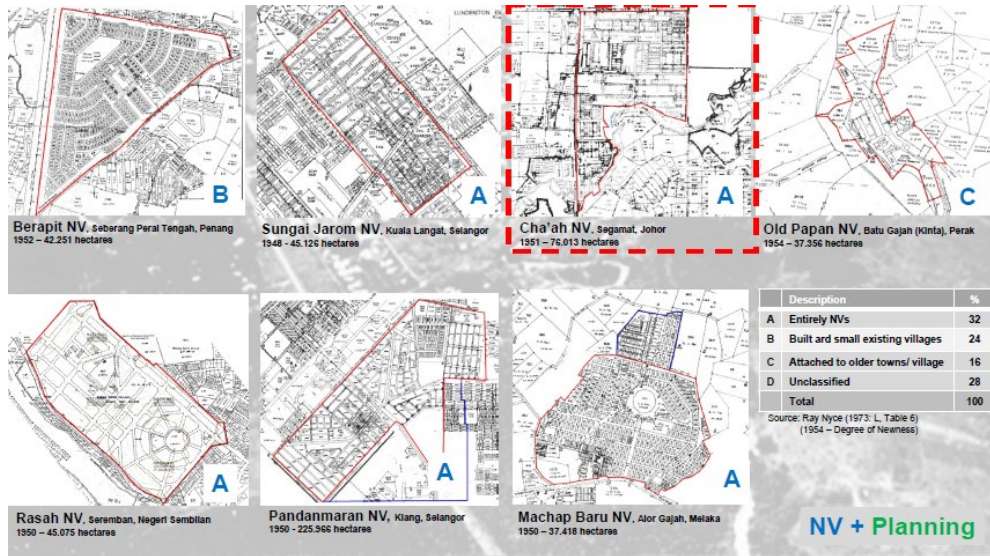
- **The Briggs' Plan:** 10 general strategies and notes from Town Planning Department, FMS
- **The Omnipresence of Government Agents :**
  - > District Officer (DO), Assistance District Officer (ADO)
  - > Resettlement Officer (RS), Assistant Resettlement Officer (ARS)
  - > Chinese Affairs Officer (CAO), Assistant Chinese Affairs Officers (ACAO)
  - > New Village Headmen
- The development of **Community based institutions:**
  - > Village Committee later known as Local Councils (administrative organization)
  - > Home Guard unit (self-defence organization)
  - > the MCA (political party)
  - > co-operatives
  - > missionary bodies
  - > voluntary organizations such as the British Red Cross Society and the St John Ambulance Brigade
  - > Other social organizations include Boy Scouts and Girl Guides
- Education System: SRJK(C) Cha'ah - Malaysianization

1. **New Village + Planning**
2. **New Village + Security**
3. **New Village + Management**
4. **New Village + Missionaries**
5. **New Village + Education**
6. **New Village + Social**
7. **New Village + Economy**
8. **New Village + Religion**
9. **New Village + Food**
10. **New Village + Culture**

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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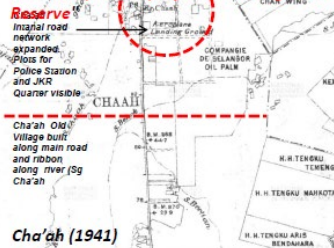




**Process:-**  
after the survey of existing population done, initial layout proposed by administrative office (Batu Pahat) and to be reviewed by Special Branch, District War Committee Segamat.

7 January 1951: the initial layout for improvement before finalize are as below

"to include all 500 add families...involvement without disturbing the Malay or any of the existing Govt Reserve"

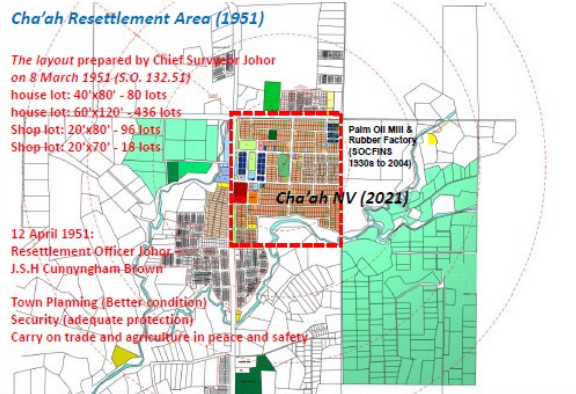


**Cha'ah Resettlement Area (1951)**

The layout prepared by Chief Surveyor Johor on 8 March 1951 (S.O. 132.51)  
house lot: 40'x80' - 80 lots  
house lot: 60'x120' - 436 lots  
Shop lot: 20'x80' - 96 lots  
Shop lot: 20'x70' - 18 lots

12 April 1951: Resettlement Officer Johor - J.S.H Cunningham Brown

Town Planning (Better condition)  
Security (adequate protection)  
Carry on trade and agriculture in peace and safety



**Books**  
**Malaysian Chinese Contributions**  
By Mei Kuan

The Malayan Army Chinese Veterans' Association (MCAVA) was formed some three years ago following the formation of the Chinese Veterans' Association in Singapore. The book will be the first of its kind in the country. The responsibility for the book was undertaken by one man only.

To prove that the war a soldier, soldierly interest in place the country to a poor fight, association members, having no more returned, passed a book, detailing the various activities and contributions made by Malayan Chinese.

The 604-page book, titled "Malaysian Chinese Contributions" and written by Mei Kuan, details the lives of the Chinese veterans who served in Malaya and Borneo in the fight to liberate the Malay Peninsula and Borneo from the Japanese.

In the intervening years, they too earned their status as United Nations peacekeepers in the Republic of Congo (1963-1964) and again in Somalia (1991-1992). A few more returned to their native land and others are still in the service of their country.

The book will be the first of its kind in the country. However, a preliminary version is now available for party trials. It is priced at RM70 a piece.

Booksellers to party may please call Wang Guey Ching (Retailer) at #12 422 7000 or contact the author directly at #12 382 2888. Each copy will receive the book once we receive a copy from the association.

**MEMOIRS**  
DRAFT COPY NOT FOR SALE

**the Sun**  
In the service of the nation

**NV + Security**

**New resettlement area opened in Johore**  
 Newspaper: The Straits Times  
 Date: 27 August 1961  
 Ref Number: N62950

A PHOTOGRAPH taken at the opening of Cha'ah resettlement, Johore, seated (left to right) - Ismail, Cha'ah, Inche Abdul Rahman, Mr. J. E. Abbey, Inche Yusoff bin Ali, Inche Haron, Mr. E. F. Hamilton, Mr. D. H. E. Massey O'Brien, Mr. Marshall, O.S.P.C., Segamat, Mr. E. J. Gough, Mr. Administrative Officer, Batu Pahat, Mr. Leong Yew Choo, Mr. De Silva, Inche Othman bin Mohamed, Dr. E. A. Headsett, Towkay Taw Siong Lian, Mr. Cheng Choo Ting and Mr. Tan Hock Peng.

**CHA'AH COMMUNITY HALL**

**RESETTLEMENT OFFICERS**

2 resettlement officers in Segamat  
 1. G. Scott (16.4.51 to 20.1.53)  
 2. David T. Luscomber (20.2.52 to 27.6.56)

2 Assistant Resettlement officers working in Cha'ah NV  
 1. George Lim (2.9.52 to 16.1.59)  
 2. Robert Goh

**NV + Management**

1954年初，三合港基督教  
 会礼拜堂建成

教堂建成后，主日崇拜人数达40人左右

初期的主日学

教堂石观

**NV + Missionaries**

1930s

1956

1963

CHA'AH SCHOOL

畢業證書

English Afternoon Class for Adult  
 Established in Cha'ah NV for  
 teenager and adult development  
 - Part of Nation Building  
 Program

Early version of the Certificate for graduate from Cha'ah School with record of origin (TeoChew, Guangdong) in 1950s

System evolved into SRJK (C/T) in 1960s and now SJK (C/T) with more Malaysian ideology as Nation Building but still maintaining the important of language and culture

**NV + Education**

Tadika Fokus Ilmu Berjaya

SJK(T) Cantuman Cha'ah

Madrasah Quwwatul Islam Cha'ah

SJK(C) Cha'ah

Sek Agama Cha'ah

Tadika Berkat Ilmu

SMK Cha'ah

Tadika Pasti Nur Iman 3

SK Seri Bali

SMK Seri Bali

Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles  
Neighbourhood Unit Concept

NV + Education

Green belt (Main Trunk Road) Jalan Labis and Cha'ah NV

Village Green Field - soccer

Green belt (Jalan Kilang and Cha'ah NV)

Village Green Field - Children Playground

Village Green Field - Children Playground and Sepak Takraw

Green belt (Jalan Penghulu Yunus and Cha'ah NV)

Village Green Field - Basketball

Green belt (Main Trunk Road) Jalan Labis and Cha'ah NV

Green belt (Sungai Cha'ah and Cha'ah NV)

Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles  
Neighbourhood Unit Concept

NV + Social

Cha'ah Pos Office

Cha'ah Community Hall

Cha'ah Village Representative Centre

Cha'ah Old Folk Home

Cha'ah Bus and Taxi Station

Cha'ah Columbarium Centre

Cha'ah Police Station

Cha'ah Wet Market

Cha'ah Relai Fire Department

Cha'ah Health Clinic

Cha'ah Hawker Centre

Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles  
Neighbourhood Unit Concept

NV + Social

**Clan Associations and Community Centres**

**NV + Social**

Cha'ah Farmer's Recreational Centre  
 Hakka Association  
 Hainan Association  
 Kwangxi Association  
 Hakka Association Community Hall  
 Hokkian Association  
 Buddhist Association (Phor Tor Festival)  
 Tai Chi Chuan Association Cha'ah branch  
 MIC Cha'ah branch  
 MCA Cha'ah branch

**Community based institution: Co-operatives**

**NV + Economy**

Cha'ah NV  
 Cha'ah Low Cost Housing in 1970  
 Cha'ah Low Cost Housing in 2000  
 Cha'ah Police Station  
 PWD Quarter  
 Post Office  
 Health Centre  
 Kg Jawa  
 Kg Melayu  
 Kg Kangkar  
 Tai Yong  
 Peiig

300 acres farm land dedicated for villagers open for application, at \$50/ acre  
 Land title issued on 1972 (21 years)  
 Source: Secretary, Koperasi Cha'ah Berhad formerly known as Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited

1960  
 Cha'ah NV  
 Workers' Housing Quarter  
 4 rows single story  
 2 rows double story  
 5 shops  
 Tamil School  
 Workshop & store  
 Palm Oil Mill  
 Rubber Processing Factory & packing Socfin Maturated Rubber  
 Railway line  
 Mechanical, Engineering and Transportation

Source: Mahendran Kutty (Socfin Group Berhad Ex-resident at JLE)

1960  
 Socfin's Largest Palm Oil Mill IN SEA  
 Socfin Maturated Rubber = Rubber Processing Factory

Joint effort  
 1960  
 Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited registered on 12 Nov 1954

**NV + Religion**

Masjid Jamek Cha'ah  
 Taotist Temple - Hong Xian Gong (New)  
 Kuan Tiuchendur Murugan  
 Taotist Temple - Fa Ma  
 Taotist Temple - Hong Xian Gong (Old)  
 Indigenous (OMF) - Cha'ah Christian Church  
 Buddhist Temple - Shung Hee To  
 Catholic - Tamil Methodist Church  
 Madrasah Quwwatul Islam Cha'ah  
 Taoist Temple - Liu Ren Fa Tan  
 Church of St Anthony

Hand made noodle



NV + Food



Surname and Places of Origin China/ India/ Indonesia/ etc:

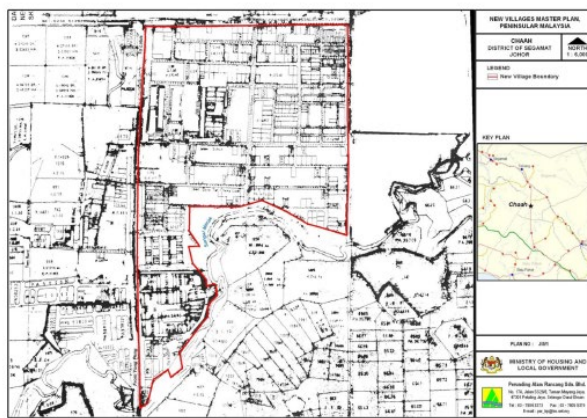
表6 新村的方言别人口  
 (Surname Origin Language)  
 (A Survey of the New Villages in Malaysia) 方言构成

村数	%
福建	143 37
客家	132 34
広東	83 14
広西	36 8
潮州	15 4
福州	9 2
海南	6 1

圖2 中国地圖



NV + Culture



State	: Johor			
District	: Segamat			
Nearest town	: Labis (16 km away) Yong Peng (27 km away) Batu Pahat (80 km away) Majlis Daerah Labis			
Local Authority	: Majlis Daerah Labis			
Area (hectares)	: 75.013			
Year established	: 1951			
Total number of households (2000)**	: 840			
Average household size**	: 4.0			
Ethnic group				
	1991	2000	%	
Chinese	3,210	69.2	2,299	67.9
Malay	736	15.9	645	19.1
Indian	607	13.1	361	10.7
Others	83	1.8	79	2.3
Total	4,638	100	3,384	100
Age group (2000)**	Male	Female	Total	
0-14	497	503	1,000	
15-64	597	1,056	2,053	
65 and above	142	189	331	
Total	1,636	1,748	3,384	
Land tenure type (residential)		%		
TOL		0		
30 year lease		34		
60 year lease		34		
99 year lease		17		
freehold		0		
others : no grant, govt land, grant under process		15		
Poverty rate	%			
very poor	10			
poor	10			
average	75			
rich	5			

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 Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"





**Site and Services** approach within a planned layout at rural area

**Garden City Planning Lines** developed in Malaya since 1920s  
**Neighborhood Planning** developed in 1948 onwards.

From **"Squatter Housing"** to **"New Village"**:

**"Emergency"**, under the **Briggs Plan** to defeat communist.

Move towards winning of **"Hearts and Minds"** included steps towards preparing the Federation of Malaya for independence.

Over period of 70 years, the evolution and development of the **"self-help"** schemes (commercial, residential and religion buildings) within the NVs inevitably become showcase of **"community architecture"** for sub-urban and rural areas.










The planned village way of life...

- Cultural, Heritage and Religious Practices
- Clan Associations
- Harmony living amongst different Races

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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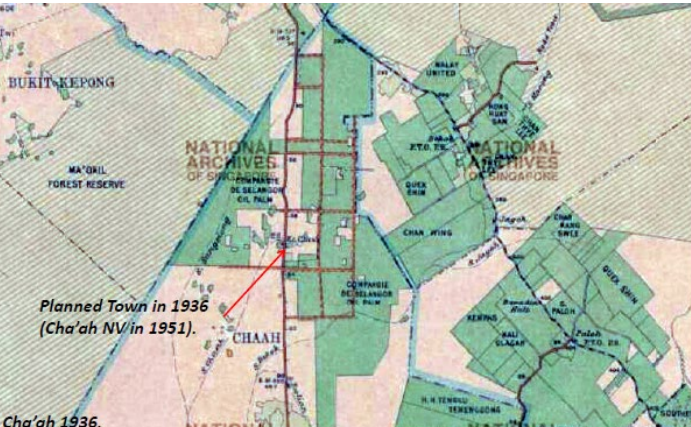
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1870s-1900	1901-1930	1931-1950	1951-1960
 <p>1898</p> <p>Kangchu System River as main transport Link to Batu Pahat Gambier Plantation</p>  <p>Chinese Temple</p>  <p>Tomb stone: Qing Dynasty</p>	 <p>1920</p> <p>1926</p>  <p>TOWN PLANNING EXPLANATION AND CATALOGUE</p> <p>FIRST EXHIBITION IN BRITISH MALAYA.</p> <p>Garden City Planning</p>	 <p>1930</p> <p>1931</p> <p>1941</p> <p>1930s: French Church</p> <p>1930s: Chinese School</p> <p>1940: Air Field</p> <p>1941: Workers Housing</p> <p>1942-1945: WWII</p> <p>27.11.1949: IC registration 1<sup>st</sup> in BP</p>	<p>Sweet &amp; Sour..... Whole Village Resettled due to Spatial Design Town Planning at NV</p> <p>27.08.1951</p>  <p>10.12.1951: 1<sup>st</sup> NV to set up Missionary by China Inland Mission.</p>  <p>11.2.1953: 1<sup>st</sup> NV to set up Village Committee</p> <p>Population 1953:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>C: 5,354 (72%)</li> <li>M: 1,300 (17%)</li> <li>I: 768 (10%)</li> <li>O: 20 (1%)</li> <li>Total: 7,434</li> <li>House: 716</li> <li>Shophouse: 198</li> </ul> <p>26.08.1955 - Cha'ah HG (600) is one of the strongest command post in Malaya</p>  <p>1955: Golf Club (LILE)</p> <p>31.08.1957: Malaya Independence</p> <p>27.08.1958: Cha'ah declared as "White Area"</p> <p>1960 - \$4,720 grant for village playground</p>

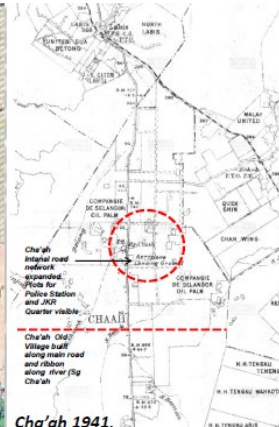
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**Planned Town in 1936 (Cha'ah NV in 1951).**

Cha'ah 1936.



Cha'ah 1941.

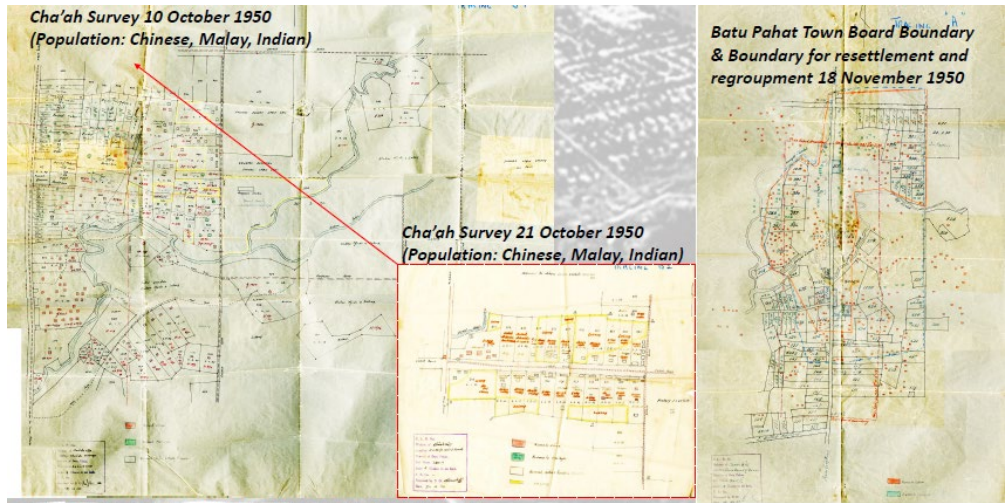
Cha'ah village road network expanded: Road for Police Station and JWS Quarter visible.

Cha'ah Old Village built along main road and ribbon along river (big Cha'ah).

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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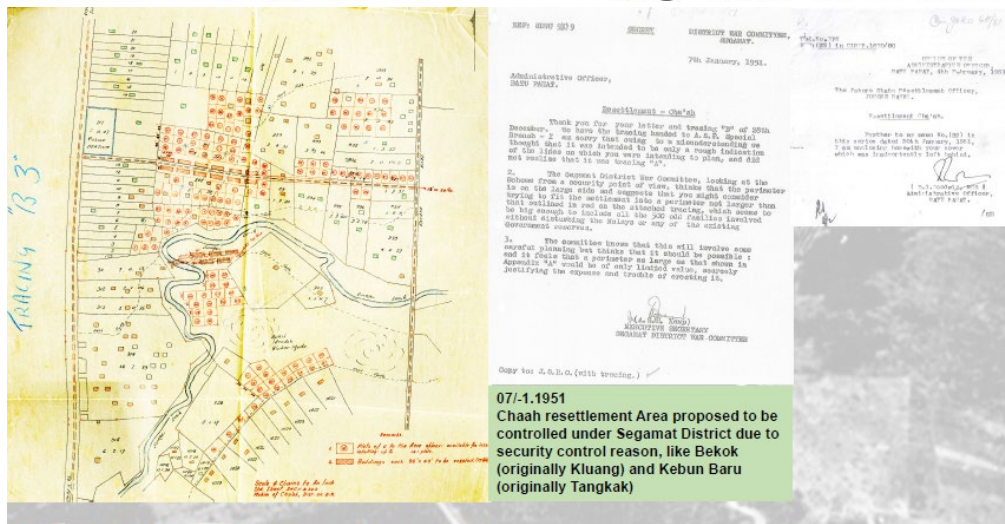
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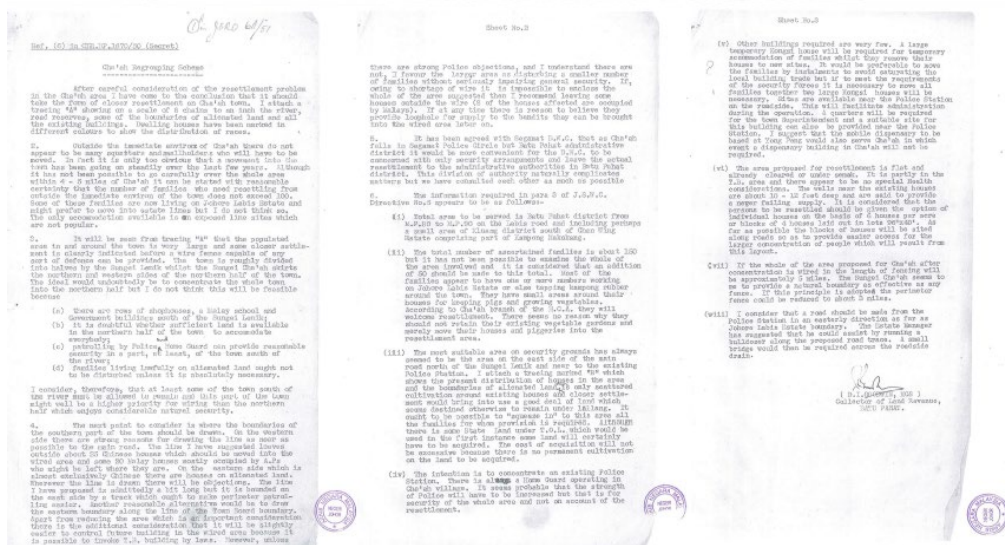
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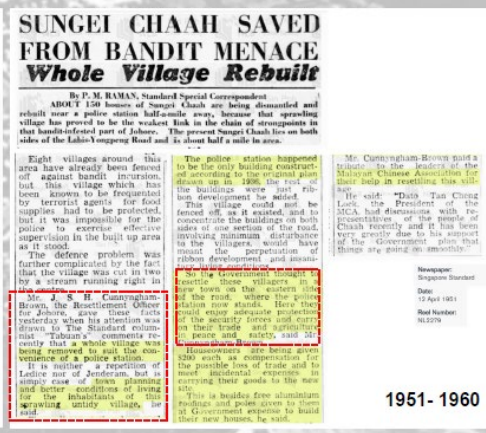
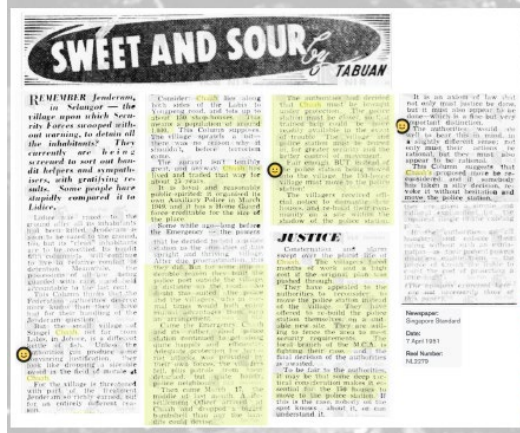
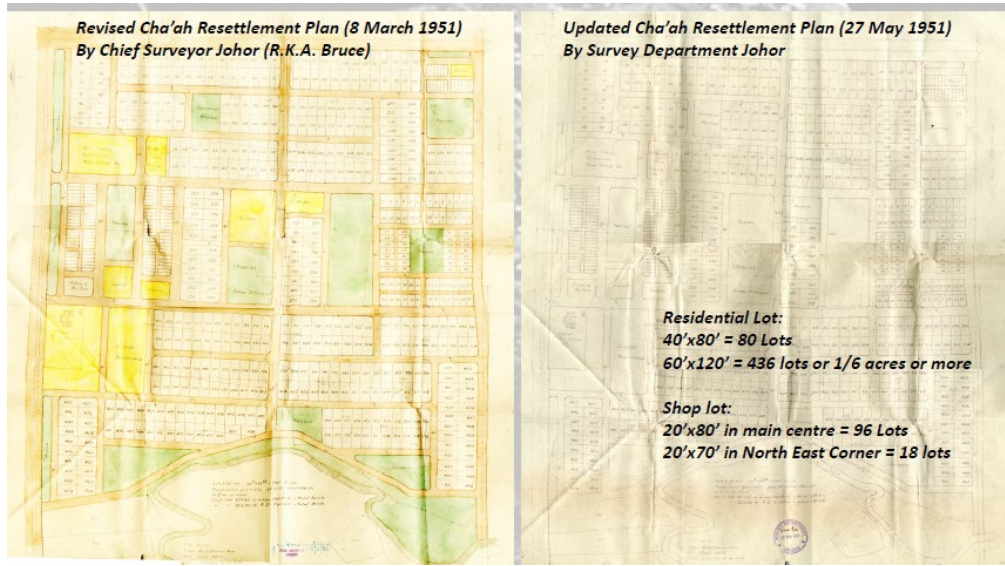
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### M.C.A. BUILDS HOMES FOR OLD FOLK

**JOHORE BAHRU, Sat.** The Malaysian Chinese Association is establishing homes for the aged in the new villages which have been formed in Johore.

In addition to providing accommodation, each village is also given.

The homes so far established are at **Cha'ah, Batu Asam, Gemas, Pekan Jabu, Sungai Karang, Bukit Kemuning, Jemberlah and Kuban Baharu.**

The home at **Cha'ah** was built by the Batu Pahat branch of the MCA and is 22 feet broad and 100 feet long.

It accommodates 15 persons, ten of whom are women, and they are looked after by the Social Welfare Department. Two missionary women now live in the

**Cha'ah** New Village and they asked the Social Welfare Department by looking after the old people in the home.

Recently the Batu Pahat district welfare committee sent the home \$100 which was used to purchase groceries and medicine.

Both kinds of the home, receives \$4 a month to enable them to buy medicine or whatever they like. Homes have also been built by Village Committees.

NewsPaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 19 June 1962  
Ref Number: 14.024.03

### 39 villages will rule themselves

**JOHORE BAHRU, Sun.** THIRTY-NINE large Johore local councils will have their own local councils by April this year — the first in Malaysia to achieve this.

The new village, **Segamat**, will be the first to elect a council on Feb. 11. Other elections will follow almost weekly until the end of March.

This self-government move is an improvement on previous village committee elections. The town council elections are the model.

Each local council will be financed with revenue from licensing and assessment fees implemented by Government grants.

A team of experienced officers, who will include former town board clerks, will train the Council members in civic administration, including the preparation of estimates, book-keeping and other town board functions.

In local council administrative areas now under town board control, the rates for houses and assessments will be the same as before.

The rates of areas not under town boards will not exceed the fees imposed as a levy to the new village committees.

NewsPaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 2 February 1955  
Ref Number: 14.023.14

### Firms back up Sir Gerald

#### FULL AID IN SERVICE OF MALAYA

**KUALA LUMPUR, Wednesday** LEADING firms in the Federation have promised full support for Gen. Sir Gerald Templer's Coronation appeal to the people to dedicate themselves to the service of **Malaya**.

One of them, **Straits Co. Ltd.**, has entered 12,000 "Operation Service" buttons for its employees.

"Operation Service" buttons will be available soon to the public at 10 cents each.

This would enable all those who were determined to do so to pledge their loyalty to the spirit of service, a Government official told the Straits Times.

**Lever Brothers (Malaya), Ltd.**, today called, the High Commissioner pleading full support for the appeal.

The Coronation festivities had shown that a spirit of co-operation and service was latent in the people of this country, said the cable.

"On our part we will do our utmost to help build up this spirit."

The firm promised to loan "Operation Service" buttons to its staff as soon as possible.

NewsPaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 11 June 1955  
Ref Number: 14.023.04

### Joint effort

**SEGAMAT, Tues.**—Farmers of **Cha'ah** New Village have formed a co-operative, managing 300 acres of land given to them by the Government.

NewsPaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 27 October 1955  
Ref Number: 14.027.77

### \$4,720 grant for village playground

**JOHORE BAHRU, Sat.** The Social Welfare Department has made a grant of \$4,720 to the **Cha'ah** Village Local Council towards the cost of erecting a playground.

The grant was handed over to **Lim Eng Teo**, Chairman of the **Cha'ah** Local Council, by **Lim Joo Kah**, Social Welfare Officer, Segamat.

NewsPaper: The Singapore Free Press  
Date: 14 June 1960  
Ref Number: 14.041

### \$16,500 gift to school fund

**JOHORE BAHRU, Mon.** The Malaysian Chinese Association has contributed \$16,500 to the new village school building fund.

The schools in the new villages of **Batu Asam, Gemas, Jemberlah, Pekan, Segamat, Sungai Karang, Bukit Kemuning, and Kuban Baharu** will benefit from this gift.

NewsPaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 19 June 1962  
Ref Number: 14.024.03

### Bringing the Govt. closer

**SEGAMAT, Mon.**—The first step in bringing closer to the Government service the people of the new village of **Cha'ah** is the creation of a sub-district office, operating bank and other services.

The office will be housed in a court house and will be the headquarters of the village committee.

NewsPaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 19 June 1962  
Ref Number: 14.024.03

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
**Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO**  
 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"

Jointly Organized by: Support by:





1961- 1970

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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Jointly Organized by: Support by:

**Minister of Health for four-day Johore tour**  
 PEKABUN2 KECHIL DI-BERI KURSUS -GETAH  
 KLANG, Thabatha  
 MUAR, Wed.—The Minister of Health, Inche Bahaman bin Samadudin, will open several sub-health centres during his four-day tour of Johore, beginning on Saturday.

**RURAL ELECTRICITY**  
 FOR years we have been paying exorbitant fees for limited electric power in our village. Undoubtedly the Board has made much profit, but the service never seems to improve. Perhaps we are too humble and timid. The generators go on at 6.30 at night and off again at 6.30 in the morning. To the Board, a thirty minutes early supply on a rainy and dark evening means more expenditure. Obviously, we are always at the losing end. But if Yong Peng, a town 15 miles from here can have a 24 hours supply with meters I wonder why the Board cannot do this also in Labis and Cha'ah. Through the Board may say it is uneconomic, it should take this as a challenge to better rural electrification. SWITCH  
 Cha'ah  
 Newspaper: The Straits Times  
 Date: 21 June 1965  
 Reel Number: NL12170

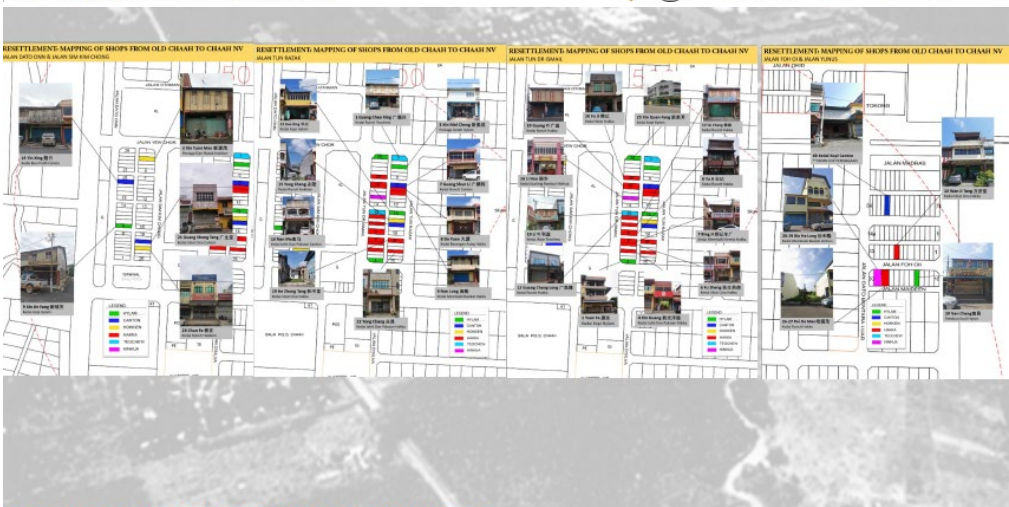
**Labis lights**  
 WITH reference to the letter by "Switch" (S.T. June 21) regarding electricity supply in Labis and Cha'ah, the NEB is investigating the possibility of giving a standard 24-hour supply. The existing supply at Labis and Cha'ah is part of the Board's rural electrification scheme and is purely for lighting purposes. Rural electrification projects supplied by small generator sets such as those installed at Labis and Cha'ah have only been made economically possible by lowering the standard of installation below that which prevails in the cities and large towns and by cutting down the supply to 12 hours per day. As and when the loads at these villages reach an economic level, consideration will be given to improving the standard of supply. MEGAT MURDIN  
 Pegawai Pengerangan Lembaga Elektrik Negara Kuala Lumpur  
 Newspaper: The Straits Times  
 Date: 17 July 1965  
 Reel Number: NL12171

**LICENCES FOR SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY**  
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the National Electricity Board of the State of Malaya will consider applications for Public Licences to provide a 24 hour electricity supply to the under-mentioned villages. Persons interested should apply to Ketua Pengerangan Elektrik, Negara Tanah Melayu, Peti Surat 1013, Jalan Hang Tuah, Kuala Lumpur to reach him on or before 22nd April, 1968. Applications received after this date will not be considered. M RAJENDIRA  
 KETUA Pengerangan ELEKTRIK NEGARAI TANAH MELAYU  
 Newspaper: The Straits Times  
 Date: 23 March 1968  
 Reel Number: NL02416

**PENDUDUK2 CHA'AH UCHAPKAN T/KASEH KAPADA KERAJAAN**  
 Segamat  
 PENDUDUK Pekan Cha'ah, Segamat meng-uchapkan terima kasih kepada Kerajaan kerana jalan2 di-pekan kami telah pun di-gantikan dari tanah merah menjadi miyauk la. Antara lain kami juga mene-mali sa-buah masjid tempat beribadat dan sa-buah klinik pusat kesihatan kecil bagi per-ubahan. Bara2 ini Kelajaan telah pun mendirikan sa-buah surau lagi di-pekan kami. Rancangan rumah murah Kerajaan pada masa ini sedang di-dalam pembinaan. Sa-sall lagi kami uchapkan terima kasih kepada Kerajaan, semoga perjalanan pembangunan negara dapat di-perluas lagi dan berjalan de-ngan pesat.  
 Newspaper: Berita Harian  
 Date: 20 September 1968  
 Reel Number: NL5614

**Pameran Kemajuan**  
 JOHOR BAHAU Sabtu.—Anggota EKOI Desa Per-awakan, Enche Tan Penuk Kham, mewakili Menteri Besar Johor, akan meramaikan pameran kemajuan kampung di-Majlis Tempa-an Cha'ah, Segamat, pada 20 September ini, pada jam 2.30 petang.  
 Newspaper: Berita Harian  
 Date: 19 September 1968  
 Reel Number: NL5614

1961- 1970



1961- 1970

Design approach and elements * refer Christine Garnaut (2021)	Cha'ah New Village
1 A bounded site within which residents' everyday needs were accommodated	A self-contained Village with all facilities (police station, post office, public health center, PWD quarter, multipurpose community hall, public green field, playground, food court, market, shops, schools, religion buildings, clans associations, bus station, water, electric and telephone services) for perform their daily life within the new village
2 Areas set aside for specific uses – residential, commercial, education, religious, recreational (local community and individual, and active and passive uses)	Clear zoning (Government administrative – security and health and maintenance, commercial, residential, schools, religious, village green) is observed within the New Village.
3 Public open space of a variety of types and scales for a range of local community uses. Internal reserves for shared community use were a distinctive open type in garden suburbs	Village green field for soccer/ football, separate zone for basketball/ sepak takraw/ badminton, children playground (now with equipment), darling walk area.
4 A hierarchical road system. Roads were classified according to use. Typically, a wide took the largest volume of traffic while the narrowed enabled access to residential areas	66' road (industrial), 60' road (main road and commercial), 30' and 40' road (residential) 20' road (service),
5 Variation in street width, line and length: typically, 'curved, short arc and straight'.	Grid iron road layout. Street length (width): 100m (30' road), 150m, 200m, 232m (60' road), 590m (40' road), 800m(60' and 66' road). Curve only along the river
6 A park-like environment created through preserving existing natural features, planting street trees, reserving open space, planting in private gardens and in street garden reserves	Green Belt (between main trunk road with Chaah NV) 80' and 60' buffer zone Green Belt (between internal industrial road and industrial zone) 40' buffer zone River as natural buffer zone between Cha'ah New Village with opposite lots
7 Low density development	Compact residential area in 6 units/ acre, or 15.24 units per ha (suburban setting)
8 Generous building setbacks and ample yard space front and back	40', 60' and 80' setback from main access road between Cha'ah New Village with adjacent development/ main trunk road
9 'architectural unity but not uniformity' achieved primarily through consistency of style, form, scale, colours and materials	Residential: detached (60'x120', 60'x100', 40'x120', 40'x80', 50'x60') Shop: A (80'x12'-29'), C (60'x14.5'-30')

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 "Nomination Site of Cha'ah New Village, Johor"



**Cha'ah New Village, Johor (25.02.2023)**



**UNESCO WHS: 6 Criteria for Cultural Heritage Site**

- (i) To represent a **Masterpiece** of human creative genius;
- (ii) To exhibit an important **Interchange** of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) To bear a unique or at least exceptional **Testimony** to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) To be an outstanding example of a Type of Building (**Typology**), architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history
- (v) To be an outstanding example of a **traditional** human settlement, **land-use, or sea-use** which is representative of a cultural (or Cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; Significant interaction between people and the Natural environment have been recognized as Cultural Landscapes
- (vi) To be directly or tangibly **associated** with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

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## Outstanding Universal Value

1. Criteria (i to vi)
2. Integrity and Authenticity
3. Protection and Management

- Comparative Analysis (local and international examples on similar site, value & significance to international context, develop the narrative, and rationale)
- different value (Protection and Conservation Management Plan of the site)
- Attributes (tangible and intangible elements)
- Inventory

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### Serial Nominations:

- clear link between the component parts of series and for each part to contribute substantially to the OUV of the whole- potential unmanageability of some very large serial protection
- serial nominations are not a catalogue/ series of sites, each property must have some component to justify for the serial approach.

Type	%	No of NVs (1958)	Description	Names of NVs for inclusion in Proposed Tentative List
A	51.64	285	Entirely New Villages	Chaah New Village, Segamat Johor Pandamaran New Village, Selangor Jenjarom New Village, Selangor Machap Baru New Village, Melaka Rasah New Village, Negeri Sembilan Titi New Village, Negeri Sembilan Salak Selatan New Village, Kuala Lumpur
B	40.03	221	New Villages attached to other communities other than towns	Berapit New Village, Bukit Mertajam, Penang Sekinchan New Village (Site A, B, C), Selangor
C	8.33	46	New Villages attached to older towns	Papan New Village, Perak
	100.00	552		

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ICOMOS MALAYSIA  
NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP

REPORT 1  
(15 MAY 2022)

Website: <https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/newvillage-2>  
Email: [newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com)

ICOMOS MALAYSIA  
NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP

REPORT 2  
(15 JUNE 2023)

The report is prepared by  
ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP (NVWG)

Website: <https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/newvillage-2>  
Email: [newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com)

**ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG**

**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Report (15 May 2022)**  
<http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2703/>

**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report (15 June 2023)**  
<http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2907/>

The report was accepted into l'Archive Ouverte de l'ICOMOS : e-publications sur le patrimoine culturel.  
The item is now live at the address:

Website:  
<https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/newvillage-2>

To contact us:  
[newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com)

**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**  
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**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**

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Jointly Organized by: Support by:

- Acknowledgement:**
- Maps/ Newspaper Articles:**
1. Singapore National Archive (online)
  2. Malaysia National Archive
  3. Article (newspaper) on Kangchu and Cha'ah NV contributed by Chairman, Board of Management Cha'ah Chinese School
  4. Cha'ah NV farming area by Koperasi Cha'ah Berhad
  5. Old land (farm and house) titles shared by Goh Swee Hee and Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee
  6. The G.S.A Kg Jawa by one of the land owners
  7. Cha'ah map 2021 from Shaiful Fauzi b. Mohmin, Bahagian Perancang Bandar dan Landskap, Majlis Daerah Labis, Johor
  8. Google Map and Google Earth
- Photos:**
1. Current street view photos 2021 by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee
  2. Internal courtyard photos by Ju Weng Hong
  3. Old photos of Cha'ah Chinese Schools by Chia Ah Moy @ Chia Wee Huang, Pang Swee Luan, Ju Weng Hong, Too Hin Chong
  4. Photos relating to Socfm JLE by Mahendran Kuliy, Divakaran a/l Madhavan
  5. Street views of industrial buildings and Kg Mebyu Cha'ah within Cha'ah from GoogleMaps
  6. Photos of plantation by Goh Swee Hee.
- Associations/ Communities Anniversary Publication:**
1. Persatuan Hakka Cha'ah (1858-2008) 50 years Anniversary
  2. Cha'ah Christian Church (1953-2003) 50 years anniversary
- Registration of Society and Schools etc**
1. The registration of formerly Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited, now Koperasi Cha'ah Berhad
  2. The registration of English afternoon School, by Chew Kong Fact

- Communities Participation: Cha'ah NV Working Group**
- Key Focal Points for Chinese/ Malay/ Indian Communities in Cha'ah New Village**
1. Dato' Ir Fong Tian 方天添 (ex-KPKT NVs Works, member of ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG, Malaysia-China Business Council)
  2. Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee 梁俊洲 (Chair, ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG)
  3. Pang Swee Luan 彭雪蓮 (Former Ketua Masyarakat Cha'ah)
  4. Chew Kong Fact 蔡江波 (Chairman, Board of Management Cha'ah Chinese School)
  5. Wong Leng Chin 黃龍興 (Chairman of Alumni Association of SJKC)
  6. Mey Jyue Meng 梅嘉明 (Headmaster SJKC CHAAH)
  7. Chia Ah Moy @ Chia Wee Huang 謝慶芳
  8. Ju Weng Hong 屈洪豐
  9. Wong San Hong 王添榮 (Chairman, Persatuan Hainan Cha'ah)
  10. Too Hin Chong 邱新榮 (Deputy Chairman, Persatuan Hainan Cha'ah)
  11. Chong Sin Thiam 張新添 (Chairman, Persatuan Hakka Cha'ah)
  12. Hong Kok Min 洪國良 (Vice Chairman, Persatuan Hakka Cha'ah)
  13. Yap Hooi Chong (Secretary, Persatuan Hakka Cha'ah)
  14. Sum Kim Seng 劉金強 (Chairman of Kwangsi Provincials Association)
  15. Lew Kim Seng 劉金強 (Vice Chairman of Kwangsi Provincials Association)
  16. Koh Tian Min 柯天明 (Chairman, Persatuan Hokkien Cha'ah)
  17. Tay Siak Yong (Vice Chairman of Persatuan Hokkien Cha'ah)
  18. Yong Soo Len (Pengerusi KRT Chaah Tengah)
  19. Pang Ah Kaw (Pengerusi Koperasi Chaah Berhad)
  20. Lai Ah Lek 黎麗烈 (Secretary Koperasi Chaah Berhad)
  21. Late Goh Swee Hee 吳瑞喜 (PIC of Lu Ren Fa Tan)
  22. Chen Siew Lan (PIC of Christian Church Cha'ah)
  23. Manogaran a/l Ramachandram
  24. Dr. Masadhahani binti Masduki
  25. Masahmah binti Jarkase
  26. Loke Wei Liang
  27. Noor Rizan binti Md Taib
  28. Iman bin Ahmad
  29. Darsim bin Haziz
  30. Satiyan a/l Manimuthu
  31. Araahvindan a/l Ganesan
  32. Dominig a/l Savanimuthu
  33. Tayalan a/l Anindaraja
  34. Foong Chiew Kong
  35. Ng Gee Ho
- 
- THANK YOU -**

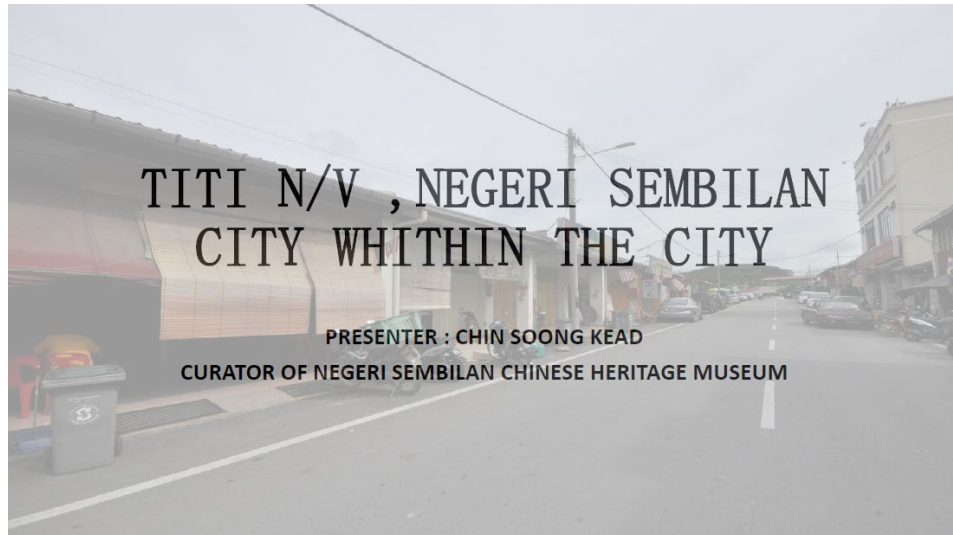
**SECOND GLANCE: NEW VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE**

*Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO*  
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Jointly Organized by: Support by:

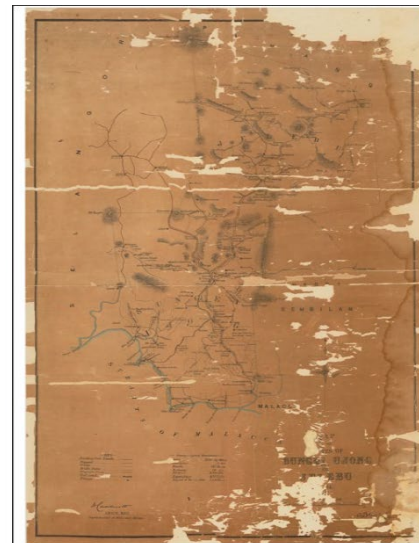
### 2.3.5 Titi New Village, Negeri Sembilan: City within The City

Prepared by Chin Soong Kead



#### History background

- 1883, Jelevu under British control.
- But Titi mining activities begin from early 19 century.
- In 1874, the British colonial government was officially stationed in Sungai Ujong and Jelevu.
- This map of 1894 which carry title Sungai Ujong and Jelevu district, before Negeri Sembilan was formed.



The geographical position of Jelevu, far too remote and isolated to Chinese miners especially from the main mining centres in Pahang.

Frequent internal unrest at Lukut and Sungai Ujong and due to various reason, the Chinese miners found their way into Jelevu look for prospect of tin mining .

In 1888, the bridle track from Sungai Ujong to Jelevu was widened into a cart road, due to demand of miners in Jelevu, particularly Titi.



Titi 5km from Kuala Klawang

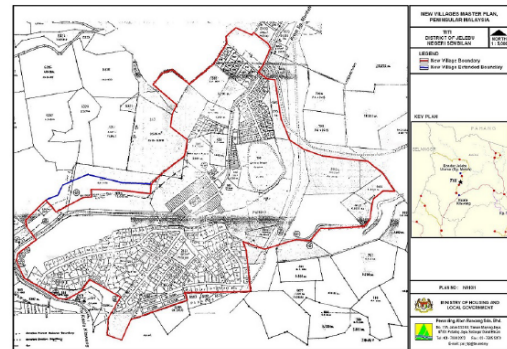
## Population of Jelebu

- 1890 : Estimated 1800 (blythe,1947)
- 1893 : 4,000 (particularly in titi area)
- 20 century 70th : 10,000.judging from biggest chinese school students 1200.
- Households : 3000
- At present not even 1000 households, school students 200.



## Population of Titi

- Year est.1915
- 1991:2,962
- 2000:2,161
- %-27.04
- (chinese95.9%;malay44%;india0.9%)
- Source:census 2000,dept.of statistic



## Old town ship,shop BUILT way back 1900.



## HISTORICAL PLAQUE PROVEN TITI TOWN

In the Titi town old temple Kwong Fook Kong (廣福宮), there is a plaque dated 1905.



## HISTORICAL PLAQUE PROVEN TITI TOWN

This plaque was presented by co.called Kwong Loy (廣來), a company deal with overseas chinese postal and remittance services.

It is evident justify that both services were available in Titi more than 100 years ago:it show that local trade including foreign exchange,were driven by active tin mining activities.



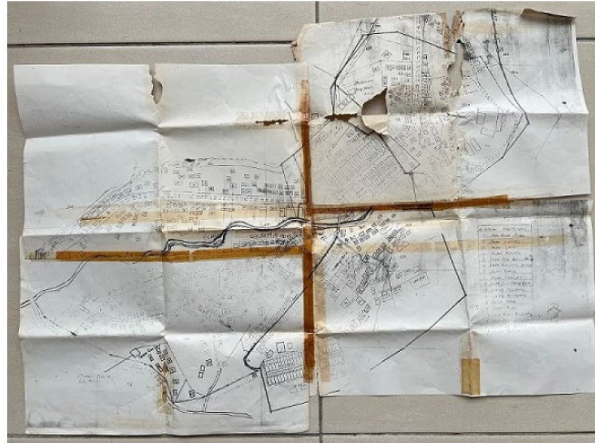
## Lover bridge in Titi

- Knowing the rich tin ore deposits in jinlong (golden dragon) within Titi, british colonial government built a bridge in 1912 to facilitate the extraction and transportation of mineral.
- Dutch architects were engaged to design the bridge which was jointly constructed by local workers.





## Titi old map from district office



### Street name

Jalan besar pekan  
Jalan simpang  
Jalan lama  
Jalan hosapa  
Jalan syed abdullah  
Jalan kampong hosapa  
Jalan timur  
Jalan sekolah  
Jalan siow piang kiow  
Lorong mahfong  
Lorong belakang  
Jalan aman  
Jalan baru  
Jalan besar mahfong  
Jalan besar kimloong Jalan sg.rotan  
Jalan jelundung

(Approximately 74ha)

NO. ON FLAN	STREETS NAME
1.	JALAN BESAR PEKAN
2.	JALAN SIMPANG
3.	JALAN LAMA
4.	JALAN HOSAPA
5.	JALAN SYED ABDULLAH
6.	JALAN KIMLOONG, HOSAPA
7.	JALAN TIMOR
8.	JALAN SEKOLAH
9.	JALAN SIOW PIANG KIW
10.	LORONG MAHFONG
11.	LORONG BELAKANG
12.	JALAN AMAN
13.	JALAN BARU
14.	JALAN BESAR MAHFONG
15.	JALAN BESAR KIMLOONG
16.	JALAN SG ROTAN
17.	JALAN JELUNDUNG

## Mahfong 馬房

•Part of the Titi, name reflect this place being horse breeding ranch.

•N/V surrounded by Titi :  
Sungai muntoh N/V  
Petaling N/V  
Ladang Jelebu (半芭)



## Lotus temple in Titi area

Li wang lian hua an 梨旺蓮花庵 existed in 19<sup>th</sup> century, when mine business begin booming in Titi.

6 km away from Titi.



Thank You

2.3.5 Nomination Process for the UNESCO World Heritage Listing  
Prepared by Rosli Hj Nor

**PROSES PENCALONAN SEBAGAI  
TAPAK WARISAN DUNIA UNESCO**

***Nomination Process for the UNESCO  
World Heritage Listing***

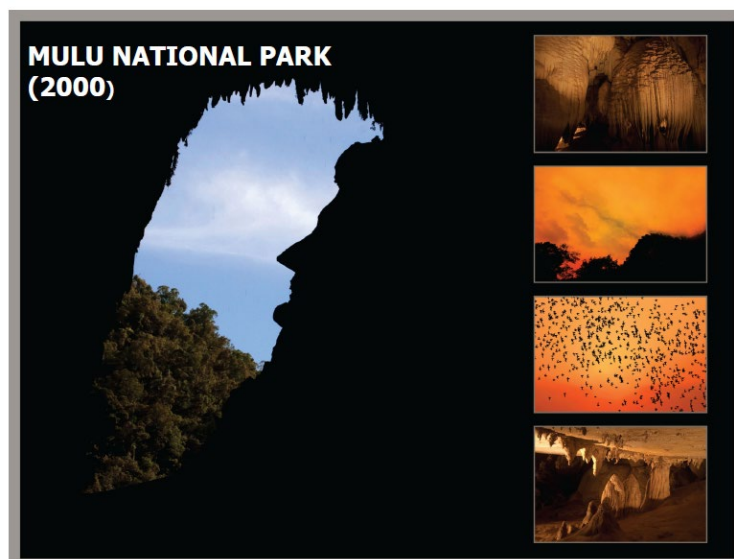
An Introduction :  
Malaysia's World Heritage Properties

## World heritage sites

**UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Cultural and Natural Sites 1972. Malaysia signed and became State Party in 1988. Only members to the Convention could submit nomination for the World Heritage listing.**

Inscribed  
WORLD HERITAGE SITE

No	WH Sites	Number
a	Natural Property (Both inscribed in 2000)	2
b	Cultural Property (Inscribed in 2008 & 2012)	2





## Intangible cultural heritage

UNESCO Convention on the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, 2003.  
Malaysia Ratified the Convention and became State Party in 2013.

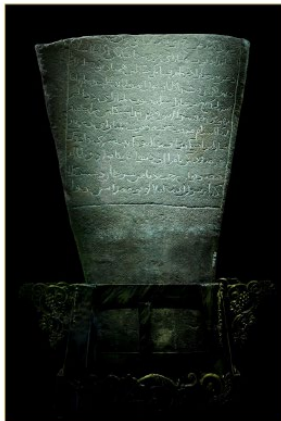
### **Makyong Mystical Dance Theater** Representative List On Intangible Cultural Heritage



## Documentary heritage / Manuscripts / cinematic heritage

### UNESCO MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER

(4) Inscribed Stone of  
Terengganu



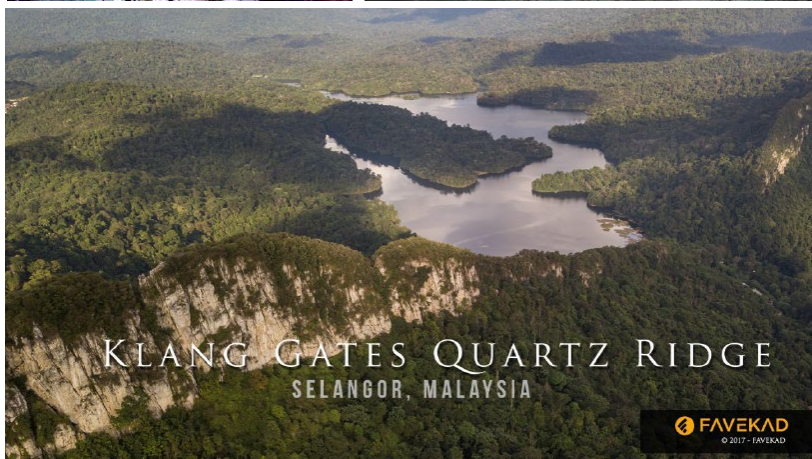
(1) Sejarah Melayu (Malay Annals) &

(2) Hikayat Hang Tuah (The Cronicle of Hang Tuah)



(3) Letters of Sultan Abdul Hamid of  
Kedah







## WORLD HERITAGE LIST

Konvensyen berkaitan:

*"Convention Concerning The Protection of The World Cultural Heritage, 1972".*

(tapak-tapak warisan kebudayaan dan semulajadi)



## KELAYAKKAN UNTUK MENJADI WORLD HERITAGE SITE

- *World significance (outstanding universal value)*
- *Authenticity*
- *Integrity*





## SELECTION CRITERIA

- (i) to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii) to exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;
- (vi) to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria);

....continue

- (vii) to contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;
- (viii) to be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;
- (ix) to be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x) to contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.

## KELEBIHAN

- 1- Pengiktirafan
- 2- Penyelidikan
- 3- Pelancongan / ekonomi
- 4- Bantuan kepakaran
- 5- Pemeliharaan / pemuliharaan



### UNESCO Operational Guidelines (Para 148)

The following principles must guide the evaluations and presentations of ICOMOS and IUCN. The evaluations and presentations should:

- adhere to the World Heritage Convention and the relevant Operational Guidelines and any additional policies set out by the Committee in its decisions;
- be objective, rigorous and scientific including in considering all information provided to the Advisory Bodies regarding a nomination;
- indicate clearly and separately whether the property has OUV, meets the conditions of integrity and/or authenticity, a management plan/system and legislative protection;
- evaluate each property systematically according to all relevant criteria, including its state of conservation, relatively, that is, by comparison with that of other properties of the same type, both inside and outside the State Party's territory;
- provide a justification for their views through a list of references (literature) consulted, as appropriate.

## SERIAL NOMINATION



### PROSES PENCALONAN

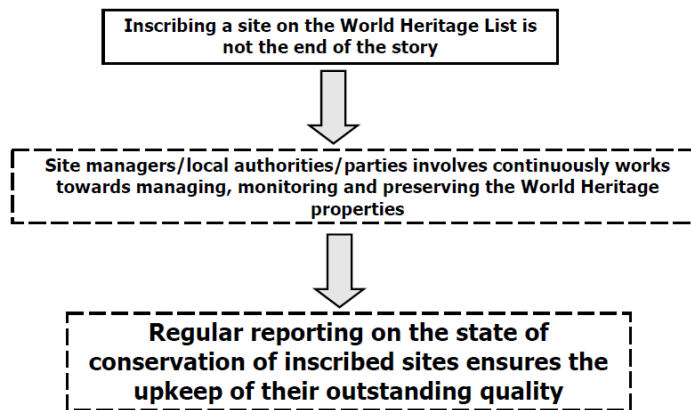
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## KRONOLOGI



## SETELAH DIIKTIRAF



## REPORTING & MONITORING

### Objectives :

1. To **provide assessment** as to whether the outstanding universal value of the properties inscribed in World Heritage List is being maintained over time
2. To provide **up-dated information** about the World Heritage properties to record the changing circumstances and state of conservation properties.
3. To provide a **mechanism for regional co-operation and exchange of information** and experience between States Parties concerning the implementation of the Convention and World Heritage conservation

Allow World Heritage Committee to **assess the conditions at the site and decide the necessity of adopting specific measures to resolve recurrent problems**

2.4 ICOMOS CIVVIH Aisa-Pacific Sub-Committee Online Seminar  
29 May 2024

**ICOMOS CIVVIH Asia-Pacific Sub-Committee Online Seminar**  
**Conservation in Rural Areas,  
Experience from Malaysia, Japan, and China**

**Seminar Host: Zhang Jie**  
Professor of School of Architecture, Tsinghua University  
Dean of School of Architecture and Urban Planning, Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture  
President, ICOMOS CIVVIH Asia-Pacific Sub-Committee

**Seminar Guests: RII HaeUn**  
Emcritus Professor, Dongguk University  
President, ICOMOS PRERICO  
Vice President, ICOMOS CIVVIII

**David Logan**  
Partner of GML Heritage  
Vice President, ICOMOS CIVVIII Asia-Pacific Sub-Committee

**Presentation Speakers:**

**Goh Ai Tee**  
**Title: The Malayan New Villages: Participatory Approaches in Village Conservation**  
Dr. Goh Ai Tee is a practicing Architect in Malaysia with over 20 years of working experience. She is a Board Member of ICOMOS Malaysia, and Chair of ICOMOS Malaysia New Village Working Group. With her PhD research work between 2007 to 2010, she acknowledged that for research relating to community and built environment, a holistic approach with community participation is crucial particularly in understanding its cultural and value on preserving and maintaining its heritage.

**Yuga Kariya**  
**Title: Preservation and Utilization of Historic Villages and Towns in Japan**  
Dr. Yuga Kariya is the expert member of CIVVIH, auditor of ICOMOS JAPAN, counselor of the Japanese Association for MACHI-NAMI Conservation and Regeneration, and the ex-councilor on Cultural Properties of Agency for Cultural Affairs in the Government of Japan. He gets his doctor in engineering and is a professor emeritus in Oyama National College.

**Luo Deyin**  
**Title: The Cultural Strategy of Rural Vitalization in Songyang County**  
Luo Deyin is a professor of architectural history at the School of Architecture, Tsinghua University, Beijing. After completing his PhD in architecture in 2003, he has devoted to the research and protection of Chinese vernacular architecture and traditional villages. The products of his hard work during the past 20 years are over twenty books published from 2007 to present.

**May 29 (Wednesday), 2024**  
**7:00PM-8:30PM (Beijing, UTC+8)**

ZOOM Meeting Link:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84439945019?pwd=IsU3gVEN1c4xePlrTdrO57sbJ7sGwC.1>  
Meeting ID: 844 3994 5019  
Passcode: 524333

Host: ICOMOS CIVVIH Asia-Pacific Sub-Committee  
Organizer: School of Architecture, Tsinghua University  
Supporter: ICOMOS CIVVIH



Below slides presentation prepared by by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee and presented during the online Seminar.

Webinar organized by Asia Pacific Region of CIVVIH

## The Malayan New Villages

### Participatory Approaches in Village Conservation

Prepared by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee  
Board Member, ICOMOS MALAYSIA (2024-2026)  
Chair, ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP (NVWG)

29<sup>th</sup> May 2024, Wednesday  
Support by:

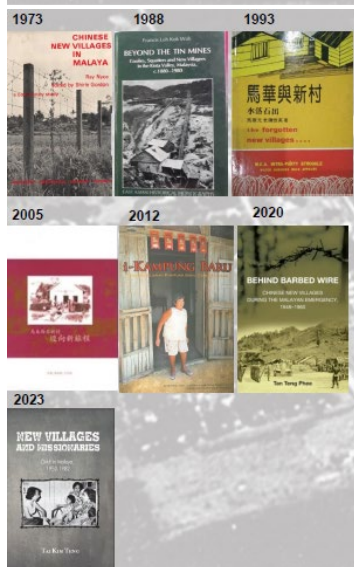


#### Approaches & Strategies:

- 1. Research Team** (Archive/ Private Collection/ Oral History/ Government Survey Work/ Report/ Measured Drawing)
- 2. Community leader (insider vs outsider) & Focus group discussion**
- 3. Webinar/ Symposium/ Workshop & Visits to New Villages** (Facilitator during events/ activities)
- 4. Gallery / Local Museum** (Community initiative & PPP)
- 5. Local/ State/ Federal Government** (Cultural Heritage vs Development)
- 6. Precedent Studies** (Responsible Tourism: Management Plan in preserving/ enhancing cultural heritage value while reducing Impacts on Community)

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**“The outstanding development of the Emergency in Malaya was the implementation of the Briggs Plan...about one million two hundred thousand rural people were corralled into more than 600 ‘new’ settlements, principally New Villages....”**

Source: Kemial Singh Sandhu in Ray Nyce (1973)

The Malayan 'Emergency' (1948 to 1960)

In Early 1950s, over one million persons in Malaya were regrouped or resettled.  
**Regrouped: 650,000 persons**  
 42.2% Indian, 37.8% Chinese, 16.0% Malay & 4% Javanese and Others  
 78.5% on estates, 12.3% in mines and 9.2% in other areas

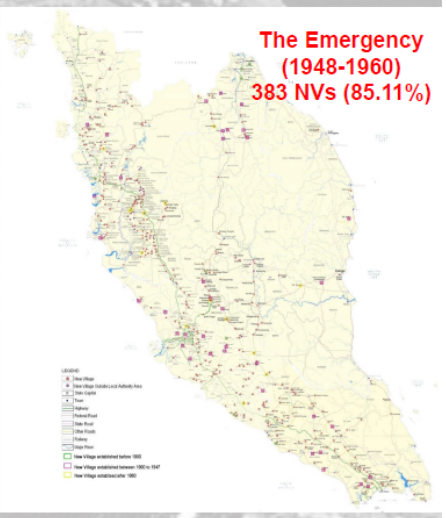
**Resettled: 573,000 persons**

	Population in NVs	No. of NVs	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
1954	10%	480	86%	9%	4%	
2000	1,250,000	450	82%	13%	4%	1%

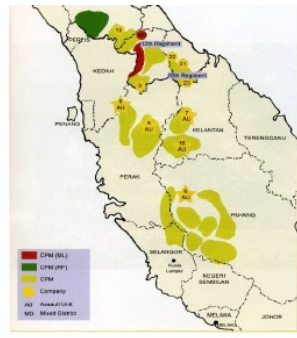
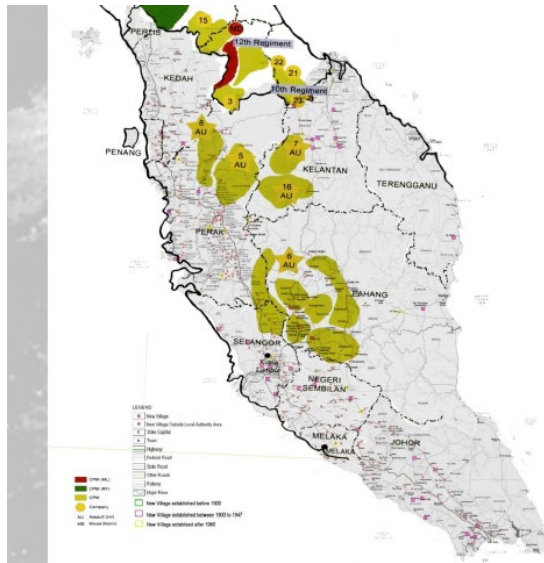
**Secondary Data Sources**

State	Years of Establishment																	Total	
	< 1900	1900-1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	>1960	Unknown		
Johor	1	8	8	9	29	16	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	84
Melaka	1	0	3	4	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	19
NS	1	5	5	5	16	1	5	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	43
WPKL	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Perak	0	3	13	11	70	15	8	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	5	3	134	
Perlis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Selangor	0	8	5	10	9	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	42	
Pahang	1	4	17	11	10	3	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	55	
Terengganu	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Kelantan	3	9	2	1	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	24	
Kedah	0	2	1	0	5	2	16	3	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	33	
Penang	0	0	1	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>450</b>	

- \* 156 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 34.67%) established b4 1950
- \* 147 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 32.67%) established in 1950
- \* 127 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 28.22%) established from 1951 to 60
- \* May 1950 Briggs Plan in full swings



**To Identify Samples Size**



Map Showing CPN Strength and Disposition in Peninsular Malaysia and Southern Thailand - 1977  
(Copyright © 2009 Internal Security Department, Singapore)

Source:

Ong Wei Chong (2010), "Securing the Population from Insurgency and Subversion in the **Second Emergency (1968-1981)**," PhD Thesis, Research in History, August 2010, University of Exeter

To Identify Samples Size

Padang Lembu New Village, Kedah

LOCATION		POPULATION	
State	Area	Year	2007
Kedah	Kuala Muda	2007	2,200
Nearest town	Padang Lembu	2007	1,100
Local Authority	Kuala Muda Municipal Council	2007	1,100
		Year	2007
		Male	537
		Female	563
		Total	1,100

GENERAL INFORMATION		Age group (2007)	
Area (hectares)	Year established	Male	Female
100.00	1952	537	563
		0-14	108
		15-64	400
		65+	29
		Total	1,100

SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES	
Major economic activity	Agriculture (including rubber and palm)
Employment by sector (percentage of total employment)	
Government	10
Manufacturing and construction	10
Trade and services	80
Other	0

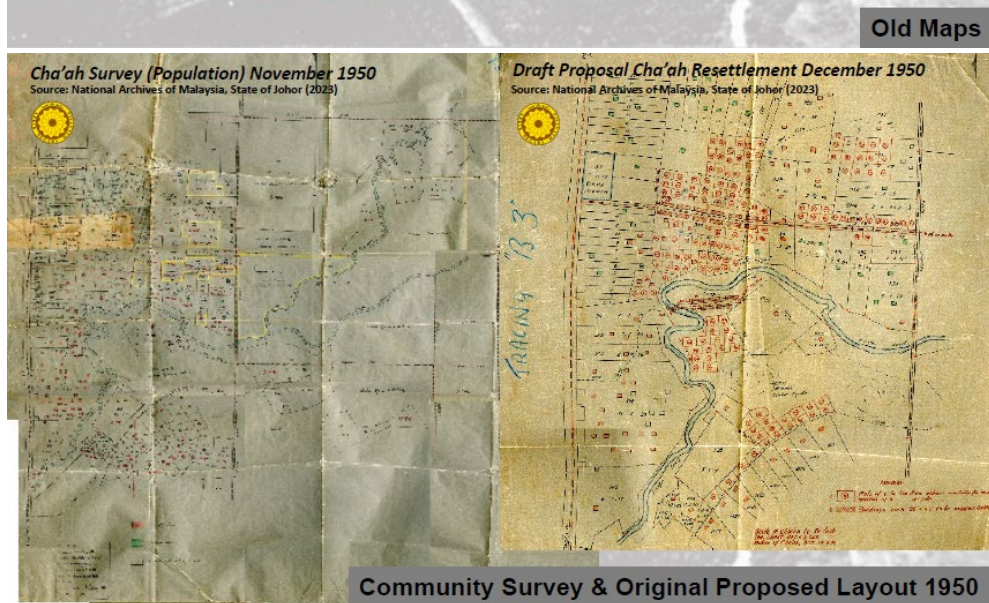
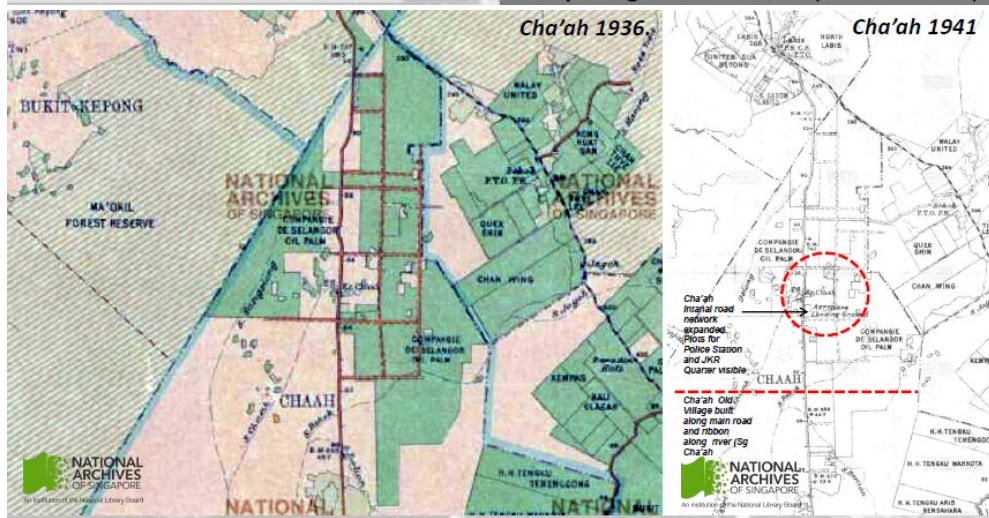
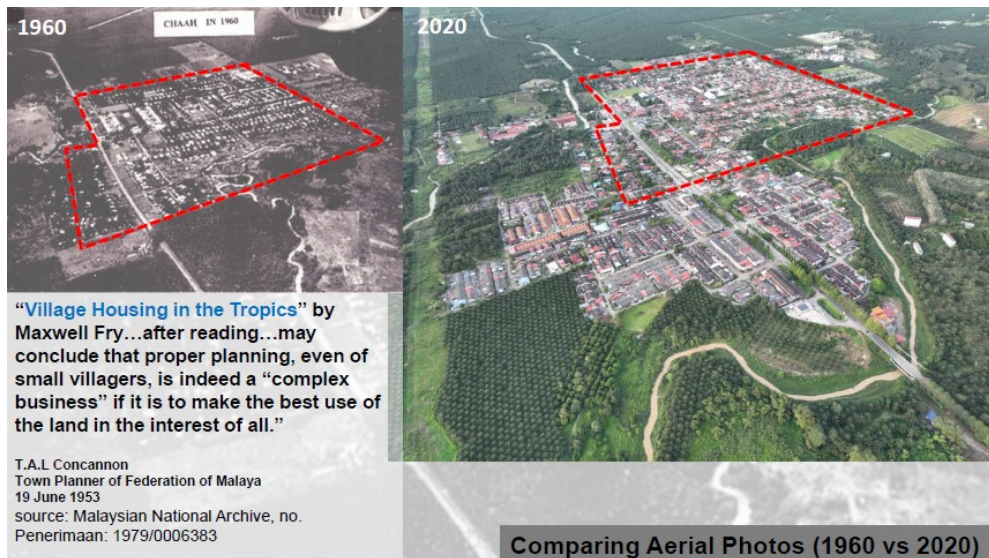
PHYSICAL FEATURES	
Topography	Flat
Forest cover	No
Water bodies	No
Land use	Residential
Land use	Other
Land use	Other

Understanding Samples & Data Collected by KPKT in 2005

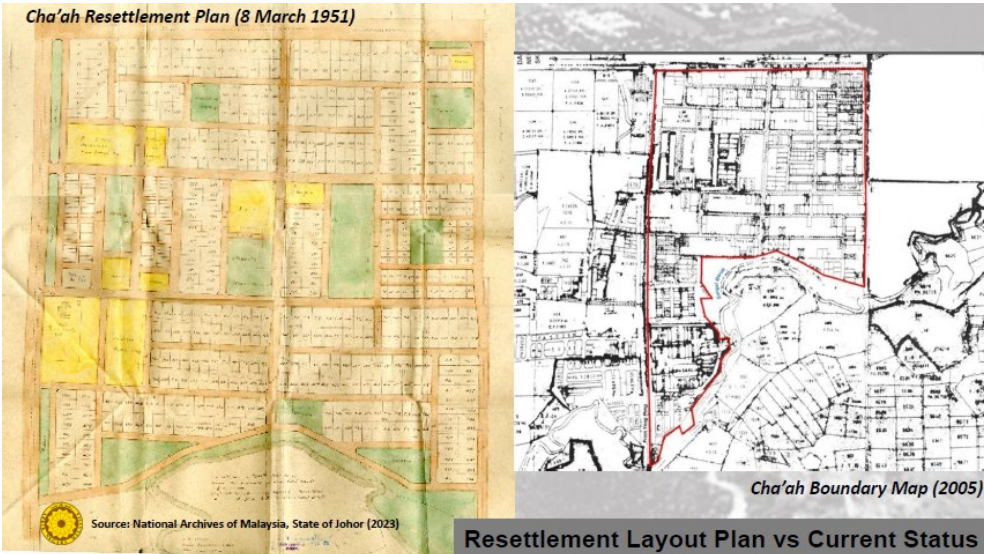
Description	%
A Entirely NVs	32
B Built and small existing villages	24
C Attached to older towns/village	16
D Unclassified	28
Total	100

Source: Ray Nyce (1973: L, Table 6) (1954 - Degree of Newness)

Comparing Boundary Map and Layout







Source: National Archives of Malaysia, State of Johor

**Resettlement Layout Plan vs Current Status**

**Length of Leases:**

The governments of the states and the settlement of Malacca have decided that the majority of land to and around new villages are to be leased with leases for the term specified below.

In most cases, it has been realized that not all the occupants will remain after the emergency period.

The policy has been fixed that to avoid creating a vested interest in the land, and to encourage the occupiers to improve the land, leases for 30 years are given where occupants are not likely to move after the emergency period. In some cases, where the occupiers are expected to build dwellings of a permanent nature, the term of the lease may be extended to 99 years.

The length of leases for houses for land to and around new villages is 30 years, provided the occupants are not likely to move after the emergency period. In some cases, where the occupants are expected to build dwellings of a permanent nature, the term of the lease may be extended to 99 years. This term may be extended to 99 years if the land concerned is in a new village development zone.

**Leases of housing under emergency:**

Occupiers of land within a New Village may apply for a lease to continue to occupy the land after the emergency period.

**"...realize that not all the occupier will remain after the Emergency period."**

**Usual Length of lease for land to and around NVs is 30 years, except**

- Johore (21 years)**
- Negeri Sembilan (25 years) + 30 years**
- Kelantan (30 years) + 99 years**
- Pahang (10 years if within half a mile of a town board**

Source: National Archives of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur (2021)

**JOHORE GOVERNMENT FLEET (REVENUE) Circular/105/1951**

**POLICE RESOURCES, POINT OF LAND TO NEW VILLAGES**

In villages which are likely to remain permanent, long lots and dwelling houses will normally be allocated on 99 year leases. The term will normally be about 1/6 of the area of the land. The area of the lots will normally be about 1/6 of the area of the land. The area of the lots will normally be about 1/6 of the area of the land. The area of the lots will normally be about 1/6 of the area of the land.

The term of the leases shall not be extended, unless on such terms as may be determined by the Director of Land Revenue. The term of the leases shall not be extended, unless on such terms as may be determined by the Director of Land Revenue.

The above provision in respect shall apply to all leases on the terms of 1/6 of the area of the land to and around new villages.

**Johore:  
Dwelling house lots in NV normally  
1/6 of an acres in area**

Source: National Archives of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur (2021)

**JOHORE:**

Agriculture land adjoining NVs - 2 or 3 acres

Source: National Archives of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur (2021)

**Archival Documents**

**SWEEP AND SOUR**

NUMBER

...the village...

**JUSTICE**

...the village...

**SUNGEI CHAAH SAVED FROM BANDIT MENACE**

**Whole Village Rebuilt**

By P. M. RAMAN, Standard Special Correspondent

ABOUT 150 houses of Sungai Chaah are being dismantled and rebuilt near a police station half-a-mile away, because that sprawling village has proved to be the weakest link in the chain of strongposts in that bandit-infested part of Johore.

The present Sungai Chaah lies on both sides of the Lela's Tempang Road and

Eight villages around this area have already been fenced off against bandit incursion, but this village which has been known to be frequented by terrorist agents for food supplies had to be protected, but it was impossible for the police to exercise effective supervision in the built up area as it stood.

The defence problem was further complicated by the fact that the village was cut in two by a stream running right in the centre.

Mr. J. S. H. Cunningham-Brown, the Resettlement Officer for Johore, gave these facts yesterday when his attention was drawn to The Standard column.

"Tribunal" comments recently that a whole village was being removed to suit the convenience of a police station.

It is nothing but a repetition of Leducq nor of Jenderam, but as simple case of town planning and better conditions of living for the inhabitants of this agricultural village, he said.

The police station happened to be the only building constructed according to the original plan drawn up in 1936, the rest of the buildings were just ribbon development he added.

This village could not be fenced off, as it existed, and to concentrate the buildings on both sides of one section of the road, involving minimum disturbance to the villagers, would have meant the perpetuation of ribbon development, and unsatisfactory living conditions.

So the Government thought to resettle these villagers in a new town on the eastern side of the road, where the police station now stands. Here they could enjoy adequate protection of the security forces and carry on their trade and agriculture in peace and safety, said Mr. Cunningham-Brown.

Household are being given \$200 each as compensation for the possible loss of trade and to meet incidental expenses in carrying their goods to the new site.

This is besides free aluminium roofings and poles given to them at Government expense to build their new houses, he said.

Mr. Cunningham-Brown paid a tribute to the leaders of the Malayan Chinese Association for their help in resettling this village.

He said: "Datu Tat Cheng Loo, the President of the MCA, had discussions with representatives of the people of Chaah recently and it has been very greatly due to his support of the Government plan that things are going on smoothly."

**New resettlement area opened in Johore**

PHOTOGRAPH taken at the opening and handover of the new village.

...the village...

**Newspapers**

### \$4,720 grant for village playground

**JOHORE BAHRU, Sat.**—The Social Welfare Lottery Board has made a grant of \$4,720 to the **Chaah Village Local Council** towards the cost of erecting a playground. The cheque was handed over to Mr. Ling Yee Chor, chairman of the **Chaah** Local Council, by **Indeh Mohamed Saig bin Tahir**, District Officer, Segamat.

Newspaper: The Singapore Free Press  
Date: 14 May 1960  
Reel Number: NL2451

### 'WHISPERS: DRAMATIC NEW MOVE Templer letters go out in 5 towns

## WORST AREAS ARE VISITED

**KUALA LUMPUR, Saturday.** If 15,000 people in the Federation co-operate tonight, the High Commissioner, General Sir Gerald Templer, should be in possession of the deepest secrets of the Communist terrorists within the next day or two.

Today, "Operation Question," a practically painless method of obtaining information about the Communists, was put into effect in five towns and villages in some of the worst areas in the Federation.

It was emphasized officially in Kuala Lumpur and in all five towns that the operation was in no way a punitive measure against the people of the town but was merely a method of obtaining information.

Newspaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 11 May 1952  
Reel Number: NL02426

### Victory for Alliance

**SEGAMAT, Sun.**—Alliance candidates won all four seats in local council elections at **Chaah** yesterday.

At Bekoh the Alliance won three of the four seats contested, the Socialist Front taking the fourth.

At Labis the Alliance also won three seats, with the other going to the Socialist Front.

Newspaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 19 December 1960  
Reel Number: NL22118

The five villages in which the operation began this afternoon were: **Tecap** in South Perak, **Broga** in South Selangor, **Uring** in Central Pahang, **Chang** in Central Johore, and **Layang Layang** in South Johore.

"The villages selected were not chosen because of their bad reputation but because the security forces desire more information about the terrorist gangs operating in these particular areas," a Federation Government statement issued tonight said.

All the five villages chosen, however, are known centres of bandit activity and all have terrible records for harbouring Communist **MIA Yoon**.

The operation used today was a modification of the system Mr. Gerald Templer employed to obtain information in **Tanjong Malim**. There was no long survey, accompanied by half-recluse, this time.

In all five villages, police, army and civilian teams arrived this afternoon and assembled the inhabitants before appealing to them for the co-operation which was necessary to make the operation a success.

They were told that they would have to return to their houses at 5 p.m. instead of 7 p.m. which is the usual night-time curfew in all these villages.

They would be handed letters from Sir Gerald—one in each family—which it was hoped they would answer.

All letters, placed in envelopes addressed to Sir Gerald Templer himself, will be collected tomorrow morning.

Later they will be taken under armed escort together with three of the leading bandits of each village to King's House where they will be handed over to Sir Gerald personally.

The questions listed by Sir Gerald were:

1. What are the names and addresses of persons who supply food to the bandits?
2. Who are the local food suppliers of the bandits?
3. How do they smuggle food?
4. Where are the bandit camps and food dumps in your area?
5. Give the names of the distributors of subscription letters from the bandits.
6. Who are the subscription collectors on estates and factories?
7. Who are the bandit couriers where it is their hiding place and their meeting places?
8. Who are responsible for circulating bandit propaganda to the youth in your village by asking them to join the bandits?
9. Who are the propagandists themselves and what are their methods?
10. Who are the bandit medical suppliers?
11. Who has given first aid to the bandits?
12. Have you ever seen any young men who are believed to be scattered in the brooding hills and jungles around the village?

All letters carried the message from Sir Gerald to read like a letter from a friend and at the bottom of each letter was Sir Gerald's bold signature.

In one respect the system used today differed from the system in **Tanjong Malim**.

People in the villages were told that they could still give their information anonymously and obtain the valuable rewards for bandit kills.

"If your information is of value," they were told "you can put a secret mark on the top of the first page in the space provided and when answers collected the bandits are arrested which you know are no information given by you, you can write to Post Office Box 4500 using your secret mark to claim your reward."

In **Broga**, a village of 1,600 people, which has had more bandits than any other village of similar size in Selangor, the inhabitants were taken by surprise this evening when a jeep carrying the officer commanding of Royal Marine Commando, **Lt. Col. The Honourable** headed a long convoy of Commandos, **RAP Regiment**, police and civilians into the main street.

In five minutes the main street was thronged with children. Most surprisingly, they comprise more than half the population of the village.

It is a community without its young men who are believed to be scattered in the brooding hills and jungles around the village.

The man who first spoke to them in **Castroville** today was a European member of the **Malayan Civil Service**, **Mr. Hugh Brown**, who was followed immediately by a surrendered bandit who had formerly operated with **Liew Koo Sim** in whose area **Broga** lies.

Newspapers



Data Verification (Tan Kian Fatt, PhD Candidate from New Era University)

**1870s-1900**

1898

Kangchu System River as main transport Link to Batu Pahat Gambier Plantation

Chinese Temple

Tomb stone

**1901-1930**

1920

1926

Sungai Cha'ah

Garden City Planning

FIRST EXHIBITION IN BRITISH MALAYA.

**1931-1950**

1930

1931

1941

SOFCIN

1930: French Church

1930: Chinese School

**1951-1960**

Sweet & Sour..... Whole Village Resettled due to Spatial Design Town Planning at NV

27.08.1951

10.12.1951: 1<sup>st</sup> NV to set up Missionary by China Inland Mission.

11.2.1953: 1<sup>st</sup> NV to set up Village Committee

Population 1953:  
C: 5,354 (72%)  
M: 1,300 (17%)  
I: 760 (10%)  
O: 20 (1%)  
Total: 7,434  
House: 716  
Shophouse: 198

26.08.1955 - Cha'ah HG (600) is one of the strongest command post in Malaya

1955: Golf Club (JLE)  
31.08.1957: Malaya Independence  
27.08.1958: Cha'ah declared as 'White Area'  
1960 - \$4,720 grant for village playground

27.11.1949: IC registration 1<sup>st</sup> in BP

Chronological Events

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**COMPLEX PAST: DIVERSE FUTURES MALAYSIAN 'NEW VILLAGES'**  
 Brought to you by ICOMOS MALAYSIA'S NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP  
 17 April 2021 3pm-5.30pm  
 Moderated by: Dr. Nik Matlisa NA. Muhammad

**NVWG Webinar Series 2**  
 Saturday 18 December 2021 9.00 A.M. - 11.00 A.M. (GMT+8)  
 Moderated by: Dr. Nik Matlisa NA. Muhammad

**Icomos Malaysia New Village Working Group talk series #3**  
 16 April 2022, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 (GMT+8)  
**NEW VILLAGES Planned Villages?**

## Webinar – research works sharing session

**SIMPOSIUM**  
**Second Glance: New Vision for New Village**  
 Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Tarikh:** 12, 13, 14 Oktober 2022 (Jumaat, Sabtu, Ahad)  
**Lokasi:** Xetra Hotel, Sabering Pira.  
**Tentatif:** 12 Ogos 2022 (Jumaat) Jamuan Malam Perseaman  
 13 Ogos 2022 (Sabtu) Pembentangan Kartas Kerja  
 14 Ogos 2022 (Ahad) Lawatan Tapak ke Kampung Baru Bergotong Perbincangan antara Agensi

**Disokong oleh:** PETACE

**Disokong oleh:** Pejabat EXCO Kerajaan Negeri Pulau Pinang, Perancangan dan Ekonomi Kreatif (PETACE)



**SIMPOSIUM**  
**Second Glance:**  
**New Vision for New Village**  
 Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Tarikh** 25 Februari 2023 (Sabtu)  
**Lokasi** JPKK Kampung Baru Chaah, Johor

**Tentatif** 8.30am - Lawatan Tapak ke Kampung Baru Chaah.  
 10.30am - Perasmian oleh YD Tan Chong, ICOR Bekoh Johor.

**Anjuran Bersama** ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG, Kolej Universiti New Era, ICOMOS Malaysia.

**Dengan Sokongan** YD Tan Chong, ADUN Bekoh Johor, Majlis Daerah Labis, Pejabat Daerah Segamat, Yayasan Warisan Johor, Pejabat Daerah dan Tanah Kecil Labis.

**SIMPOSIUM**  
**Second Glance:**  
**New Vision for New Village**  
 Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Tarikh** 27 APRIL 2024 (Sabtu)

**Tentatif** 8.00am - Pendaftaran  
 9.00am - Lawatan Tapak ke Sektoran Site A, Site B, Site C.  
 11.30am - Bengkel: Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan.  
 12.40pm - Makan Tengahari  
 1.30pm - Bengkel: Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan, Pengiraan.  
 4.00pm - Ucapan Penutupan oleh Menteri Besar Perak, Menteri Besar Kedah, Menteri Besar Perlis, Menteri Besar Pulau Pinang, Menteri Besar Selangor, Menteri Besar Terengganu, Menteri Besar Johor, Menteri Besar Sabah, Menteri Besar Sarawak, Menteri Besar Negeri Sembilan, Menteri Besar Melaka, Menteri Besar Pahang, Menteri Besar Kelantan, Menteri Besar Kelantan, Menteri Besar Kelantan, Menteri Besar Kelantan.  
 5.00pm - Bersurai.

**Lokasi** Pusat Hala Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan.

**Anjuran Bersama** ICOMOS Malaysia, ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan.

**Dengan Sokongan** Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan, Peninsular Malacca-Tong Pua Sekinchan.

NVWG/3/02-127



## Approaches & Strategies:

1. **Research Team** (Archive/ Private Collection/ Oral History/ Government Survey Work/ Report/ Measured Drawing)
2. **Community leader (insider vs outsider) & Focus group discussion**
3. **Webinar/ Symposium/ Workshop & Visits to New Villages** (Facilitator during events/ activities)
4. **Gallery / Local Museum** (Community initiative & PPP)
5. **Local/ State/ Federal Government** (Cultural Heritage vs Development)
6. **Precedent Studies** (Responsible Tourism: Management Plan in preserving/ enhancing cultural heritage value while reducing Impacts on Community)







## Approaches & Strategies:

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- Symposium jointly organized with local council
- ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG visit to KPKT for presenting the initiative for Cultural and Heritage Preservation in the Malayan New Villages (Feb 2024)
- Brainstorming on Proposed Master Plan for Development in New Villages in Malaysia (April 2024)



General Notes On Design and Layout of Resettlement Area in 1951	
Category	Criteria
A	Selection of Site
	1. Planning Survey & Socio Economic
	2. Data
	3. Procedure
	4. Cost of Land
B	Layout of Site
	1. Socio Economic Data
	2. Topography/ Road Pattern
	3. Connectivity
C	Design and Layout
	1. Size of Lots
	2. Road Pattern
	3. Public and Communal Buildings
	4. Water Supply
	5. Open Spaces
	6. Security

- major principles/ guidelines for resettlement outlined by General Briggs in 1951
- Where possible, resettlement villages were to be located on main roads or other major transportation arteries.
  - Villagers were to be relocated, wherever possible, on rolling terrain to promote drainage
  - Squatters were to be concentrated into compact villages which were fenced-in and protected by a police post capable of commanding the entire village, most particularly, the village gate
  - Villages were to be sited in such a manner as to minimize squatter dislocation, and apart from security, the most important aspect to be considered in deciding upon a site had to be the economy of the future settlers
  - Standardised disturbance grants were paid to all squatters forced to vacate their homes and a subsistence allowance to each individual forced to give up their land or job upon moving to the new site.
  - Generally, there should be no more than 6 houses (families) per acre of residential land. This permitted each family to have a vegetable garden on their house lot if they so desired
  - Sufficient water was to be supplied, either from adjacent towns, or from wells within the village, health and fire regulations were expected to be observed.
  - Amenities such as schools, dispensaries, community centres, etc had to be provided as quickly as possible
  - Sufficient agriculture land of good quality was to be provided for all agriculturists forced to abandon their previous holdings. Agriculturists should have their land situated within 2 to 3 miles of the villages to enable them to transport manure from their stay in the villages to their fields.
  - Estate workers had to be within 2 miles of their places of employment

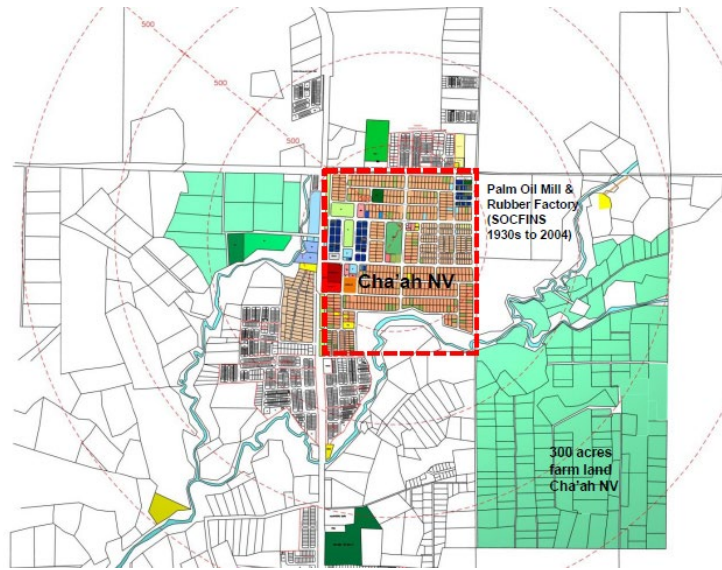
## UNESCO WHS: 6 Criteria for Cultural Heritage Site

- To represent a Masterpiece of human creative genius;
- To exhibit an important Interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- To bear a unique or at least exceptional Testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living or which has disappeared;
- To be an outstanding example of a Type of Building (Typology), architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history
- To be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a cultural (or Cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; Significant interaction between people and the Natural environment have been recognized as Cultural Landscapes
- To be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

### The Malayan 'Emergency' (1948 to 1960)

- The Briggs' Plan: 10 general strategies and notes from Town Planning Department, FMS
- The Omnipresence of Government Agents :
  - District Officer (DO), Assistance District Officer (ADO)
  - Resettlement Officer (RS), Assistant Resettlement Officer (ARS)
  - Chinese Affairs Officer (CAO), Assistant Chinese Affairs Officers (CAAO)
  - New Village Headmen
- The development of Community based institutions:
  - Village Committee later known as Local Councils (administrative organization)
  - Home Guard unit (self-defence organization)
  - the MCA (political party)
  - co-operatives
  - missionary bodies
  - voluntary organizations such as the British Red Cross Society and the St John Ambulance Brigade
  - Other social organizations include Boy Scouts and Girl Guides
- Education System: SRJK(C) Cha'ah - Malaysianization

- New Village + Planning
- New Village + Security
- New Village + Management
- New Village + Missionaries
- New Village + Education
- New Village + Social
- New Village + Economy
- New Village + Religion
- New Village + Food
- New Village + Culture



**Cha'ah NV**  
 Segamat, Johor  
 1951 – 76,013 hectares  
 NVs over 5,000 person

**Total # households (1953):**  
 716 Houses +198 (shophouse)

*Cha'ah Resettlement Area (1951)*

*The layout prepared by Chief Surveyor Johor on 8 March 1951 (S.O. 132.51)*  
 house lot: 40'x80' - 80 lots  
 house lot: 60'x120' - 436 lots  
 Shop lot: 20'x80' - 96 lots  
 Shop lot: 20'x70' - 18 lots

**12 April 1951:**  
 Resettlement Officer Johor – J.S.H Cunningham Brown

**Town Planning (Better condition)**  
**Security (adequate protection)**  
 Carry on trade and agriculture in peace and safety

**NV + Planning**



**Books**  
**Malaysian Chinese Contributions**  
 By Mei Kuan

The badge to be issued to Auxiliary Police and Kampong Home Guards. The badges for Guards will be the same except that Auxiliary Police and Kampong Guard will be substituted for "Home Guard" at the bottom of the badge.

**Symbol Of Service To Malaya**

Recognition of the fighting spirit of the Auxiliary Police, Kampong Guards and Home Guards in defending life and property in Malaya against the Communist bandits is made by the Government with the issue of new badges for all men who have completed three months' service.

The badges will be presented to serving members of each force by Senior Officers at special parades and will become the personal property of each member, only to be withdrawn in the event of dismissal or dishonourable discharge.

**MEMOIRS**  
*of the Malayan Armed Forces Veterans*

**DRAFT COPY NOT FOR SALE**

**NV + Security**



**New resettlement area opened in Johore**

Newspaper: The Straits Times  
 Date: 27 August 1951  
 Real Number: NLO2509

A PHOTOGRAPH taken at the opening of Cha'ah Resettlement, Johore. Seated (left to right) — Innan-Cha'ah, Inche Abdul Rahman, Mr. I. E. Abbey, Inche Yusoff bin Ali, Inche Haron, Mr. T. F. Capellan, Mr. D. R. L. Massy Collier, Mr. Harrables, O.S.F.C. Segamat, Mr. B. E. Gagnéwin, Administrative Officer, Batu Pahat, Mr. Leong Yew Chue, Mr. De Silva, Inche Othman bin Mohamed, Dr. E. A. Hineslett, Towkay Tan Soong Lian, Mr. Cheng Chee Ting and Mr. Tan Hock Peng.

**2 resettlement officers in Segamat**  
 1. G. Scott (16.4.51 to 20.1.53)  
 2. Davod T. Luscomber (20.2.52 to 27.6.56)

**2 Assistant Resettlement officers working in Cha'ah NV**  
 1. George Lim (2.9.52 to 16.1.59)  
 2. Robert Goh

**NV + Management**

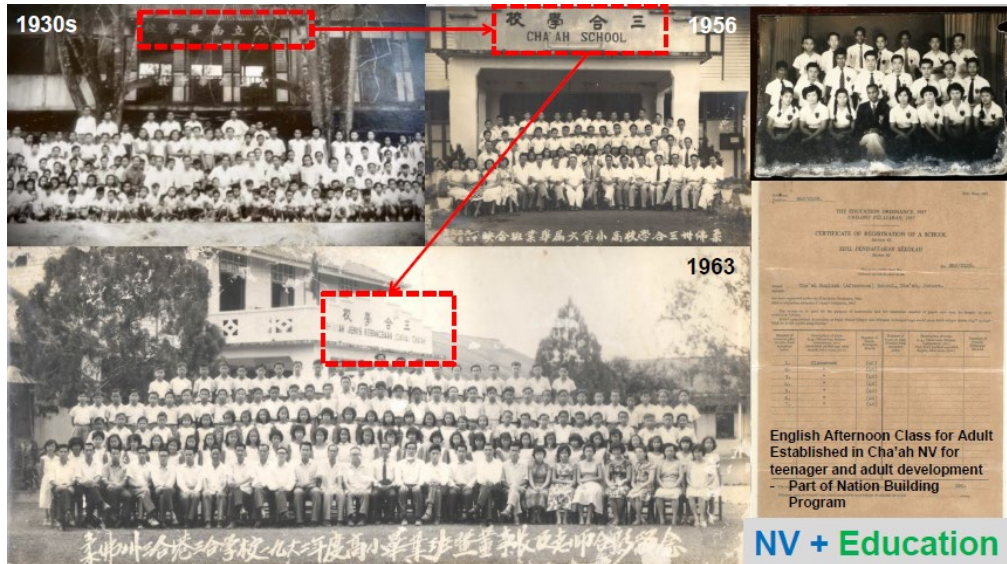


1954年初，三合港基督教  
会礼拜堂建成

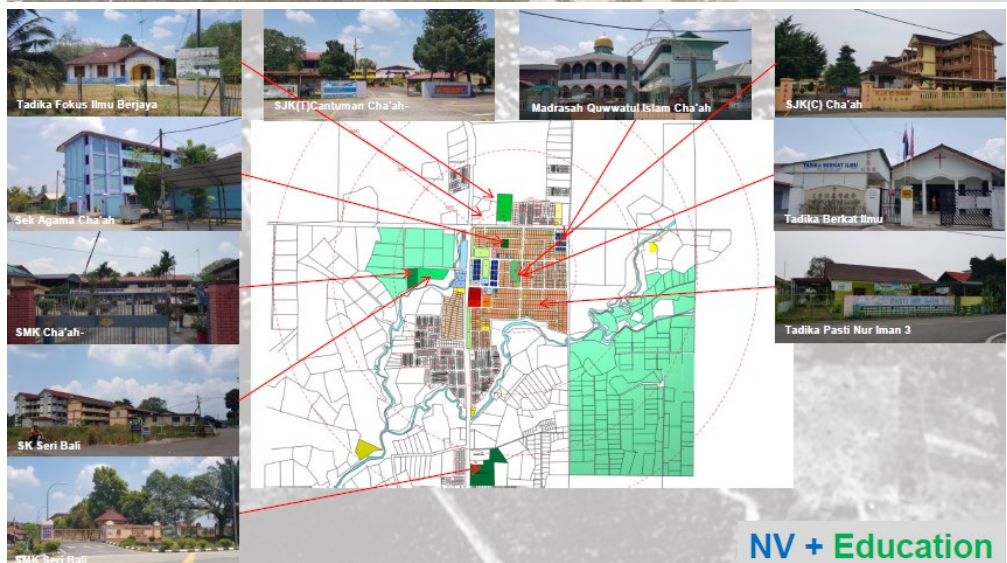
教堂建成后，主日崇拜人数达40人左右



NV + Missionaries



NV + Education



NV + Education

Cha'ah Pos Office

Cha'ah Community Hall

Cha'ah Village Representative Centre

Cha'ah Old Folk Home

Cha'ah Bus and Taxi Station

Cha'ah Columbarium Centre

Cha'ah Police Station

Cha'ah Wet Market

Cha'ah Rela/ Fire Department

Cha'ah Health Clinic

Cha'ah Hawker Centre

**NV + Social**

Cha'ah Farmer's Recreational Centre

Hokkian Association

Buddhist Association (Phor Tor Festival)

Tai Chi Chuan Association Cha'ah branch

Hakka Association

Hainan Association

Kwangxi Association

MIC Cha'ah branch

MCA Cha'ah branch

**Clan Associations and Community Centres**

**NV + Social**

Green belt (Main Trunk Road) Jalan Labis and Cha'ah NV

Village Green Field - soccer

Green belt Jalan Kilang and Cha'ah NV

Village Green Field - Children Playground

Village Green Field - Children Playground and Sepak Takraw

Green belt Jalan Penghulu Yusus and Cha'ah NV

Village Green Field - Basketball

Green belt Sungai Cha'ah and Cha'ah NV

Green belt (Main Trunk Road) Jalan Labis and Cha'ah NV

Green belt (Main Trunk Road) Jalan Labis and Cha'ah NV

**Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles Neighbourhood Unit Concept**

**NV + Social**

**Workers Housing Quarter**  
4 rows single storey  
2 rows double storey  
2 shops  
Tamil School

**Cha'ah NV**

**1960 Socfin's Largest Palm Oil Mill IN SEA**  
Socfin Maturated Rubber = Rubber Processing Factory

Source: Mahendran Kutty (Socfin Group Behand Ex-resident at JLE)

Source: Secretary, Koperasi Cha'ah Behand formerly known as Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited)

**Joint effort**  
Agriculture: The members of Cha'ah New Village have formed a co-operative, known as Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited, to manage the 300 acres of land given to them by the Government.

**300 acres farm land dedicated for villagers open for application, at \$50/ acre Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited registered on 12 Nov 1954**

**Land title issued on 1972 (21 years)**

**Community based institution: Co-operatives**

**NV + Economy**

**Masjid Jamek Cha'ah**

**Indigenous (OMF) - Cha'ah Christian Church**

**Buddhist Temple - Shung Hee To**

**Catholic - Tamil Methodist Church**

**Taoist Temple - Hong Xian Gong (New)**

**Kuil - Tiruchendur Murugan**

**Taoist Temple - Fa Han Gong**

**Taoist Temple - Hong Xian Gong (Old)**

**Madrasah Quwwatul Islam Cha'ah**

**Taoist Temple - Liu Ren Fa Tan**

**Catholic - Church of St Anthony**

**NV + Religion**

**Kafe Chaah**  
Serving traditional and modern dishes, including local specialties and pastries.

**三合港精麵粉**  
Specialty flour products and baked goods.

**Wan An Si 小食店**  
Local street food and snacks.

**De'Villa Kopitiam**  
Coffee shop serving traditional and modern beverages.

**Homestay Chaah**  
Local accommodation and dining.

**報善美餐**  
Family-style dining with traditional dishes.

**隆華海鮮飯店**  
Seafood restaurant with a variety of dishes.

**新日發 經濟麵粉店**  
Economy noodle shop with various noodle dishes.

**亞洲經濟飯**  
Asian economy food with affordable prices.

**NV + Food**



## Approaches & Strategies:

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**SỐ BỐ THĂM QUẬN LĂNG GŨM THÀNH HÀ - INTERESTING PLACES IN THÀNH HÀ POTTERY VILLAGE**

**Trades for experience & local economy Management Plan**

**LOCAL FOOD TOUR "EAT LIKE LOCAL"**

**THE PRICE: 550K**

**Local Food Management Plan**

**Haberfield Garden Suburb, Sydney (developed in 1901)**

**EXAMPLE: A safer and pleasant walk for pedestrian and place to park**

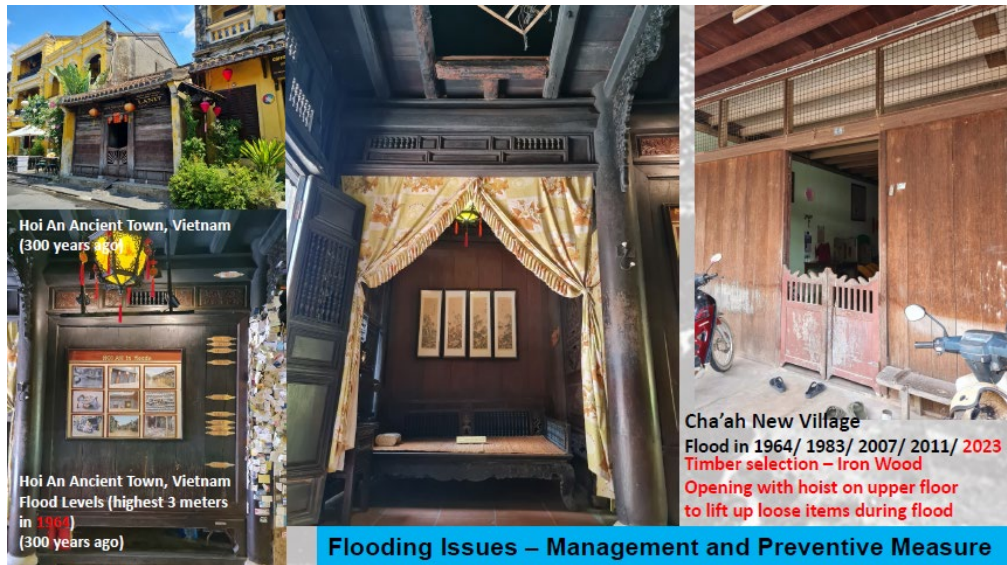
**Cha'ah New Village (1980s)**

**Cha'ah New Village (2024)**

**To replant trees and plan for pedestrian walkway and vehicle parking**

**Landscape (Soft and Hard) - Hot & Humid Climate (Micro Climate & Vehicle Management)**





2.5 International Correspondents and Youth Talents Exchange Meeting  
28 May 2024, Organized by Asian Network of Industrial heritage (ANIH)

## 2024 ANIH

### 國際通訊員 暨青年人才交流會

International Correspondents  
and Youth Talents  
Exchange Meeting



05.28 Tue. 13:00 (GMT+8)

## 專題講者 | Keynote Speakers



**Stacy Vallis**  
紐西蘭國際文化紀念物與歷史場所委員會主席  
ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand President  
ICOMOS國際新興專業人才增進跨世代之間的對話  
The ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group: Enhancing Intergenerational Dialogue



**吳愛蒂 | Ai Tee Goh**  
馬來西亞國際文化紀念物與歷史場所委員會董事成員  
ICOMOS Malaysia Board Member  
國際新興專業人才在國家委員會董事會中的角色：以馬來西亞為例  
The Role of Emerging Professional on National Committee Boards: The Malaysian Examples



**李兆翔 | Chao-Shiang, Li**  
中國科技大學室內設計系助理教授  
Associate Professor of the Department of Interior Design,  
China University of Technology, Taiwan



**藍博瀚 | Po-Han, Lan**  
陽明一街實驗工坊創辦人  
Yang Ming St. Studio Initiator  
桃園區過去的現代化發展與現今的街屋保存  
The Spatial Modernization of Taoyuan District in the Past and Street Buildings Preservation Nowadays



**曾譯嫻 | Yi-Hsien, Tseng**  
九份金礦博物館副館長  
Jiufen Gold Ore Museum Deputy Director  
活化產業文化資產：我的九份經驗  
Living Heritage: Mine Exploration Experiences in Jiufen

### 議程 — Agenda



## 2024 ANIH

### 國際通訊員 暨青年人才交流會

International Correspondents  
and Youth Talents  
Exchange Meeting

05.28 Tue. 13:00

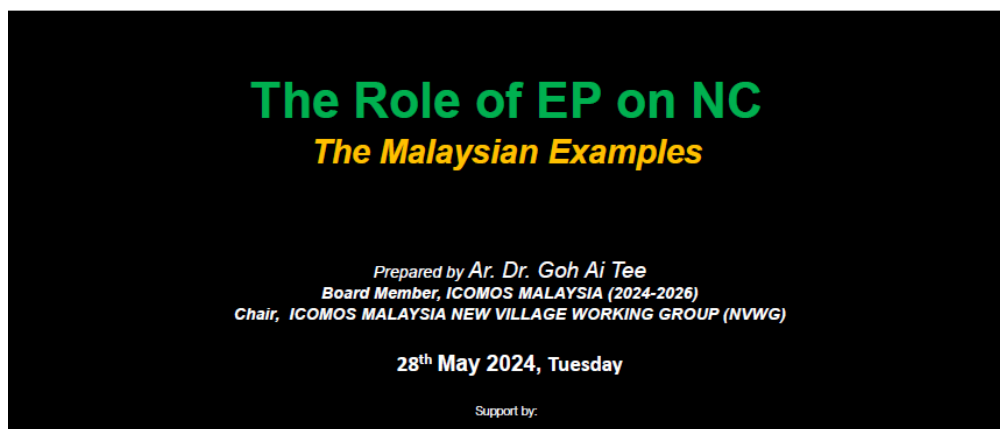
13:00-13:05	<b>Opening</b> Chao-Shiang, Li   Associate Professor of the Department of Interior Design, China University of Technology, Taiwan
13:05-13:10	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b>
13:10-13:30	<b>Keynote 1</b> <b>The ICOMOS Emerging Professionals Working Group: Enhancing Intergenerational Dialogue</b> Stacy Vallis   ICOMOS Aotearoa New Zealand President
13:30-13:50	<b>Keynote 2</b> <b>Living Heritage: Mine Exploration Experiences in Jiufen</b> Yi-Hsien, Tseng   Deputy Director of Jiufen Gold Ore Museum
13:50-14:05	<b>Joint Discussion</b> ANIH International Correspondents
14:05-14:25	<b>Keynote 3</b> <b>The Role of Emerging Professional on National Committee Boards: The Malaysian Examples</b> Ai Tee Goh   ICOMOS Malaysia Board Member
14:25-14:45	<b>Keynote 4</b> <b>The Spatial Modernization of Taoyuan District in the Past and Street Buildings Preservation Nowadays</b> Po-Han, Lan   Yang Ming St. Studio Initiator
14:45-15:00	<b>Joint Discussion</b> ANIH International Correspondents
15:00	<b>Closing</b>

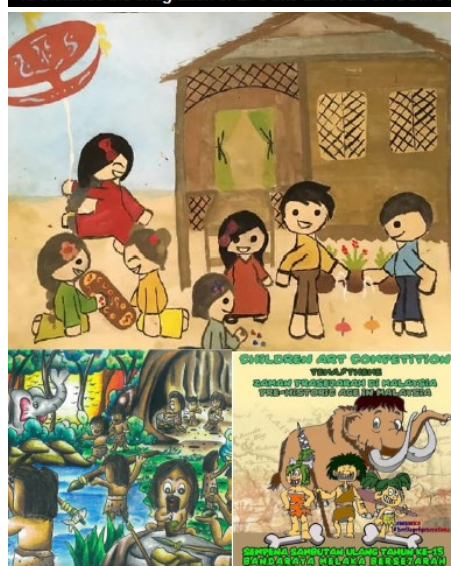
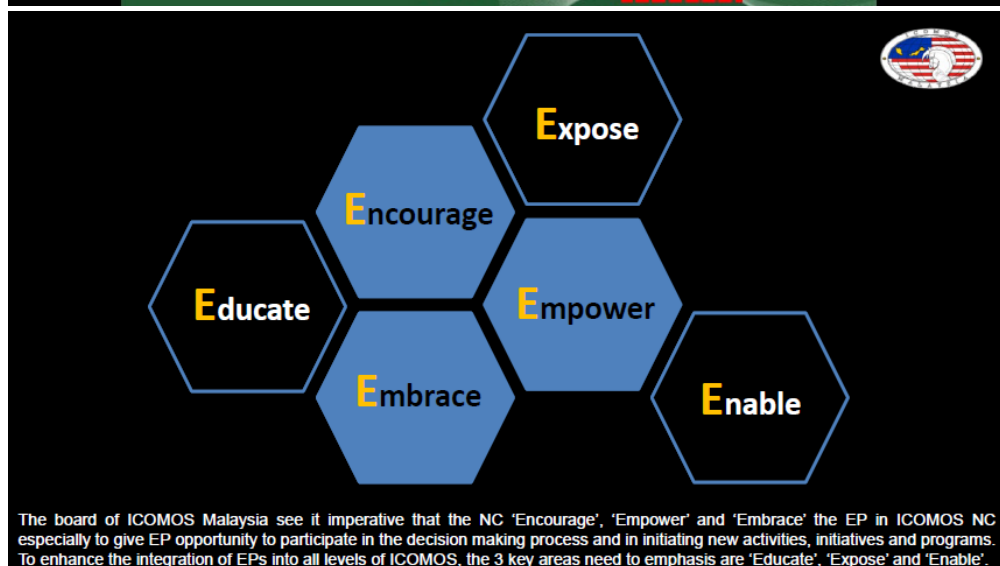


The talk outlining examples showcasing the principle of ICOMOS Malaysia in **encourage empower** and **embrace** the EP involvement since its formation years in 2014. To further enhance the integration of EP into all levels of ICOMOS, in 2019, 3 keys areas of improvement were introduced: **Educate, Expose** and **Enable**. Activities were specifically crafted under different ICOMOS's scientific groups, and each of these activities allow better exposure (Public Private Partnership), secure intergenerational engagement (male/ female, and mixed ages), so to promote professionalism during early stages of their education. The talk covers projects under shared built heritage, Courtyard Heritage Assembly, and New Village Working Group. The discussion focus on how we can get more young professionals involved in terms of international networking.

Below slides presentation prepared by by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee and presented during the online Seminar.

2024 ANIH International Correspondents and Youth Talents Exchange Meeting





**ICOMOS MALAYSIA – Annual Children Art Competition**


**Nurturing Appreciation for Malaysian Heritage through Art**  
 The ICOMOS Malaysia Children Art Competition aims to generate heritage awareness through the arts among the young. The annual event coincides with the International Day of Monuments and Sites 18 April Celebrations. The event takes place in Kuala Lumpur, Melaka and George Town.

Themes	
2023:	Selamatkan Warisan Kita (Save Our Heritage)
2019:	Warisan Alam Semulajadi Malaysia (Natural Heritage of Malaysia)
2018:	Zaman Pra Sejarah di Malaysia (Pre Historic Period in Malaysia)
2017:	Permainan Tradisi (Traditional Games)
2016:	Makanan Warisan Malaysia (Malaysian Food Heritage)
2015:	Warisan Kita (Our Heritage)




ICOMOS MALAYSIA EPWG

**CHA22**  
video summary for Day 1  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKSnOMNXKsQ>




**Courtyard Heritage Assembly 2022 (CHA22)**  
The second day of CHA22 started with a lec...  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZAak8NRj5Lk> 03:44 ✓

**CHA22**  
video summary for Day 2  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZAak8NRj5Lk>



**Courtyard Heritage Assembly 2022 (CHA22)**  
The Courtyard Heritage Assembly 2022 wor...  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKSnOMNXKsQ> 03:45 ✓

**CHA22**  
video summary for Day 3  
<https://youtu.be/nA0b0KDHqFk>



**Courtyard Heritage Assembly 2022 (CHA22): Day 3**  
The Courtyard Heritage Assembly 2022 (CH...  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nA0b0KDHqFk> 03:46 ✓

ICOMOS MALAYSIA NVWG

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA MEMBERS**

 Faisal Abd Rahman	 Rosli Hj Nor	 Dr Shafiq Shafiq	 Ar Di Goh Ai Tee	 Dato' P Fong Tian Yong	 Ar Tiong Kian Boon
 TPr Abdul Hj Azhari	 Ar Najdy Adlin	 Dr Nik Mestura	 Dr Keith Tan Kay Han	 Dr Ts Tan Chin Ling	 Dr Syahrul Mat Rofdzuan
 Lim Gak Siang	 Kenneth Wong See Huat	 Dr Lim Bon Hoi	 Tech Chee Keong	 Dr Gywnn Jenkins	 Ar Steven Thang Boon Ann
 Dr Ong Siew Kian	 Dr Masadiahani Masduki	 Noraswari bte Azmi			

**INVITED EXPERTS**

 Dr Francis Loh Kok Wah	 Dr Lee Kam Hing	 Dr Tan Chee Beng	 Dr Wu Ming Chu
 Dr Tan Teng Phee	 Dr Ling Tek Soon	 Dr Tai Kim Teng	 Eric Lee Lih Peng
 Ar Anthony Too Kar Kat	 Chin Soong Keat	 Ooi Kah Biew	 Jacky Chew
 Ar Alan Teh Yee Neng	 Ar Lee Sze Ee		

ICOMOS MALAYSIA NVWG

**COMPLEX PASTS: DIVERSE FUTURES**  
**MALAYSIAN 'NEW VILLAGES'**  
A book launch in conjunction with International Day of Monuments and Sites

**17 April 2021**  
3pm-5.30pm

Moderated by:  
Dr. Francis Loh Kok Wah

Speakers:  
Dato' P Fong Tian Yong  
TPr. Lim Yau Lee  
Roshli Hj Nor

Registration: 11 April 2021 at [www.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)  
Webinar broadcasted by the organizers.  
Members of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Malaysia.

**NVWG Webinar Series 2**  
Saturday  
18 December 2021  
9.00 A.M. - 11.00 A.M. (GMT +8)

Moderated by:  
Dr. Nik Mestura Nita Motamaran

Speakers:  
Dr. Tan Teng Phee, Chief Researcher, Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
TPr. Abdul Hj. Azhari, President, Persekutuan Alaii Azhari  
Prof. Dr. Sharanis Candores, Professor, University of Antwerp  
Dr. Ong Siew Kian, Senior Lecturer, Department of Chinese Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya

Live on Zoom & Facebook (ICOMOS Malaysia)  
E-Certificate of Attendance will be provided  
More info at <https://www.facebook.com/icomosmalaysia>

**Icomos Malaysia New Village Working Group talk series #3**

Moderator:  
Ar. Tiong Kian Boon, President, ICOMOS Malaysia

Speakers:  
Chin Soong Keat, Curator, Chinese Heritage Museum of Nagari Sembawang  
Kenneth Wong See Huat, Founder, People's House Culture  
Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee, Principal Curator & Curator, ICOMOS Malaysia

**NEW VILLAGES**  
Planned Villages?

**16 April 2022, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 (GMT+8)**

Live on Zoom & Facebook (ICOMOS Malaysia)  
E-Certificate of Attendance will be provided  
More info at <https://www.facebook.com/icomosmalaysia>

**SIMPOSIUM**  
*Second Glance:  
New Vision for New Village*  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Tarikh:** 12-13 Mei 2023 (Sabtu, Ahad)  
**Tempat:** 12-13 Mei 2023 (Sabtu, Ahad) Jannan Misai, Perastian  
**Lokasi:** Kota Iskandar, Seremban, Negeri Sembilan

**SIMPOSIUM**  
*Second Glance:  
New Vision for New Village*  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Tarikh:** 18 November 2023 (Ahad)  
**Tempat:** 18 November 2023 (Ahad) Laman Tapak Kijang Baru, Sungai Ujung

**SIMPOSIUM**  
*Second Glance:  
New Vision for New Village*  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Tarikh:** 25 Februari 2023 (Sabtu)  
**Tempat:** 25 Februari 2023 (Sabtu) ICOMOS - Bangkai

**SIMPOSIUM**  
*Second Glance:  
New Vision for New Village*  
Pencalonan Kampung Baru Di Malaysia Sebagai Tapak Warisan Dunia UNESCO

**Tarikh:** 27 APRIL 2024 (Sabtu)

**PAM ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION COURSE FOR ARCHITECTS**  
4 NOVEMBER 2023 SATURDAY 8:50 AM - 5:00 PM  
DIKWAN PRESIDENT LEVEL 2, PAM CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA @ ARCHIDEX 2023**  
26 JULY 2023 | 11:00-12:00  
Hospitality Lounge 5, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

**KEDAH: A HISTORY IN DRAWINGS**

**Researchers**

- Cheng Jau Mei, Master student, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, majoring in Master of Arts in the Department of Chinese Studies, University of Malaya (Feb 2024) – Serdang NV
- Chery Cheah Wan Xuan, 5<sup>th</sup> Year Master of Architecture, Architectural Association School of Architecture, London, UK (Oct 2023) – Papan NV
- Haruka Saito & Prof Kengo Hayashi, University of Tokyo (2&3 Aug 2023)
- Chua Hui Lin, Master student in Architecture Program, Southeast University, China (visit Sekinchan NV – 30 June 2023)
- Esme Barrell – Master Degree in History, University of Nottingham, UK (research on Malayan during the Emergency) - 2023
- Elena Yeo, creative producer based in Singapore, who is working on an audio project that references the New Villages during Malayan Emergency - 2023
- Len Yuan Han, a senior sociology student, Doshisha University in Japan – creation and reconstruction of the “New Chinese Village”: between postcolonialism, national integration and ethnic politics - 2022
- Gedeon Lim, HKU Business School, the University of Hong Kong (Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Symposium at Penang Aug 2022)

**Collaborations with Universities**

- New Era University Collage – prepared Posters (Symposiums at Jenjarom NV & Chaah NV)
- University of Nottingham, UK (workshop, sandpit at Jenjarom NV)
- University of Liverpool, UK (information on neighbourhood concept in South Africa)

**ICOMOS CIVVIB Asia-Pacific Sub-Committee Online Seminar**  
**Conservation in Rural Areas, Japan, and China**  
Experience from Malaysia, Japan, and China

**Seminar Host:** Zhang Jie  
**Seminar Guests:** Rii HaUn, David Logan  
**Presentation Speakers:** Goh Ai Tee, Yuga Kariya, Luo Deyin

**May 29 (Wednesday), 2024**  
**7:00PM-8:30PM (Beijing, UTC+8)**



## ICOMOS Triennial Scientific Plan (TSP) 2024-2027

### Disaster and Conflict Resilient Heritage: Preparedness, Response, Recovery

Theme for 2026:  
Living Heritage  
Respect – Enhance - Accept – Partnership



# ICOMOSGA2026

Kuching, Malaysia | 17 – 24 October 2026



## Tentative Schedule

	PRE ASSEMBLY		STATUTORY MEETINGS, YOUTH FORUM		GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) AND SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM (SS)					POST ASSEMBLY
	15 October	16 October	17 October	18 October	19 October	20 October	21 October	22 October	23 October	24 October
Morning	Pre-Tours, Master Class and Workshops	Board Meeting	National Committees Meeting	Advisory Committee Plenary Session	GA2026 Opening	SS Parallel sessions	Site Visit Day Trip	SS Parallel sessions	GA Plenary 2	Post Tours and Side Events
		Board Meeting	National Committees Meeting	Advisory Committee Plenary Session	GA Plenary 1	SS Parallel sessions	Site Visit Day Trip	SS Parallel sessions	GA Plenary 2 GA2026 Closing	
Afternoon	Regional Group Meetings	Scientific Council Meeting	Advisory Committee Plenary Session	SS Opening SS Plenary Session 1	SS Parallel sessions	Site Visit Day Trip	SS Parallel sessions	SS Concluding Plenary 1		
	Regional Group Meetings	Scientific Council Meeting	Board Meeting	SS Plenary Session 2	SS Parallel sessions	Site Visit Day Trip	SS Parallel sessions	SS Concluding Plenary 2		
Evening /Night	Opening Dinner for ICOMOS Board	Reception for Advisory Committee and Board	Scientific Committee Meetings	GA2026 Official Opening Ceremony	Heritage Public Programme	Scientific Committee Forum	Social Event Party	Night Side Events	Gala Dinner	



## 2.6 PAM Architectural Heritage: Conservation Course For Architects

4 November 2023, Organized by PAM Humna Settlement, heritage and Conservation Committee (HCC)

**PAM HUMAN SETTLEMENT, HERITAGE AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE (HCC)**

# PAM ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION COURSE FOR ARCHITECTS

The objective of the conservation course for architects is to give exposure to participants on the concept, rules and regulations of the Architectural Conservation practice in Malaysia.

**4  
LAM CPD  
POINTS**

**4 NOVEMBER 2023  
SATURDAY  
8.50 AM – 5.00 PM  
DEWAN PRESIDENT, LEVEL 2,  
PAM CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR**

**PROGRAM**

<p>8.00 am REGISTRATION &amp; LIGHT BREAKFAST</p> <p>8.50 am <b>Welcome Speech</b> <i>YBhg. Dato' Ar. Idr. Hj. Zulkhairi Md Zain</i></p> <p>9.00 am <b>Video Presentation &amp; Talk by sponsor, Ardex</b></p> <p>9.15 am <b>Keynote speech</b> <i>Tan Sri Dato' Seri Utama Dr. Rais Yatim</i></p> <p>9.30 am <b>Approaches and Procedures in Architectural Heritage Conservation</b> <i>Ar. Nasharuddin bin Abdul Majid</i></p> <p>10.15 am <b>The Conservation Process of Sarawak Museum Old Building</b> <i>Assoc. Prof. Ar. Dr. Ts. Haris Fadzilah bin Abdul Rahman @ Drahman</i></p> <p>11.00 am <b>Case Studies of Heritage Conservation &amp; Redevelopment in Malaysia &amp; Singapore</b> <i>Sr. Jessyca Yong</i></p> <p>11.45 am <b>Discussion / Q &amp; A</b> <i>Ms Ida Marlina Mazlan</i></p> <p>12.30 am LUNCH BREAK</p> <p>2.00 pm <b>Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedures for Cha'ah New Village</b> <i>Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee</i></p> <p>2.45 pm <b>Publication of Four Heritage Books</b> <i>Ar. Azim bin Tan Sri Abdul Aziz</i></p> <p>3.30 pm <b>Penang Digital Library Phase 2 Seeing the Unseen</b> <i>Ar. Tan Bee Eu</i></p> <p>4.15 pm <b>Discussion / Q &amp; A</b> <i>Ms Ida Marlina Mazlan</i></p> <p>5.00 pm END OF SESSION</p>	 <i>Tan Sri Dato' Seri Utama Dr. Rais Yatim</i>	 <i>Ar. Nasharuddin bin Abdul Majid</i>	 <i>Ar. Azim bin Tan Sri Abdul Aziz</i>
<p>11.45 am <b>Discussion / Q &amp; A</b> <i>Ms Ida Marlina Mazlan</i></p> <p>12.30 am LUNCH BREAK</p> <p>2.00 pm <b>Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedures for Cha'ah New Village</b> <i>Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee</i></p> <p>2.45 pm <b>Publication of Four Heritage Books</b> <i>Ar. Azim bin Tan Sri Abdul Aziz</i></p> <p>3.30 pm <b>Penang Digital Library Phase 2 Seeing the Unseen</b> <i>Ar. Tan Bee Eu</i></p> <p>4.15 pm <b>Discussion / Q &amp; A</b> <i>Ms Ida Marlina Mazlan</i></p> <p>5.00 pm END OF SESSION</p>	 <i>Dato' Ar. Idr. Zulkhairi Md Zain</i>	 <i>Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee</i>	 <i>Assoc. Prof. Ar. Dr. Ts. Haris Fadzilah bin Abdul Rahman @ Drahman</i>
	 <i>Ms Ida Marlina Mazlan</i>	 <i>Ar. Tan Bee Eu</i>	 <i>Sr. Jessyca Yong</i>

**REGISTRATION FEE**

**PAM Members : RM80.00**

**Non-Members : RM100.00**



Sponsor



**REGISTRATION LINK**

<https://forms.gle/jjAxPi8DmFXQYxNnu9>



SCAN ME

Below slides presentation prepared by by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee and presented during the Conservation Course for Architects.

*PAM Architectural Heritage Conservation Course for Architects*  
 by PAM Human Settlement, Heritage and Conservation Committee (HHC)

## Architectural Heritage Conservation: Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village

Prepared by Ar. Dr. GOH Ai Tee

Principal, A T GOH ARCHITECT  
 Chair, ICOMOS Malaysia New Village Working Group (NVWG)  
 Board Member, 2022-2024, ICOMOS Malaysia  
 Vice President, 2021-2023, ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Shared Built Heritage (ISCSBH)

4 November 2023, Saturday  
 PAM Centre, Kuala Lumpur

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



### History of ICOMOS Malaysia New Village Working Group (NVWG)

- Formed after the National Scientific Committee SBH+CIIC and CIVVIH organizing study trip to Kuala Kubu Baru, Fraser Hill and Rasa
- ICOMOS Malaysia approved the formation of NVWG on 10 March 2021
- Members consist of members of ICOMOS Malaysia and invited specialist from various disciplines.
- Number of members increased from 16 to 33

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



#### ICOMOS MALAYSIA MEMBERS (21)



#### INVITED EXPERTS (12)



**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Aims**

- To study the **potential of New Villages as National Heritage and candidates for UNESCO WH Listing**
- To act as central **Data Bank** collecting research works and archive materials relating to New Villages in Malaysia
- To examine New Villages in following component:  
**Planning/ Security/ Management/ Social/ Economy/ Education/ Religion/ Missionaries/ Food/ Culture**

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Collection (Primary and Secondary Sources)**

- Previous Research & Data (KPKT 2000 survey)
- Academic works, Thesis – Master and PhD
- Community Participation – Private collection
- Local Gallery & Museum
- Oral History
- Newspapers & Reports & Plans / Maps



**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Collection (Secondary Sources)**

*KPKT 2000 Survey Data as the 1<sup>st</sup> Base Data for Research & Analysis*

LOCATION		POPULATION	
Street	Other	Year	Area
1. Main	Other	1981	1981
2. Branch	Other	1981	1981
3. Main Road	Other	1981	1981
4. Local Authority	Other	1981	1981
5. Other	Other	1981	1981
6. Other	Other	1981	1981
7. Other	Other	1981	1981
8. Other	Other	1981	1981
9. Other	Other	1981	1981
10. Other	Other	1981	1981
11. Other	Other	1981	1981
12. Other	Other	1981	1981
13. Other	Other	1981	1981
14. Other	Other	1981	1981
15. Other	Other	1981	1981
16. Other	Other	1981	1981
17. Other	Other	1981	1981
18. Other	Other	1981	1981
19. Other	Other	1981	1981
20. Other	Other	1981	1981
21. Other	Other	1981	1981
22. Other	Other	1981	1981
23. Other	Other	1981	1981
24. Other	Other	1981	1981
25. Other	Other	1981	1981
26. Other	Other	1981	1981
27. Other	Other	1981	1981
28. Other	Other	1981	1981
29. Other	Other	1981	1981
30. Other	Other	1981	1981
31. Other	Other	1981	1981
32. Other	Other	1981	1981
33. Other	Other	1981	1981
34. Other	Other	1981	1981
35. Other	Other	1981	1981
36. Other	Other	1981	1981
37. Other	Other	1981	1981
38. Other	Other	1981	1981
39. Other	Other	1981	1981
40. Other	Other	1981	1981
41. Other	Other	1981	1981
42. Other	Other	1981	1981
43. Other	Other	1981	1981
44. Other	Other	1981	1981
45. Other	Other	1981	1981
46. Other	Other	1981	1981
47. Other	Other	1981	1981
48. Other	Other	1981	1981
49. Other	Other	1981	1981
50. Other	Other	1981	1981

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Collection (Secondary Sources)**  
*Understand on the location, and sample size*



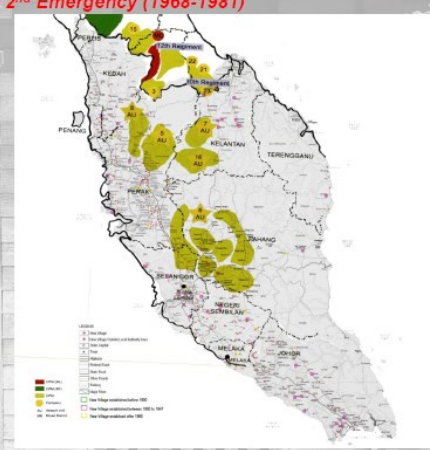
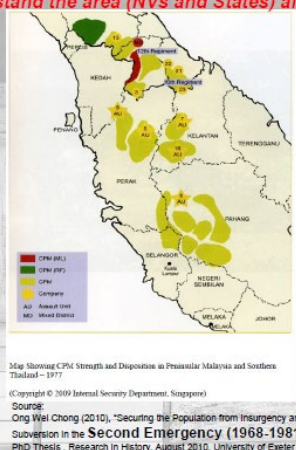
State	Years of Establishment											Total							
	< 1900	1900-1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956		1957	1958	1959	1960	> 1960	Unknown	
Johor	1	8	8	9	29	16	6	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	84	
Melaka	1	0	3	4	3	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	19
NS	1	5	5	5	16	1	5	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	43
WPKL	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Perak	0	3	13	11	70	15	8	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	5	3	134	
Perlis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Selangor	0	8	5	10	9	3	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	42
Pahang	1	4	17	11	10	3	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	4	0	55
Terengganu	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Kelantan	3	9	2	1	4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	24
Kedah	0	2	1	0	5	2	16	3	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	33
Penang	0	0	1	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>450</b>	

\* 156 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 34.67%) established b4 1950  
 \* 147 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 32.67%) established in 1950  
 \* 127 NVs out of 450 NVs (or 28.22%) established in 1951-60  
 \* May 1950 Briggs Plan in full swings

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Collection (Secondary Sources)**  
*Understand the area (NVs and States) affected by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Emergency (1968-1981)*



**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Collection (Secondary Sources)**  
*Understand the samples size and races involved*

**The Malayan 'Emergency'**  
 (1948 to 1960)

In Early 1950s, over one million persons in Malaya were regrouped or resettled.

**Regrouped: 650,000 persons** (1/10 of population of Malaya)  
 42.2%(Indian) 37.8%(Chinese) 16.0%(Malay) 4.0%(Javanese + Others)  
 78.5% (estates) 12.3% (mines), 9.2% (other areas)

**Resettled: 573,000 persons** (1/10 of population of Malaya)

	Population in NVs	No. of NVs	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Others
1954	573,000	480	86%	9%	4%	1%
2000	1,250,000	450	82%	13%	4%	1%

*"The outstanding development of the Emergency in Malaya was the implementation of the Briggs Plan...about one million two hundred thousand rural people were corralled into more than 600 'new' settlements, principally New Villages...."*

Source: Kernal Singh Sandhu in Ray Nyce (1973)

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



### Data Collection (Secondary Sources)

**Acknowledge the different in the implementation of Briggs Plan under States – land matter involved**

...realize that not all the occupier will remain after the Emergency period."

Usual Length of lease for land to and around NVs is 30 years, except

- Johore (21 years)
- Negeri Sembilan (25 years) + 30 years
- Kelantan (30 years) + 99 years
- Pahang (10 years if within half a mile of a town board)

**Johor:**  
Dwelling house lots in NV normally 1/6 of an acres in area

**Johor:**  
Agriculture land adjoining NVs – 2 or 3 acres

### ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:

Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village

#### Data Collection (Secondary Sources)

**Cha'ah 1936.**

**Cha'ah 1941.**

### ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:

Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village

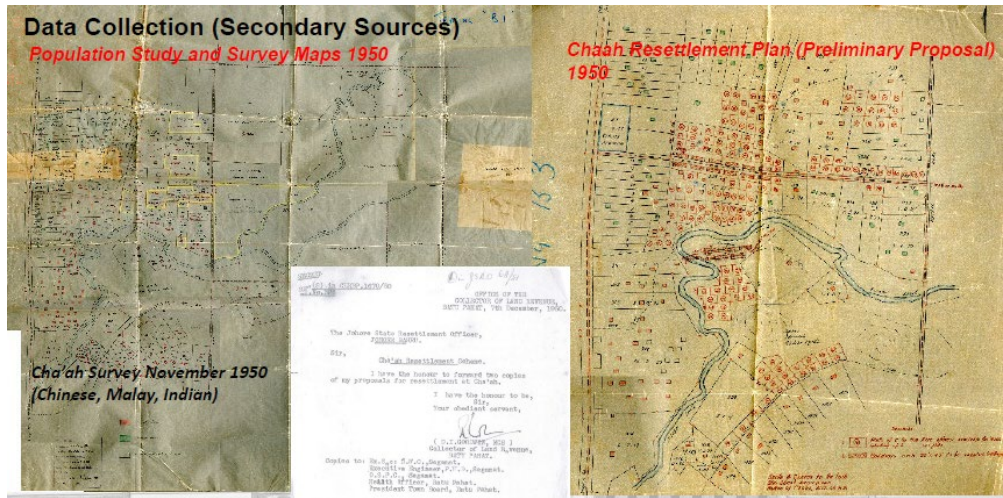
#### Data Collection (Secondary Sources)

**Official Report on Resettlement**

**Report:**  
State Resettlement Office,  
Johore  
1950 - 1951

**Report:**  
District War Committee,  
Segamat  
1951

**Report:**  
Pejabat Daerah Segamat  
(AO)  
1950 1964



**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Collection (Secondary Sources)**  
**Revised Cha'ah Resettlement Plan (8 March 1951)**  
**After reviewed by District War Committee, Segamat**

REVISIONS TO THE CHA'AH RESSETTLEMENT PLAN, 1950.

Executive Secretary,  
State War Executive Committee,  
Johore Bahru.

Subject: **ADMINISTRATIVE CHA'AH NEW VILLAGE.**

I have the pleasure to advise you that the revised Cha'ah Resettlement Plan, dated 8 March 1951, has been approved by the District War Committee, Segamat, and is being forwarded to you for your information and for the necessary administrative arrangements to be made.

The revised plan provides for the acquisition of 100 plots, each of 1/4 acre, and the construction of 100 houses. The plan also provides for the acquisition of 100 plots, each of 1/4 acre, and the construction of 100 houses. The plan also provides for the acquisition of 100 plots, each of 1/4 acre, and the construction of 100 houses.

Ref. No. (117) is GARR.63/54.  
TAW/AMK.

Office of the  
Collector of Land Revenue,  
Segamat, 20th July, 1951.

Executive Secretary,  
State War Executive Committee,  
Johore Bahru.

Cha'ah New Village.

I have to inform you that during the acquisition of Lot 993, K.M.F. 1271 (new S. 166), area 36.28.06P for the Cha'ah New Village, a brick house together with the 9 poles of land on which it stands were excluded from acquisition.

2. The house is now still occupied by Guan Lip (the owner).

3. The house is sited near plots 304 & 303 and is in the middle of the road reserve as in sketch attached. The removal of the house is essential to the proper development of Cha'ah and the road has been made up as far as the walls of the house and cannot be removed until compensation is paid.

4. I recommend that the house and land on which it stands be acquired at an estimated cost of \$4,000/-.

Sgd: H. J. Edward S. Awang  
(D. P. H. 383, M38)  
Collector of Land Revenue,  
Segamat.

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Collection (Secondary Sources)**  
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**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



Data Collection (Secondary Sources)



**REMEMBER** Jenderam, in Selangor — the village upon which Security Forces swooped with-out warning, to detain all the inhabitants? They currently are living in a resettlement area, with conditions, some people here rapidly compared it to Jenderam.

... (text continues) ...

**JUSTICE**

... (text continues) ...

**SUNGEI CHAAH SAVED FROM BANDIT MENACE**  
**Whole Village Rebuilt**

By P. M. RAMAN, Standard Special Correspondent

ABOUT 150 houses of Sungai Chaah are being dismantled and rebuilt near a police station half-a-mile away, because that sprawling village has proved to be the weakest link in the chain of strongpoints in that bandit-infested part of Johore. The present Sungai Chaah lies on both sides of the Labis-Yongpeng Road and is about half a mile in area.

Eight villages around this area have already been fenced off against bandit incursions, but this village which has been known to be frequented by terrorist agents for food supplies had to be protected, but it was impossible for the police to exercise effective supervision in the built up area as it stood.

The defence problem was further complicated by the fact that the village was cut in two by a stream running right in the centre.

Mr. J. S. H. Cunyngnam-Brown, the Resettlement Officer for Johore, gave these facts yesterday when his attention was drawn to The Standard columnist 'Tabuan's' comments recently that a whole village was being removed to suit the convenience of a police station.

It is neither a repetition of Lodeice nor of Jenderam, but is simply a case of town planning and better conditions of living for the inhabitants of this sprawling, unsky village, he said.

Mr. Cunyngnam-Brown paid a tribute to the leaders of the Malayan Chinese Association for their help in resettling this village.

He said: "Dun Tan Cheng Looh, the President of the MCA, had discussions with representatives of the people of Chaah recently and it has been very gratifying due to his support of the Government plan that things are going so smoothly."

So the Government thought to resettle these villagers in a new town on the eastern side of the road where the police station now stands. Here they could enjoy adequate protection of the security forces and carry on their trade and agriculture in peace and safety, said Mr. Cunyngnam-Brown.

Homeowners who being given \$200 each as compensation for the possible loss of trade and to meet incidental expenses in carrying their goods to the new site.

This is besides free aluminium roofing and poles given to them at Government expense to build their new houses, he said.

Newspaper: Singapore Standard  
Date: 12 April 1951  
Reel Number: 98,2779

ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



Data Collection (Secondary Sources)

**New resettlement area opened in Johore**



Newspaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 27 August 1951  
Reel Number: NL02509

A PHOTOGRAPH taken at the opening of Cha'ah resettlement, Johore. Seated (left to right):— Imam-Cha'ah, Inche Abdul Rahman, Mr. I. E. Abbey, Inche Yunus bin Ali, Inche Haron, Mr. T. F. Hamilton, Mr. D. R. L. Massy Collier, Mr. Marrables, O.S.P.C. Segamat, Mr. D. I. Goggin, Administrative Officer, Batu Pahat, Mr. Leong Yew Chor, Mr. De Silva, Inche Othman bin Mohamed, Dr. E. A. Heaselett, Towkay Tan Soong Lian, Mr. Cheng Chee Ting and Mr. Tan Hock Peng.

ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



Data Collection (Photos – 1960 vs 2023)

Aerial Photo (Past and Present)



ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



### Data Collection (Primary Sources)

*Structure Interview (Local): Old Shops (Resettled to New Village), Tomb Stones, Clans*

RESETTLEMENT MAPPING OF SHOPS FROM OLD CHAAH TO CHAAH NY  
MACHIN TUN DUNAM

Organized by: **PAM**

Support by:

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village

### Data Collection (Primary Sources)

*Cultural Mapping (Tangible + Intangible) : Chinese + Malay + Indian*

Organized by: **PAM**

Support by:

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village

### Data Collection (Primary Sources)

*Community Leaders: Focus Group Discussion & Interview*

Organized by: **PAM**

Support by:

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village





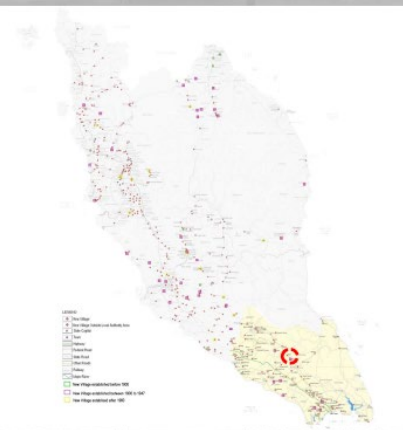
**Data Collection (Primary Sources)**  
 Old Photos: Before/ During/ After the Emergency

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Analysis**

General Notes...



**Cha'ah New Village (三合港新村) :**

**Site and Services** approach within a planned layout at rural area

**Garden City Planning Lines** developed in Malaya since 1920s and **Neighbourhood unit** in 1940s

From "**Squatter & Scatter Housing**" to "**New Village**".

"**Emergency**", under the Briggs Plan to defeat communist.

Move towards winning of '**Hearts and Minds**' included steps towards preparing the Federation of Malaya for independence.

Over period of 70 years, the evolution and development of the "**self-help**" schemes (commercial, residential and religion buildings) within the NVs inevitably become showcase of "**community architecture**" for sub-urban and rural areas.

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**Data Analysis – Chronological events**

<p>1898</p> <p>Kangohu System River as main transport Link to Batu Pahat Gambier Plantation</p>	<p>1920</p> <p>1926</p> <p>TOWN PLANNING EXPLANATION AND CATALOGUE OF FIRST EXHIBITION IN BRITISH MALAYA.</p> <p>Garden City Line Neighbourhood Unit</p>	<p>1930</p> <p>1931</p> <p>1933</p> <p>1939: Police Station</p> <p>1930s: French Church</p> <p>1930s: Chinese School</p> <p>1940: Air Field</p> <p>1941: Workers Housing</p> <p>1942-1945: WWII</p>	<p>27.08.1951</p> <p>10.12.1951: 1<sup>st</sup> NV to set up Missionary by China Inland Mission.</p> <p>11.2.1953: 1<sup>st</sup> NV to set up Village Committee</p> <p>26.08.1955 – Cha'ah HG (600) is one of the strongest command post in Malaya</p> <p>1955: Golf Club (JLE)</p> <p>31.08.1957: Malaya Independence</p> <p>27.08.1958: Cha'ah declared as 'White Area'</p> <p>1960 - \$4,720 grant for village playground</p>
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**Status UPDATE...**

**On going Efforts...**

- Research works from Archive/ News/ Publication materials
- Based on the attributes established from the research works, select case studies to verify the attributes associated with the selected NV
- Focus group discussion, face to face semi-structure interview, with local communities leaders
- Sharing data amongst communities leaders
- Cultural Heritage Mapping
- Workshop and seminar with community at local level
- Visit to selected site with potential historical value
- Form local group to compile, record, promote cultural heritage of the place

**Next Step**

- To discuss with relevant authorities to include Cha'ah New Village under Special Area Plan - Heritage zone
- Stage Party to submit selected NVs in Malaysia as Tentative List for UNESCO Listing. Go for Preliminary Assessment approach for cost and supportive data collection

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**FACTS ...**

**Architectural Heritage Conservation**

- Attributes (Tangible + Intangible elements)

**Approaches and Procedure**

- Top Down + Bottom Up
- Research Team + Partners
- Research work: History + Samples Size + Attributes
  - General
  - Case Studies
- Publication + Promotion + News
- Potential for **Serial Nomination** for **UNESCO Listing** (Tentative List)
- Management Plan (Heritage + Community)

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**FACTS ...**

**Outstanding Universal Value**

1. Criteria (i to vi)
2. Integrity and Authenticity
3. Protection and Management
  - Comparative Analysis (local and international examples on similar site, value & significance to international context, develop the narrative, and rationale)
  - different value (Protection and Conservation Management Plan of the site)
  - Attributes (tangible and intangible elements)
  - Inventory

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**FACTS ...**

**UNESCO WHS: 6 Criteria for Cultural Heritage Site**

- (i) To represent a **Masterpiece** of human creative genius;
- (ii) To exhibit an important **Interchange** of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) To bear a unique or at least exceptional **Testimony** to a cultural tradition or to a civilisation which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) To be an outstanding example of a Type of Building (**Typology**), architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history
- (v) To be an outstanding example of a **traditional** human settlement, **land-use, or sea-use** which is representative of a cultural (or Cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change; Significant interaction between people and the Natural environment have been recognized as Cultural Landscapes
- (vi) To be directly or tangibly **associated** with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.

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**FACTS ...**

**Serial Nomination:**

- clear link between the component parts of series and for each part to contribute substantially to the OUV of the whole- potential unmanageability of some very large serial protection
- serial nominations are not a catalogue of sites
- serial nominations are not a series of site
- In serial nomination, each property must have some component to justify for the serial approach.

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Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village

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**WEBINAR (1/2/3/...)**

**COMPLEX PASTS: DIVERSE FUTURES MALAYSIAN 'NEW VILLAGES'**

17 April 2021  
3pm-5.30pm

Brought to you by ICOMOS MALAYSIA'S NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP

Moderated by: Dr. Francis Loh-Rak Wah

Speakers: Dr. Fong Tian Fong, Dr. Lim Yau Lun, Hoed Hej Hoo

**NWWG Webinar Series 2**

Saturday 18 December 2021  
9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. (GMT+8)

Moderated by: Dr. Nita Maslina Nita Matrasana

Speakers: Dr. Sun Hong Phee, Tan Aeng Ho, Aekhor, Prof. Dr. Shazwan Osman, Dr. Qing Xian Han

**Icomos Malaysia New Village Working Group talk series #3**

**NEW VILLAGES Planned Villages?**

16 April 2022, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 (GMT+8)

Moderator: Mr. Tiong Kim Boon

Speakers: Mr. Dr. Goh Ai Tee, Mr. Kenneth Wong See Hoon

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**SYMPOSIUM (1/2/3/...): in collaborate with universities & local councils**  
**Photos: Site visit/ Discussion/ Workshop/ Symposium/ Call for Partnership (research & Resources)**

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 Support by:







Sekinchan New Village Selangor (January & June 2022) (Site A, Site B, Site C)

**SYMPOSIUM (INTERNATIONAL PLATFORM)**  
**Searching for Potential Partners and Site for Comparative Analysis**

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



**FACTS: BRIGGS PLAN**



Lieutenant-General Harold Briggs

- Director of Operation 3 April 1950
- Introduction of the Briggs' Plan (3-tier command and committee)
- Retired by end-1951

**The Briggs' Plan**

A 3-tier command and committee (later named Briggs' Plan) to improve the Emergency administration and inter-agency coordination with aim to eliminate the MCP's forces and its mass organization (Min Yuen) – as counter insurgency strategies:

- The Federal War Council (FWC)
- The State and Settlement War Executive Committees (SWEC)
- The District War Executive Committees (DWECS).

Notes:  
 The FWC comprised the Director of Operations, the Chief Secretary, the General Officer Commanding, the Air Officer Commanding, the Commissioner of Police, and the Secretary of Defence.

The SWECs were composed of the Chief Minister (*Menteri Besar*), the British Advisor, the Chief Police Officer, the senior Army commander, and a full-time Secretary.

DWECS consisted of the District Officer, and senior police and army representatives. The FWC responsibility was to meet weekly and formulate policy, and coordinate all the necessary resources to implement these policies. The actual execution of policy lay with the SWECs and DWECS.

**Civil + Military**



Sir Gerald Walter Robert Templer

- High Commissioner & Director of Operation in Feb 1952.
- He embraced Briggs' Plan and ensures the command structure was established.
- He placed great emphasis on the need to win the 'hearts and minds' of the population, and continued the resettlement of squatters/ villagers, with **promised independence** once the communist insurgents had been defeated

**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
 Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



## FACTS: Major Principles/ Guidelines for Resettlement (BRIGGS PLAN 1951)

- Where possible, resettlement villages were to be located on main roads or other major transportation arteries.
- Villagers were to be relocated, wherever possible, on rolling terrain to promote drainage
- Squatters were to be concentrated into compact villages which were fenced-in and protected by a police post capable of commanding the entire village, most particularly, the village gate
- Villages were to be sited in such a manner as to minimize squatter dislocation, and apart from security, the most important aspect to be considered in deciding upon a site had to be the economy of the future settlers
- Standardised disturbance grants were paid to all squatters forced to vacate their homes and a subsistence allowance to each individual forced to give up their land or job upon moving to the new site.
- Generally, there should be no more than 6 houses (families) per acre of residential land. This permitted each family to have a vegetable garden on their house lot if they so desired
- Sufficient water was to be supplied, either from adjacent towns, or from wells within the village, health and fire regulations were expected to be observed.
- Amenities such as schools, dispensaries, community centres, etc had to be provided as quickly as possible
- Sufficient agriculture land of good quality was to be provided for all agriculturists forced to abandon their previous holdings. Agriculturists should have their land situated within 2 to 3 miles of the villages to enable them to transport manure from their stay in the villages to their fields.
- Estate workers had to be within 2 miles of their places of employment

### General Notes On Design and Layout

Category	Criteria
A Selection of Site	1. Planning Survey & Socio Economic
	2. Data
	3. Procedure
	4. Cost of Land
B Layout of Site	1. Socio Economic Data
	2. Topography/ Road Pattern
	3. Connectivity
C Design and Layout	1. Size of Lots
	2. Road Pattern
	3. Public and Communal Buildings
	4. Water Supply
	5. Open Spaces
	6. Security

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## FACTS: Type of NVs

TABLE 9  
CLASSIFICATION OF THE NEW VILLAGES ACCORDING TO DEGREE OF PERMANENCY, 1954

STATE	TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW VILLAGES	NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE IN EACH CATEGORY		
		Type 'P'	Type 'I'	Type 'T'
Johore	No: 88 %: 100.00	55 62.50	22 25.00	11 12.50
Malacca	No: 17 %: 100.00	14 82.35	3 17.65	—
Negeri Sembilan	No: 37 %: 100.00	16 43.24	14 37.84	7 18.92
Selangor	No: 47 %: 100.00	38 80.85	6 12.77	3 6.38
Perak	No: 123 %: 100.00	107 86.99	12 9.76	4 3.25
Kedah	No: 32 %: 100.00	21 65.62	10 31.25	1 3.13
Penang & P.W.	No: 9 %: 100.00	7 77.78	—	2 22.22
Perlis	No: 1 %: 100.00	1 100.00	—	—
Pahang	No: 67 %: 100.00	40 59.70	9 13.43	18 26.87
Terengganu	No: 3 %: 100.00	1 33.33	2 66.67	—
Kelantan	No: 14 %: 100.00	3 21.43	6 64.28	2 14.29
MALAYA	No: 438 %: 100.00	303 69.18	87 19.86	48 10.96

Notes: Categories of New Villages  
Type 'P' — Supposedly permanent.  
Type 'I' — Intermediate.  
Type 'T' — Supposedly impermanent or temporary and likely to disappear at the end of the Emergency.

1954: W.C.S. Corry's report of the NVs listed a total of 438 NVs

- 69% supposedly permanent
- 20% 'intermediate'
- 11% supposedly impermanent and likely to disappear with the Emergency

1962: Ray Nyce - these supposedly impermanent NVs still existed.

### Number of NVs and Categories (in 1958)

Type	Description	No of NVs	%
A	Entirely New Villages	285	51.64
B	New Villages attached to other communities other than towns	221	40.03
C	New Villages attached to older towns	46	8.33
Total		552	100.00

30th Oct 1952: 4 Asst Town Planner assigned for

Source: Ray Nyce (1973)

States	Federal Level:
1 Selangor	Town Planner,
1 Perak	Federation of Malaya -
1 Kedah, Perlis, Penang, Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang	T.A.L. Concannon
1 Johor, Negeri Sembilan, Melaka	

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Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village



## FACTS: Attributes

### The Malayan 'Emergency' (1948 to 1960)

- **The Briggs' Plan:** 10 general strategies and notes from Town Planning Department, FMS
- **The Omnipresence of Government Agents :**
  - > District Officer (DO), Assistance District Officer (ADO)
  - > Resettlement Officer (RS), Assistant Resettlement Officer (ARS)
  - > Chinese Affair Officer (CAO), Assistant Chinese Affairs Officers (ACAO)
  - > New Village Headmen
- The development of **Community based institutions:**
  - > Village Committee later known as Local Councils (administrative organization)
  - > Home Guard unit (self-defence organization)
  - > the MCA (political party)
  - > co-operatives
  - > missionary bodies
  - > voluntary organizations such as the British Red Cross Society and the St John Ambulance Brigade
  - > Other social organizations include Boy Scouts and Girl Guides
- Education System: SRJK(C) Cha'ah - Malaysianization

1. New Village + Planning
2. New Village + Security
3. New Village + Management
4. New Village + Missionaries
5. New Village + Education
6. New Village + Social
7. New Village + Economy
8. New Village + Religion
9. New Village + Food
10. New Village + Culture

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**Berapit NV**, Seberang Perai Tengah, Penang  
1952 - 42,251 hectares

**Sungai Jarom NV**, Kuala Langat, Selangor  
1948 - 45,126 hectares

**Cha'ah NV**, Segamat, Johor  
1951 - 75,813 hectares

**Old Papan NV**, Batu Gajah (Kinta), Perak  
1954 - 37,356 hectares

**Rasah NV**, Seremban, Negeri Sembilan  
1950 - 45,075 hectares

**Pandanmanan NV**, Klang, Selangor  
1950 - 225,966 hectares

**Machap Baru NV**, Alor Gajah, Melaka  
1950 - 37,418 hectares

Description	%
A Entirely NVs	32
B Built and small existing villages	24
C Attached to older towns/ village	16
D Unclassified	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Ray Nyoe (1973: L Table 6) (1954 - Degree of Neanness)

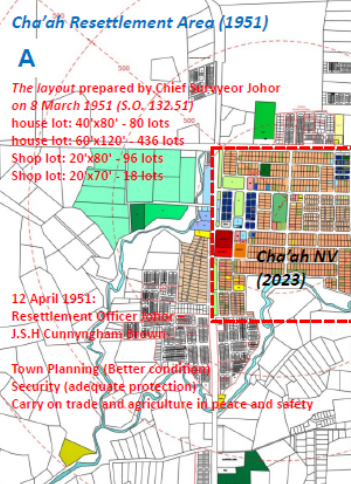
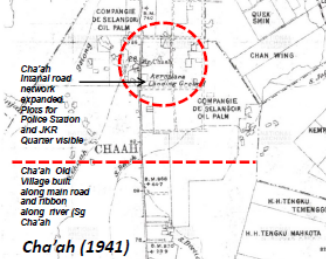
**NV + Planning**

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*Process:*  
after the survey of existing population done, initial layout proposed by administrative office (Batu Pahat) and to be reviewed by Special Branch, District War Committee Segamat.

7 January 1951:  
the initial layout for improvement, before finalize are as below.  
"to include all 500 odd families...involvement without disturbing the Malay or any of the existing Govt Reserve"



**Cha'ah NV**, Segamat, Johor  
1951 - 76,013 hectares  
NVs over 5,000 person

Total # households (1953):  
716 House - 138 (apophouse)

Palm Oil Mill & Rubber Factory (1900s)  
1930s to 2004

**NV + Planning**

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**Books**  
**Malaysian Chinese Contributions**  
By Mei Kuan

The Malaysian Army Chinese Veterans Association (MACVA) was formed some three years ago following allegations by some members of the Chinese community that little to contribute to the defence of the nation. The responsibility, these members insisted, was shouldered by one race only.

To prove that this was a fallacy, deliberately invented, to place the community in a poor light, association members, leaving no stone unturned, gathered a book detailing the selfless sacrifices and contributions made by Malaysian Chinese.

The 100-page book titled "Memoirs" tells the many untold stories of officers and men from the Chinese community who donned army fatigues and bore arms to fight a common enemy during the First Malayan Emergency (1948-1960), the Indonesian Confrontation (1962-1966) and the Second Malayan Emergency (1968-1990).

In the intervening years, they too served the nation as United Nations peacekeepers in the Republic of Congo (1960-1964) and again in Somalia (1993-1995). A few were bestowed the country's second highest gallantry award, PGB (Panglima Gagah Berani) for their deeds while yet in few grace their lives.

The book will be on sale effective from this year. However, a pre-launch version is now available for early birds. It is priced at RM70 a piece.

Readers keen to getting one please call Muzee Godfrey Chang (Raffles) at 812 422 7588 or Captain Ho Fook (Raffles) at 812 282 2881. Ipoet Eche will review the book once we receive a copy from the association.

**NV + Security**

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**New resettlement area opened in Johore**

Newspaper: The Straits Times  
 Date: 27 August 1951  
 File Number: 1632109

A PHOTOGRAPH taken at the opening of the new resettlement area in Johore, Straits (left to right) — Messrs Chua Ah, Inche Abdul Rahman, Mr. I. E. Abbey, Inche Yee Yee, Inche Haron, Mr. T. F. Sengulian, Mr. D. R. L. Massey, Mr. S. J. Marwick, O.S.P.C., Segamat, Mr. D. I. Gagnier, Administrative Officer, Batu Pahat, Mr. Lewis Yee Choo, Mr. De Silva, Inche Othman, Sir Mohamad, Dr. E. A. Hensdell, Tawky Tan Young, Lian, Mr. Cheng Choo Tieg and Mr. Tan

2 resettlement officers in Segamat  
 1. G. Scott (16.4.51 to 20.4.53)  
 2. David T. Luscomber (20.2.52 to 27.6.56)

2 Assistant Resettlement officers working in Cha'ah NV  
 1. George Lim (2.9.52 to 16.1.59)  
 2. Robert Goh

**NV + Management**

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1954年初，三合港基督教  
 会礼拜堂建成

教堂建成后，主日崇拜人数达40人左右

初别的主日学

**NV + Missionaries**

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1930s

1956

1963

Early version of the Certificate for graduate from Cha'ah School with record of origin (Teo Chew, Guangdong) in 1950s. System evolved into SRJK (C/T) in 1960s and now SJK (C/T) with more Malaysian ideology as Nation Building but still maintaining the important of language and culture

English Afternoon Class for Adult  
 Established in Cha'ah NV for  
 teenager and adult development  
 Part of Nation Building  
 Program

**NV + Education**

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**Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles Neighbourhood Unit Concept**

**NV + Education**

Organized by: **PAM**

Support by:

**Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles Neighbourhood Unit Concept**

**NV + Social**

Organized by: **PAM**

Support by:

**Garden City Planning Ideas and Principles Neighbourhood Unit Concept**

**NV + Social**

Organized by: **PAM**

Support by:

**Clan Associations and Community Centres**

- Cha'ah Farmer's Recreational Centre
- Hokkian Association
- Buddhist Association (Phor Tor Festival)
- Tai Chi Chuan Association Cha'ah branch
- Hakka Association
- MIC Cha'ah branch
- Hainan Association
- Cha'ah Cha'ah branch
- Cha'ah Hawker Centre
- Kwangxi Association
- Hakka Association Community Hall

**NV + Social**

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**Community based institution: Co-operatives**

**Joint effort**  
BEQAMAT, Terni.—Farmers of Cha'ah new village have formed a co-operative society to farm 300 acres of land given to them by the Government.  
Newspaper: The Straits Times  
Date: 13 December 1955  
Reel Number: N6.01707

**1960**  
Worriors Housing Quarter  
- 4 rows single storey  
- 2 rows double storey  
- 2 shops  
- Tamil Eatshop  
Workshop & store  
Palm Oil Mill  
Railway line  
Rubber Processing Factory & Packing Socfin Maturated Rubber  
Source: Mahendran Kutty (Sofin Group Berhad Ex-resident at JLE)

**1960**  
Socfin's Largest Palm Oil Mill IN SEA  
Socfin Maturated Rubber = Rubber Processing Factory  
300 acres farm land dedicated for villagers open for application, at \$50/ acre  
Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited registered on 12 Nov 1954  
Source: Secretary, Koperasi Cha'ah Berhad formerly known as Cha'ah Co-operative Farming Society Limited )

**Land title issued on 1972 (21 years)**  
300 acres farm land Cha'ah NV

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**Religious Institutions**

- Masjid Jamek Cha'ah
- Indigenous (OMF) – Cha'ah Christian Church
- Buddhist Temple – Shung Hee To
- Catholic – Tamil Methodist Church
- Taoist Temple – Hong Xian Gong (New)
- Madrasah Quwwatul Islam Cha'ah
- Kuil Sri Subendur Murugan
- Taoist Temple – Fa Niang Gong
- Taoist Temple – Hong Xian Gong (Old)
- Temple – Liu Ren Fa Tan
- Church of St Anthony

**NV + Religion**

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Organized by: **PAM**  
Support by:

**Hand made noodle**

**NV + Food**

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**Surname and Places of Origin**  
China/ India/ Indonesia/ etc:

村数	%
福建	143 37
客家	132 34
広東	53 14
広西	30 8
蘭州	15 4
福州	9 2
海南	6 1

**NV + Culture**

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**Collaboration: Research and Dissemination of Research Works**

**Researchers**

1. Cheryl Cheah, Master Student, AA School of Architecture, London (Since 11 Oct 2023)
2. Haruka Saito & Prof Kengo Hayashi, University of Tokyo (coming – 2 Aug 2023)
3. Chua Hui Lin, Master student in Architecture Program, Southeast University, China (visit Sekinchan NV – 30 June 2023)
4. Esme Barrell – Master Degree in History, University of Nottingham, UK (research on Malayan during the Emergency) - 2023
5. Elena Yeo, creative producer based in Singapore, who is working on an audio project that references the New Villages during Malayan Emergency. - 2023
6. Len Yuan Han, a senior sociology student, Doshisha University in Japan – creation and reconstruction of the “New Chinese Village”: between postcolonialism, national integration and ethnic politics - 2023
7. Gedeon Lim, HKU Business School, the University of Hong Kong (Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Symposium at Penang Aug 2023)

**Collaborations with Universities**

- New Era University Collage – prepared Posters (Symposiums at Jenjarom NV & Chaah NV)
- University of Nottingham, UK (workshop, sandpit to Jenjarom NV)
- University of Liverpool, UK (information on neighbourhood concept in South Africa)
- Taylor’s University (Book Chapter) May 2023





**Upcoming Collaboration**

- University of Nottingham, UK (Prof Dr Jeremy E Taylor, Prof of Modern History)


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**Collaboration: Research and Dissemination of Research Works**

<p>ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP</p> <p>REPORT 1 (15 MAY 2022)</p> <p>The report is prepared by ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP (NVWG)</p>  <p>Website: <a href="https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/website-2">https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/website-2</a> Email: <a href="mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com">newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP</p> <p>REPORT 2 (15 JUNE 2023)</p> <p>The report is prepared by ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP (NVWG)</p>  <p>Website: <a href="https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/website-2">https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/website-2</a> Email: <a href="mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com">newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>ICOMOS Malaysia NVWG</b></p> <p><b>1<sup>st</sup> Annual Report (15 May 2022)</b> <a href="http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2703/">http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2703/</a></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report (15 June 2023)</b> <a href="http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2907/">http://openarchive.icomos.org/id/eprint/2907/</a></p> <p>The report was accepted into l'Archive Ouverte de I'ICOMOS : e-publications sur le patrimoine culturel. The item is now live at the address:</p> <p>Website: <a href="https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/website-2">https://newvillageworkinggroup.wixsite.com/website-2</a></p> <p>To contact us: <a href="mailto:newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com">newvillageworkinggroup@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>- THANK YOU -</b></p>
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**ICOMOS MALAYSIA NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP:**  
Architectural Heritage Conservation Approaches and Procedure for Cha'ah New Village

Organized by:  **PAM**

Support by:   

ICOMOS MALAYSIA

NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP

REPORT 3

(30 JUNE 2024)

03

PRELIMINARY VISIT

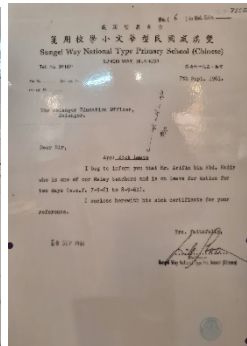
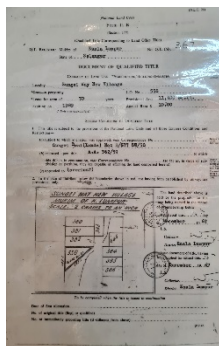
### 03 PRELIMINARY VISIT

#### 3.1 Sungai Way New Village (renamed Seri Setia), Selangor

History Corridor of Sg Way New Village launched on 12 December 2021, managed by Community, support by local council)

(Photos taken by Ar Dr Goh Ai Tee on 3 August 2023)







3.2 Mambang Di Awan New Village, Kinta, Perak  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr .Goh Ai Tee on 18 August 2023)



3.3 Sungai Durian New Village, Kinta, Perak  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr, Goh Ai Tee on 18 August 2023)



3.4 Tanjung Tualang New Village, Kinta, Perak  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr .Goh Ai Tee on 18 August 2023)



3.5 Timah New Village, Kinta, Perak  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee on 18 August 2023)



3.6 Tronoh Mines New Village, Kinta, Perak  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr .Goh Ai Tee on 18 August 2023)



### 3.7 Ampang Baru New Village, Perak Outdoor Display – Story of Ampang NV

(Photos taken by Kenneth Wong See Huat on 20 August 2023)



3.8 Bukit Siput New Village, Segamat, Johor  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr .Goh Ai Tee on 28 August 2023)



### 3.9 Tanah Hitam New Village, Chemor, Perak

(Photos taken by Dr. Francis Loh Kok Wah on 21 January 2024)





3.10 Kampung Baru Tok Kong, Kota Bharu, Kelantan  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee on 24 June 2024)



3.11 Padang Lembu New Village, Kuala Muda, Kedah  
(Photos taken by Ar. Dr. Goh Ai Tee on 25 June 2022)



ICOMOS MALAYSIA

NEW VILLAGE WORKING GROUP

REPORT 3

(30 JUNE 2024)

04

RESEARCH OUTPUT: ARTICLES

## Chapter 4.1

### Tiang Dua New Village, Melaka

**Author**

Jenny TONG Mei Zhen, graduated from Department of Chinese Language and Literature, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, New Era University College.

**Translator**

LIM Han Cong, graduated from Department of Chinese Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya.

**Supervisor**

LEW Bon Hoi, Professor, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Head of Centre of Malaysian History, New Era University College.

#### Tiang Dua New Village Overview

In the mid-twentieth century, Malaya underwent drastic changes during the British colonial rule, including the implementation of The Briggs Plan. As one of the few villages in Melaka, and indeed in the whole of Malaysia, where a large number of Lei Zhou people were gathered, Tiang Dua New Village is of great significance to study. In this paper, the historical background of the establishment of Tiang Dua New Village and the impact of the introduction and implementation of the Briggs Plan on the villagers will be examined in detail through the use of official documents from the Malaysia National Archives, newspapers and magazines, as well as through in-depth interviews with the villagers of Tiang Dua.

A state of emergency was declared in Malaya in 1948 and lasted for 12 years until 1960. The establishment of new villages stemmed from the British colonial government's introduction of this programme during the state of emergency in order to effectively contain the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM). In the context of this policy, residents living in the suburbs, especially the ethnic Chinese, were forcibly evicted from their homes and resettled with others from the neighbourhood to a new way of life in the Resettlement Area (RA) designated by the colonial government. After the end of the state of emergency, the collective life of the new village was not disrupted, but rather the collective lifestyle of the new village continues to this day. This is the case of the Tiang Dua Resettlement Area in Melaka, which is the study area for this paper.

Tiang Dua New Village is located ten miles north-east of Melaka (Lam Yau Yu 1992: D230) and is part of the Ayer Molek<sup>1</sup>(Ayer Molek) district in the Central District of Melaka. Under the Emergency Regulations 1948(F. of M. No. 10 of 1948), George Evan Cameron Wisdom, Resident Commissioner (Resident Commissioner) of the State of Melaka, under the authority of the Emergency Regulations 1951, Regulation 17 FA<sup>2</sup>, declared that after 20 December 1951, no person shall reside or continue to reside in the Control Area. person shall not reside or continue to reside in any part of the Controlled Area (Controlled Area Order)<sup>3</sup> other than the prescribed residential curtilage.<sup>4</sup> in Lab. M:6/51(MC.3), November 1951) This meant that the "concentration camp" life of the residents of Tiang Dua New Village had begun.

According to the archives collected so far, the first official government record of Tiang Dua New Village was on 4 September 1951, when it was listed in the Colonial Secretariat's List of Colonies. (No. (39) in RCOM. 980/ 50, C.A.M. No. 32 / 1951, *Resettlement Areas(New Village)*, September 1951) In addition, according to a letter from the District Officer of the Central District of Melaka dated 16 December 1955, the tenants were notified to register as tenants of the village in a colony under the jurisdiction of the District Officer. Notification to tenants that the registration of eight new villages under the Central District had been effected, including Tiang Dua New Village. (DOM.137/53/65, C.A.M. No. 32 / 51 / Pt 1, *Resettlement Areas(General)(New Village)*, December 1955). However, due to the close proximity of the village to Jasin District, many people mistakenly believe that the village is part of Jasin District. In newspaper reports, journalists can still be seen misspelling Tiang Dua as a new village in Jasin District.

In terms of the origin of the name of the new village, the villagers said that the area was already known as "Tiang Dua" before the establishment of the new village. (Jiang Guangwu, 2023) Although the stories narrated by the villagers are very different, there is a common thread that cannot be ignored, that is, Tiang Dua is a translation of the Malay word "Tiang Dua"(two pillars). So there is no doubt about it. The following is a folktale about the "two pillars" that has been passed down in the new village of Tiang Dua:

1. Tiang Dua is said to have originated from a story in the Malay countryside. A long time ago, local villagers would let their children walk alone to a small shop along the

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<sup>1</sup> Ayer Molek can be translated into Chinese as "亞逸莫勒", which was also translated into "紅毛禮" and "紅毛叻" in earlier times. However, this article uses the official name of the state seat, Ayer Molek.

<sup>2</sup> The Permanent Commissioner has advised that this Order may be cited as section 58 of the Melaka Colonial Control Area Order 1951.

<sup>3</sup> Detailed information can be found in the National Archives file: RCOM.369/51.

<sup>4</sup> The file information is vague, so it is not possible to identify the specific detailed number of the file.

main road to do their shopping. The shop happened to have two pillars in front of it, hence the name "Tiang Dua". These two pillars were very tall and of considerable width, so much so that many families would dry their clothes on them. In those days, people did not have drying racks, but instead pulled a rope between the two poles to dry their clothes. Both posts were made of wood and were no more than 3 metres high. (Chuah Carrie, Chan Kok Wei 2012: 2)

2. At that time, the so-called "two pillars" stood right at the entrance to the new village. It is said that at that time, many villagers living in the neighbourhood went out to work in the urban areas. When they returned by bus, the bus drivers were required to park them at the "two pillars". Hence the name "Tiang Dua". (Zheng Jinguo, 2023)

### Population composition

Prior to the establishment of the Tiang Dua New Village, the 1947 British Government Census of the Malayan Population showed that the total population of Ayer Molek District was 294, with 183 and 111 males and females respectively. For children, the total number was 34, of which 21 and 13 were males and females respectively. (E.O.M. 103/1947, *Registration of Chinese School Melaka*, 1947). Newspaper reports indicate that the new village of Tiang Dua was established in November 1951. The original inhabitants were rubber cutters, farmers and businessmen from around Tiang Dua who had migrated to the area, with a population of 427. (Singapore Standard 1953: 1)

Based on the information collected from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government of Malaysia in 50 Years of New Villages in Malaysia by Lim Teng Hwee and Song Wan Ying, Tiang Dua New Village was formally established in 1951 with 430 villagers at that time. Until 1954, the population remained unchanged from the year of its establishment. (Lam Ting Fai, Sung Yuen Ying 2000: 149) However, in September of the same year, government records show that there were 453 villagers in Tiang Dua New Village. (C.A.M. No.32 / 1951, *Resettlement Areas(New Village)*, September 1954)(C.A.M. No.32 / 51 / Pt 1, *Resettlement Areas(General)(New Village)*, September 1954). According to the Melaka Settlement New Villages, there were 74 Chinese families in Tiang Dua New Village, 5 Malay families<sup>5</sup> and no Indians, making the population of the New Village 453 at that time. <sup>6</sup>(C.A.M. No. 32 / 51 Pt. 1, *Resettlement Areas(General)(New Village)*)

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<sup>5</sup> The interviewee, Chiang Kwong Mo, said that there had never been a Malay family in Tiang Dua New Village and that there was now only one Chinese-Muslim family, so he did not rule out the possibility of including the families of workers on the hillocks around Tiang Dua New Village in the early days.

<sup>6</sup> The year is not known; official archives mark the entire document, including this one, as spanning the years 1955 to 1961.

On 22 July 1958, the Chinese population of Tiang Dua New Village was 550 according to the Melaka State Secretariat. (Ref: RCOM. 01437 / 64, *Resettlement Areas(General)(New Village)*, 22 July 1958) This figure is supported by another report, *The population and the main dialects spoken in new village in the state of Melaka, 1958*. The population and the *main dialects spoken in new village in the state of Melaka, 1958*). The report also shows that the population of Tiang Dua new village in the Central District of Melaka was 550. (C.A.M. No.32 / 1951 *Resettlement Areas(New Village)*, 1958) According to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the population of Tiang Dua increased to 1,019 in 1970 over a period of 20 years. In 1995, the population reached 2,100. (Lam Ting Fai, Sung Yuen Ying 2000:149)

According to the Melaka State Secretariat in 1958, the principal *dialect spoken* in Tiang Dua New Village was Leizhou and Hokkien. (Ref: RCOM. 01437 / 64, *Resettlement Areas(General)(New Village)*, July 1958) in *The population and the main dialects spoken in new village in the state of Melaka, 1958*. The population and the main dialects spoken in *new village in the state of Melaka, 1958*) also labelled the main languages spoken in Tiang Dua New Village as Hokkien and Leizhou. According to an interview with students of Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman(UTAR) in 2012, the then village head, Dato' Liew Ah Kau, explained that the village had a population of more than 2,000 at that time, of which more than 1,100 were from Lei Zhou. (Chuah Carrie, Chan Kok Wei 2012:2)



Figure 4.1.1

Tiang Dua New Village house gate number and house owner's domicile in 2023

Note: This map was drawn and collected through the villager Wu Wenbao on the family name and place of origin of each family.

The information was eventually confirmed to be correct by Wu Wenbao, then village head Jiang Yuxian and former village head Jiang Guangwu.

*Table 4.3.1: Percentage of origin among Chinese villagers in Tiang Dua New Village, 2023*

Dialect Group	Number of houses(households)	Percentage(%)	Number of families(households) <sup>7</sup>	Percentage(%)
Hokkien	38	41.758	28	40
Leizhou	37	40.659	28	40
Hakka	7	7.692	6	8.571
Hainan	4	4.396	4	5.714
Teo Chew	3	3.297	3	4.286
Cantonese	2	2.198	1	1.429
<b>Total</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>40</b>

The distribution of origins in Tiang Dua New Village was already established as early as the 1950s and has been maintained ever since. In particular, Hokkien and Leizhou were not only the main languages spoken in the early days of Tiang Dua, but still account for 40 per cent of the total, while Hakka, Hainan, Teo Chew and Cantonese together account for only 20 per cent. According to oral interviews, the earliest immigrants to Tiang Dua San Tsuen were actually from Hokkien. Later on, a Leizhou man, Lam Hoi Wing, who worked as a foreman at the Dunlop Estate, migrated to Tiang Dua San Tsuen Gate No. 5. As he also ran a small business, he started to help his fellow Leizhou people from other districts to migrate to Tiang Dua San Tsuen as his financial strength and social status increased. This situation of mutual support and collaboration also validates the theory of geo-relationships put forward by Harvard University Professor Philip Alden Kuhn. According to Professor Philip Alden Kuhn, the "channel-small habitat" model of Chinese migrants is constructed through a network of potential connections between relatives and townships. The professor puts forward two important analytical concepts: "corridor" and "niche model". The so-called "corridor" refers to the extensive and close network of exchanges that these new immigrants have established between Nanyang and their hometowns, which involves not only the substantive two-way flow of people, capital and information, but also the virtual intertwining of emotions, cultures and beliefs. The "small living space" is a place where the various cultural elements and social institutions of the homeland are transferred to the Nanyang society. This "organisation" can be seen as an extension of the traditional networks of blood, geography and faith. (Kong Feili 2018: 460) Under Lin Kairong's leadership and call, a large number of Leizhou people from other places began to migrate

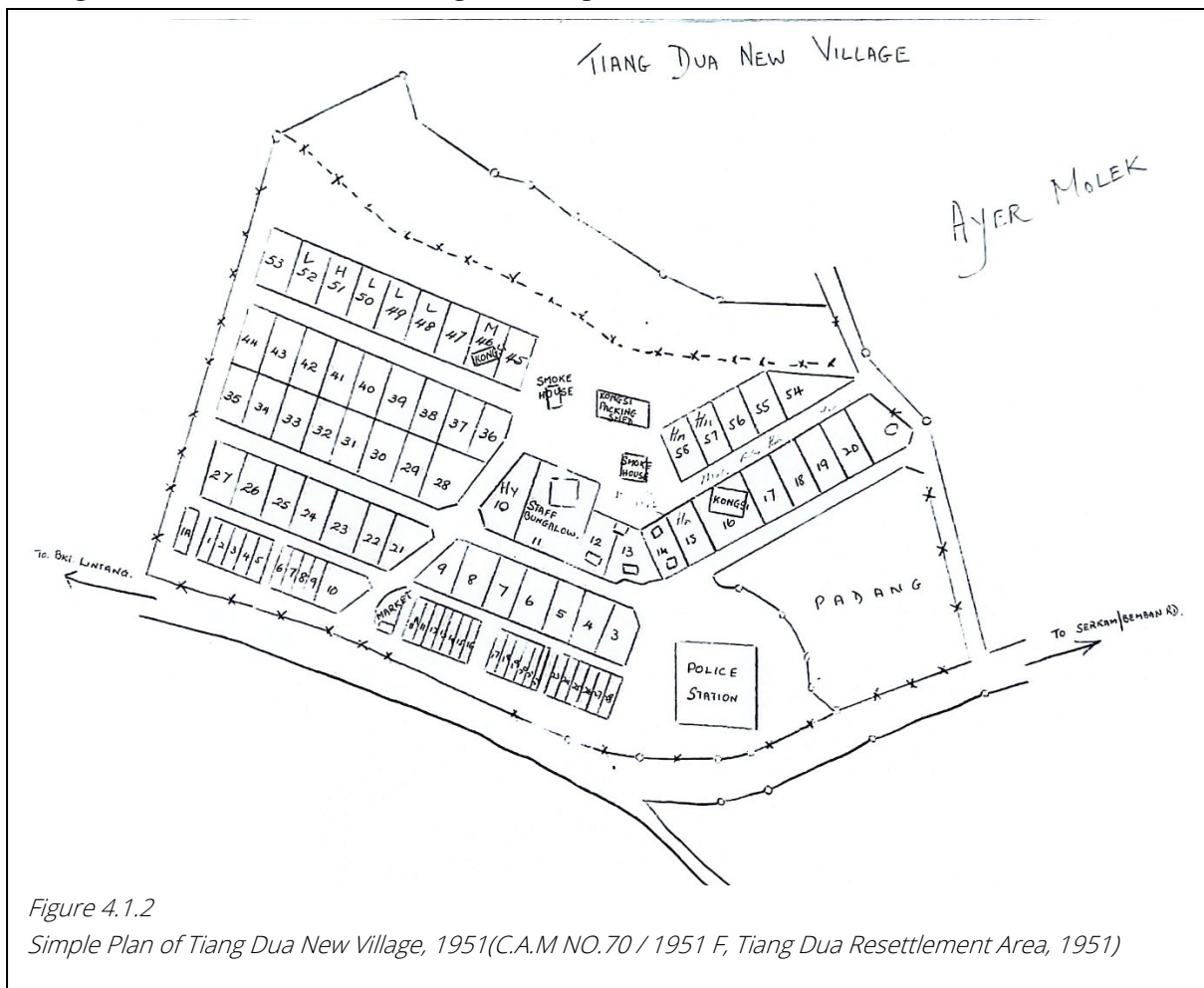
<sup>7</sup> Since there are as many as 21 vacant houses in Tiang Dua New Village, the number of households still living there is used to get a better picture of the distribution of the local origin.



to Tiang Dua New Village, and the population gradually balanced out with the local Hokkien population, forming a sizable community. As a result, Tiang Dua New Village came to be known as the "Leizhou of Nanyang".

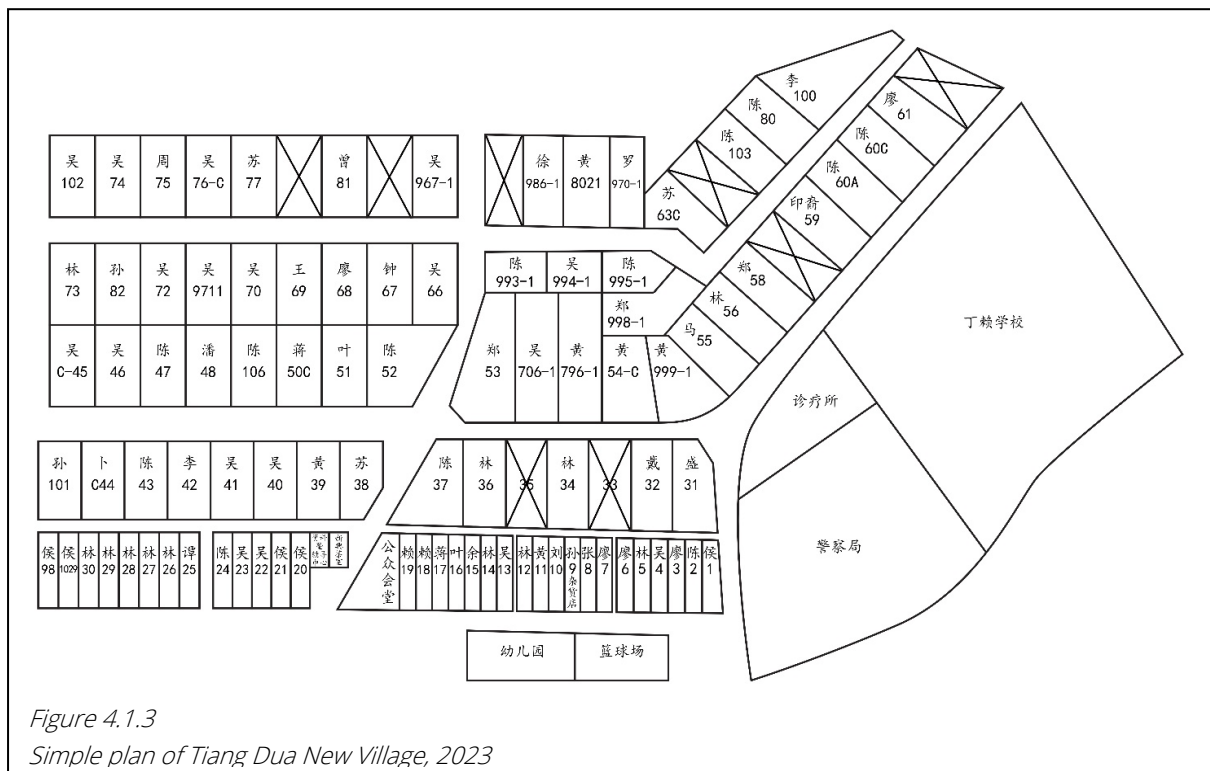
### Architectural patterns

Under the New Village Policy, residents living in the Diaspora around Tiang Dua were forced to migrate in mass to the new village of Tiang Dua.



According to the plan of Tiang Dua New Village in 1951, it can be observed that the number of houses at that time was 86. However, in September 1954, the official records show that the number of houses in Tiang Dua New Village was only 79 houses. (C.A.M. No.32 / 1951, *Resettlement Areas (New Village)*,1954) (C.A.M. No.32 / 51 / Pt 1, *Resettlement Areas(General)(New Village)*, 1954)

In January 1958, the number of houses in Tiang Dua New Village was 79, the number of deeds issued on real New Village and the number of deeds issued on agricultural land were 28 plots each. It is noted on the file that at that time there were still other house lots and agricultural lots on which action was being taken to process applications. (Ref. DOM. 02348 / 2A, C.A.M. No. 32 / 51 Pt. 1, *Resettlement Areas(General)(New Village, 1958)*)



A comparison of the Tiang Dua New Village at its inception in 1951 and its present development in 2023 reveals that the houses, shops and public service buildings are largely a continuation of the British colonial layout. At the time of its inception, Tiang Dua had 87 houses and shops, including two "kongsi houses" and a staff cottage. There were also two rubber smoking houses and a 'kongsi' packing shed. At the same time, a police station and a market were set up in the new village.

Observations of the layout of the new village of Tiang Dua in 2023 show that the location of houses and shops has remained largely unchanged, but the door plates have undergone a major change. Villagers have indicated that the renewed title deeds have resulted in completely new door signs with completely different numbers to the original ones. The original rubber smoker's house and "kongsi" packing shed lot have been converted into three houses and an open space, while the staff cottage has been converted into two

houses and four new houses have been added to the rear, and house number 46, which was used as one of the company houses in 1951, is now an open space.

In terms of public facilities, the police station is still in its original location, but a new clinic has been added in the open space next door. In addition, a portion of the large playground in the new village is now used as the site for the Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School. The original market is now a community hall where villagers gather.

### **New Village Development and Security Committee**

The Chinese New Village, an important institutional creation in Malaya's history, carried the political and military objectives of the Government during the Emergency in response to the armed struggle by the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM). During the tenure of Sir Gerald Templer as the High Commissioner, the Malayan government implemented the Sinchon system in response to the threat of the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM) armed struggle. This system brought the new villages under the direct authority of the High Commissioner's Office and the Operational Command for more effective implementation of the siege of CPM.

The rapid establishment and management of new villages became an urgent response of the then British Government. However, the construction of new villages was carried out in haste and lacked systematic and long-term planning, which led to a variety of problems, particularly in terms of deficiencies in public facilities. Under the Local Government Act of 1952, the state government established the Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung (JKKK), or Village Committee, for short, as the New Village Development and Security Committee. "(Ho Kee Chye 2020:54)

The Village Committees are mainly responsible for strengthening the link between the residents of the new villages and the Government, and for making recommendations to Members of Parliament at all levels on issues relating to the new villages. At the central government level, administrative units specializing in the management of new villages have been set up to assist in the handling of public affairs relating to the development of new villages.

At the time of the establishment of the Tiang Dua New Village, the local government dealings were handled by the headmen, Lim Khai Weng and Lai Han Mui. Tragedy struck Tiang Dua New Village the year after it was established, however, when the two headmen fell to Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) force in 1952. As a result, the village's Ong

Zhaobing took over from the two men and became the new nominal headman of the village. However, at the meeting of the Tiang Dua New Village on 28 February 1955 under the leadership of the Secretary of the Chinese Affairs Department, the Village Council made important resolutions, namely, that it was decided to operate the Village Council separately from the School Committee, and that elections for the Village Council would be held on 13 March of the same year. In addition, the meeting on that day also expanded on the new village committee system, i.e., seven new members were required to be added to the village committee membership, one of whom had to be a young person under 21 years of age. This resolution aims to enhance the participation of villagers and increase the transparency of the governance of the new village. (C.A.M. No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, February 1955)

In addition, the Secretary of the Chinese Affairs Division introduced the establishment and role of the Chinese Advisory Board (CAB) and introduced one of the members of the CAB, Leong Ah Hong, to the villagers during the meeting, which aimed to provide villagers with more opportunities for participation, as well as a channel for them to seek advice and assistance, especially on major issues such as the Communist Party and other important issues. This initiative aims to provide villagers with more opportunities for participation and a channel to seek advice and help, especially when it comes to major issues such as the Communist Party, and villagers are afraid to go to the police station to report such issues. This has effectively increased the sense of security and trust of the residents of the new village in terms of law and order in the village and even the management. (C.A.M. No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, February 1955).

On 13 March 1955, Tiang Dua New Village saw the first local village council elections. The results of the election were as follows. (C.A.M. No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, March 1955):

Chairman : Goh Geok Wah  
 Vice-Chairman: Hou Tien Sin  
 Secretary : Lim Ah Heng<sup>8</sup>  
 Treasurer : Lim Ting Seng  
 Audit : Yau Yok Be  
 Clerk : Teh Tong Kuan  
 Youth representative: Tan Ah Choie<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Lim Ah Heng resigned from his post as Secretary as he had moved his family to Negeri Sembilan Tampines. His application for resignation was approved on 27 July 1956 by the Chairman of the Village Council.

<sup>9</sup> Alias Tan Wee Sin

On 17 March 1955, the Secretary of the Chinese Affairs Department received a complaint about the dissatisfaction of the former village head, Mr. Wong Chiu Ping, with the results of the Tiang Dua New Village re-election. Not only did Wong Chiu Ping blatantly write the word "invalid" above the names of the elected village councilors on the notice board, he also published a critical poem on the notice board:

*How can you expect a harvest without seeds?  
the wind and the spirit of peace are at work here(idiom); seek peace with the  
wind and the spirit of truth  
I won't be able to forgive you when I've used up all my energy.  
Don't worry if you don't go backward.*

Shia Kee Hwa, Assistant Resettlement Officer of Tiang Dua New Village, stated in a later report that Wang Zhaobing thought that he should be automatically retained as Chairman and that he therefore had a somewhat unhappy attitude towards the results of the Village Committee election. (C.A.M. No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, May 1955)

At the Village Council meeting on 27 May 1955, the Chinese Affairs Officer introduced Yong Yau Pin to the villagers, who was to formally take over from Shia Kee Hwa as the Assistant Resettlement Officer (A.R.O.) of Tiang Dua New Village on 1 August 1955 (C.A.M. No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, May 1955), and the villagers were told that he was going to take over from Shia Kee Hwa as the A.R.O. (A.R.O.). (C.A.M. No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, May 1955). At a meeting of the Tiang Dua Village Council on 28 June 1957, the Central Chinese Affairs Officer(C.A.O.), Mr. Li San Francisco, suggested that the Village Council should set up a Welfare Fund to help villagers in need, and Lim Chee Chong and Tan Wee Sin nominated Mr. Ong Choo Peng to be the person in charge of the Welfare Fund. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, June 1957)

As an important unit of villagers' self-governance, the VC assumes the responsibility of maintaining community stability and promoting the development of new villages. The management and utilization of the Village Council Fund is directly related to the interests and development of the new village. It is fortunate that the monthly accounts of the Village Council Fund of Tiang Dua New Village for the period from 1955 to 1956 have been found in the National Archives. At the first meeting of the Tiang Dua New Village Council held on 16 March 1955, it was unanimously decided that \$2,055.23 of the Council's fund should be distributed as follows: \$555.23 to be donated to the Tiang Dua Wah Elementary School; \$1,200 to be deposited in the bank in the names of the trustees, Goh Geok Wah(Chairman),

Hou Tien Sin(Vice-Chairman) and Lim Ah Heng(Secretary); and the remaining \$300 to be held in reserve by the treasury. 300 shall be held in reserve by the Treasury. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, March 1955). By 27 January 1956, the Tiang Dua New Village Council meeting reported that \$165.55 remained in liquid funds in the treasury and that the Council's bank account remained at \$1,200, for a total of \$1,365.55. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, January 1956)

At the following meeting on 27 July 1956, the financial report of the Tiang Dua New Village Council showed that the Council had spent a total of \$58 on the civic education course held on 15 June for the hospitality of the villagers and government officials who attended the course. Of this amount, \$20 was contributed by the Information Department of Melaka and the balance was borne by the village council. At the same meeting, there was a balance of \$104.10 left in the treasury's hands, while the Village Committee's bank account remained at \$1,200. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, July 1956). At its meeting on 28 September 1956, the Tiang Dua San Tsuen Village Council reported that the liquidity in the hands of the treasurer had increased to \$144.35, while the Village Council's bank account was still maintained at \$1,200(C.A.M No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, September 1956). By the meeting of 30 November 1956, the liquidity of the treasury was further increased to \$322.40 and the village bank account remained at \$1,200. (C.A.M No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, November 1956)

In terms of fund allocation, the village committee of Tiang Dua New Village has fully taken into account the development needs of the new village, such as education and public services, and has decided at meetings to allocate the fund for donations to schools, depositing it in the bank and keeping it on standby, reflecting the rational use of funds. At the same time, in terms of access management, the Village Council has established a trustee system and regularly reports on the financial situation, ensuring the safety and transparency of the funds.

### **Cleanest New Village Competition**

The Secretary of the Committee of the Development of New Villages in Melaka wrote in his report that Tiang Dua New Village was the winner of the 1953 Cleanest New Village Competition for the Central District.<sup>10</sup>(C.A.M No.69/1952, *Committee of the Development of New Village*, July 1953) The report stated that Tiang Dua New Village was rated as the cleanest and most up-to-date of the seven new villages in Central Melaka for the past six

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<sup>10</sup> Detailed information can be found in the National Archives file: RCOM.00377.

months. (Singapore Standard 1953:1). When Resident Commissioner H.G. HAMMETT visited the new village at Tiang Dua on 17 February 1955, he spoke highly of the cleanliness of the village. He praised the cleanliness of the new village, which was a great improvement on the one he had visited three years ago in Tiang Dua. (C.A.M No. 69/1952, *Committee of the Development of New Village*, 17 February 1955)

### **Malayan Emergency**

In 1945, Japan, which had occupied Malaya for three years and eight months, surrendered. When the Japanese army withdrew from Malaya, the British army returned to Malaya. The Malayan Communist Party, the main force in the anti-Japanese war, was dissatisfied with the British army's appeasement conditions, so it returned to the forest and engaged in armed confrontation with the British army. In 1948, the British government saw that the activities of the Malayan Communist Party were becoming more frequent, so it appointed General Sir Harold Briggs as the commander of the anti-communist campaign. After the British government declared a state of emergency, Briggs launched the Briggs Plan also known as the New Village Plan. Under the Briggs Plan, residents living in the suburbs had to be concentrated in areas specified by the British government. Among them, the Chinese were targeted more clearly to prevent activities supporting the Malayan Communist Party from being carried out.

### **Resettlement**

Tiang Dua New Village was established under such circumstances, so most of the residents came from nearby suburbs and plantation workers. In addition, under the leadership of the local headman Lin Kairong, a large number of Leizhou people from other areas, such as Bakri in Muar, Johor, and Merlimau in Jasin, Melaka, also began to migrate to Tiang Dua. (Lin Daoqing: 2023). On 24 November 1951, the chairman of the New Village Labour Regrouping Committee, KJ Henderson, sent a letter to the Melaka Land Revenue Officer regarding the reorganisation of New Village labour in Ayer Molek, reminding him that the New Villages and residential areas in the area had been declared as restricted areas under the British Government Regulation ER17 FA(1). Therefore, the Regulation would come into force 7 days after the publication in the Melaka State Gazette. In addition, the chairman also believed that it was reasonable to give the New Village owners until 20 December for the reorganization. Furthermore, the Chairman of the Committee also expressed deep concern for the living conditions of the workers. He reminded the Land Revenue Officers that they should put forward architectural requirements when discussing the allotment of housing land with the garden owners, and hinted that there should be some uniformity in

the architectural style. In addition, the Chairman suggested that the room for every four adults should be not less than 12" x 10" and windows should account for 10% of the area. Moreover, ventilation should be provided under the eaves and at the floor level, and concrete gutters should be installed. (No.2 in Lab.M.16/51(MC.3), 24 November 1951)

At the beginning of its establishment, the land property rights of Tiang Dua New Village originally belonged to Yu Guangyuan, the owner of a nearby garden, but later the land was expropriated by the government for the implementation of the new village plan. (Zheng Jinguo, 2023) According to the villagers of Tiang Dua New Village, they vaguely remembered that they were required to move to the new village as quickly as possible, and it was a mandatory requirement. "We must move. Because when it was a British colony, the British soldiers limited your time to move. You must move within the last minute, otherwise they will arrest you. If you don't move, your whole family will be arrested with you."(Jiang Guangwu, 2023). On October 24, 1951, Lai Han Mei, the head of Tiang Dua New Village, expressed his concern to the Chinese Affairs Office about the government's demolition of Tiang Dua shophouses. He made it clear that most of the local residents were poor families and it was difficult to raise the approximately \$3000-4000 required for immediate relocation. Lai Han Mei pointed out that there had been no riots in the Tiang Dua area, so the villagers generally hoped to be able to move to the new village gradually rather than move immediately.<sup>11</sup>(CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, October 1951). On 1 November 1951, a curfew was declared throughout Ayer Molek, Melaka Tengah. However, this did not cover the road from Ayer Molek to Tiang Dua, 8 miles west. (Singapore Standard 1951:4)

### **Movement restrictions**

After resettlement to the new village, the villagers of Tiang Dua began to live a "semi-open and semi-controlled" life. According to the Emergency Ordinance 1948(F. of M.No.10 of 1948), the Resident Commissioner of Melaka State, George Evan Cameron Wisdom Under the authority of Section 17FA of the Emergency Act 1951, it was declared that after 20 December 1951, no person would be allowed to be in any restricted area between 7pm and 6am the following day. <sup>12</sup>in Lab.M:6/51(MC.3), November 1951) At that time, Tiang Dua was surrounded by eight-foot-high barbed wire and was located in Ayer Molek. A gate is set up on the main road to Tiang Dua.

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<sup>11</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives: Ref:(1) in CAM 70/51(F)

<sup>12</sup> The archival information is unclear, so the specific detailed number of the file cannot be identified.



### Barbed Wire

At the Tiang Dua Village Committee meeting on April 26, 1957, the village committee reported to the Central Chinese Affairs Officer, Li Jinsan, that the barbed wire fence was overgrown with weeds and needed to be taken care of. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 26 April 1957) At the Tiang Dua Village Committee meeting on June 28, 1957, when discussing security measures in the village, Li Jinsan, the Central Chinese Affairs Officer, informed the village committee that the government could only allocate \$100 for the maintenance of the barbed wire fence and instructed the village head, Wu Yihua, to be responsible for this matter. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 28 June 1957)

### Gate

On April 16, 1952, a group of shop owners represented by Tan Chwee Kian jointly wrote to the MCA Melaka state chairman, requesting that another gate be added to the new village to facilitate the villagers and even consumers around the new village to come and shop. The letter mentioned that Tiang Dua only had one entrance and exit, which was the only gate in the village, so the villagers had to walk at least 25 miles to buy their daily necessities. As the actual distance for villagers to shop became longer, Tiang Dua businesses faced losses. Therefore, a group of business owners strongly requested to add another gate so that businesses around Tiang Dua can operate better. This joint letter was signed and stamped by the business owners, including: Lai Hanmei, Chop Bee Loon <sup>13</sup>, Chopringgit Yan, Tan Kian Thong, Kwong Yong Huat, Yoon Loong, Chen Shuiqian, Lin Yuxing, Lin <sup>14</sup>Jingui, Lin Zhaohua <sup>15</sup>, <sup>16</sup>Lin Yikun, Chaoxing, Wang Mudong, Kong Hin Loong <sup>17</sup>, Etc. <sup>18</sup>(CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 16 April 1952). April 25, 1952, although the villagers had written to the MCA, this issue was beyond the scope of the MCA. Therefore, the MCA wrote to BTW Stewart, the Deputy Secretary of the Melaka Chinese Affairs Office, requesting that businesses around Tiang Dua add gates. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 25 April 1952). April 28, 1952, the Deputy Secretary of the Chinese Affairs Office wrote to the Collector of Land Revenue, hoping that the other party would give him detailed feedback on the matter. <sup>19</sup>(CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 28 April 1952)

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<sup>13</sup> 2754, BUKIT LINTANG, MELAKA.

<sup>14</sup> Bukit Rentong

<sup>15</sup> AYER MOLEY, MELAKA.

<sup>16</sup> AYER MOLEY.

<sup>17</sup> Melaka Air Iberit

<sup>18</sup> The signatures or seals of four other operators could not be clearly identified.

<sup>19</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives:( 3) RCOM(CA) 70/51.F

1952, the Land Revenue Officer made it clear in his reply that the local police insisted on guarding only one gate. But it also brought good news to the villagers, that is, the head of the police district had agreed that when Tiang Dua's self-defense group(Home Guard) was ready to assist, Tiang Dua would be allowed to open up fully. In addition, it was also revealed that Tiang Dua's Home Guard had been listed for review and training by the Civil Defense Department officials. <sup>20</sup>(CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 5 May 1952). In a letter dated May 9, 1952, Wong Koon Yoon, Deputy Secretary of the Chinese Affairs Office, also added that before the local Home Guard can officially start service, the existing gate will become the only entrance and exit of Tiang Dua New Village. <sup>21</sup>(CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 9 May 1952). Three years later, on 27 May 1955, the suggestion of adding an extra gate was again raised by the village committee secretary, Lim Ah Heng. He suggested opening an additional small gate near Plot 9 so that farmers could go out to work and raise pigs through this small gate instead of having to walk to the main gate which was quite far from their houses.

At that time, the village committee decided that the self-defense group would be responsible for opening the gate from 6 am to 7 pm. However, the cost of adding a gate was a concern for the farmers. Therefore, the Chinese Affairs Officer suggested that the village committee first apply to the District Officer for an additional gate. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 May 1955) However, the matter of adding another small gate in the new village was formally rejected by the District War Executive Committee (DWEC) on July 28, 1955. ( CAM No.70 / 1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 28 July 1955)

### Food control

In early 1949, the British government-imposed food controls on the new villages. FARELF <sup>22</sup>(Far East Land Force) headquarters stated that the British government's actions in the settlement areas were mainly aimed at preventing the Communists from obtaining food. Riley Sunderland 1964: 29) Food controls were managed by State and District War Executive Committees, which were composed of the main civilian military and police officials in the area. (Riley Sunderland 1964: IX)

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<sup>20</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives: No. (9) in LOM 323-51

<sup>21</sup> For more information, see the National Archives:(5) in RCOM(CA) 70/51F.

<sup>22</sup> In 1951, FARELF was officially named. When General Templer became the commander of the Malayan Operation in 1952, he changed its name to Jungle Warfare School. On January 4, 1972, the British troops withdrew from it and it was officially taken over by Malaysia. Nazaruddin bin Mohamed announced that the school was officially renamed " Pusat Latihan Tempur Tentera Darat"(PULADA).

At about 4:00 pm on August 3, 1954, the Asst. Controller of supplies, the Chief Food Inspector and a Chinese food inspector conducted a search at the GAN CAI SOON grocery store at No. 7, Tiang Dua New Village. During the search, they found 79 catties of rice and 22 catties of sugar, of which 48 catties of rice and 12 catties of sugar were confiscated by the Food Control Department. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 12 August 1954). The incident was reported by the shop owner GAN CAI SOON to Li Jinshan, an official of the Melaka Central Chinese Affairs Office, on August 6, 1954. In order to confirm the facts, the Chinese Affairs Office conducted an on-site investigation on August 7, 1954 and requested independent witnesses. During the investigation, Chen Shuiqian, a Hokkien businessman from Tiang Dua New Village, and Wu Yihua, secretary of the New Village Committee, provided oral testimony, and neither of them made any adverse remarks against GAN CAI SOON. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 12 August 1954)

Officials from the Chinese Affairs Office said that based on the report of the Chief Food Inspector, GAN CHAI SOON may be charged with displaying controlled sugar in stock without a license to sell rice, oil and sugar. According to Regulation 15 of the British Military Administration Proclamation No. 10, any person who holds or controls any controlled substance in a manner that gives reasonable suspicion that he has or intends to violate this Proclamation in relation to controlled substances shall be charged with an offence in violation of this Proclamation. However, it is important to note that Tiang Dua Baru and its surrounding roads were declared a white area on 22 October 1953 under Section 17EA of the White Area and Emergency Ordinance and recorded in the Melaka Colony State Government Gazette. The proclamation was intended to control and ration food to prevent black market activities which were prevalent at the time due to severe food shortages. However, it is logically unreasonable to continue to use the ordinance after Tiang Dua had been declared a white area. In addition, it should be pointed out that the amount of rice and sugar in Gan Cai Soon's shop was not a large amount of hoarding, so it was not enough to suspect that he was engaged in black market activities. Therefore, Li Jinshan said that he would discuss with the supply assistant investigator not to accuse Gan Cai Soon, because if the accusation was successful, it would have a negative impact on the villagers, and the villagers would think that the "white area" and its importance would become meaningless. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 12 August 1954)

### Home Guard

Although there are police stations in new villages across the country, the government has also recruited nearly 7,000 full-time special auxiliary police (Special Constables) and thousands of part-time special auxiliary police across the country. However, the heavy

manpower burden is a big drain on the British government, which is also carrying out food control and military operations. Based on this, the British government decided to start training Home Guards (self-defense groups) in new villages. (Dobby 1952:177)

For the British government, this measure not only allowed the villagers to participate in the maintenance of the safety of the new villages, but also enhanced the Chinese's sense of community participation and made them no longer succumb to the Malayan Communist Party. In addition, it also allowed the Chinese to put aside their prejudice against the British government and their distrust and suspicion of the police. In 1952, the Land Revenue Officer wrote to the Secretary of the Chinese Affairs Office, clearly stating that the Home Guards of Tiang Dua had been reviewed and trained by the Civil Defense Department officials.<sup>23</sup>(CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 5 May 1952)

At the village committee meeting on April 29, 1955, the village committee stated that it had invited District Officer HE Sequerah to officiate at the opening of the newly built Home Guard Post on May 28 next month. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 29 April 1955) The district officer visited Tiang Dua New Village on May 28 as invited. (The Straits Times, 1955:11) (The Straits Budget, 1955:7)

On May 2, 1955, the village committee decided to contact the owners of nearby gardens, hoping that they would donate generously to provide coffee, sugar, biscuits and other supplies to the self-defense group on night shift every month. Among them, Goh Geok Wah and Hou Tien Sin contacted Nam Hoe and See Heng Sun; Yau Yok Bee and Jantan contacted Yu Guangyuan; Lim Ah Heng contacted Teck Eng. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 2 May 1955).

There was an unfortunate incident in Tiang Dua where a child fell into a water-filled Self-Defense Corps air-raid shelter and drowned. The shelter was apparently dug on the instructions of the area Self-Defense Corps chief and was located in the middle of the New Village where it should not have existed. The shelter has since been filled in. However, a rather unfair comment has been made locally that the Self-Defense Corps was better at harming children than the Communists. (CAM No.32 / 1951, *Resettlement Areas (New Village)*). Although Tiang Dua New Village was officially declared a white area on October 22, 1953, Home Guards continued to be assigned to maintain security in the village at the request of the village chief Wang Zhaobing.

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<sup>23</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives: No. (9) in LOM 323-51

## Declaration of White Areas

Under Section 17EA of the White Area and Emergency Ordinance, Tiang Dua New Village and its surrounding roads were officially declared a white area on October 22, 1953, and recorded in the Melaka Colony State Government Gazette (Settlement Gazette). (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 22 October 1953) (The Straits Budget 1953: 10) However, this exciting news was not quickly known to the public. Therefore, the Melaka Resident Commissioner HGHAMMETT personally brought this good news to the villagers of Tiang Dua New Village. (Singapore Standard 1953:1)

On the same day, the Ministry of Information service vehicle used a loudspeaker to inform the villagers of Tiang Dua of the good news that General Templer had ordered the cancellation of the "Emergency Ordinance" that restricted food and movement. In addition, the district officer assistant Lee Cheng Yan also distributed leaflets in the village and explained to the villagers the "new freedom" they had gained. (The Straits Times 1953: 1) Although Tiang Dua was classified as a white area, the then village chief Wang Zhaobing still asked General Templer to save the responsibility of maintaining the Home Guards, after all, the previous village leader Lai Hanmei had just been killed in the past few months. (The Straits Times 1953: 1)



Figure 4.1.4

A group photo taken at the entrance of the village during the celebration of Malaya's independence ceremony (Source: Jiang Kexin)

Wang Zhaobing said excitedly: "Those who do not live in the new village cannot imagine what it is like to have to stay indoors from 6:30 pm to 6:30 am every day. "(Singapore Standard 1953:1) Captain AD Stevenson, head of Home Guards, also said that from now on, he should not have to worry too much about (Tiang Dua). (Singapore Standard 1953:1). The village chief walked to the gate, pushed it open heavily, and said, "*From now on, this gate will always be open.*"

### Naturalization

In the history of Malaysia, naturalization policy has always been an important issue, involving social integration, legal status and identity. This is because through national registration, the British government can better distinguish between the Communist Party and the people. (Riley Sunderland 1964:32). According to the archive records on May 27, 1955, the Secretary for Chinese Affairs (SCA) informed the new village committee that naturalization applications were open to the villagers of Tiang Dua. It is reported that applicants can contact Mr. Ye in the office of the office or notify the Assistant Resettlement Officer(ARO) to obtain application forms or make related application matters. The letter also stated that the application conditions included that the applicant must be at least 21 years old and have lived continuously in the Federation of Malaya for the past five years. In addition, the notice clearly emphasized that the naturalization fee would not exceed \$17, but \$5 would need to be paid as an application fee. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, May 1955). However, according to the minutes of the new village committee meeting on July 28, 1955, no naturalization application was received from any villagers in the past two months. This phenomenon may reflect the attitude of the new village villagers towards the naturalization procedure or their lack of understanding of related matters at that time. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, July 1955)

On April 4, 1956, the Chinese Affairs Officer informed the village committee that the secretary of the Chinese Affairs Office would arrive in the new village on April 18, 1956 and begin processing the villagers' naturalization applications. This notification showed that the authorities were actively promoting the naturalization procedures for the new village residents at that time. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, April 1956). In view of the approaching deadline for applying for citizenship, Chen Zhucai and others assisted the residents of Hongmaolai to fill out citizenship forms on July 27, 1958. The event was held at Tiang Dua Community Hall on that day, and local enthusiastic people Zheng Qiuxing and Wu Yihua were responsible for assisting and guiding the work. ( Nanyang Siang Pau) 1958 : 11)

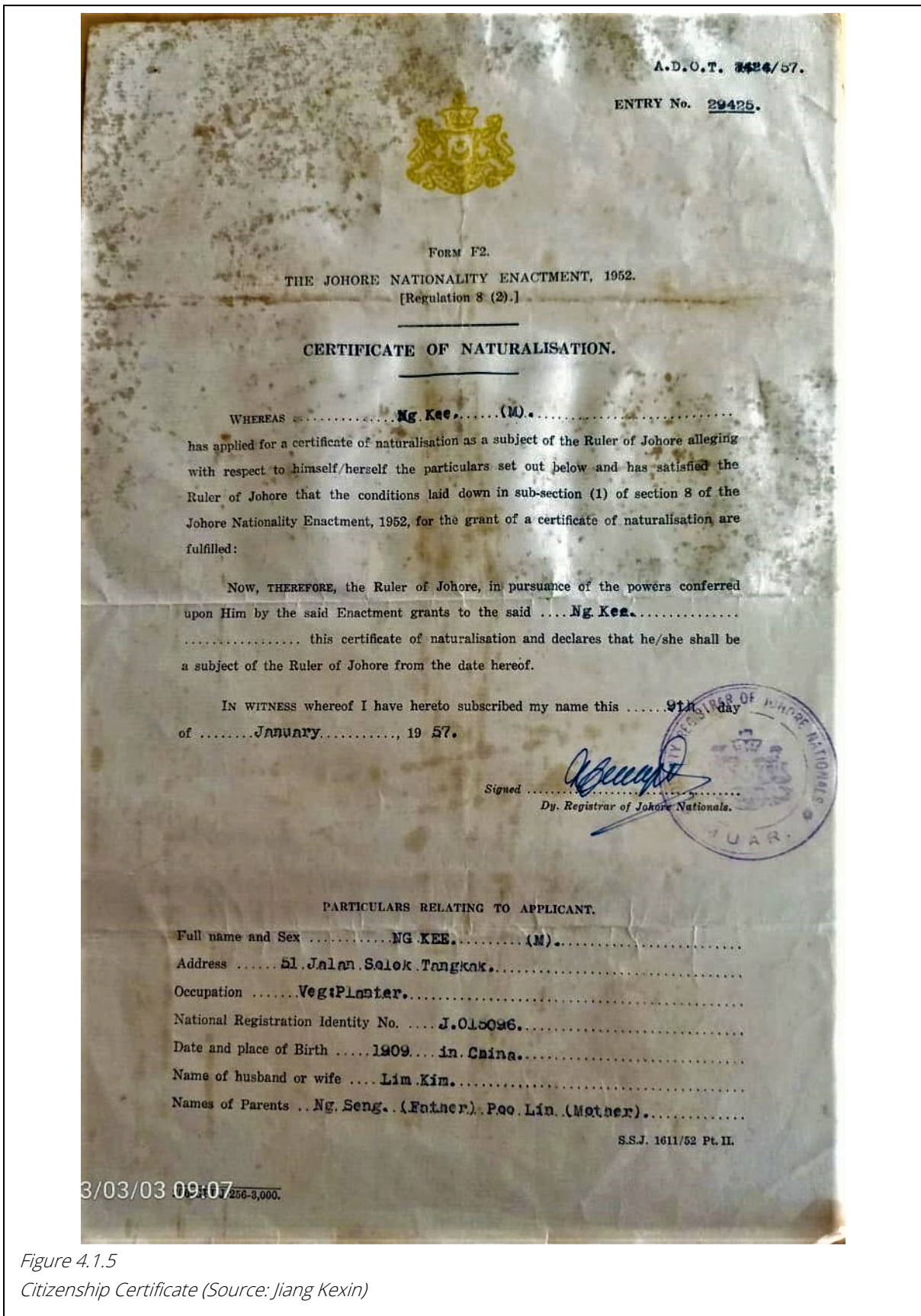


Figure 4.1.5  
Citizenship Certificate (Source: Jiang Kexin)

## MCA and the Labour Party

### Malaysian Chinese Association

In the early 1950s, the British government proposed the New Village Policy, and expected to concentrate all Chinese settlers in the suburbs in the New Village in a short period of time. The New Village Plan also led to the establishment of the Malaysian Chinese Association to assist in the settlement of settlers and relocation matters. (Ho Kee Chye 2020: 49). In order to help Chinese immigrants to the new villages, especially to provide basic living conditions, the MCA decided to take action to raise funds by issuing welfare lottery tickets to assist the affected Chinese and raise funds for building wooden houses. Since February 26, 1950, the MCA has begun issuing welfare lottery tickets. The sales revenue of these lottery tickets is used to support the Chinese community, provide assistance and services to alleviate the possible impact of the immigration plan. However, although the original intention of issuing welfare lottery tickets was to support the Chinese community, on June 21, 1953, this activity was banned by the British government. By then, the MCA had issued 18 welfare lottery tickets and raised millions of dollars through this activity. (Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall)



Figure 4.1.6

The inauguration ceremony of the third term of MCA Youth League staff (Source: Jiang Kexin)



On September 24, 1961, the Melaka Central and East and West MCA district committees held their respective congresses to elect staff members according to the new constitution and nominate representatives to attend the state and central congresses. Many Tiang Dua villagers were recognized and nominated. Among them, Wu Yihua was appointed as the district chairman and Wang Zhaobing was appointed as the deputy laborer. In addition, Wu Yihua attended the state branch representative conference. The meeting decided to temporarily set up the central district office in Bukit Baru branch. The inauguration date was set at 2 pm on October 15 at Bukit Baru branch. At the same time, the meeting nominated Wu Yihua as one of the members of the preparatory inauguration team. (Nanyang Siang Pau 1961: 11)

On December 19, 1961, representatives of the Youth Group of the Melaka Central District of the MCA held a joint meeting at the Bukit Baru MCA Club to elect the Central District MCA Youth Division Staff, with Wu Yihua acting as the interim chairman. The election results showed that the representatives of the Tiang Dua branch were Chen Wenliang and Lin Yiyu. At the same time, the advisors of the Melaka Central District of the MCA Youth League were also elected, and Wu Yihua was one of the advisors. (Nanyang Siang Pau 1961: 13). According to the office membership list of the Malayan Chinese Association (Melaka Branch), SOH CHEONG TAY is the investigator of Ayer Molek District. ( Lab.M.No. 20/50, *Lists of Office – Bearers of Chinese Association in Melaka Rules & Registration*, 1981)

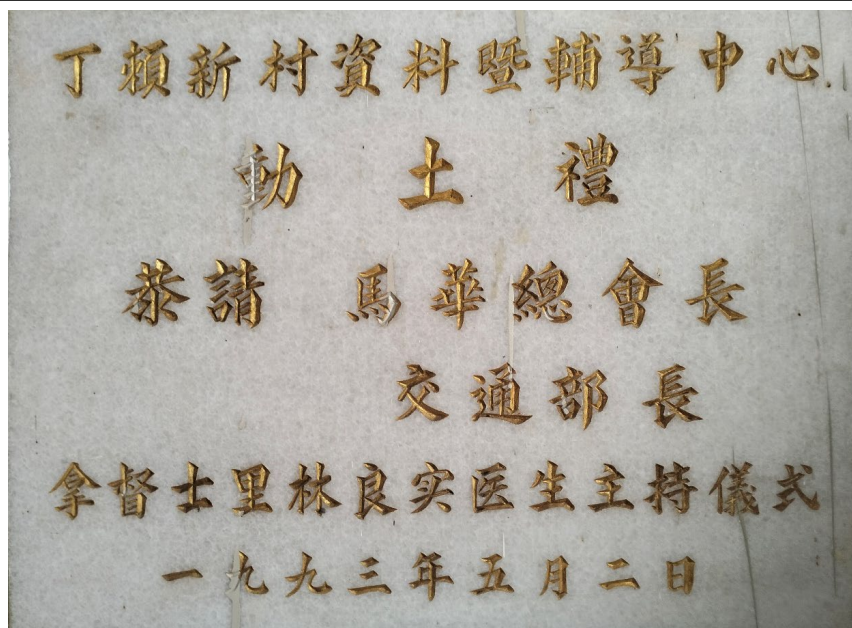


Figure 4.1.7

Groundbreaking ceremony for the Tiang Dua New Village Information and Counselling Centre on May 2, 1993 (Photo taken in 2023)



Figure 4.1.8

The MCA and MCA Youth volunteer groups jointly disinfected the Tiang Dua police station. (Source: China Press, 2021)

## Labour Party of Malaya

On 1 October 1966, Koh Kay Cham and Kam Yau Neng, deputy secretaries of the Workers' Party's Tin Lai branch, submitted an application for registration of the society. (RSM 159/ 52-44, *PARTAI BUROH RANTING TIANG DUA;15, TIANG DUA NEW VILLAGE, MELAKA*, 1 October 1966). On September 15, 1967, the Labour Party Tiang Dua branch was required to submit three copies of the party members' names, identity card numbers, occupations and residential addresses to approve the society registration application. (RSM 159/ 52-144(2), *PARTAI BUROH RANTING TIANG DUA; 15, TIANG DUA NEW VILLAGE, MELAKA*, 15 September 1967) This marked the official start of the legal registration process for the branch. October 26, 1968, Kassim Bin HM Amin, an official of the Registrar of Society( ROS), announced in a circular under Section 12 of the Societies Act 1966 that the Labour Party's Tiang Dua branch had officially obtained legal status. This circular reflected the government's recognition and support for the political organization. (RSM 159/52-144, *PARTAI BUROH RANTING TIANG DUA;15, TIANG DUA NEW VILLAGE, MELAKA*, 26 October 1968). On 26 November 1969, the Malaysian Registrar of Societies wrote to the secretary of the Labour Party branch, requesting him to provide the annual report of the association before the New Year. (RSM 159/ 52-144(4), *PARTAI BUROH RANTING TIANG DUA;15, TIANG DUA NEW VILLAGE, MELAKA*, 26 November 1969. However, on 27 January 1970, the

government issued a notice to the Labour Party Tiang Dua Branch to cancel its legal registration under Section 13(2) of the Societies Act 1966. According to the regulations, the branch must provide reasonable grounds to object to the order before 27 February of the same year, otherwise its license will be revoked. (RSM 159/ 52-144(5), *PARTAI BUROH RANTING TIANG DUA;15, TIANG DUA NEW VILLAGE, MELAKA, 27 January 1970*). However, the branch failed to respond in time, resulting in its license being formally revoked on July 1 of the same year. (RSM 159/ 52-144(6), *PARTAI BUROH RANTING TIANG DUA;15, TIANG DUA NEW VILLAGE, MELAKA, 1 July 1970*) The above letter also mentioned that if the branch no longer exists, its society license would also be revoked.



## Violence

On 27 August 1952, the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM) stabbed to death a Chinese worker on the hillock in Tiang Dua New Village. It is reported that while the eight thugs opened fire on the new village police station, six other accomplices cut the barbed wire fence surrounding the new village. Not only that, they entered a house, opened fire and stabbed the Chinese occupants of the house. The police retaliated, but there were no casualties. (The Straits Time 1952: 1)(Indian Daily Mail 1952: 4)

### Lai Hon Mui<sup>2425</sup>

On 25 August 1952, Lai Han Mui, a local headman who had lived in Tiang Dua for more than a decade, was brutally murdered by a mob of six men at around 7 p.m. The gang was reportedly responsible for the murder of Lai Han Mui. Reports indicate that the gang initially tried to lure Lai, who was the owner of a grocery shop, to open the door by buying beer. Unfortunately, Lai was in the middle of settling his bill and did not open the door immediately. The mob then broke down the door and opened fire on the deceased. Lai dodged the first shot, but was outnumbered and was eventually killed by the mob's sharp knives. (Sin Chew Daily 1952:9). In response, the villagers revealed that the bandits crossed the barbed wire fence and entered the new village, trying to force Mr Lai to open the door. Faced with refusal, the bandits damaged the front door of the shop and four of them stormed inside, two guarding the front and back doors respectively. When Mr Lai tried to escape, he was shot dead on the way. After that, the bandits searched and robbed the shop and even forced Mr Lai's wife to lead them upstairs to indicate the location of the property. And Mr Lai's wife was beaten by the bandits because of her hesitation. In the nick of time, Mr Lai's son, Lai Tin Sai, bravely rushed out of the front door and managed to reach the police station to report the case. However, the police station did not send any officer to rescue him. The robbers spent nearly half an hour looting the entire shop and eventually withdrew by blowing a whistle and firing in the air. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, August 1952).

In the aftermath of the incident, there has been some dissatisfaction and criticism of the police by the residents of the new village. This was because the police station was 100 metres away from Lai Hon Mui's grocery shop and there were 18 police officers stationed at the village police station. However, the police failed to arrive in time after receiving the report, giving the rioters a chance to escape. (Sin Chew Daily 1952:9) (Nanyang Siang Pau 1952:8). One elderly resident said that even if he had been taken away and had his head chopped off, he would have insisted that the police in Tiang Dua were a bunch of useless cowards, and that he could not see how the police could have protected the new village or even prevented similar incidents from happening again in the future. One elderly resident, frustrated and angry, believes that the tragedy might have been prevented if the police had responded in time, or in response to a report from Mr Lai's son. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 1952)

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<sup>24</sup> He is a native of Huiyang County, Guangdong Province, and has always been a businessman.

<sup>25</sup> English translations available in newspapers and archives are: Lai Han Mee, Lai Hen Mue, Lai Hong Moi, Lye Hung Moi.

In addition, villagers mentioned that the police in the area rarely patrol at night. One young man stated, "When we close our shops and houses at night, the police station usually closes along with them." As a result, this tragic incident sparked deep concerns about community safety and police effectiveness, causing villagers to question whether the police would be able to prevent similar incidents in the future. Despite the many voices of criticism, there are some locals who are hopeful that the government will not punish the police for failing to do their job. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 1952)

Later, in a letter dated 28 August 1952 from the Settlement Emergency Information Officer, B.T.W. Stewart, to the Commissioner of Police of Melaka, it was revealed that, according to his interviews, there was a general consensus among the villagers that the police in Tiang Dua were not doing anything about the acts of the violent elements.<sup>26</sup>(C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 28 August 1952)

The case of the murder of Lai Hanmeh was heard on 8 September 1952 by the District Court. Abdul Latiff Sain, the policeman who was believed to be in charge of standing guard at Tiang Dua New Village, was charged with dereliction of duty. He did not take the necessary action to deal with the situation that arose when the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM) murdered Lai. Abdul Latiff Sain denied the charges and was released on \$100 bail pending trial. (Singapore Standard 1952:4) And the case was adjourned until five days later. (The Straits Times 1952:5)

On 13 September 1952, Lai Tien Sain told the judge how he had sought urgent help from the police after his father was attacked by a mob but was ignored. Lai's widow, Cheong Kim Chow, told the court that she had overheard her husband warning Abdul Latif Sain in his shop about an impending attack by terrorists on the village that night or the following night. That very night, however, her husband was attacked, but the police did not offer any help. It was only after the mob had left that a jungle squad, led by European officers, arrived to discover what had happened to the family. (Sunday Standard 1952:4)

On 11 September 1952, the widow and six children of the victim, Lai Han Mui, had moved from the new village to Melaka City. She planned to sell her late husband's property in the village and to reside permanently in Melaka City. It was revealed that government representatives at the time had given assurances that an application for compensation would be submitted on behalf of the widow and children. (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 11 September 1952)

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<sup>26</sup> Detailed information can be found in the file of the National Archives: CAM.7./51 'F'.

A letter dated 26 September 1952 was sent to Lai Han Mui's widow by an officer of the Melaka Colonial Self-Defence Corps stating that she would be granted a pension of \$141.00 per month (i.e. \$75.00 for the widow, plus an allowance of \$66.00 for the five children) with effect from 26 August 1952 to 25 November 1952 in accordance with the Emergency (Auxiliary Police) (Bodily Injuries) Regulations, 1948, and that she would be entitled to a pension of \$141.00 per month (i.e. \$75.00 for the widow, plus an allowance of \$66.00 for the five children). Thereafter, with effect from 26 November 1952, the monthly pension was to be adjusted to \$115.50 (i.e., \$49.50 for the widow, plus \$66.00 for the five children). If Lai's widow chose to remarry, her pension would cease to be payable and the children's allowances would terminate on the date they reached the age of 18 years or the date of marriage of the female child, whichever was earlier. The monthly pension will be paid through the treasury of the Colony of Melaka. An allowance for funeral expenses not exceeding \$50\$ is also provided.<sup>27,28</sup> (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 26 September 1952). In addition, the officials also proposed that the Government would be willing to help this unfortunate family by providing free education for their children. In that year, Lai Han Mui left behind six children, including Tiang Dua Tin Sai<sup>29</sup>, Lai Kwai Ying<sup>30</sup>, Lai Kwai Fung<sup>31</sup>, Lai Tin Yan<sup>32</sup>, and Lai Tin Chi<sup>33</sup>.<sup>34</sup> (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 11 September 1952)

On 15 September 1952, the Senior Superintendent of Schools, Melaka, wrote to the Secretary of the Colonial Chinese Affairs Office stating that it had approved the application for exemption of school fees for each of Lai's children, irrespective of whether they chose the English Primary School or the New Village School.<sup>35</sup> (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 15 September 1952). According to the records, in the application for exemption of school fees submitted by the Secretary of the Colonial Chinese Office on 19 September 1952, Lai Tin-chi was to attend St. Francis' School with his brother Lai Tin-yin in the following year. Lai Kwai Fung, who had been attended Tiang Dua Wah School, would be transferred to Methodist Girls' Afternoon School in the following year.<sup>36</sup> (C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 19 September 1952)

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<sup>27</sup> Note: The title of this letter is Death of Home Guard Company Commander, LAI HEN MUE.

<sup>28</sup> Detailed information can be found in the file of the National Archives: Ref. No. SO/MAL/4/52/26.

<sup>29</sup> Male, 16 years old at the time, second year of upper primary school, Chinese Primary School

<sup>30</sup> Female, 14 years old at the time, Lower Primary 4 of Chinese Primary School, suspended from school

<sup>31</sup> Female, then 13 years old, Lower Primary 3, Lit Fah School Tiang Dua (Tiang Dua Lai Wah School).

<sup>32</sup> Male, then 11 years old, Primary 2, St Francis School.

<sup>33</sup> Male, 7 years old at the time, English Primary School, just enrolled in school

<sup>34</sup> Detailed information can be found in the National Archives file: REF:(62)SBM/AF/75.

<sup>35</sup> Detailed information can be found in the National Archives file: No. (54) in E.O.M. 29/52.

<sup>36</sup> Details can be found in the National Archives file: Ref:(11) in CAM 70/51/F.

On 24 September 1952, the Senior Superintendent of Schools replied that the applications of Lai Tin-yam and Lai Tin-chi would be approved, and that from 1 October 1952, Lai Tin-chi, who was already attending St. Francis of Assisi, would be exempted from school fees. However, the May Yat Mei Girls' Noon School to which Lai Kwai Fung wished to transfer was a private school and was not under the control of government officials. It is therefore recommended that direct communication be made with the Principal of the school in order to discuss the remission of school fees. <sup>37</sup>(C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 24 September 1952)

Officials of the Melaka Colonial Self-Defence Corps(MCSDC) wrote to the Principal of the M.I.M. Girls' School on 29 September 1952, stating that Lai Kwai Fung was the daughter of the "headman" of Tiang Dua San Tsuen, and that his wife and children were in a difficult situation as a result of a mob taking their lives, and that they hoped that the Principal would provide them with the opportunity to study free of charge. <sup>38</sup>(C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 29 September 1952)

On 1 October 1952, the headmistress of the May-I-May Girls' School stated that a girl who knew virtually nothing about English could not be admitted to a fully subsidised government morning school. However, Lai Kwai Fung was able to be admitted to the May-I-May Girls' Midday School because the non-subsidised school admitted over-age pupils. On the matter of school fees, the headmaster said she could only seek help from the Welfare Department. <sup>39</sup>(C.A.M No. 70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 1 October 1952)

The British Government has expressed great concern over the terrorist plot to kill people in the Tiang Dua New Village. Not only did Dr Victor Purcell, accompanied by members of the Melaka branch of the MCA, visit Tiang Dua New Village after the murder of Lai Han Mui. And especially in just three months, Tiang Dua New Village had lost two of its headmen. (Singapore Standard 1952: 4). Therefore, in a speech with the villagers, Mr B.T.M. Stewart, Secretary of the Chinese Affairs Department, and Mr J.E.M. Cave, District Officer, emphasised that the Government needed more information in order to catch the terrorists in the act. The Secretary said he understood that the incident had demoralised the villagers for a while. However, district officials have been making frequent visits to Tiang Dua San Tsuen to give the villagers the impression that the British Government is with them and to boost their morale. (Singapore Standard 1952: 4)

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<sup>37</sup> Detailed information can be found in the National Archives file: No. (60) in E.O.M. 29/52.

<sup>38</sup> Detailed information can be found in the National Archives file:(14) in CAM 70/51/F.

<sup>39</sup> Further information can be found in the National Archives file: No. (25) in MGSM 22/52.

On 27 November 1952, Lim Yoke Siew, a long-time member of the Communist Party of Malaysia (CPM) who had been terrorizing Tiang Dua New Village, and his comrade Kang Hui Fong were finally killed by the security forces; Lim had been living in Tiang Dua New Village with his elderly father before he went underground. As he knew the area and its inhabitants very well, he caused a great deal of fear among the local people. (The Straits Budget 1952: 8). Reports indicate that at 8 p.m. the same day, two UCPM members were killed as they approached a police ambush in the Central District of Melaka. A revolver, a rifle and ammunition were seized on the spot. The villagers of Tiang Dua expressed their relief at this. (Singapore Standard 1952:1)<sup>40</sup>

### Economic Overview

Before the establishment of the new village, there were several New Village owners around Tiang Dua, each of whom owned private New Villages. According to the government's in-depth analysis of the reorganized areas in Melaka on December 31, 1955, there were 58 control areas reorganized in Tiang Dua New Village, as well as 7 New Villages and 45 workers' dormitories (SLO(M)1007, *District*, 31 December 1955).

The Commissioner of Labour and Social Welfare said in a meeting that the Settlement War Executive Committee (SWEC) approved the "Removal of Controlled Areas Order" for Ayer Molek in its 148th meeting. Subsequently, the department asked the Melaka Central District officials on January 8, 1958 whether to dissolve Teck Inn Est, See Hin San Est, Nam Hoe Est, Teck Han San Est, KTKS.Bkt.Lintang The staff quarters of Letchaman Est and Ee Kong Guan Est will be reorganized into Tiang Dua New Village. The specific arrangement is as follows: 3 47 acres of Teck Inn Est reorganized into 1 3 rooms in Tiang Dua New Village <sup>41</sup>, 1 35 acres of See Hin San Est Reorganized into 11 rooms <sup>42</sup>and 105 acres of Nam Hoe Est in Tiang Dua New Village Reorganized into 6 rooms in Tiang Dua New Village <sup>43</sup>, 94 acres of Teck Han San Est Reorganized into 6 rooms in Tiang Dua New Village<sup>44</sup>, 40 acres of KTKS. Bkt. Lintang

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<sup>40</sup> According to reports, Lim Yoke Siew killed two villagers, Chok Ah Kee, a Chinese villager, and Lai Tin Sang, a headman, in Tiang Dua Sinchon, but according to in-depth interviews conducted with villagers in Tiang Dua Sinchon, villagers stated that the two people who were killed by the CCP were Lim Khai Rong and Lai Han Mui, respectively. According to the interviewee, Jiang Guangwu, who was also the former village head of Tiang Dua, Chok Ah Kee was his father. Although your father had been imprisoned by the British government, he was not killed by the CPM; as for Lai Tin Sang, the author believes that the transliteration of the name appears to be Lai Tin Sang, the son of the headman Lai Han Mui.

<sup>41</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives Administration archive file: 0 10/M2/22

<sup>42</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives Administration file: 010/M2/17B

<sup>43</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives Administration file: 010/M2/1 1A

<sup>44</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives Administration file: 010/M 1 /1 09



Letchaman Est The 4 rooms <sup>45</sup>and 3.81 acres of Ee Kong Guan Est reorganized in Tiang Dua New Village will also be placed here. <sup>46</sup>(209 in Lab.M. 16/51(MC 7), *LAB.M. No(MC3) New Village Labor Regrouping – Ayer Molek & Bukit Lintang*, 8 January 1958). In July 1956, Mr. and Mrs. Frank HH King, Professor of Economics at the University of Hong Kong, visited Tiang Dua New Village and obtained more first-hand information about the history of immigration, occupational types, marketing system and many other aspects of living in the new village through interviews with villagers. <sup>47</sup>(CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, July 1956)

## Rubber

On 15 December 1954, the Melaka Central District Officer received a report from the Assistant Immigration Officer stating that from 1 December 1954, the house number 68 owned by Chop Gee Hong in Tiang Dua New Village in Melaka City would no longer be used as a rubber processing center. At the same time, the house had been sold to Chop Chuan Guan <sup>48</sup>. In addition, Chop Gee Hong 's employee Tan Chee who lived at house number 7 of Tiang Dua New Village would be responsible for cleaning the house and clearing the weeds around it. (No. LOM.323/51/63, 1991/0008059W, *AYER MOLEK RUBBER CO. LTD. NEW VILLAGE(BEMBAN DIVISION), THE MANAGER, AYER MOLEK RUBBER CO. LTD., BEMBAN DIVISION, BEMBAN, MELAKA*. 15 December 1954). February 4, 1974, the R ISDA <sup>49</sup>promotional activity was launched at Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School. (PPM 02877 Pt.7, *Mesyuarat (Jawatankuasa Tindakan Daerah Jasin*, 1973)

## Planting

In December 1953, 48 acres of farmland were distributed to residents of Tiang Dua. (CAM No.32 / 1951, *Resettlement Areas (New Village)*, December 1953) In February 1955, a total of 28 villagers in Tiang Dua New Village applied for farmland, and all were approved. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, February 1955). 27 September 1955 from R.F. Browning, Assistant Secretary for Colonial Development of Melaka, to the Settlement Development Board's Executive Committee stated that each family in Tiang Dua was to be given two acres of land for growing food, and that it was expected that more Chinese would move there as the land was developed. (Ref. No. (1) in RCOM(D) 165 / 55, *CONSTRUCTION*

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<sup>45</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives Administration file: 010/M2/ 23B

<sup>46</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives: 010/M2/ 8a and D OM.C onf.1030/42

<sup>47</sup> Former Director of the Asian Studies Centre at the University of Hong Kong

<sup>48</sup> He then lived at No. 87, Kubu Road, Melaka.

<sup>49</sup>RISDA stands for Rubber Industry Smallholders Development Authority

*OF A MOTORABLE ROAD TO THE CHINESE RESETTLEMENT OF AYER MOLEK MELAKA, Scheme No.282 / 55, 27 September 1955)*

March 16, 1955, the first meeting of the Tiang Dua New Village Committee was discussed, and it was proposed to apply to the district officials to extend the payment period of the 30-year lease fee for the cultivated land from March 31, 1955 to June 30, 1955, because the landholders were facing financial difficulties. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 16 March 1955)

December 4, 1955, the villagers unanimously disagreed with the proposal of the Chinese Affairs Officer to set up a farmers' cooperative in the new village. There were two reasons: first, the population of Tiang Dua New Village was smaller than that of other states; second, the turnover of Tiang Dua's crops was not high. Therefore, the villagers did not think it was necessary to set up the association in the new village. ( CAM No.70 /1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 4 December 1955)

26 April 1957, the Chinese Affairs Officer stated that although he had no objection to the harvesting of vegetables and sweet potatoes between the fenced boundaries(which were public lands), this practice should be stopped immediately for safety reasons. However, he also stressed the need to keep the areas between the fences open. At the same time, the Chinese Affairs Officer made it clear that the removal of boundary stones was also prohibited. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 26 April 1957)

## **Aquaculture**

### **Poultry Husbandry**

February 28, 1955, when Chinese Advisory Group member Leong Ah Hong visited Tiang Dua New Village, a villager complained to him that the chickens raised in the village were facing a large number of deaths, so he asked to move the chickens out of the new village and raise them on the small piece of land he obtained. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 28 February 1955). In response to this incident, the secretary of the Melaka Chinese Affairs Office, JW Sweetman, wrote a letter to the Melaka State Veterinary Department on March 9, 1955 to inform the matter. The letter stated that the cause of the chickens' death needed to be found out. ((47) in CAM.70/51/F, CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 9 March 1955)

September 28, 1956, the Chinese Affairs Officer informed the village committee that the Veterinary Department would conduct poultry vaccination at the Tiang Dua Community Hall on October 11, so house-to-house visits would no longer be carried out. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 28 September 1956)

### Pig Industry

1968 from January to June, which is implemented by the Melaka State Animal Department, shows that the government plans to start the pig breeding center project in Tiang Dua and is expected to provide a grant of \$ 20,000. (PTG(M) 2159 Jld II, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji Rancangan2, the second year of the Lunar New Year, 1968*)

### Business

The Melaka Chinese Affairs Office said that he suggested that the market in Tiang Dua New Village be converted into a 30 x 17 community hall, and then a new market be built near the main gate when the need arises. (C.A.M No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*)

### Catering

The Village Committee approved Wu Kian's application for a restaurant license in Tiang Dua New Village at its meeting on September 30, 1955, and has handed it over to the Chinese Affairs Officer for further processing. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 30 September 1955)



Figure 4.1.10  
*Tiang Dua New Village Tea House (Photo taken in 2023)*

At present, the only active coffee shop in Tiang Dua New Village is Xinxing Tea House. It is located at the intersection of the new village and is run by the Jiang family of Tiang Dua New Village. The father and son of the Jiang family, Jiang Guangwu and Jiang Yuxian, have both served as village chiefs. Jiang Guangwu said that this coffee shop was co-operated with his good friend Yu Zhixing when he was young. Originally, the tea house was in the Tiang Dua Community Hall, but later the government wanted to renovate the hall, so he had to start a new business.

At that time, with the help of the Malaysian Chinese Association, Jiang Guangwu was able to continue operating the coffee shop on the vacant land opposite the Community Hall. Jiang Guangwu also mentioned his old friend Yu Zhixing, saying that he was very enthusiastic about the construction of the temple fair of Tiang Dua Bai Ma Teacher Temple. Even the decision to build the Lao Shi Temple at the current site was a decision that came to him in the teahouse. However, Yu later moved out of Tiang Dua, and the teahouse was continued to be run by his children, Jiang Yuxian and Jiang Kexin. Jiang Kexin said that his father was determined not to raise the price of every drink sold in the teahouse: *"After the epidemic, everyone raised the price, but he didn't. Now a cup of coffee sells for RM1.50, where can I find it?"*

## Durian

Tiang Dua New Village is famous for its durian, and the "Dream Lover" has attracted many outsiders to drive there to enjoy the delicacy. Villager Huang Hengni said that Tiang Dua was mainly planted with rubber trees in the early days, but more than 20 years ago, the villagers began to plant durian. Jiang Yuxian said that Tiang Dua also has other varieties of durian, such as: native durian (also called kampung durian, Durian Kampung), 10 1, Musang King, etc. And "Dream Lover" is actually one of the native durians. Tiang Dua's durian bears fruit quickly, generally only 120 days from flowering to fruiting, and Dream Lover only takes about 90 days to produce fruit. ("Sin Chew Daily", 2022)

Keeping up with the trend, the durians in Tiang Dua New Village can also be bought online, and fresh durians can be bought home. Owner Zhang Peiling said that the new generation prefers to buy boxed durians directly rather than buying whole durians. For the owners, in order to ensure the freshness of the durians, they must start working immediately when the durians fall in the early morning to shorten the transportation time. Because the durian sales model of picking and selling durians is very popular among the public, some Singaporean guests even drive there specially. (Sin Chew Daily, 2022)

With unlimited creativity, Chen's Orchard, which sells durian in Tiang Dua New Village, has also launched durian desserts. Chen Sicun, the head of Chen's Orchard, said that their family's durian was planted by his grandfather, and now he is the third generation to take over. Chen Sicun and his wife Wang Xiaojun manage the orchard together, and insist on providing pesticide-free durian grown by themselves. "We don't use pesticides at home, and customers say that they don't feel uncomfortable in their throats after eating it."

Since the durians from Chen's Orchard are fresh and healthy, Wang Xiaojun also launches durian cakes and durian pancakes during the durian season. In addition to eating durian, durian lovers can also experience another flavor of durian while tasting desserts. Wang Xiaojun's skillful hands will also make unique, eye-catching, and beautiful durian cakes on holidays such as Father's Day and Mother's Day.



Figure 4.1.11  
Pancakes filled with durian filling, realistic durian cake shapes made by Wang Xiaojun, and eye-catching dessert shapes. (Source: Sin Chew Daily, 2022)

## Culture

### Martial Arts

May 27, 1955, the village committee meeting appointed Chairman Goh Geok Wah and Vice Chairman Hou Tien Sin to oversee the organization and practice of the Tiang Dua New Village Wushu Group. At the meeting, Wushu coach Wun Kian was told that his probation period would be 2 months and he would train 19 people who were interested in Wushu. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 May 1955). on September 30, 1955 stated that due to the resignation of Wushu coach Wun Kian, Goh Geok Wah took over temporarily until a permanent Wushu coach was appointed. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 30 September 1955)



Figure 4.1.12

*Tiang Dua Guoshu Lion Dance Troupe in 1959 (Source: Jiang Kexin)*

*(From right to left) 1- Jiang Guangwu 2- Yu Zhixing 3- Huang Jinhai 4- Liao Chengsheng 5- Wu Anxing 6- Lin Yixing 7- Liao Qian 8- Wu Caiji 9- Dai Diliang 10- Wu Caiyu 11- Huang Huasheng*

## Library

The International Cold War situation formed in the 1950s, USIS (US Information Service) actively responded to the spread of communist ideas in Malaya. To this end, USIS began to assist other organizations in setting up USIS libraries in Malaya, including providing funds, technology and book supplies. (Wu Xiaobao, 2020). In 1948, the British government issued an emergency decree to strengthen the negative emotions of the Malayan people towards the Malayan Communist Party in order to control the situation at the time. In 1949, Britain again issued a book ban to implement a cultural blockade against the Malayan Communist Party. (Wang Meixiang, 2020: 11-12) As one of the official propaganda agencies of the US government during the Cold War, USIS shaped the sense of identity of "Malaya" among the diverse ethnic groups in Malaya through its translation plan, especially for the "new village" group where the Chinese gathered. (Wang Meixiang, 2020: 19) The United States attempted to change the Chinese people's perception of the United States through the cultural Cold War strategy, encouraging the Chinese to integrate into the local society and abandon the influence of communist ideas. For this reason, the British government opened the door to American books. (Zhuang Huaxing, 2019)

May 27, 1955, the Chinese Affairs Office asked the Tiang Dua New Village Committee whether it was interested in setting up a library in the new village, and expressed that it would obtain some books from Kuala Lumpur for free. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 May 1955) <sup>50</sup>Later on September 30, 1955, the principal of Tiang Dua School, Li Nianhui, agreed that he would be responsible for the new village library. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 30 September 1955) nominated Tan Wee Sen <sup>51</sup>as the new village library manager on November 25, 1955. With Tan's acceptance of the appointment, the issue of the establishment of the new village library was finally resolved. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 25 November 1955) On January 27, 1956, Tan Wee Sen stated in the village committee meeting that the survey form issued by USIS in Kuala Lumpur had been lost, and requested that the Assistant Immigration Officer re- apply for a new form from Sim Mu Yu. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 January 1956)

### **Festive Celebration**

According to a report in 1990, Tiang Dua New Village would invite outsiders and even foreigners to come to Tiang Dua New Village to celebrate the Lunar New Year every year, and even called this a "custom" of Tiang Dua New Village. In January of that year, John Shadow, a British man who was traveling to Thailand but passed through Melaka, was warmly invited by a villager he had just met to participate in the New Year's Eve party that day. (Lianhe Wanbao, 1990)

### **Blood donation activities**

2022, due to the Chinese New Year and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Melaka General Hospital Blood Bank Center issued a document stating that the blood supply was insufficient, urging the public to donate blood as soon as possible to fill the shortage in the blood bank. In response to this, the Tiang Dua New Village Village Committee jointly organized a blood donation event with the Volunteer Guard Corps and the MCA Volunteer Corps at the Tiang Dua Community Hall on February 13, and successfully raised 43 bags of blood.

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<sup>50</sup> The author has not yet found detailed information in the National Archives regarding when the village committee agreed to build a new village library.

<sup>51</sup> The archival material shows Tan Wee Sen, but it should be written as Tan Wee Sin.



Figure 4.1.13

People donating blood at Tiang Dua Community Hall. (Source: Sin Chew Daily, 2022)

## Operation Spring Thunder

2023, a group of ambitious people from Tiang Dua New Village participated in the " Boom Boom Boom" team in the New Village Second Community Plan Competition "Go Forward! Happy New Generation" organized by the New Village Community Alliance and sponsored by Xiao En Group to promote their hometown. The "Spring Thunder Operation "Discover the New Tiang Dua" plan planned by the team was unanimously recognized by the jury and awarded the "Potential Award" and a prize of RM8,000. ("Sin Chew Daily", 2023)

The community project, Spring Thunder Operation, was initiated by village chief Jiang Yuxian and villager Lin Renchao. In the first phase, they plan to work with Professor Lew Bon Hoi of New Era University College to organize the history of Tiang Dua New Village. Not only that, they will also appoint self-media workers to become "Shocking Love Ambassadors" to interview "Shocking Stars" of Tiang Dua New Village, edit different life wisdom into documentaries, and develop "storytelling" cultural and creative products for this purpose. ("Sin Chew Daily", 2023) (China Press, 2023)



## Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple

Tiang Dua, known as the "Leizhou of Nanyang", also brought the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple from his hometown to Malaya. "The Lao Shi Temple has existed for a long time." (Zheng Jinguo: 2023) "If you are in Tiang Dua, not including the outside (outside the new village), the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple (as early as) 1948. In 1948, the Lao Shi Temple was already in Tiang Dua. (Jiang Guangwu: 2023). However, when it comes to who exactly "Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple" is and what his background is, no one can explain it clearly. The villagers only said that what they know and understand is that Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple is the hometown god who was brought with them from their hometown of Leizhou when they followed their parents to the south to escape the war and bandits.

In 2014, Liao Yaqiu, then chairman of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple, and a group of directors were interviewed by a reporter from Sin Chew Daily. When the reporter asked, "Is Bai Ma Lao Shi a human or a horse?", they all said in unison, "Of course not a horse, but an immortal riding a Bai Ma." (Sin Chew Daily, 2014). However, in response to the origin of Deity Bai Ma, Liao Yaqiu showed reporters an old handwritten text in a frame hanging on the wall of the temple, written by an unknown author. According to the reporter's report at the time, the article was densely written with brush calligraphy, as if it was excerpted from an inscription, with no preface or signature. (Sin Chew Daily, 2014). The 44th year of Emperor Qianlong's reign, the temple was demolished and rebuilt in different dynasties. Although the unknown person wrote this, he also admitted that he did not know who the so-called "Bai Ma Lao Shi" was. He only knew that everyone was very awed by him. Later, after much investigation, the unknown person found a record in a certain document, which stated that the "Deity Bai Ma" was named Dong and Jin, and was from the Eastern Jin Dynasty. (Sin Chew Daily, 2014)

According to the author's analysis, the origin of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple can be divided into two types:

*First, in the "Records of the Bai Ma Temple in Linggang" written by Zhang Gengyun, the prefect of Leizhou in the Qing Dynasty, it is recorded that "the Deity Bai Ma surname is Dong, and his taboo name is Jin. He lived in Fenning, Jiangxi Province, which is now Wuning County. There were three brothers, and the god was the youngest. At that time, he was called Dong San, and he made a living by smelting... Later, he studied Taoism with Xu Jingyang, killed a dragon and made merit, so he became a general of Jingyang. In the Song Dynasty, he was named the Bai Ma Loyal King... Lei County is surrounded by the sea on three sides, and there are many monsters on the seashore. In the past, it may have been*

*the cave of dragons and chi. The god must have made great contributions to the people here. Therefore, it is still worshipped today..."*

*Second, most people in Zhanjiang are immigrants from Hokkien, especially in the late Southern Song Dynasty, when most people migrated here to escape the pursuit of the Theringgit army. Hokkien people also have a very influential belief in Bai Mas, which is called "King of Bai Ma". Bai Ma King is an important god in the Hokkien Taoist system during the Southern Song Dynasty, also known as Bai Ma Sanlang. According to the "Three Mountains Records" compiled by Liang Kejia of the Song Dynasty, there was a Minyue King during the reign of Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty. His third son was very brave and shot a three-meter-long eel to death. This place was later called "Eel Creek" and later renamed "Shanxi"(now located in the eastern part of Pingnan County, Ningde City, Hokkien). In order to thank Bai Ma Sanlang, the Chongji Guangying Lingxian Fuyouwang Temple was built to commemorate him. The name of this temple is the title given to Bai Ma Sanlang by the emperor. In the Northern and Southern Song Dynasties, Bai Ma Sanlang was awarded the titles of "Chongji", "Guangying", "Lingxian", "Yongning", "Fuyouwang" and so on many times. Later, this story was further developed in Huang Zhongzhao's "Bamin Tongzhi" during the Hongzhi period of the Ming Dynasty, Wang Yingshan's "Mindu Ji" and Lin Feng's "Rongcheng Archaeological Brief" during the Qing Dynasty. Bai Ma Sanlang not only had a name and a reputation, but also added plots of leopard and eel damage and Bai Ma Sanlang's sacrifice to eliminate the damage, making the heroic image more vivid and full. At the same time, the origin of Bai Ma Sanlang's name was changed to "Bai Ma Sanlang in the army" to show his bravery.*

There are many similarities between these two legends: first, both are about killing a giant snake-like monster to rid the people of harm; second, Dong Jin is ranked third, and Bai Ma Sanlang is also ranked third; third, both are human gods in Taoism. "Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple" was brought to Southeast Asia by local people a hundred years ago. At that time, some of them were sold as "piglets" and some were fleeing from bandits. They asked "Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple" to protect them and wish them a safe journey. After arriving at their destination, they worshipped him at home. It was just a silver plate with "Edict of the Three Saints Great King Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple" written on it. Later, as more people gathered, some people invited the golden body (statue) and raised funds to build a temple to worship him. The Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple was established. There is also a temple in Leizhou City, not far from the Sanyuan Pagoda. There is a stone tablet with some words recorded. Because it has been difficult to see clearly for a long time, the knowledgeable person guided me to

find that it was recorded in the museum book. It was just a few simple lines of classical Chinese, left by a prefect in the Qing Dynasty. (About "Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple": 2 008)

According to the "Leizhou History and Culture Panorama", which was praised by Li Changwu, the director of the Leizhou Municipal People's Congress, as the first "encyclopedia" of Leizhou culture, there is a Linggang Temple located to the east of the Sanyuan Pagoda in Leicheng Town, China, which enshrines the Bai Ma God Dong Jin. It was built in the Song Dynasty. The temple has cultural relics such as the inscription "Lei County Bai Ma Temple Record" written by Zhang Gengyun, the governor of Leizhou during the Guangxu period of the Qing Dynasty. The Bai Ma God Dong Jin is widely worshipped in urban and rural areas of Leizhou. (Muye 2006 : 1 13)

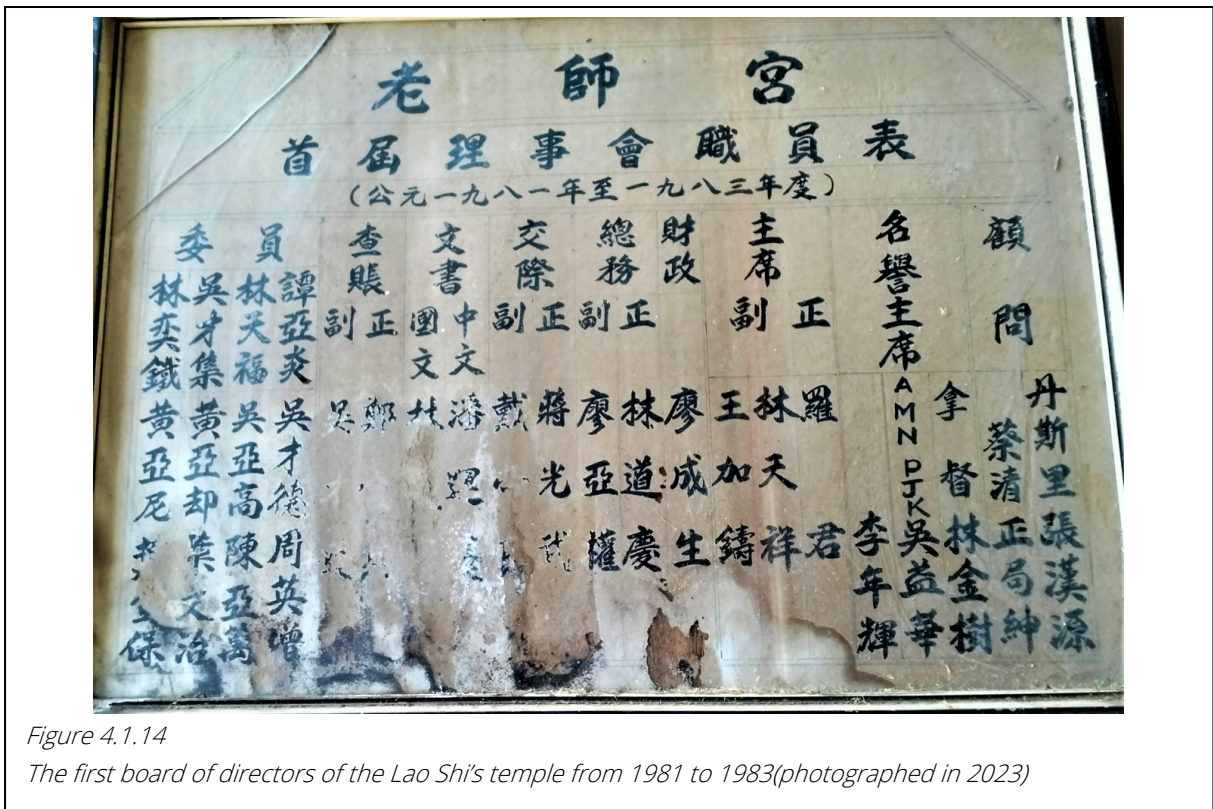


Figure 4.1.14  
The first board of directors of the Lao Shi's temple from 1981 to 1983(photographed in 2023)

According to the Batu Pahat Temple Low See Kong's website, the origin of "Bai Ma Lao Shi" is consistent with the first one. In 1880, Zhang Gengyun, who was the prefect of Leizhou in the sixth year of Guangxu in the Qing Dynasty, discovered that all temples must be worshipped at the Bai Ma Temple. However, there is no local article to collect about the name of Bai Ma Gong and the time of the temple's construction, so Zhang Gengyun decided to find out the details of the history of Bai Ma Temple and record the history of Leizhou Bai Ma Temple.

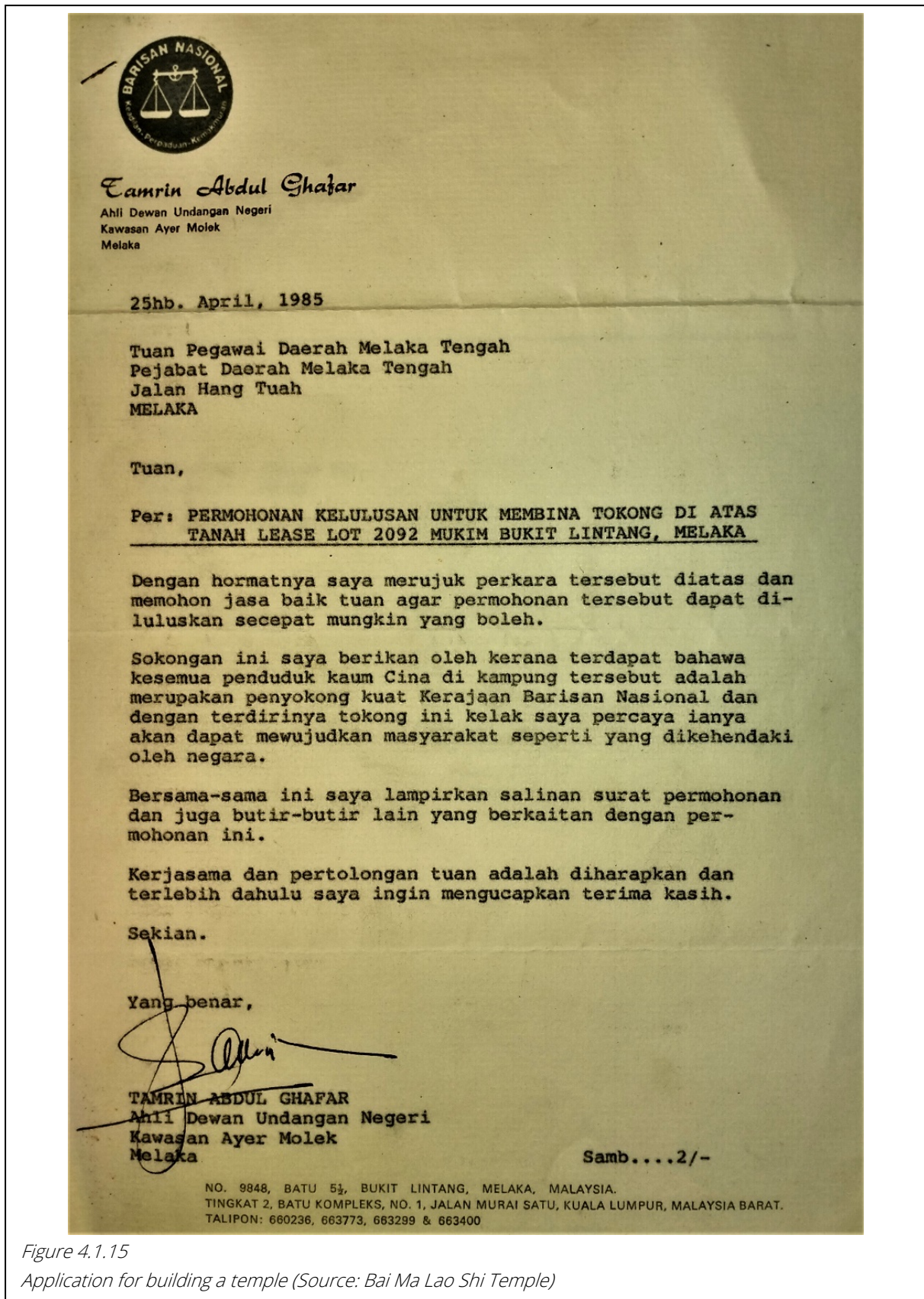


Figure 4.1.15

Application for building a temple (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

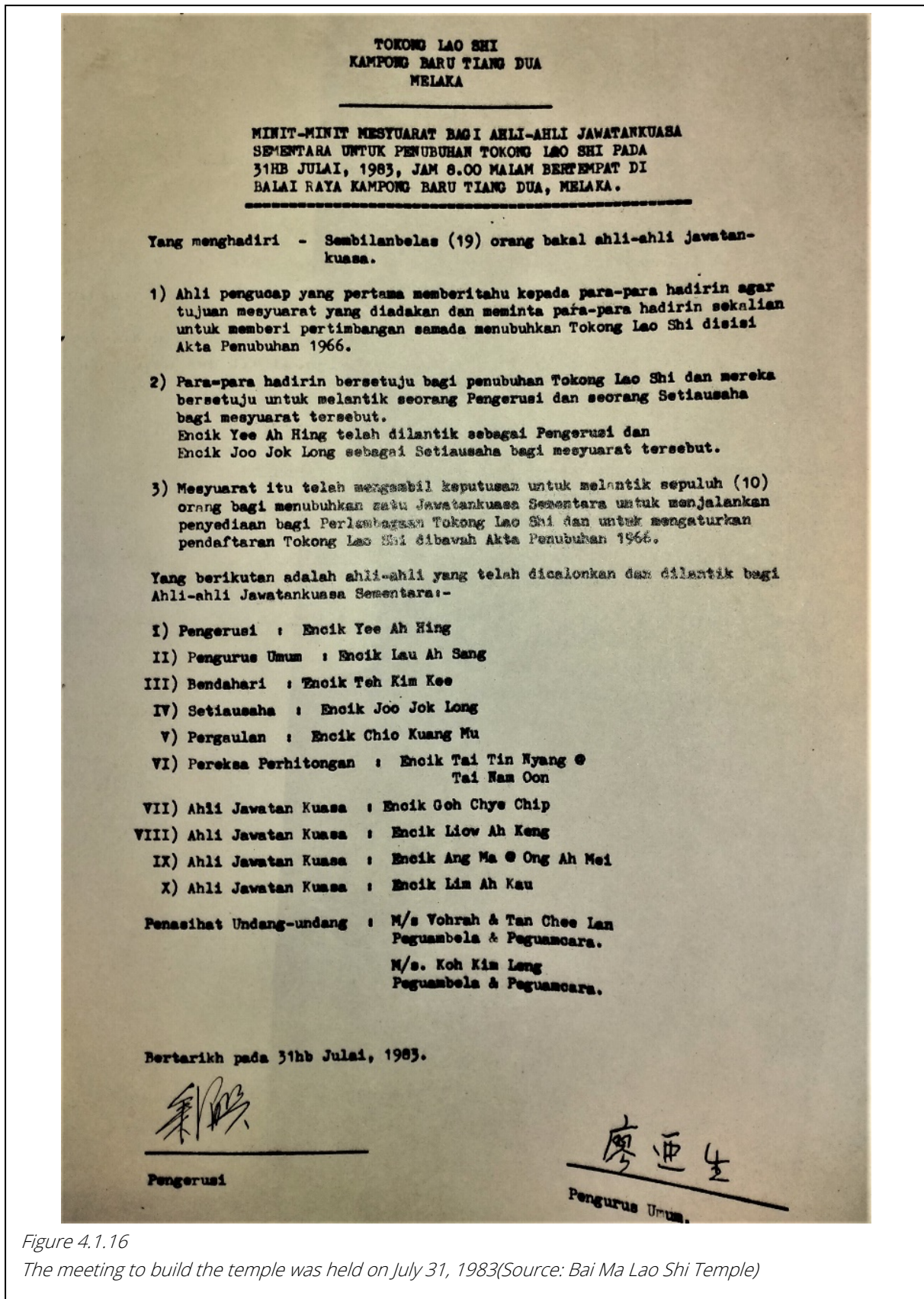


Figure 4.1.16

The meeting to build the temple was held on July 31, 1983(Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

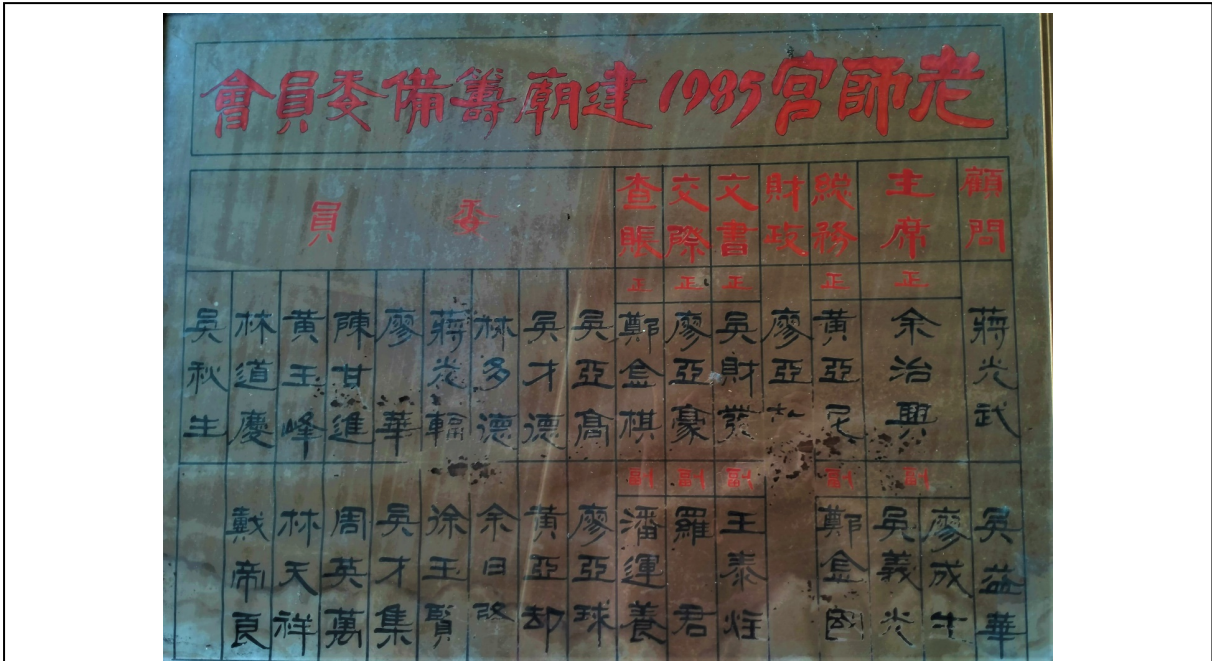


Figure 4.1.17  
The Preparatory Committee for the Construction of the Lao Shi Temple in 1985 (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

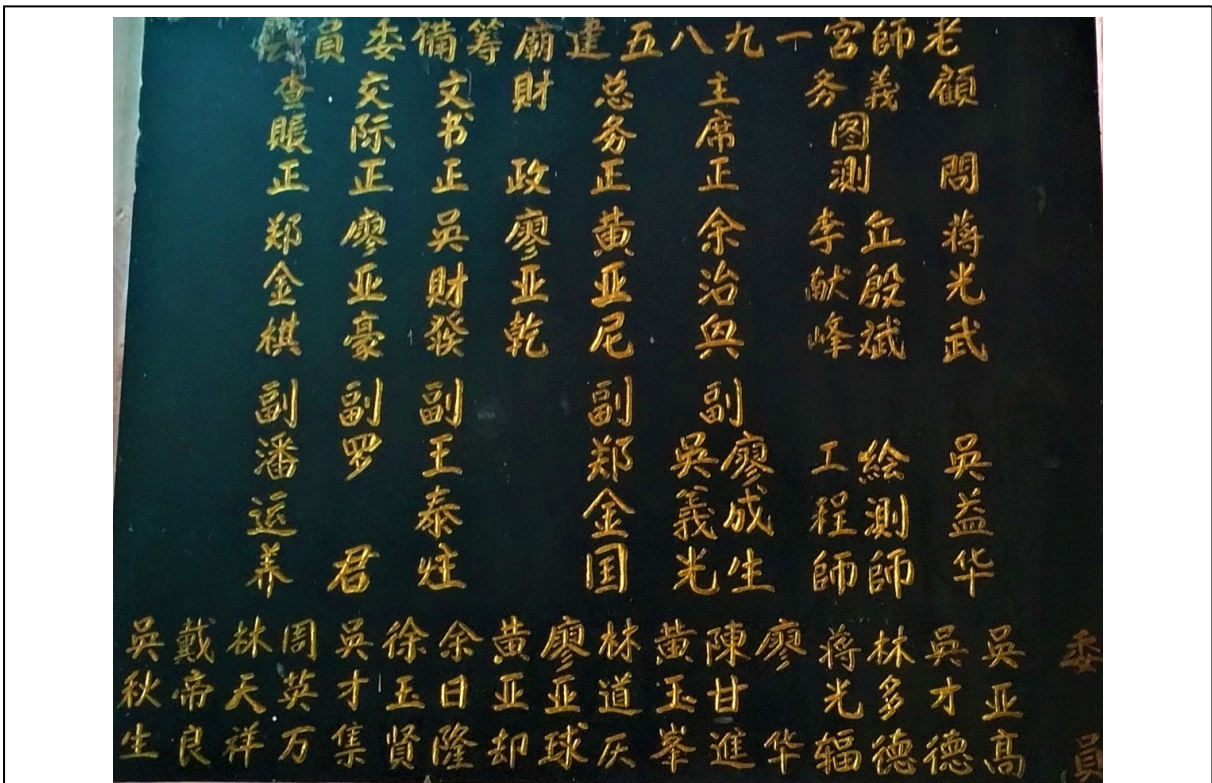


Figure 4.1.18  
Plaque of the Preparatory Committee for the Construction of Lao Shi Temple in 1985 (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

August 29, 1985, the Tiang Dua Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple held its first board election. Huang Yani proposed, Liao Yaqiu reviewed, and Wu Yihua was elected as the interim chairman. The temporary record at that time was Wu Caifa; Jiang Guangwu was the vote monitor; Lai Tiansong was the vote reader; Dai Diliang was the vote counter. Yu Zhixing won without any competition and was successfully elected as the chairman; as for the vice-chairmen, Lai Tiansong(30 votes) and Liao Yaqian(17 votes) were elected with the highest number of votes.

Huang Yani with 17 votes and Liao Chengsheng with 14 votes were elected as general affairs; Wu Caiji with 18 votes was elected as treasurer; Wu Caifa with 31 votes and Zheng Jinguo with 28 votes were elected as clerk; Liao Yahao with 20 votes and Zheng Jinqi with 19 votes were elected as public affairs; the elected directors are: Wang Quanben(32 votes), Lin Yitie(30 votes), Lin Tiansheng(27 votes), Yu Rilong(28 votes), Wu Yagao(32 votes), Ye Jinbao(35 votes), Liao Yahua(28 votes), Huang Yaque(34 votes), Lin Guilong(24 votes), Liao Yaqiu(27 votes), Huang Yufeng(23 votes).

During the meeting, Chairman Yu Zhixing appointed two auditors, Pan Yunyang and Lin Tianxiang, and four committee members, Zheng Ruixiang, Wu Caide, Lin Guijiang and Chen Yawan. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 1-12)

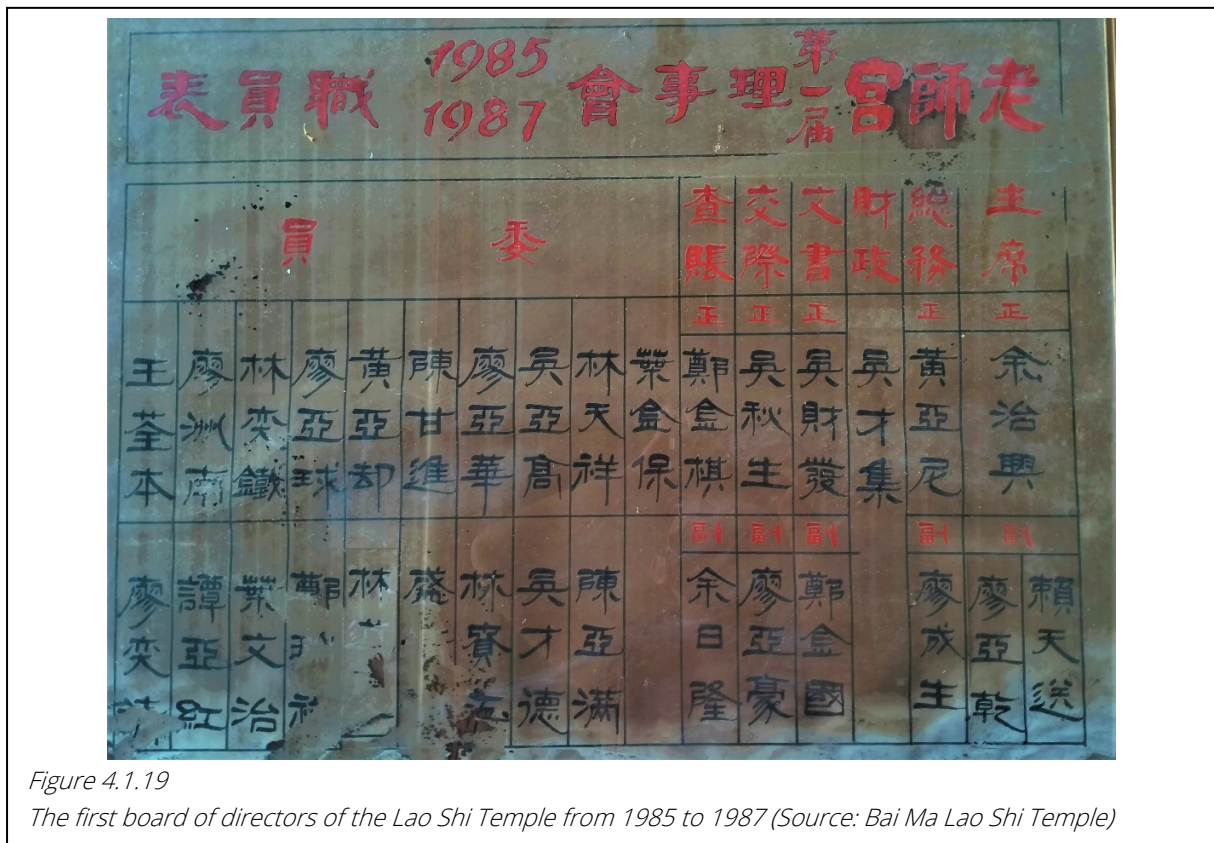


Figure 4.1.19

The first board of directors of the Lao Shi Temple from 1985 to 1987 (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

On September 5, 1985, the first board of directors meeting of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple was held. The main topic of the day was to discuss the appointment of honorary chairman and honorary consultant, as well as the inauguration ceremony of the directors. The meeting approved that the legal advisor of the Lao Shi Temple was Zhang Jinliang, honorary consultant Tan Sri Zhang Hanyuan, state assemblyman Huang Binghuo, permanent consultant Wu Yihua, consultant Jiang Guangwu, honorary consultant Luo Jun, Dato Lin Jinshu and Dato Lin Guowei. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple's meeting: 14-16)(See Appendix(VI) for details) Regarding the inauguration ceremony of the directors, the meeting decided that the ceremony would be held on September 11 (Wednesday).



Figure 4.1.20

*Inauguration ceremony of the Teacher Palace Directors in 1985 (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)*

On July 16, 1986, the board of directors decided to charge each member a two dollar membership fee. In addition, the directors began to discuss the issue of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple registration and decided on the same day that the chairman would handle it. (Minutes of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 28-29)



On July 2, 1987, the Bai Ma Temple held the second preliminary election of directors. Zheng Jinguo was the vote counter, Wang Taizhu was the vote caller, Jiang Guangwu and Zheng Jinqi were the vote monitors, and the formal election was held on the 10th. Yu Zhixing was re-elected as chairman with a high vote. On March 27, 1988, the temple construction committee and the board of directors meeting were held to discuss the temple construction proposal. The meeting decided that the temple construction method was to be published in the newspaper and the bidding method was adopted.

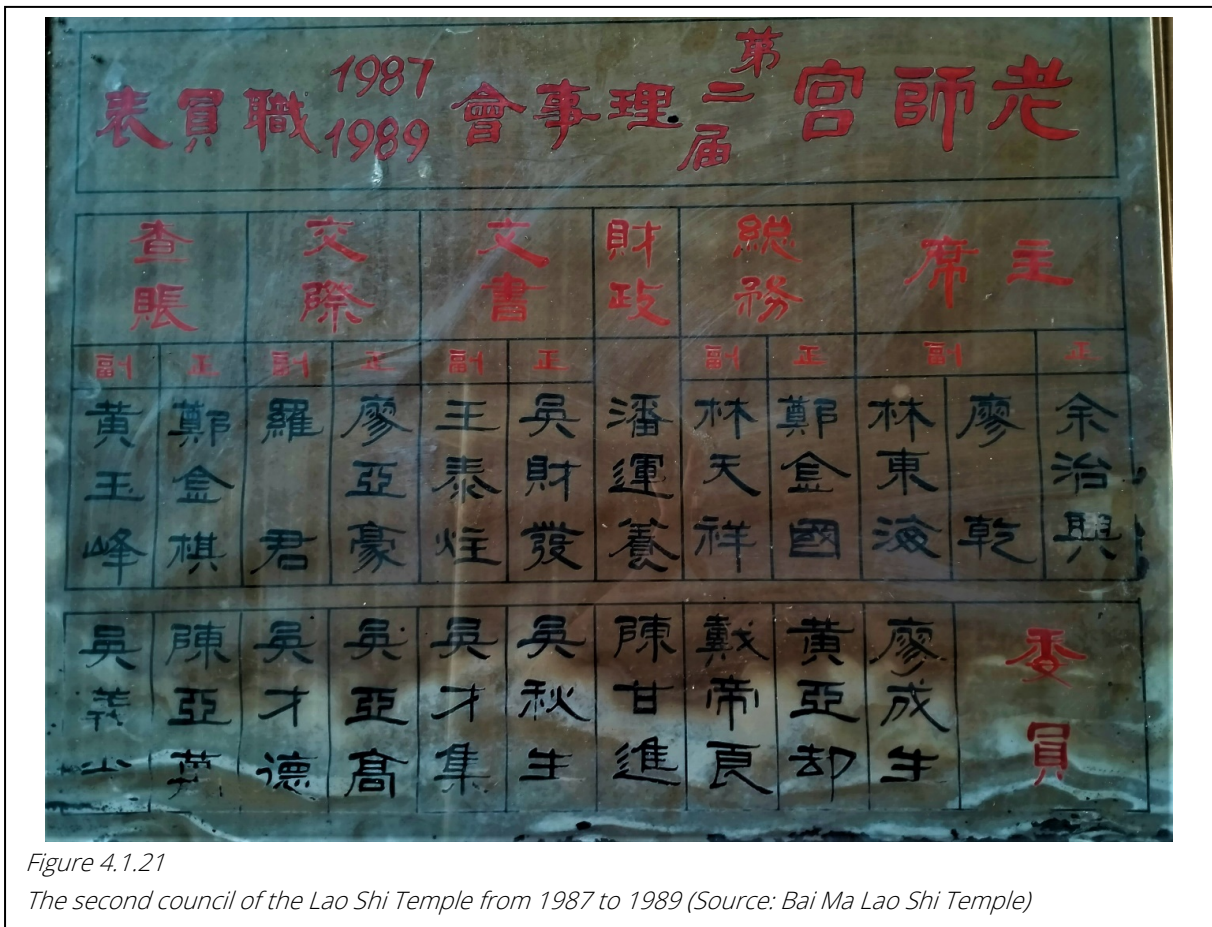


Figure 4.1.21

The second council of the Lao Shi Temple from 1987 to 1989 (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

In addition, a temple construction committee was formed on the same day: (Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting minutes: 4 1-47)

*The team for collecting temple building funds: Yu Zhixing, Huang Yani, Liao Yaqian, Zheng Jinguo, Wu Yiguang, Liao Yasheng*

*The team applying for a fundraising permit: Yu Zhixing, Jiang Guangwu*

*Person in charge of all details of the temple construction: Wu Qiusheng*

*Persons in charge of the bidding process for the temple construction: Yu Zhixing, Jiang Guangwu, Huang Yani*

On June 16, 1988, the meeting decided that the temple construction fund would be approved with the signatures of two of the three people, Yu Zhixing, Huang Yani and Liao Yaqian. On June 24, the meeting minutes showed that the construction of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple was undertaken by Dongcheng Trading Company. On August 9, the meeting decided to add members to the fundraising team, including: Liao Yaqiu, Hecheng Baohao, Xu Yuxian, Wu Shusheng, Liao Yahao, Jiang Guangfu, Lin Tianxiang, Wang Taizhu, and Fufa Baohao. (Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting minutes: 68-70)



Figure 4.1.22

*Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple groundbreaking ceremony (Source: Jiang Kexin)*

September 18, the General Affairs Department reported that the estimated expenditure for the first phase(12/8) of the temple construction project was RM5,055.30; the second phase(15/9) would cost RM11,810.56. In addition, the meeting also reported that the application for donation permits would be effective from September 15 to October 15. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi's Palace Meeting: 79-80) On September 29, the Lao Shi Temple Board of Directors decided at the meeting that the groundbreaking ceremony would be scheduled for October 1, and invited Honorary Chairman Datuk Yang Jianye to preside over the groundbreaking ceremony. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 81-82)



Figure 4.1.23

The foundation stone laying ceremony of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple (Source: Jiang Kexin)

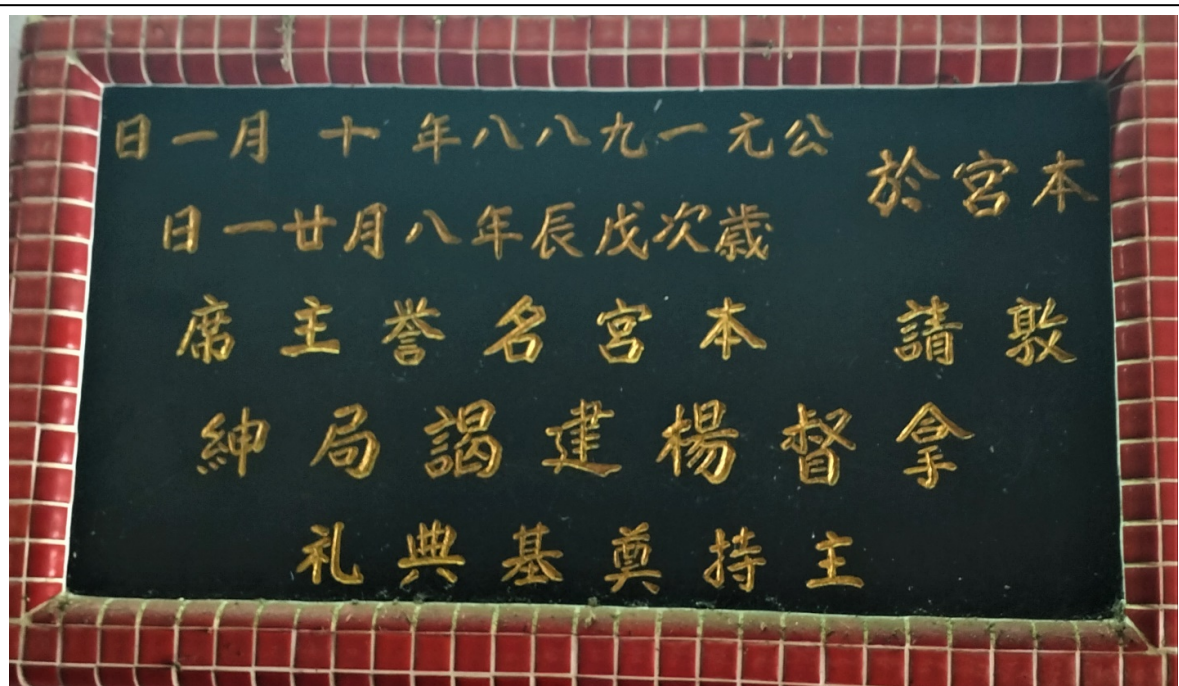


Figure 4.1.24

The foundation stone laying ceremony of the Lao Shi Temple in 1988 (photographed in 2023)

On October 16, 1988, the meeting approved the transfer of part of the deposit to the bank account of the temple construction committee. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Temple Meeting: 83-84) At the meeting on October 27, the directors discussed the modification of the building measurements. This included four pairs of Bagua windows, the main door was changed to 6 feet 10 inches and a pair of wooden doors were added, and the side door inside the hall was enlarged by one foot. The committee also agreed that Wu Ronghua would be the contractor for the installation of the main plug of the electrical wires. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Temple Meeting: 85-86)

As the completion date of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple approached, the committee became busier and more involved in this matter. On November 29, the Teacher Palace meeting decided that the chairman and the general affairs officer would be jointly responsible for the shrine. In addition, the new palace ceremony was scheduled to be celebrated on the 17th day of the first lunar month in the year of Jisi(1989). (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 87-88)

On the third day of the first lunar month in 1989, the board of directors decided to hold the ceremonial ceremony on the sixteenth day of the twelfth lunar month. In addition, the meeting also discussed the matter of parading the gods on the fourteenth day of the first lunar month. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 9 3-94) On the sixteenth day of the first lunar month, the board of directors scheduled the opening banquet of the new temple at six o'clock in the afternoon of the eighteenth day of the first lunar month. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 9 5-96)

January 25, 1989, the joint meeting of the directors and the head of the furnace decided to hire Jiang Yuan Pei as the temple priest, responsible for all cleaning matters of the Teacher Palace, and to give him a basic salary of 100ringgit per month, plus an additional allowance of 20ringgit. In addition, he could also take a 10% commission from the income of tables, chairs, and incense and candles. (Minutes of the meeting of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple: 98-99)

On February 3, at the joint meeting of the directors and the head of the furnace, the chairman Yu Zhixing proposed to resign. However, in response to this matter, the council decided to retain the chairman's position, and Zheng Jinguo, Liao Quan, Jiang Guangwu, Wang Taizhu, Liao Sheng, Luo Jun, Dai Diliang, and Lin Tianxiang discussed the chairman's representative. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 1 02-103) On March 22, Wu Qiusheng proposed to hire a Taoist priest to set up an altar for Qingjiao. The council passed the discussion and decided to hold the Qingjiao ceremony on July 27. However, the

meeting on May 2 postponed the matter. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 106-110)

May 29, 1989, the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple held the preliminary election for the 1989-1991 board of directors. Zheng Jinguo served as the vote counter, Yu Zhixing as the vote caller, Jiang Guangwu and Liao Sheng as the vote monitors, and the formal election was held on June 7. On the day of the formal election, Jiang Guangwu served as the temporary chairman, Zheng Jinguo served as the temporary recorder, Wang Taizhu served as the vote caller, Yu Zhixing served as the vote counter, and Hou Xitong served as the vote monitor. In the third board of directors election, Yu Zhixing, who had previously wanted to resign, was still elected chairman with a high vote. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 111-121)



Figure 4.1.25

The third council of the Lao Shi Temple from 1989 to 1991 (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

June 29, 1989, the new board of directors passed the previous motion to fill the position of Pan Yunyang. In addition, the general affairs reported at the meeting that the temple fund in the bank had been completely used up. Since the district councillor agreed to allocate funds to the temple, the chairman, general affairs, finance, secretary and consultant will jointly meet with the councillor. The meeting that day stated that all consultants, honorary consultants, and honorary chairmen would remain the same, but the number of people could be increased at any time. Doctor Wu Huashun and Lu Yaocheng were added to the honorary chairmen. The meeting that day also passed the establishment of the member bureau welfare group and the temple affairs group:(Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting minutes: 1 29-131)

*Member Bureau –*

*Head: Huang Yani*

*Deputy Head: Hou Xitong*

*Secretary: Wang Taizhu*

*Members: Wu Chunfa, Wu Yagao*

*Welfare Group –*

*Head: Dai Diliang*

*Deputy Head: Zhou Yingwan*

*Temple Affairs Group –*

*Head: Wu Yawan*

*Deputy Head: Wu Chunfa*

In addition, the meeting also suggested that Huang Ya Ni be responsible for the maintenance of the iron frame of the Lao Shi Temple, and that 300ringgit be allocated from the temple fund for maintenance. The altar service team was also required to clean the altar every month. Finally, the inauguration ceremony of the executive committee of the board of directors was scheduled for the 27th day of the seventh lunar month, and the temple construction committee was required to return the accounts to the board of directors within one month. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 131-132)

1990, the government replied to the General Affairs Report stating that it would allocate 5,000ringgit. Dai Diliang also proposed widening the back of the temple at the meeting that day. His proposal was adopted and he was selected as a member of the engineering team. In addition, the board of directors also decided that the names of those who donated 100ringgit or more to the temple construction fund and those who contributed would be

engraved on marble, and those who donated 10 to 99ringgit would be engraved on copper plaque. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 1 54-157) This work was in charge of Yu Zhixing, Zheng Jinguo, Liao Qian and Wu Chunfa. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 158-159)



Figure 4.1.26  
*List of donations to the Lao Shi Temple (photo taken in 2023)*

November 29, at the council meeting, Huang Ya-ni proposed to build a special iron frame in response to the grant of NT\$15,000 from the district councillor for the Lao Shi Temple. She formed a team with Lin Do-te and Zhou Wan to take charge of this matter. Chen Song-tan also proposed to buy two eight-foot-high aluminum ladders. Pan Yun-yang proposed to widen the roof of the temple, and Zheng Jin-qi was responsible for the liaison. Huang Ya-ni proposed to make floor tiles in front of the temple, and Dai Di-liang was responsible for the liaison.

The meeting also reported that based on the previous meeting resolution, the temple fair's next bank account will use the temple building fund's bank account, so the Teacher's Palace's bank account is closed. In addition, the meeting also emphasized that the fans belonging to the Lao Shi Temple cannot be loaned out, and can only be borrowed by the

villagers of Tiang Dua New Village. Not only that, in the matter of the temple fund donation plaque, the meeting also passed that the names of those who donate less than 50ringgit will be engraved on the wooden board. The board also reported that the fee for engraving names on marble is 80 cents per character. (Minutes of the meeting of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

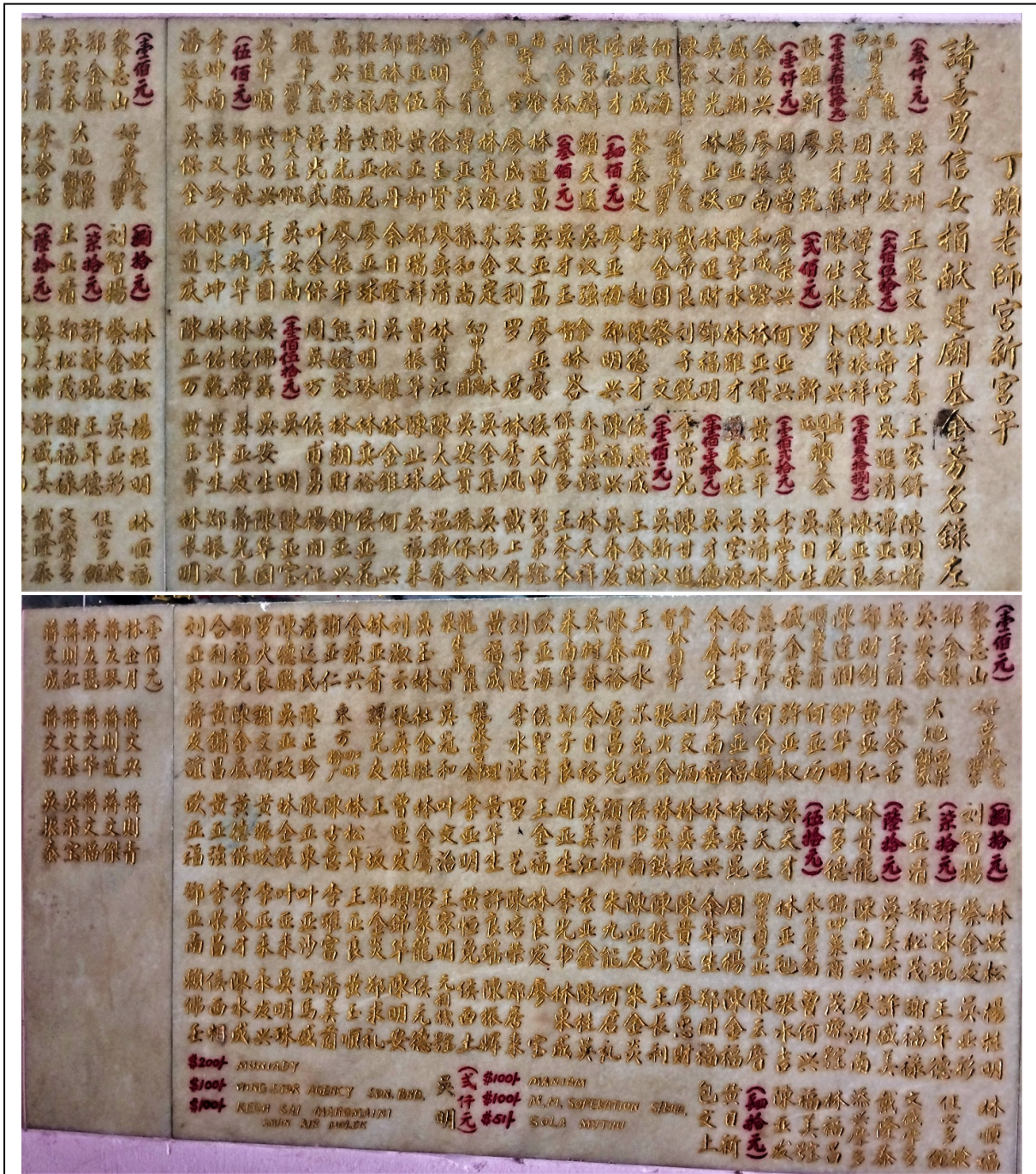


Figure 4.1.27  
List of new temples built at Tiang Dua Lao Shi Temple. (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)



May 11, 1991, the board of directors discussed the next board election and decided to hold the primary election on June 17, and the re-election a week later. Zheng Jinguo was responsible for handling the list. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 171-172) In the primary election, Dai Diliang served as the poll watcher, Huang Yani, Zheng Jinqi and Zheng Jinguo served as the vote counters, and Zheng Jinguo served as the vote caller. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 173-174)

2<sup>nd</sup> of July, 1991, Yu Zhixing was re-elected again in the fourth board of directors election with a high vote, while Jiang Guangfu lost to Yu Zhixing by one vote. Liao Qian and Wu Yiguang were still the vice chairmen, and Jiang Guangfu missed the vice chairmen position again by one vote. However, in this election, Jiang Guangfu was elected as the deputy secretary with a high vote. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 176-179)

July 19, at the board of directors meeting, Huang Ya-ni proposed the issue of flood relief for China, and Huang Yu-feng reviewed it. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 180-181) At the meeting on July 23, the general affairs reported that the total amount of funds raised for relief for China was 7,500ringgit, of which the board of directors allocated 500ringgit from the fund and handed it over to the president of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce on the 21st.

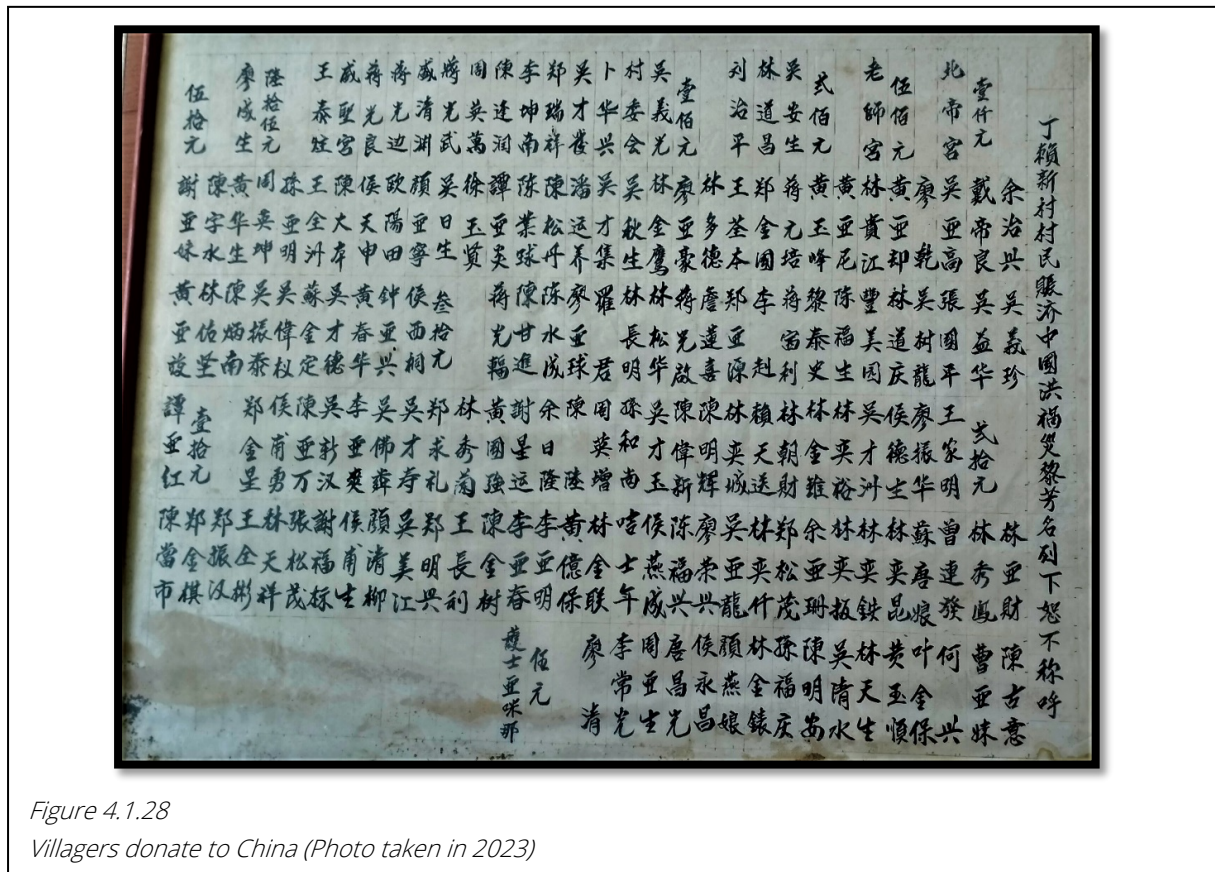


Figure 4.1.28  
Villagers donate to China (Photo taken in 2023)

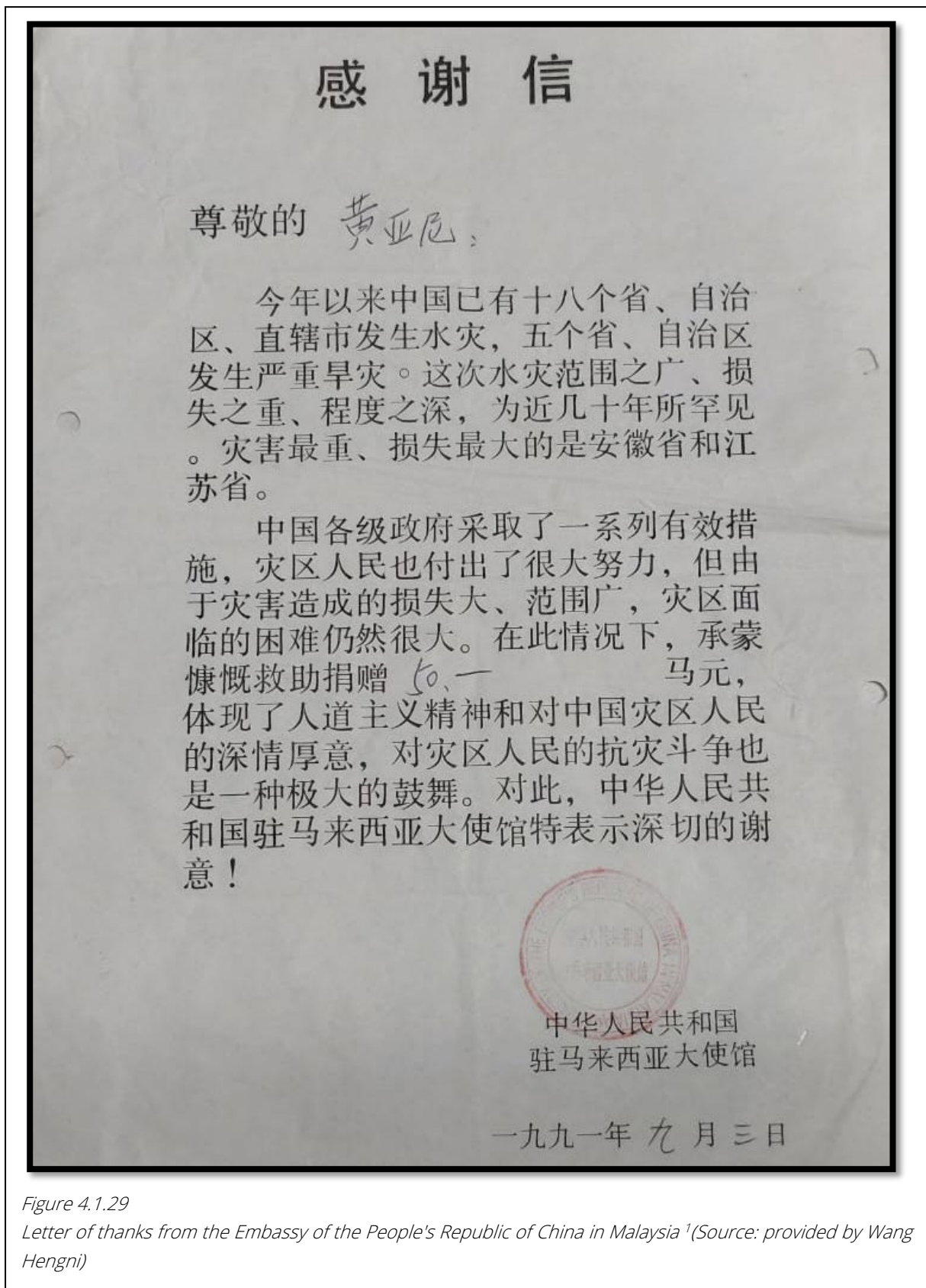


Figure 4.1.29

Letter of thanks from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Malaysia <sup>1</sup>(Source: provided by Wang Hengni)

At the meeting that day, it was unanimously agreed to hold the inauguration ceremony on the 27th day of the seventh lunar month, and Jiang Guangwu would be the oath-taker. In addition, Hou Xitong also proposed to increase the monthly allowance of Jiang ringgit pei, the temple priest, by 40ringgit. Huang Yani reviewed the proposal and it was passed. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting : 182-184)

1992, the board of directors decided to allocate \$1,000 as a fund for the construction of the Raman School. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 2 00) At the meeting on March 25, Zheng Jinguo proposed that the surplus from the Christmas celebration banquet be used to build the stage and bridge. Hou Xitong proposed to make a lantern, and Pan Yunyang suggested to build a building next to the temple land to facilitate the believers to avoid getting sunburned while cooking nearby. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 2 02-205) On June 8, the board of directors unanimously passed and authorized the village chief Jiang Guangwu to handle the relevant funding matters and to build the double-headed fish and two pairs of dragons on the roof of the Lao Shi Temple. The project is expected to cost \$5,000. In addition, Dai Diliang is responsible for the stage board. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 2 08-210)

On July 1, the board of directors decided to open a current account at the Southern Bank, with Yu Zhixing, Zheng Jinguo and Dai Diliang in charge, and stipulated that two of the three must sign for it to take effect. On July 6, the board of directors revised the previous proposal and decided that all three must sign for it to take effect. (Minutes of the meeting of Teacher Bai Ma: 2 11-214) On August 17, the minutes showed that the balance of the account at the Southern Bank was 5,000ringgit. (Minutes of the meeting of Teacher Bai Ma: 2 15-217)

On December 29, the General Affairs Department reported that the shed built next to the temple land cost 1,700ringgit. In addition, the meeting approved the request of Tiang Dua Village Committee to borrow the stage. The meeting also decided to present plaques to the directors of the Lao Shi Temple who were conferred titles, including Huang Binghuo who was conferred the title of Datuk, and Wang Taizhu who was conferred the title of P. BM( Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting Minutes: 2 21-223) In the next meeting, two more people were presented with plaques, namely Fu Runlu who was conferred the title of Datuk, and Chen Fengrun who was conferred the title of P. BM. Chen was also appointed as the Honorary Chairman of the Lao Shi Temple. (Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting Minutes: 2 25-226)

On June 23, 1993, the board of directors decided to form a re-election team, which was composed of Yu Zhixing, Zheng Jinguo, Dai Diliang, Wu Risheng, Wang Quanben, Huang Yaque, Lin Jinying, Zheng Jinqi, Wang Taizhu and Jiang Guangfu. (Minutes of the meeting of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple: 233-236) The preliminary election of directors was held on July 10 at Tiang Dua Community Hall. The scrutineers were Jiang Guangwu and Yu Zhixing; the vote-readers were Pan Yunyang and Zheng Jinqi; the vote-counters were Huang Yani and Wang Taizhu; the recorder was Zheng Jinguo. (Minutes of the meeting of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple: 237-238)

On July 22, Jiang Guangwu presided over the re-election of the new board of directors. Yu Zhixing and Wang Taizhu tied for the vote, and the chairman of the meeting announced that Yu was elected as the chairman of the fifth board of directors. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 241-243)

February 17, 1994, the board of directors decided to donate 300ringgit to Tiang Dua School. In addition, 50ringgit was also given to each poor elderly person in Tiang Dua New Village. (Minutes of the meeting of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple: 255)

March 25, 1995, the temple priest Jiang Yuan Pei submitted his resignation. The board of directors then formed a team to arrange for personnel to clean the temple and all matters related to the rental of equipment. The team members were: Zheng Jinguo, Huang Yani, Pan Yunyang, Lin Jinying, and Wu Yagao. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 278-280)

October 1, 1995, the board of directors discussed the re-election of the next board of directors. The meeting decided that anyone over 18 years old could apply to be a director or committee member. Each member could become a permanent member after paying tworinggit. (Minutes of the meeting of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple: 281-282) Zheng Jinguo was appointed as the director of the re-election team, mainly responsible for the re-election, and the primary election was scheduled for November 4. (Minutes of the meeting of Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple: 284-286)

The primary election of the Lao Shi Temple Council was held with Jiang Guangliang as the chairman of the meeting; Wu Yiguang and Zhou Yingwan as the vote monitors; Zheng Jinqi and Jiang Guangbian as the vote callers; Zheng Jinguo and Huang Yani as the vote counters; and Jiang Guangfu was responsible for recording. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple Meeting: 288-290) On November 19, 1995, the Lao Shi Temple officially held an election.

Zheng Jinguo narrowly defeated Wu Yiguang by one vote and became the new chairman of the Lao Shi Temple.

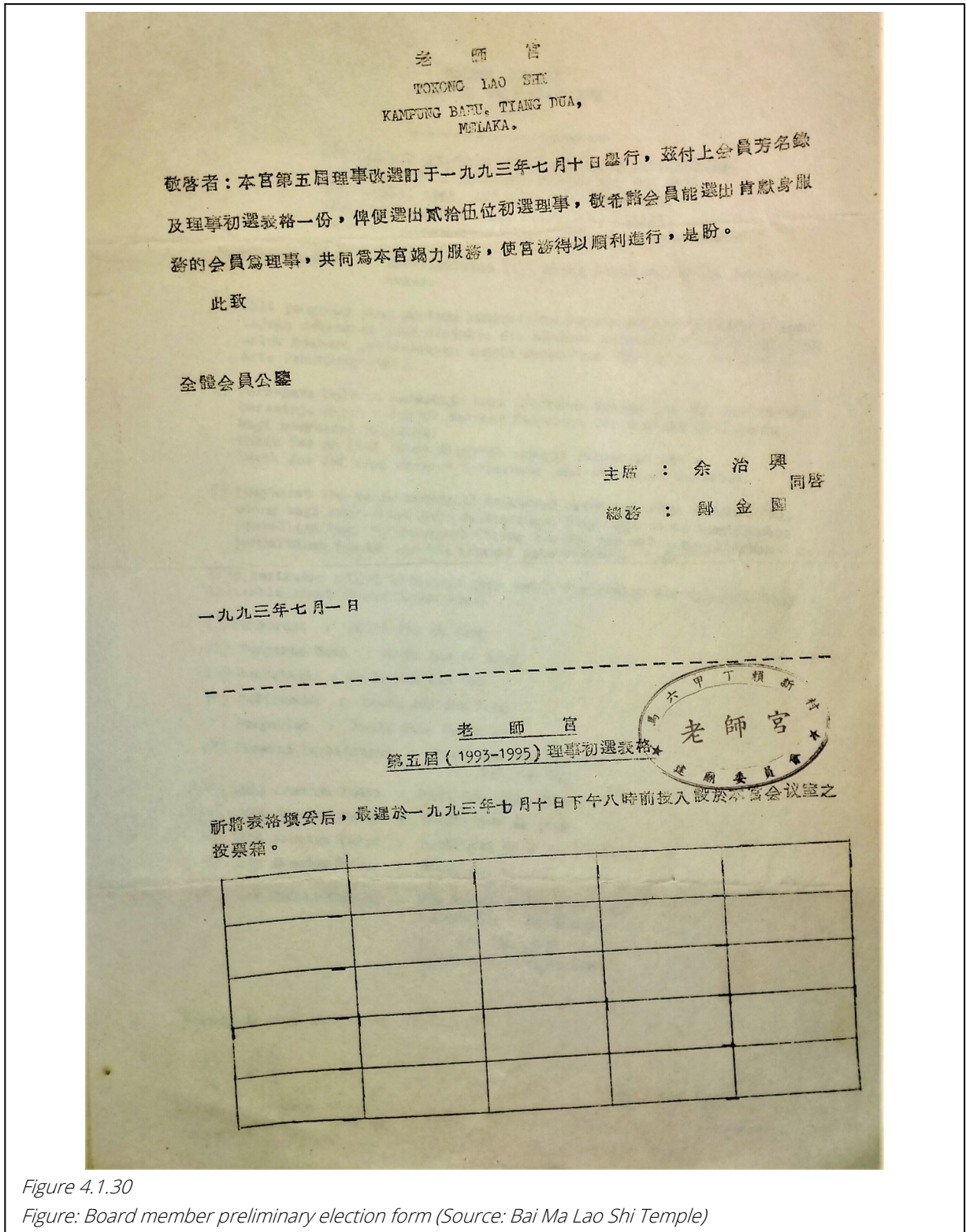


Figure 4.1.30

Figure: Board member preliminary election form (Source: Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple)

The new board of directors decided to appoint Yu Zhixing, the five-term chairman of the Teacher's Palace, as the permanent honorary chairman of the temple fair. In addition, Liao Chengsheng and Liao Qian made great contributions to the Lao Shi Temple during their tenure as directors and were also appointed as permanent honorary chairmen. (Minutes of the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple meeting: 2 91-297) On January 10, 1996, the new board of directors decided to repaint the Teacher's Palace, and Huang Yani, the general affairs director, was responsible for handling it. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 1-3)

August 29, 1997, the board of directors discussed the re-election and set up a re-election team. The meeting approved Zheng Jinguo as the temporary chairman and scheduled the primary election for December 25. (Teacher 's Palace Minute of meeting: 17-19) On the day of the primary election, Jiang Guangwu was the temporary chairman, Jiang Guangfu was the recorder, and Zheng Jinqi and Huang Yani were the vote-counters. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 21)

On January 6, 1998, the seventh council election of the Lao Shi Temple was held. Zheng Jinguo was re-elected as chairman without any competition. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 2 3-25) On the tenth day of the first lunar month in 1998, in order to congratulate Chairman Zheng Jinguo for being awarded the title of P.BM by the head of the Melaka state, the General Affairs Department was responsible for ordering a congratulatory plaque, and Jiang Guangfu was responsible for contacting Sin Chew Daily to publish the congratulatory message in the newspaper. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 2 7-28)

1998, the board of directors changed the signature requirement for bank accounts from three people to two of the three people. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 29-32) On May 10, 1999, the board of directors began to discuss the re-election of the eighth board of directors and set the formal election for June 6. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 41)

August 2000, the Lao Shi Temple successfully obtained a grant of NT\$20,000 from the district councillor through the village committee and decided to use the grant to pave the open space in front of the temple so that the villagers would have more space for various activities and to build a badminton court there. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 51-52) On March 21, 2001, the chairman reported that the village committee had successfully applied to the county office to pave the open space in front of the temple with black oil stone. However, the chairman wanted to pave it with cement, so the village head still had to come forward to fight for this matter with the government. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 57-58)

December 21, 2001, the Lao Shi Temple held a re-election meeting for the board of directors and a general meeting of members. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 59-60) On the fourth day of the first lunar month in 2002, the Lao Shi Temple held a re-election meeting and appointed the village committee as the chairman of the meeting. In his speech, the chairman expressed the hope to retain the former chairman to serve the Lao Shi Temple. Liao Yaqiu got it for nothing and became the new chairman. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 61-65)

In 2002, the new board of directors decided to donate NT\$1,000 to Tiang Dua School and also reward the top three outstanding students in each class. In addition, the Lao Shi Temple opened an account at Public Bank and revised the regulations again to require three signatures for the signature to be valid. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 66-68) On the 23rd day of the first lunar month, the board of directors donated NT\$100 to the helpless elderly in the village, namely Chen Shenfa and Guo Shengji.

In addition, the board of directors appointed former chairman Zheng Jinguo as an advisor. Not only that, the meeting also passed a motion to appoint an honorary chairman, and the general affairs department was responsible for soliciting. The account report shows that the balance of the Lao Shi Temple's current account is 3,314.55ringgit; the fixed deposit account is 9,560.3ringgit; and the fixed deposit account is 11,092.55ringgit. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 69-71) On the 31st day of the first lunar month, the board of directors decided to add another donation quota for a helpless elderly person to Wu Yasheng. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 73)

March 13, 2002, the board of directors passed a resolution to subsidize the electricity bill of NT\$89 as a subsidy for the kindergarten and the community hall. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 77-78) On April 9, the chairman reported at the meeting that Mr. Wu Anxing was willing to donate tiles to the Teacher's Palace, and the meeting also decided to use blue colored glaze. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 79-80)

After entering the millennium, Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School wanted to keep up with the pace of technology and set up a computer class in the school. Therefore, it asked the Lao Shi Temple for donations of 3,500ringgit. The board of directors initially told the school that the school should first ask for donations from the Parent-Teacher Association. If the funds were still insufficient, the Lao Shi Temple board of directors would hold another meeting to discuss the matter. However, at the next meeting(June 20), the board of

directors unanimously passed a motion to donate all funds to the Chinese primary school and allocated 4,000ringgit(Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 80-82)

August 14, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Tiang Dua New Village, Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple decided to host the Karaoke preliminary competition at the Portuguese Hotel. The prize money is divided into: champion \$ 1200, runner-up \$ 800, third place \$ 500. The Karaoke finals will be held in front of the Lao Shi Temple. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 8 2-83)

On 24th December, the Board of Directors allocated RM1,000 to Tiang Dua School to reward the top three students in each class. In addition, the Teacher Palace also rewards students who have achieved good results in the Grade 6 Assessment Examination. The specific distribution of the bonus is based on the A grade obtained by the students: 2 A 50ringgit; 3 A 100ringgit; 4 A 150ringgit; 5 A 200ringgit; 6 A 300ringgit; 7 A 500ringgit.

In 2003, the board of directors donated 100ringgit each to the helpless elderly in the village, namely Chen Shenfa, Wu Yasheng, Guo Shengji and Zheng Tianshu. (Lao Shi TempleMinute of meeting: 87-88) On March 19, the board of directors of the Lao Shi Templedecided to allocate 1,000 ringgit to donate to the University of Tunku Abdul Rahman. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 92) On January 9, 2004, the board of directors donated only Chen Shenfa and Wu Yasheng to the helpless elderly in the village, and it was still 100ringgit each. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 97-98)

February 2, 2004, the head of the Lao Shi Temple, Sheng Nanzhong, proposed to allocate 5,000ringgit to Tiang Dua School for activity funds, and the meeting unanimously passed the proposal. In addition, the meeting also awarded awards to the top three outstanding students in each class, namely 50ringgit for the first place, 30ringgit for the second place, and 10ringgit for the third place. Students who achieved good results in the sixth grade assessment examination also received corresponding awards based on the A they obtained: 2 A 50ringgit; 3 A 100ringgit; 4 A 150ringgit; 5 A 200ringgit; 6 A 300ringgit; 7 A 500ringgit. In addition, two more people were added to the quota for donating to the poor and elderly in the village, Wu Anmei and Guo Shengji. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 9 9-100)

March 25, 2004, the chairman of the board of directors, Liao Yaqui, suggested requisitioning Wang Quanben's vacant land as a long-term singing stage, but the landlord had not yet agreed. During the meeting that day, it was also decided to deposit NT\$60,000 into the bank as a fixed deposit. (Lao Shi Templeminute of meeting: 1 02-103)



On May 20, the chairman said in his speech at the board meeting that 38 new members had joined, and with the original 103 members, the Lao Shi Temple had a total of 141 members at that time. The meeting that day set June 15 as the date for the preliminary election of directors. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 104) On June 21, consultant Jiang Guangwu served as the chairman and presided over the re-election meeting of the 10th board of directors. Liao Yaqui won the re-election of the chairman without any effort. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 109-112)

On July 26, the chairman revealed at the joint meeting that the Lao Shi Temple received a grant of 10,000 from the Chief Minister of Melaka, Ali Rostan, and 5,000 from the Executive Councillor, Datuk Momin, during last year's celebration. In addition, the chairman said that Wu Annan in the village had a vacant land that he wanted to sell, so he sent six directors as a delegation to discuss the price of the land with Wu. The delegation consisted of Liao Yaqui, Tan Jinqiang, Sheng Nanzhong, Wu Caiji, Pan Yunyang and Jiang Guangwu. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 113-114)

2005, Pan Yunyang, a veteran of the board of directors, wanted to resign, but the general meeting did not approve it. Chairman Liao Yaqui and veteran Wu Caiji came forward to retain him. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 115-116) However, Pan was determined to leave, and his resignation was accepted on February 1. The matters related to the incense and oil tank of the Lao Shi Temple continued to be taken over by Pan Yunyang. His position as a director was filled by Huang Guoliang, who received the highest number of votes among the reserve directors. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 118-119) On May 16, the general meeting decided to deposit 20,000 of the 32,000ringgit surplus of the Bai Ma Lao Shi's Christmas into a bank as a fixed deposit, and the rest into a current account. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 122-123)

February 7, 2006, the general meeting passed a resolution to allocate double the amount of last year, that is, 10,000ringgit, to Tiang Dua School as an activity fund. The board of directors continued to donate 100ringgit per person to the helpless elderly in the village: Chen Yehua, Zheng Yinghua, Wu Anmei, Chen Shenfa and Wu Yasheng. (Teacher Palace Minute of meeting: 131-132)

In the report of May 9, the treasurer reported that the surplus of the Lao Shi Temple on the 18th day of the first lunar month was 9,808.53ringgit. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 136) In terms of funding, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Ali Rostan allocated 3,000ringgit, MP Lu Lin 500ringgit, and District State Executive Councillor Yunus 5,000ringgit. (Lao Shi Temple

minute of meeting: 1 37) In the joint meeting held on August 2, the general meeting decided to permanently station the stage on the right side of the temple grounds and spend 6,500ringgit to replace the stage top with industrial sand. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 1 38-139)

On February 26, 2007, the Council awarded a \$10 reward to each player from Tiang Dua School who won the Ayer Keroh Basketball Championship. In addition, the Council also gave a pair of basketball shoes to Liao Junxiang, who was selected as the state basketball player from Tiang Dua School, as a reward. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 1 47-148)

On November 26, the Lao Shi Temple held the 11th Council re-election meeting. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 1 56-157) On December 19, the re-election meeting was chaired by the village chief Jiang Guangwu. The candidates for the chairmanship nominated by the directors were Huang Guoliang and Liao Yaqiu, but because Huang did not accept the nomination, Liao won without any effort and continued to be elected as the chairman. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 1 58-161)

January 14, 2008, the new board of directors decided to allocate NT\$10,000 to Tiang Dua School as an activity fund. In addition, the old members of the Lao Shi Temple were appointed as honorary chairmen, including Wu Caiji, Wu Caide, Huang Yaque, Pan Yunyang, Hou Fuyong, Liao Qian, Lin Daochang, etc. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 1 66-167) On December 29, Zheng Jinguo will take over the permanent advisory position of the late Wu Yihua from his original advisory position. In terms of honorary chairmen, Wu Yiguang and Huang Huasheng were added. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 1 75-176)

On September 15, 2010, the Lao Shi Temple Board of Directors decided to donate NT\$100,000 to the Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School auditorium. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 193) On September 22 of the same year, the Lao Shi Temple held a preliminary election for the board of directors, and the re-election was scheduled for October 6. Liao Yaqiu continued to serve as the chairman of the 12th board of directors. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 195-201) On January 27, 2012, three female students from Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School were selected as the state basketball player representatives of Melaka State. The Lao Shi Temple Board of Directors gave each of them a pair of sneakers as a reward. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 233)

On September 20, 2013, the Lao Shi Temple held its 13th Members' Conference. Since all the candidates for the new board of directors were members of the Lao Shi Temple, the

conference omitted the preliminary election. On January 10, 2014, at the re-election meeting, Liao Yaqiu was re-elected as the chairman of the Lao Shi Temple. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 250-253)

On January 7, 2015, due to the busy work of lawyer Zhang Rongjin and his frequent absence from temple fair activities, the board of directors decided to replace him and appoint lawyer Zhu Weisheng as the new legal advisor of the Teacher Palace. (Teacher Palace minute of meeting: 275)

## Education

### Liqing School

The earliest record of Li Qing School that I can find is the "Recent Situation of the Hongmaoli Public Li Qing Primary School" published in Nanyang Siang Pau on April 30, 1937. The report pointed out that Li Qing School had more than 40 students at that time, but the classroom capacity was limited and it was difficult to accommodate them. Faced with this challenge, the school management had to seek solutions to improve teaching efficiency. The school's chairman Zheng Qiuxing and Wu Chushui and others worked closely together to study solutions. They realized that they had to expand the classrooms and realized that adding school supplies was also the key to solving the problem. (Nanyang Siang Pau 1937 : 11)

In February 1939, students of Li Qing School published a wall newspaper on their own. In addition, the school also planned to organize a " Weaving Drama Choir ". At that time, China<sup>52</sup> was in a severe cold, so under the leadership of the principal Ye Yunxing, the primary school students responded to the call and collected winter clothes for the soldiers fighting on the front line. (Nanyang Siang Pau, 1939 : 14) In April, under the promotion of all teachers and students of Li Qing, this activity raised a total of 10.20 Singapore dollars, which was paid to the relief association and<sup>53</sup> mailed to China. (Sin Chew Daily, 1939 : 13)

The author has not found any news about Li Qing School in the following ten years. However, on February 5, 1949, Li Qing School appeared in the "Gucheng Overseas Chinese School Report" and thanked all walks of life for their enthusiastic donations, which enabled the school to be reopened. ("Nanyang Siang Pau" 1949 : 8). According to the School

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<sup>52</sup> Newspapers at the time still used "motherland" to refer to China.

<sup>53</sup> At that time, there was a relief association in the Hongmaolai area, and many people who participated in the construction of Dinglai New Village and schools actively participated in the activities of the relief association. For details, see the appendix.

Registration Act, Chapter 139, <sup>54</sup>the Li Ching School located at 5½m.s. AYER MOLEK, MELAKA was officially registered on April 26, 1946. The full name of the school is " LI CHING SCHOOL, 5½m.s. AYER MOLEK, MELAKA".

As a co-educational school, each classroom of Liqing School has a floor area of 588 feet, which is 27 feet long, 20 feet wide and 12 feet high. The curriculum of each class includes English, Chinese, arithmetic, Mandarin, general knowledge, citizenship, drawing, singing, sentence making and physical education. The teacher at the school at that time was Yang Hongnian, who was 31 years old, graduated from Fuzhou Sanmin Junior High School, and had a monthly salary of 90ringgit. (EOM 106/ 1948, *Registration of Chinese Schools Melaka*, March 1949)

According to historical archives, the board of directors of Liqing School included the chairman, vice-chairman, general affairs, and treasurer. Records in March 1949 showed that the board of directors included the chairman, Zhuang Yunjin <sup>55</sup>, vice-chairman Chen Yunhua <sup>56</sup>, the chief general affairs and treasurer Wu Sanshui <sup>57</sup>, the vice-general affairs Lin Bangliang <sup>58</sup>, and the auditor Chen Shuiqian <sup>59</sup>. At the same time, the board of directors also included Zhang Huabao <sup>60</sup>, Lin Yixiang, Wu Ji, Lin Yiyu, Yan Zaishun, Zhang Senlin, Gu Zaixing, Sun Baoquan, Sun Qingwan, Sun Wende, and Xie Guanghong. (EOM 106/ 1948, *Registration of Chinese Schools Melaka*, March 1949)

Between 1949 and 1950, there were some changes in the board of directors of Liqing School. According to the records in February 1949, the board of directors of Liqing School included: Chairman Zhang Huabao, Vice Chairman Chen Yunhua, Chief Secretary Lin Bangliang (later resigned), Deputy Secretary Wu Chushui <sup>61</sup>, Chief Treasurer Huang Guanyu <sup>62</sup>, Deputy Treasurer Wu Sanshui, Accountant Lin Yixiang, and Clerk Zhang Shenglin <sup>63</sup>.

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<sup>54</sup>In the early years, when the Chinese came to the south, they found it difficult to recognize Malay place names, so they followed the British way and used the common name of milestones to replace place names. The Cantonese and Hakka dialect groups often use "how many stones" to refer to them, and "stone" means the stone that marks the milestone.

<sup>55</sup> Born in Nan'an County, Fujian Province, businessman

<sup>56</sup> Born in Nan'an County, Fujian Province, businessman

<sup>57</sup> Born in Huizhou County, Guangdong Province, businessman

<sup>58</sup> Born in Yongchun County, Fujian Province, businessman

<sup>59</sup> Native of Tongan County, Fujian Province, businessman

<sup>60</sup> Born in Xuwen County, Leizhou, Guangdong Province, businessman

<sup>61</sup> Born in Hui'an County, Fujian Province, businessman

<sup>62</sup> Born in Huizhou County, Guangdong Province, businessman

<sup>63</sup> Born in Meixian County, Guangdong Province, businessman

(EOM 106/ 1948, *Registration of Chinese Schools Melaka*, February 1948(1949) <sup>64</sup>)  
 According to archival materials, the teachers of Liqing School in 1948 included Shen Muyao and Xu Yu.

馬六甲教育司主辦華文師資訓練班學員名單(1948)

(64)

No.	姓名	性別	年齡	現任任職之學校	
1.	沈慕陶	男	廿三	立人學校	
2.	沈金全	男	廿一		
3.	沈慕堯	男	廿五	勵青學校	5哩
4.	傅朝根	男	廿	益智學校	6哩
5.	劉文生	男	廿二	育新學校	27英里
6.	趙如赤	男	廿二	華僑公學校	15 miles
7.	何元	男	廿五	僑志學校	24英里
8.	王潤洲	男	廿四	育英學校	3英里
9.	侯晨光	男	廿五	光華學校	8英里
10.	蕭慶國	男	廿二	南華學校	15英里
11.	卜炳華	男	廿二	南華學校	15英里
12.	郭清良	男	廿六	官民學校	木坡
13.	陳元竹	男	廿三	民智學校	14哩
14.	林光炎	男	廿三	民衆學校第三分校	2英里
15.	黃桂蘭	女	廿四	華僑公學校	16 miles
16.	廖桂真	女	廿四	培尼學校	本市新蘭街
17.	劉碧珍	女	廿四	培華學校	10 miles
18.	翁燕屏	女	廿五	培智學校	23哩
19.	趙元春	女	廿四	培智學校	23哩
20.	沈素卿	女	廿六	培德學校	本坡新蘭街
21.	葉林枝	女	廿一	聖瑪利王學校	9 miles
22.	南南恒	女	廿七	明覺文學校	
23.	曹若心	女	廿六	全上	
24.	王琨	女	二十七	空蘭學校	9哩
25.	陳紫玉	女	廿五	勵青學校	5英里
26.	謝紫薇	女	廿二	培風第二分校	
27.	徐家陳	女	廿四	培德學校	
28.	曾春梅	女	廿七	育民學校	
29.	宋玉蘭	女	廿四	僑南學校	27哩
30.	王英	男	廿四	僑南學校	27哩
31.	黃福星	男	廿	聖瑪利學校	9 miles
32.	熊傑賓	男	廿五	培尼學校	羅許那讓 1633
33.	黎味	男		培尼學校	

Figure 4.1.31

List of the Melaka Education Department Chinese Teacher Training Class (Source: Melaka Archives Branch of the National Archives Department) Shen Muyao was once the principal of Liqing School.

<sup>64</sup> The file serial number on the archive is two years.

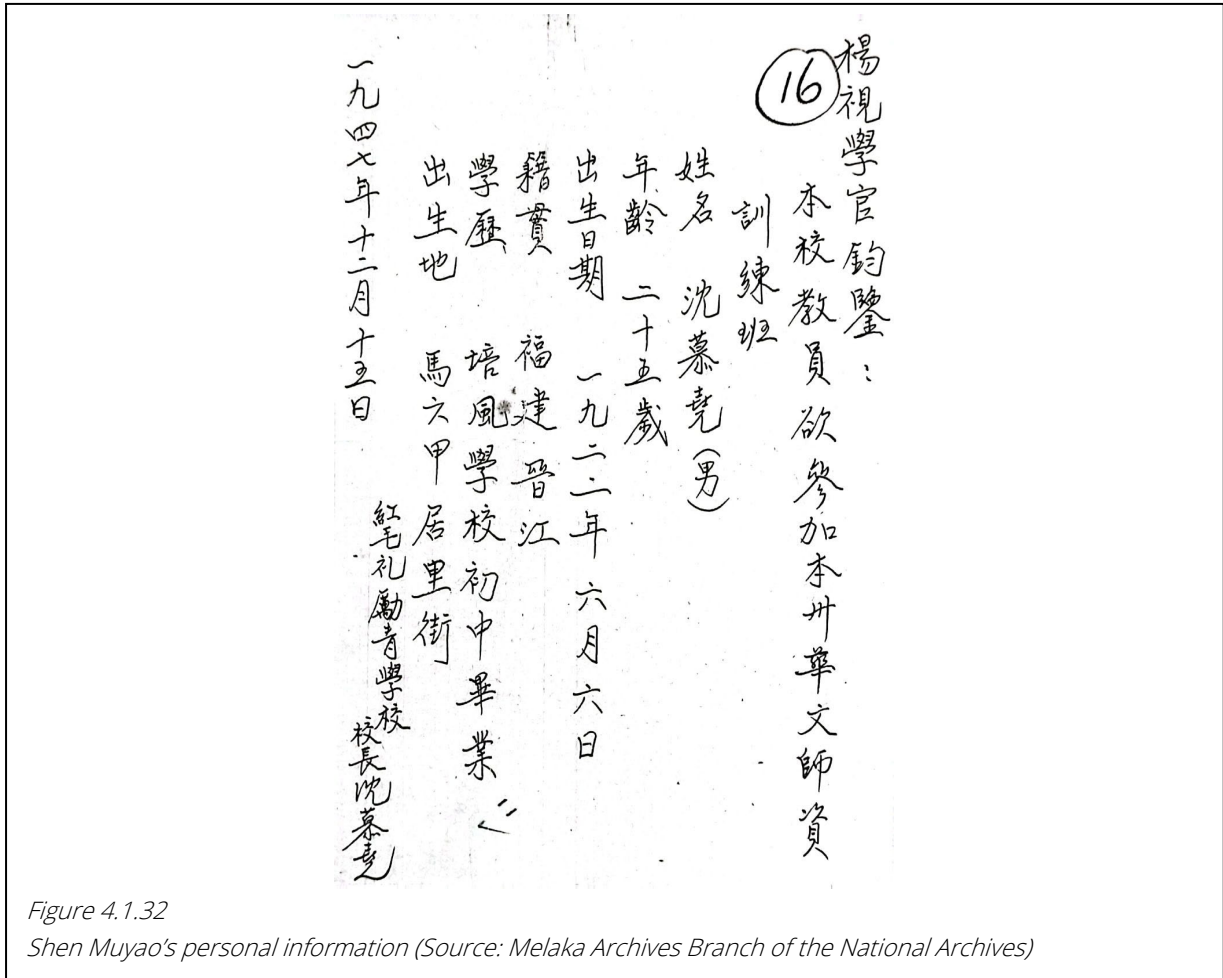


Figure 4.1.32

Shen Muyao's personal information (Source: Melaka Archives Branch of the National Archives)

## LI HWA SCHOOL

The official founding year of Li Hua School is unknown, but according to a report in Nanyang Siang Pau on March 15, 1949, the school had been established for more than ten years that year. Therefore, going back in time, Li Hua School was established in 1939 or earlier. (Nanyang Siang Pau 1949 : 8). According to archival materials, the Monthly Report on Chinese Schools Melaka in May 1948 shows that Li Qing School and Li Hua School existed in Melaka at the same time. (No. (14) in EOM 81/48, EOM 81/1948, *Monthly Report on Chinese Schools Melaka*, May 1948) Based on the information the author has consulted in the Archives, the earliest record of Li Hua School is in the "List of Chinese Schools, Melaka applying for registration"(No. (9A) in EOM 103/47, EOM 103/1947, *Registration of Chinese School Melaka*)

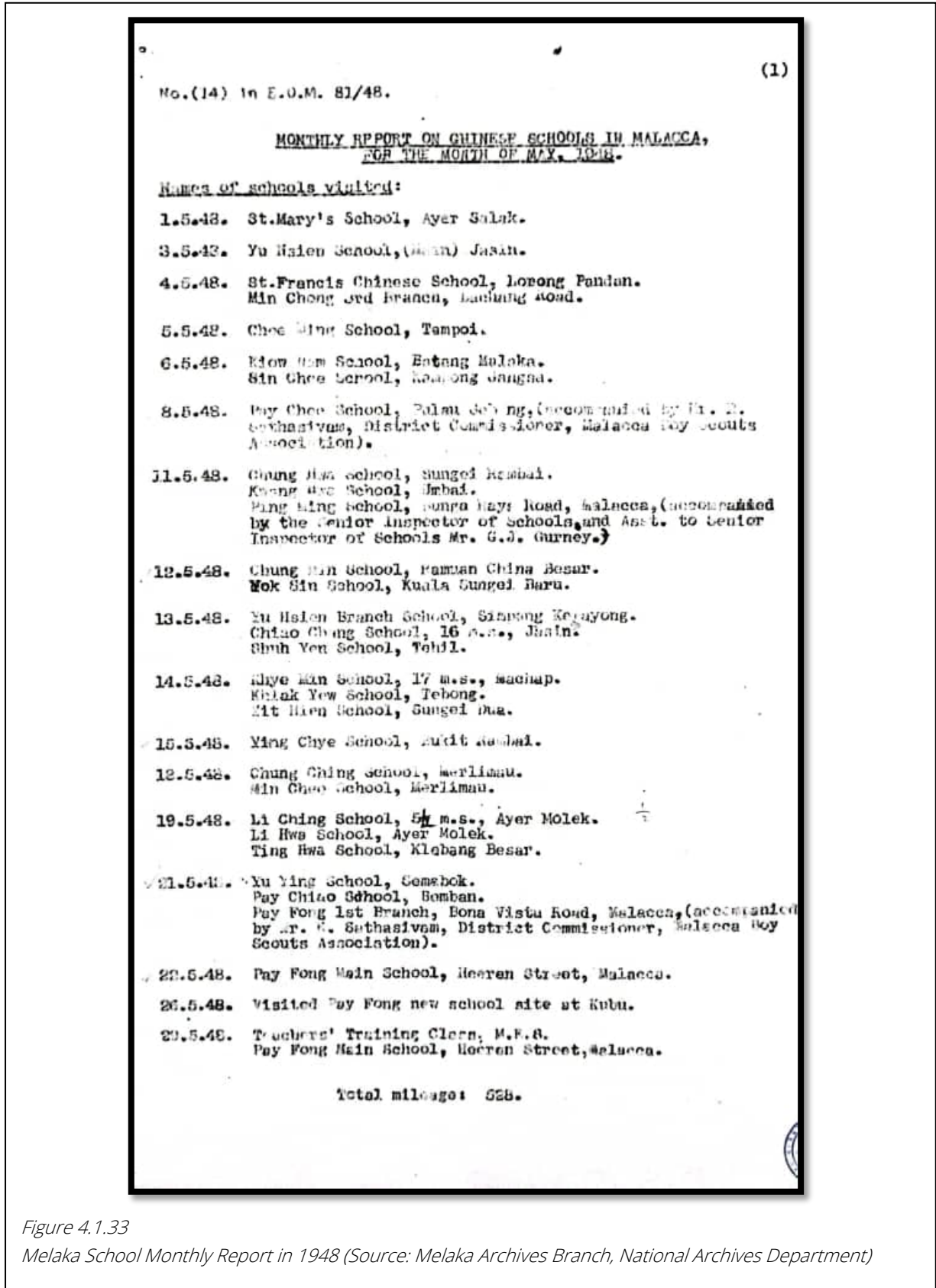


Figure 4.1.33

Melaka School Monthly Report in 1948 (Source: Melaka Archives Branch, National Archives Department)

On April 26, 1946, Lai Wah School was officially registered in accordance with Chapter 139 of the School Registration Act. The full name of the school is "Melaka Hong Mao Li Public Lai Wah School", and its English translation is LI HWA SCHOOL. The school is located at 8 miles in Hong Mao Li. In the national archives, the English translation of Lai Wah School is Lai Wah School and Lee Wah School. Lai Wah School is a coeducational school. Each classroom has a floor area of 640 feet, which is 32 feet long, 20 feet wide and 12 feet high.

Moreover, Lihua School provided a comprehensive education curriculum. The curriculum of each class included: English, Mandarin, General Knowledge, Arithmetic, Nature, Health and Citizenship. The teacher at the school at that time was Wang Wenhai, 33 years old, graduated from Hokkien Yuhua Middle School and Hokkien Higher Normal School, with a monthly salary of 90ringgit. (EOM 103/1947, *Registration of Chinese School Melaka*, April 1946) According to the government's statistical report on the number of Chinese schools and students in Melaka in February 1952, the number of students in Lihua School was 34. (CAM No.164/51 B, *Chinese Education Advisory Committee(General)*, February 1952)

Compared to Li Qing School, the villagers of Tiang Dua New Village today are more familiar with Li Hua School. In oral interviews, many people always mention Li Hua School, which is the "predecessor of Tiang Dua School". However, the author has not yet found any information showing the date when Li Hua School was officially closed. However, <sup>65</sup>the minutes of the Tiang Dua Village Committee meeting in April 1955 showed that all the property of Li Hua School would be absorbed by the Tiang Dua School Fund. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, April 1955)

This resolution later caused controversy, which directly led to a special meeting of the joint school committee of Li Hua School and Tiang Dua School on January 3, 1956. The dispute mainly focused on whether Tiang Dua School had the right to invite bids for Li Hua School and the legality of the bidding process. During the meeting, Li Hua School claimed that Tiang Dua School had no direct jurisdiction over Li Hua School. Therefore, it was necessary to investigate and mediate the dispute caused by Tiang Dua School's invitation to tender for the Li Hua School building. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 3 January 1956)

On that day, Mr. Li Jinsheng, the Chinese affairs officer of Melaka Central, and Leong Ah Hong, a member of the Chinese Advisory Group of Tiang Dua New Village, served as

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<sup>65</sup> The village committee and school committee were integrated at that time.



arbitrators to adjudicate the dispute. The arbitrators clearly stated that the three points of dispute on that day were as follows:

- a) Tiang Dua School has no jurisdiction over Li Hua School.
- b) The building tender notice issued is issued unilaterally by the Tiang Dua School Committee only.
- c) The request for tender for the Lihua School building was not authorised by the Lihua School Committee.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Joint School Committee accepted the recommendation of two arbitrators that the actions of the Tiang Dua New Village School Committee on the tender and notice be deemed invalid. The arbitrators proposed that the Li Hua School Committee vote on the issue of control and jurisdiction of "transferring the property of Li Hua School to the Tiang Dua New Village School Committee ". Five of the six Li Hua School Committee members present supported the proposal and one opposed it.

Lee Kim San further proposed that the Tiang Dua Resettlement Area School Committee should hold another vote on whether to re-issue the tender for Li Hua School or leave the matter as it is. When the vote was taken, nine people supported re-issuing the tender and four opposed the proposal. Mr Lee further suggested that a two-week notice of the tender should be issued and a circular should be issued to the committee members of both schools at the same time. ( CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 3 January 1956)

January 27, 1956, Wang Zhaobing won the tender for the construction of Lihua School at a price of \$ 320 and was required to pay the fee before February 1. After winning the bid, Wang Zhaobing was also required by the Chinese Affairs Officer to demolish the building of Lihua School on or before February 15. ( CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 January 1956)

### **Tiang Dua New Village School**

1951, Wang Zhaobing saw that there were many school-age children in the village, so he thought that the establishment of a school could not be delayed. Then, he called on his colleagues to prepare a school construction committee. The school construction plan not only received support from the villagers, but the Melaka State Malaysian Chinese Association also donated 7,000ringgit as the construction fund for Tiang Dua School. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 9)

On 16 June 1952, the committee for the development of new villages held its first meeting. The progress report of the new village schools was the first item to be discussed that day. It was recorded that Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School was still a school to be built at that time. (No. (4) in RCOM. 678 / 52, CAM NO.69 / 1952, *Committee of the Development of New Villages*, 16 June 1952) This shows that the construction of schools was already on the agenda at the early stage of the development of new villages.

The government standardized the management and construction of new village schools. Therefore, another agenda item on the same day resolved that schools must be named after the new village where they are located, and the name must be displayed in English and Chinese characters on the school building. <sup>66</sup>( No. (4) in RCOM. 678/52, CAM NO.69/1952, *Committee of the Development of New Villages*, 16 June 1952)



Figure 4.1.34

*The Chinese and English name sign of Tiang Dua School (Source: Luo Jun)*

On 11 September 1952, the Committee of the Development of New Villages held its third meeting and mentioned matters raised at the previous meeting, including the progress of the Central District School construction plan. According to the archives, the development contract for Tiang Dua School had been signed, indicating that the construction of the school had entered a substantial stage. ( No. (4) in RCOM. 678 / 52/I, CAM NO.69 / 1952, *Committee of the Development of New Villages*, 11 September 1952)

<sup>66</sup> For more details, please refer to the National Archives: RCOM(CA)78/51, Encl(26)

On 23 December 1952, the Collector of Land Revenue reported at the fifth meeting of the New Villages Development Committee that the school building at Tiang Dua was actually completed. <sup>67</sup>(No. (12) in RCOM. 678 / 52, CAM NO.69 / 1952, *Committee of the Development of New Villages*, 23 December 1952) At that time, there were three classrooms and a teacher's dormitory. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 9) The completion of the construction of Tiang Dua New Village School laid the foundation for the formal operation of the school.

According to the statistics of new village schools in 1952, the number of students at Tiang Dua School at that time was 150. The total government subsidy for the capital construction of the campus was \$13,100, including \$5,600 for buildings, \$6,000 for dormitories, and \$1,500 for equipment. In addition, the salaries of teachers and staff were \$4,860, totaling \$17,960. (CAM No.164/51C, *Penang Chinese Schools Advisory Committee Minutes*, 1952)

In 1953, Malay language teaching began to be popularized in Chinese schools. According to the list of "Chinese schools teaching Malay", the Malay language classes at Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School were arranged from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. <sup>68</sup>(EOM 468/1953, *Minutes of Conference of State / Settlement Heads of Department of Education*, 1953) According to the Malay language teacher inspection in 1959, the Malay language teacher at Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School in September of that year was Gayah binte Ahmad(EOM 01212 Pt.2, *Minutes of Chief Education Officers Conference*, September 1959) In order to ensure that Tiang Dua students continued to learn Malay, Tiang Dua School also published a recruitment notice in the newspaper on November 12, 1965. Seeking a registered teacher to teach Malay language at Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School at the beginning of the following year. (Berita Harian, 1965: 8)

According to the statistics of new village schools in 1953, the number of students at Tiang Dua School at that time was 150. As a government-subsidized school, Tiang Dua received a government subsidy of \$ 6,480. (CAM No.164/51C, *Penang Chinese Schools Advisory Committee Minutes*, 1953)

On December 28, 1953, Wang Zhaobing wrote a letter to the Chief Secretary for Chinese Affairs in the name of the Tiang Dua New Village School Board, stating that most families in Tiang Dua New Village were poor and hoped that the Chief Secretary would provide

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<sup>67</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives file: RCOM.77/50

<sup>68</sup> For more details, please refer to the National Archives File No. (182A) in EOM 36/52.

sponsorship for operating funds. Wang Zhaobing mentioned in the letter that Tiang Dua School had been facing financial difficulties since its opening in 1953. The initial funds were difficult to cope with, and it was only thanks to the Malaysian Chinese Association's continued subsidy support for several months that the operation of Tiang Dua School could be maintained until the next year. (CAM NO.69 / 1952, *Committee of the Development of New Villages*, 28 December 1952)

After-care policy introduced by the British government, each Chinese primary school must be equipped with an English teacher. (Rhoderick 1965:14) Therefore, according to archival data, the salary of the English teacher at Tiang Dua School was \$ 145.75 per month from March to October 1957. ( EOM 00724 Pt.3, *Annual Report 1957 Chinese Schools*, Melaka, 1957) has actively responded to government activities. For example, from June to August 1961, the Ministry of Education held a total of 40 citizen meetings in Melaka, and the citizen meeting held at Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School was on August 14. ( EOM 01679 Pt.2, *Explanation of Report of the Education Review Committee 1960*, November 1961)

1964, Tiang Dua Primary School had a total of 188 students, and the existing classrooms were insufficient. Fortunately, the government agreed to sponsor 9,000ringgit for the construction of new buildings. The shortfall was made up by the villagers and enthusiastic people in the new village. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Special Issue 2002: 9)

In January 1966, the list of government-subsidized schools recorded that Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School had a total of 208 students, all in the morning class, and no afternoon class was offered. In addition, there was one class from Grade 1 to Grade 6, with a total of 8 teachers. (PPM 00431 Pt.18 D, *Penyata tahunan 1969(Sek 2 China)*, January 1966) The following year, the number of students in the Chinese primary school was slightly reduced to 203, but there was still one class from Grade 1 to Grade 6, with a total of 8 teachers. (PPM 00306 Pt.12 C[M], *Penyata-setengah( 1966, 1967)*

In 1968, the Melaka Education Department approved the addition of three classrooms to Tiang Dua School. (tambahan) to meet the growing demand for the number of students. Not only that, it will also receive a total of NT\$200,000 in grants with 8 other Chinese primary schools. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 1968) In 1969, among the fully-aided Chinese primary schools, Tiang Dua School had 208 students and an average attendance of 203. ( PPM 00431 17.A, *Annual Report 1968(Chinese Section)*, 1969)

Due to the dramatic increase in the number of students at Tiang Dua, the school had to find ways to expand the school. In 1969, the government allocated 43,000ringgit and ordered the Engineering Department to build three new classrooms, a teacher's office, a principal's office, a new toilet with 16 small toilets, a rain shelter corridor, and a fence around the campus. As a result, the original three classrooms were used as a library, a drawing room, and a gymnasium. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 9)

In September 1969, the Minister of Education, Dato Abdul Rahman Yaakob, visited Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School and presided over the opening ceremony of the school's new school building and the exhibition of student achievement drawings and teaching aids. In his speech, the minister advised all Chinese primary school teachers, especially those who teach English, to work hard to learn written and spoken Malay in order to adapt to the Malaysian education system. (Berita Harian, 1969:1)

In July 1973, the Melaka State Education Director issued a circular instructing that children born in 1968 and 1969 must enter the first grade of primary school in 1975 and 1976 respectively. (PPM 02877 Pt. IV B, *Jawatankuasa Tindakan Daerah Dewan Negeri, Melaka 1974*, July 1973)

1974, Tiang Dua School built a badminton court for students to keep fit and develop healthy living habits after class. Four years later, the Melaka State Education Department approved Tiang Dua School to build a canteen. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Special Issue 2002: 9)

In 1984, when Principal Li Nianhui, who had served Tiang Dua for more than 30 years, retired, he repeatedly reminded that the Tiang Dua bilingual name sign must not be abandoned under any circumstances. Therefore, although there is a new school name plaque on the school gate, this plaque is still retained on the campus.

On December 21, 1994, the Public Works Department (JKR) demolished three classrooms built in 1952 that were now infested by termites. On July 30, 1997, the Melaka State Education Department allocated funds to repair toilets, classroom offices and temporary science and art rooms, main roads and additional parking bays. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 10)



Figure 4.1.35

Group photo of Tiang Dua students (Source: Luo Jun)

Since 1998, after the efforts of the Board of Directors and the Parent-Teacher Association, Tiang Dua School finally obtained the approval of the Deputy Minister of Education, Dr. Fong Chin Onn, for the funding to build a two-storey new school building. In addition, Dato' Seah Gui Zhong, State Executive Councillor, and then-PTA Chairman Wang Tai Zhu helped to obtain funding for the construction of a new library, and applied to the Education Bureau for the establishment of a science and art room. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 1 0)

November of the same year, the Public Works Department repaired three classrooms in Block B and replaced the mesh windows with glass windows. From April 19 to May 19 of the following year, the Public Works Department came to Tiang Dua School again to reinstall the door panels for the classrooms and resurface the main road of the school. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 10)

May 12, 1999, the request to add a science and art room was approved and the Education Bureau allocated funds. In the same year, the school board and the parent-teacher association worked together to build a sand field for students to practice long jump. (Tiang

Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Special Issue: 2002) On June 4, the Melaka Historical City Council donated flowers and trees to beautify the campus. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 10)

September 19, 1999, the Melaka State Education Department allocated funds to refit a main water pipe from the school gate to the toilet. On March 14 of the following year, the teacher's dormitory built when the school was founded was demolished. The Ministry of Education allocated 40,000ringgit to build a data center on the original site of the teacher's dormitory. On October 4, 1999, the Ministry of Education allocated funds to build a two-story school building with six classrooms and two small toilets each with five small toilets. The handover ceremony was held on November 25 of the following year. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 10)

September 28, 2001, Melaka Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohamad Ali Roshidan officiated at the unveiling ceremony of the new school building and library of Tiang Dua Primary School. In 2002, the school board and the parent-teacher association sponsored and installed the computer room with air-conditioning equipment. In addition, four air conditioners were sponsored by kind-hearted people and installed in two classrooms. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 1 0)

On September 15, 2010, the Lao Shi Temple Board of Directors decided to donate NT\$100,000 to Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School for the construction of an auditorium. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 193)

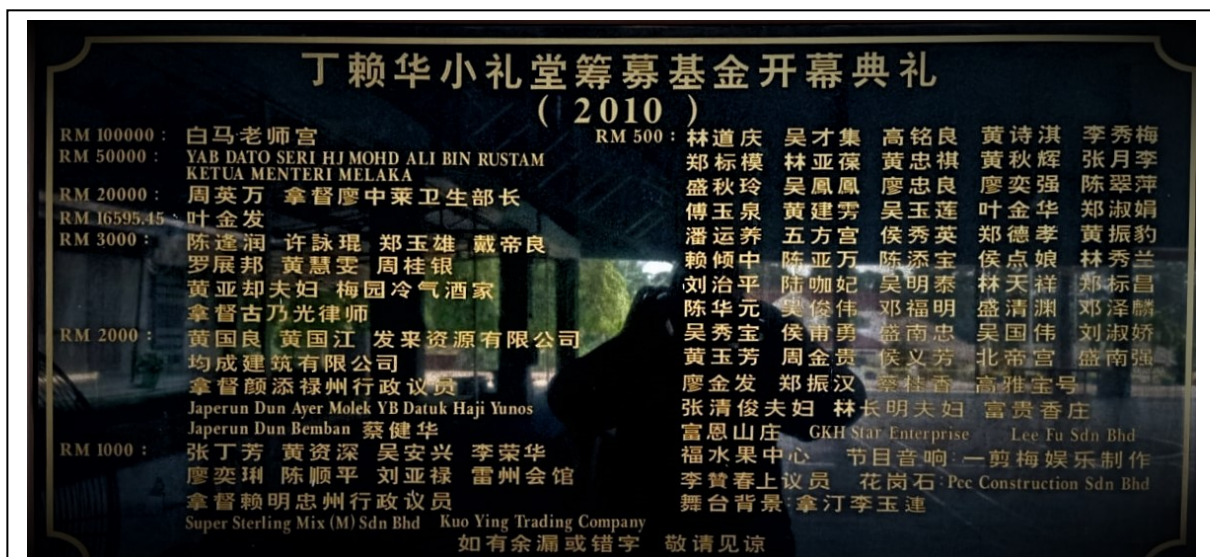


Figure 4.1.36

Opening ceremony of the Tiang Dua Hua Primary School auditorium to raise funds (Source: Jiang Kexin)

In 2016, students from Tiang Dua School achieved outstanding results in the Primary Six Examination. It was also the school where more than 5% of students obtained excellent grades(A) that year, and received a certificate of commendation from the Education Bureau. (China Press, 2016)

In the 2019 Melaka State Government Chinese Primary School Education Grant, Tiang Dua School received RM20,000. (China Press, 2019) On October 20, Melaka City MP Khoo Poay Tiong said that the grant had been issued to the school. ( Sin Chew Daily, 2019) On January 8, 2021, the Director of the Melaka State Education Department, Azam Ahmad, handed over book vouchers for first-grade students in 26 primary schools in the Hang Tuah Jaya parliamentary constituency. Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School was one of the beneficiary schools. (eNanyang, 2020)

In 2022, Datuk Seri Samsudin Iskandar, the MP for Hang Tuah Jaya in Melaka, handed over RM10,000 to the board of directors of Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School to assist in upgrading school facilities and beautification. Although this amount is not enough to cover all expenses, the board chairman Zhou Jingui said that this is an important support that will help improve the environment and conditions of the school. (Sin Chew Daily, 2022)

### **Extracurricular activities performance**

On February 26, 2007, the Lao Shi Temple Council decided to give a reward of 10ringgit to each player from Tiang Dua School who won the Ayer Keroh Basketball Championship, and to give a pair of basketball shoes to Liao Junxiang, who was selected as the state basketball player, as an additional reward. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 1 47-148). On January 27, 2012, three female students from Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School won the honor of being the state basketball representative of Melaka. In order to recognize their outstanding achievements, the Lao Shi Temple Council decided to reward each of them with a pair of basketball shoes. (Lao Shi Temple minute of meeting: 2 33)

Tiang Dua School focuses on humanistic literacy and actively cultivates students' external skills. In 2017, Tiang Dua students participated in the young reporter training camp organized by China Press. Young reporters Zhang Yongjun and Wu Jiajun both learned media interviews and photography knowledge. (China Press, 2017)

In 2020, students from Tiang Dua have performed well in Taekwondo. The female athletes from Tiang Dua School who won medals on behalf of Melaka in the 2020 National Women's



Taekwondo Video Competition include bronze medalists ZULAIKHA ZAHRA BT. JEHAN(11-12 years old female white-yellow-yellow individual set boxing) and Huang Huiting(11-12 years old female blue-red-red-black individual set boxing)(Sin Chew Daily, 2020)

In 2022, Tiang Dua students Wu Huihan and ZULAIKHA ZAHRA BT JEHAN won the gold medal in the women's white-yellow-yellow- green belt individual set boxing(11-12 years old) and the bronze medal in the women's white-yellow-yellow belt individual set boxing group A(13-15 years old) in the " 2022 Batu Pahat Taekwondo(ITF) Video Competition" organized by the Batu Pahat District Taekwondo Association and the Johor Taekwondo Association. (Sin Chew Daily, 2022)

According to the "Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Special Issue", the Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School Taekwondo Association was established in June 1999, and Mr. Zhang Guicheng served as the first coach. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Special Issue, 2002, page 10). In 2022, Su Zhenling from Tiang Dua School participated in the 36th National Chinese Primary School Chinese Speech Melaka District Preliminary Competition with the speech "Confidence Makes You Successful". ("Sin Chew Daily", 2 022)

In 2023, the Youth League of Yongchun Federation held a cloud-based Spring Festival calligraphy competition for the first time, with more than 3,000 participants. However, Tiang Dua students Wu Huihan and Aina were still able to win the selected award in the competition where many masters gathered. ("e Nanyang", 2023)("Sin Chew Net", 2023)

## Donations

Donations from philanthropic members of the community and early subsidies from the Social Welfare Lottery Committee provided critical financial support for the school's operations and played an important role in its development. In January 1963, the total amount of donations from enthusiastic people in the community to Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School was \$ 235, and the subsidy from the Social Welfare Lottery Committee was \$ 35. (PPM 00431 Pt.XII A, *Annual Report 1963(Chinese Schools)*, January 1963)

In December 1965, the donations from the community totaled \$ 260, and the Social Welfare Lottery Committee subsidized \$ 3. ( PPM 00431 Pt.XIII B, *Annual Report(Chinese Section)*, December 1963). In December 1966, the only donation received from the society

was \$ 188.00. <sup>69</sup>(PPM 00431 Pt.XIII C, *Annual Report 1966(Chinese Section)*, December 1966)

Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School raised a total of \$ 178.00 in January 1967, of which \$ 79 was donated by the public and \$ 99 was donated by the sponsor. (PPM 00431 Pt.18 D, *Penyata Tahunan 1969(Sek 2 China)*, January 1967. In 2002, under the call of the Tiang Dua School Board of Directors and Parents Association, the school began to introduce computer technology. The Bai Ma Lao Shis' Palace also allocated RM4,000 to specially make a set of multi-purpose cupboards to contribute to the promotion of the Tiang Dua School computer room. (Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School 50th Anniversary Golden Joy Special Issue 2002: 1 0)

In 2005, the Bai Ma Lao Shis' Palace donated 5,000ringgit as an activity fund for Tiang Dua School. In 2006, the Bai Ma Lao Shis' Palace donated another 10,000ringgit to Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School. (Lao Shi Temple Minute of meeting: 1 32)

Since 2007, the Melaka Tropical Expedition Team has sponsored Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School's "China Press" for nine consecutive years. (China Press, 2014)(China Press, 2015)(China Press, 2016) Not only that, in 2015, Melaka Universal Enterprise also sponsored Tiang Dua School's "Nanyang Siang Pau". (Nanyang Siang Pau, 2015)

On July 8, 2016, after the Bukit Perau Buddhist Association held a charity carnival, it announced that it would donate RM6,000 to six Chinese primary schools in Melaka, including Tiang Dua School. (China Press, 2016) Each student from a poor family will receive RM100. (China Press, 2016)

In 2017, 15 students from Tiang Dua Primary School received a scholarship of RM100 from the Lions Club of Gucheng International. (eNanyang, 2017) Not only that, the club also sponsored Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School's China Press the following year for two consecutive years. (China Press, 2019)

In August 2018, the Zhang Sheng Temple donated RM500 to Tiang Dua School at the birthday dinner of the headmaster Zhang Gong Shengjun. <sup>70</sup>(China Press, 2018) In July 2019, Tiang Dua New Village Weisheng Temple donated RM2,000 at the birthday dinner as

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<sup>69</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives: B il(4)dIm.PPM.00431 Pt.XIII C

<sup>70</sup> Liao Junxiong accepted the award on his behalf.

the school's activity fund. (China Press, 2019)(eNanyang, 2019) The temple donated RM500 to Tiang Dua School again at the temple party in August. (eNanyang, 2019)

In January 2020, the Melaka Teochew Association and Huilai Association actively responded to the Sin Chew Daily Student Reading Plan and sponsored newspapers for 59 Chinese primary schools including Tiang Dua School to cultivate students' reading habits. (Sin Chew Daily, 2020)

In 2020 God's Birthday Gala Dinner, the Bai Ma Lao Shi Temple awarded RM3,230 in rewards to outstanding students from Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School and two basketball state players. In addition to holding a lucky draw, the association also donated all the proceeds from the sale of beer that night to Tiang Dua New Village Chinese Primary School. On the same day, Jiang Yuxian also donated RM8,388 to Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School on behalf of the Singapore Leizhou Association as an activity fund. (China Press, 2020)

In 2022, Gandong Qinghua Palace donated RM1,000 to Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School at Zhufu Wangye Christmas Party. (Sin Chew Daily, 2022). In February 2023, Dato Liu Jinchang of Fuen Group sponsored Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School to read newspapers to help promote school reading. (Sin Chew Daily, 2023)

### School Affairs and Personnel

January 1961, the former Senior Assistant(Vice Principal) of Tiang Dua Chinese School, Mr. Lim Peng Kui, resigned and went to work at Bukit Siput( commonly known as Red Card) New Village Chinese School in Segamat. (EOM 01550 Pt.2, *Appointment of Senior Assistant Chinese Schools 1961*, 1 January 1961)

The Melaka State Education Department officially appointed teacher Shen Yangbo to take over the position of Senior Assistant (Vice Principal) <sup>71</sup>on January 13, 1964. The notice stated that Shen Yangbo's appointment was only for administrative reasons, mainly to assist the principal in performing school administrative tasks, so he would not require any additional allowance for this position. <sup>72</sup>(Ref:(55) in PPM.01550 Pt. A, *Senior Assistans [Chinese School] 1964-1965*, 13 January 1964.)

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<sup>71</sup> He was 31 years old at the time and graduated from Jia Day Teacher Training School. He had worked as a teacher at Batang Melaka Qiao Nan School, Xianglin School and Pei San School.

<sup>72</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives: B il(1) dlm. PPM. 01550 Pt.4

The 1966 Chinese Primary School Annual Report, there were no university graduates in the Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School at that time. The highest educational level was one male and one female teacher who graduated from secondary school, one male teacher who completed the LCE Course <sup>73</sup>, and five male teachers who did not complete the LCE Course, a total of eight teachers. (PPM 00431 XII C, *Annual Report 1966 [Chinese Section]*, 1966)

On 16 January 1968, Tan Hong Loon <sup>74</sup> was appointed as the Officer's Representative of the Ministry of Education (Wakil Menteri Pelajaran) under the Education Act 1961. (PPM 01094 Pt.20 Vol.11, *Board of Managers/Governors Minister of Education*, 16 January 1969) In December of the same year, the Melaka State Education Department instructed Tan Hong Loon to continue his duties as the Officer's Representative of the Ministry of Education. In addition, Lim Geok See <sup>75</sup> was the supporting representative (Wakil Penyokong), Ong Chan Pin <sup>76</sup> was the parent representative (Wakil Ibu Bapa), and Tan Biyau was the trustee (Pemegang Amanah). The four served from 1969 to 1971. (PPM 01094 Pt.20 Vol. 11, *Board of Managers/Governors Minister of Education*, December 1969)



Figure 4.1.37

Li Nianhui taught at Tiang Dua School from 1954 until his retirement in 1984.

<sup>73</sup> In the early stage, high school graduates had to take the Lower Certificate of Education (LCE). In the early stage, only those who passed the LCE could be promoted to Form 4 (later, they were automatically promoted to Form 4). Reference: The Federation of Chinese Associations of Malaysia, the Lim Lian Geok Foundation, and the Federation of Chinese Alumni: "Malaysian Chinese Education Handbook", 9th edition, March 2017, page 14.

<sup>74</sup> His address at that time was 37, Tiang Dua New Village, Melaka.

<sup>75</sup> His address at that time was 21, Tiang Dua New Village, Melaka.

<sup>76</sup> His address at that time was 16, Tiang Dua New Village, Melaka.

According to the government's survey report on non-university graduate teachers in West Malaysia in 1969, there were 8 teachers in Tiang Dua Chinese Primary School at that time: Lee Nian Hui Lee Nien Fai <sup>77</sup>, Low Hoon Yong Liu Hanyang <sup>78</sup>, Sim Ngian Poh, Yau Yik Kwong, <sup>79</sup>Wang Eng Hoe, <sup>80</sup>Hay Hwee Lian, <sup>81</sup>Gan Kim <sup>82</sup>Lian, Long bin Yunos <sup>83</sup>. (PPM 00431 Pt.18D, *Penyata Tahunan 1969*(<sup>84</sup>*Sek 2 China*), August 1969)<sup>85</sup>

## Infrastructure

In 1952, the newly appointed British High Commissioner to Malaya, General Sir Gerald Templer, announced in a speech that the new villages would be given "post-relocation care", including the provision of schools, community halls, roads, public health and health services, etc. (R.W.KOMER 1972:54)

## Roads And Ditches

In November 1953, the construction of the new road and drainage scheme had begun at the beginning of the month and was expected to be completed by December 15. (CAM No.32/1951, *Resettlement Areas (New Village)*, November 1953) On September 27, 1955, RF Browning, Assistant Secretary of the Settlement Development Board, applied to the Settlement Development Board's Executive Committee for \$ 6,800 for the construction of a motorable road leading to the AYER MOLEK Chinese immigrant settlement.

*The program costs \$ 6,800 and includes the following:*

*Materials (latite, RC pipe, stone, etc.) \$ 5,269.80*

*Unskilled workers \$ 761.00*

*Shipping fee \$ 99.00*

*Rent a bull-pulled roller \$ 400.00*

*Rubber Tree Compensation \$ 120.00*

*Unexpected expenses \$ 150.20*

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<sup>77</sup> Li Nianhui: male, born on September 10, 1929, of Chinese descent.

<sup>78</sup> Liu Hanyang: male, born on March 24, 1941, Chinese.

<sup>79</sup> Xia Wenlan: Female, born on May 8, 1939, of Chinese descent.

<sup>80</sup> Wang Ronghe: male, born on June 14, 1960, of Chinese descent.

<sup>81</sup> Rao Yigang: male, born on February 18, 1936, of Chinese descent.

<sup>82</sup> Yan Jinyan: male, born on February 15, 1935, of Chinese descent.

<sup>83</sup>Long bin Yunos : Male. Born on September 27, 1938, Malay. According to villagers' recollections, Yunos was the only Malay teacher at Dinglai Chinese Primary School at the time, and lived in Dai Diliang's home. In addition to being a teacher, his other identity was a "military leader", responsible for the safety and security of Dinglai New Village.

<sup>84</sup> Shen Yangbo: male, born on May 31, 1939, of Chinese descent.

<sup>85</sup> For detailed information(Chinese version), please refer to the National Archives: PPM 00431 Pt.XVI A, Annual Report 1967

In addition, families who had settled in the area had built an 80-foot long dirt road <sup>86</sup>and a drainage ditch. However, in order to make the road drivable, the road surface had to be reinforced and metalled, proper culverts constructed, and the side drains repaved. The Assistant Secretary for Colonial Development stressed that the motorable road was urgently needed to enable families to transport their agricultural produce to the main road, to enable the Red Cross, health officials, the Home Guard and other government agencies to have easier access to the area, and to enable children to reach schools more easily. (Ref. No. (1) in RCOM(D) 165 / 55, *CONSTRUCTION OF A MOTORABLE ROAD TO THE CHINESE RESETTLEMENT OF AYER MOLEK MELAKA, Scheme No.282 / 55*, 27 September 1955)

6,800 from the Melaka Grant Scheme. The committee said that the residents had already built an 80-chain dirt road with their own resources and that the government should help the residents build a decent road as this would develop the area and help the residents produce agricultural products. (1) in RIDA 2880, 1972 / 0005418, *CONSTRUCTION OF A MOTORABLE ROAD TO THE CHINESE RESETTLEMENT OF AYER MOLEK MELAKA, Scheme No.282 / 55*, 28 September 1955)

According to records, the government responded positively and approved the proposal. The Secretary and Executive Officer of RIDA(Rural & Industrial Development Authority) stated on October 10, 1955 that the Chairman had approved the proposal of September 27 and agreed to allocate \$6,800 from the 1955 "Melaka Plan Grant" to build a motorable road for Chinese immigrants in Ayer Morib. (2) in RIDA 2880, 1972 / 0005418, *CONSTRUCTION OF A MOTORABLE ROAD TO THE CHINESE RESETTLEMENT OF AYER MOLEK MELAKA, Scheme No.282 / 55*, 10 October 1955)

According to the meeting report of the Settlement Development Board in 1956, the road construction plan <sup>87</sup>was listed in the government's list of " projects approved for construction in 1955 ". It was detailed that the government allocated \$ 6,800 for this project, with a total expenditure of \$ 6,799.65, plus about \$ 2,400 from villagers. In addition, the report also mentioned that the improvement of the 80- link dirt road <sup>88</sup>proposed by the Assistant Secretary of Settlement Development had been approved and received a government grant of \$ 1,000 and \$ 600 from villagers. (SLO(M) 105/I, *Minutues of Meeting Settlement Development Board 1956*, 1956)

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<sup>86</sup> Earth road refers to a road with a foundation and wearing surface composed of one or two layers of compacted ordinary soil or stabilized soil.

<sup>87</sup> Scheme No. MJS 3/55

<sup>88</sup> Scheme No. MJS 26/55

In 1967 included the construction of a new road at Tiang Dua, with an estimated cost of \$ 3,000. (PTG(M) 1259, *Mesyuarat Slow Down Pameran Kemajuan N.Melaka*, 1967) On September 27 of the same year, the new road built by the Ministry of State and Rural Development was officially completed. <sup>89</sup>(PTG(M) 2159.25A, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji(The first time I saw her was on a rainy night in Luang Prabang, 27 September 1967)*)

In 1967, Lim Song Lim, a villager of Tiang Dua New Village, participated in the "Ranchangan Tanah Paya Tanjong" plan and successfully obtained land allocation. Although this area belongs to Daerah Jasin, due to the fact that Tiang Dua and Daerah Jasin are not far away, he was still able to apply for participation. The original content of the document is:(PTG(M) 2104/38, PTG(M)1327 Jld.1, *Annual Report For State Legislature (Land Administration)*, 1967)

*Pembahagian Tanah Kepada peserta tidak-lah I miss you so much Kepada Peserta di mana Daerah Ranchangan itu di- buka, tetapi hendak-lah melibat kedudukan ranchangan I am not a good person Kampong 2 is open for business dengan-nya.*

In 1969, a 150 - rantai road from Tiang Dua to Kg Paya Baru was proposed at an estimated cost of \$ 9,000. ( PTG(2159) Jld II, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji(The first time I saw her was in the city of Luang Prabang, 1969)*)

In 2021, since the Perikatan Nasional government came to power, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has not yet appointed a new village development officer for the Central District. As a result, no one in Tiang Dua New Village, which belongs to the Central District, helped to express the livelihood of the people to the government departments and apply for funding to repair and upgrade the facilities in the village. In July 2021, the then village head Jiang Yuxian said that due to the lack of government funding support, the ditch beside the main road of Tiang Dua New Village had been damaged for several days and was unable to be repaired and upgraded due to insufficient funds. The village head also said : " Some people think that the village head has done nothing. A small ditch has not been repaired for many years. In fact, the village committee has no money to repair it."("Sin Chew Net", July 22, 2021)

Two months later, Tiang Dua New Village received a grant from the Melaka Public Works Department. In early September, the Public Works Department arrived at Tiang Dua New Village to upgrade the large drain that had not been repaired for more than 20 years.

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<sup>89</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives file: Bil. PDMT 03522

(Guangming Daily, 2021) In May 2022, Tiang Dua New Village received RM70,000 to upgrade the new village construction. Village chief Jiang Yuxian said that the project will be divided into two phases, namely the first phase to upgrade the drain located beside the main road of the new village, upgrading the original one-foot wide "V" shaped ditch to a two-foot wide and two-foot deep "U" shaped ditch; the second phase is to upgrade the back alley drain on the second road in the village to solve the problem of water flowing into villagers' homes every time it rains in the past three years. (Sin Chew Daily, 2022)

### **Water Source**

1955, the construction of water supply facilities in Tiang Dua New Village made initial progress. This was on February 17, 1955, when the chairman of the village committee, Wang Zhaobing, called on the government to subsidize \$50 for the installation of water pipes during the visit of the Melaka Resident Commissioner H.G.HAMMETT. For the installation of water pipes in the village(CAM No.69/1952, *Committee of the Development of New Village*, 17 February 1955)

April 29, 1955, the government approved the proposal to extend the piped water supply facilities to the canteen. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 29 April 1955) On May 27 of the same year, the village committee meeting reported that the water pipe installation work had been completed. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 May 1955)

November 25, 1955, the Chinese Affairs Officer distributed a memorandum from the Melaka City Government, which contained the rules, conditions and procedures for the installation of water supply services. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 25 November 1955) The government clarified the rules and procedures for the installation of water supply services, providing guidance and support for further implementation of water supply construction.

As the village committee had mentioned the transportation and distance issues for villagers to pay water bills earlier, the Chinese Affairs Officer stated at the village committee meeting on January 27, 1956 that the city government would send officials to visit the new village on the 28th of each month to check the water meter and issue bills on the spot. The Chinese Affairs Officer also appointed and authorized How Tien Sin, then the vice chairman of the village committee, who lived at No. 20 in the village, to collect water bills and pay the villagers' water bills to the city government on the 5th of each month. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 January 1956) This government move not only solved the



transportation and distance issues for water bill management, but also ensured the sustainable operation and maintenance of water supply facilities.

### Power supply

April 26, 1962, the National Electricity Board issued a circular stating that the relevant authorities intended to review the power supply license applications of some villages, including Tiang Dua New Village. And instructed those who intend to supply electricity to the village to submit their applications before the 26th of next month. (The Straits Times, 1962: 18)

The National Electricity Board mentioned the power supply plan for Tiang Dua New Village in its first half report of 1968 and stated that the plan would be implemented, but it still needed to wait for the processing of application forms, especially applications for logging work <sup>90</sup>, so that the relevant authorities could make a budget. (PTG(M) 2159 Jld II, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji Rancangan2 Pembangunan Negara dan Luar Bandar*, 1968)

Melaka Rural Development Committee(JAWATAN KUASA KERJA PEMBANGUNAN NEGARA DAN LUAR BANDAR MELAKA) in November 1968, the power supply project for Tiang Dua New Village has been assigned to state engineers and the central government has allocated \$ 122,633. <sup>91</sup><sup>92</sup>(PTG(M) 2159 Jld II, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji Rancangan2 Pembangunan Negara and Luar Bandar*, November 1968)

In March 1969, the government was still taking active actions and strategies to promote the power supply plan for the new village. According to the report of the National Electricity Board, the power supply will be completed before the general election. Regarding the progress of Tiang Dua New Village, the authorities said that the state police had contacted the Kuala Lumpur headquarters to explore the application of using the area of Tiang Dua New Village Police Station as a substation. <sup>93</sup> <sup>94</sup>P. TG(M) 2159 Jld III, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji(The 2nd term of the year was held in Luang Prabang*, March 1969)

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<sup>90</sup> Report No.: BIL.XVII.

<sup>91</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives file: Bil:157/68(84/68)

<sup>92</sup> For more details, please refer to the National Archives: Bil:(33) dlm.JPLB /M/2 Pt.III

<sup>93</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives archives: Bil:18/69

<sup>94</sup> For more information, please refer to the National Archives Bureau archives document: Bil:(18) dlm.JPLB /M/158

On 8 June 1969, Tun Tan Siew Sin said in a speech at Tiang Dua New Village that he could hardly imagine the riots that had taken place a while ago, after all, all races had lived in harmony in this place for hundreds of years. (The Straits Times, 1969:22)

### Fire prevention measures

On May 2, 1955, in view of the incident in Anle New Village (On Lok New Village) fire, the Assistant Resettlement Officer informed the Tiang Dua Village Committee that fire prevention measures must be taken in the new village. The village committee agreed with this view and decided to install a water pump and four buckets filled with water at each identified fire point in the village. The fire points are :( CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 2 May 1955)

House Number	Principal
12	Lim Tien Seng
20	Hou Tien Sin
37	Tan Biyau
72	Lim Ah Heng

The establishment of these fire alarm points is aimed at increasing the awareness of new village residents about fire and providing the necessary fire-fighting tools for emergencies. Moreover, on November 25 of the same year, the Chinese Affairs Officer introduced Che Abdullah bin Yusof at the village committee meeting, and Che Ali bin Takip, two firefighters, so that they could inspect the fire prevention measures of Tiang Dua New Village. During the meeting that day, the village committee also requested to install fire hydrants in the village to prevent fire. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 25 November 1955)

### Community Hall

On November 30, 1956, the village committee proposed to renovate the community hall at the meeting and had obtained the approval of the Chinese Affairs Officer. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, November 30, 1955)



Figure 4.1.38  
 Plaque of Tiang Dua Community hall (photographed in 2023)

### Police Stations and Clinics

In each new village there was to be a police station whose personnel were to maintain and guard the village perimeter, many of which would be staffed by members of the existing Malay police force. (Dobby 1952:177). The Melaka Medical and Health Department's Rural Health Project Progress Report for 1967 showed that the Tiang Dua Clinic project received a grant of \$ 11,500 and had reached 99 % completion, with a total cost of \$8842.37. (PTG(M) 2159.25A, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji Rancang 2, the first day of the Luar Bandar*, 1967. According to the records of the National Development and Melaka Rural Development Committee (JAWATAN KUASA KERJA PEMBANGUNAN NEGARA DAN LUAR BANDAR MELAKA), in the meeting in February 1968, the Ministry of Health reported that the clinic in Tiang Dua New Village was completed in 1967. (<sup>95</sup>PTG(M) 2159.25A, *Mesyuarat Mengkaji (2011-02-2013)*). The medical and health facilities construction project provides timely medical services to the residents of the new village, and also demonstrates the government's construction and investment in medical and health facilities.

### Sports Facilities

26 April 1957, the Chinese Affairs Officer pointed out that the Malayan Playing Field Association might approve the provision of funds for the Tiang Dua New Village playground

<sup>95</sup> For more details, please refer to the National Archives: Bil:(76) dlm.JPLB /M/2 Pt.II

and children's play equipment. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 26 April 1957)

### Badminton

1955, the village committee youth representative Tan Wee Sin requested the committee to spend \$ 15 to repair the badminton court. The application was approved and the court was repaired by the end of the month. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 2 May 1957). In April 26, 1957, Tan Wee Sin requested the Chinese Affairs Officer to provide badminton props. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 26 April 1957). On April 14, 1965, the MCA Youth League built its own badminton court in Tiang Dua New Village, Melaka. The opening ceremony was held at 7:30 pm that day. Xiong Yangbao, director of the welfare group of the National Central League of the MCA Youth League, cut the ribbon. (Nanyang Siang Pau, 1962: 13)

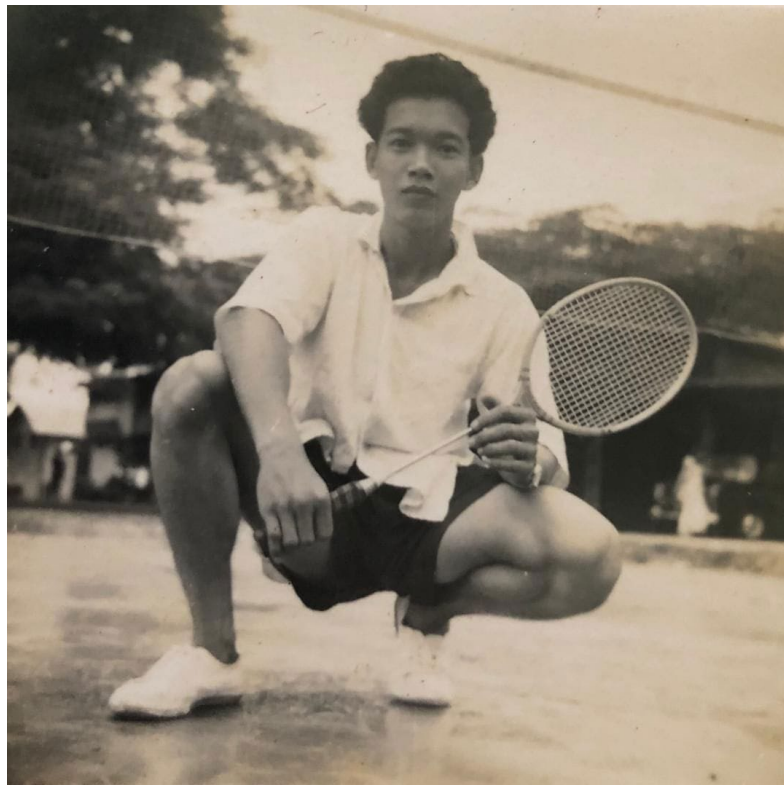


Figure 4.1.39

*Tiang Dua badminton representative Huang Huasheng*(Source: Jiang Kexin)

### Ping Pong

May 27, 1955, the issue of the ping-pong room in the village has been resolved. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 May 1955)

## Basketball

The Chinese Affairs Officer informed the village committee at the village committee meeting on May 27, 1955 that he planned to hold a basketball game in the new village between Melaka Central. He hoped to contact the members of the Chinese Advisory Committee to donate some prizes for the champion team. Leong Ah Hong agreed and said that he would do his best to assist in this activity. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 27 May 1955) The minutes of the village committee meeting on July 28, 1955 show that the Chinese Affairs Officer was already handling the basketball game. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 28 July 1955)

April 26, 1957, Tan Wee Sin asked the Chinese Affairs Officer to donate a basketball to Tiang Dua New Village. Not only that, he also applied to organize a Tiang Dua New Village basketball team and asked to buy a dozen player uniforms. The village committee was responsible for contributing \$ 24 to buy these uniforms. (CAM No.70/1951 F, *Tiang Dua Resettlement Area*, 26 April 1957). In 2018, the government carried out repairs and maintenance work on the basketball court in Tiang Dua New Village.



## Conclusion

In general, the establishment of Tiang Dua New Village is a microcosm of the New Village Plan in Malaysian history. This policy was one of the emergency measures implemented to deal with the political and military challenges during the Malayan Emergency. As a product of the New Village Policy, Tiang Dua New Village at that time undertook important tasks such as resettling residents, maintaining social stability, and blocking the infiltration of the Malayan Communist Party into the Chinese.

The formation and development of Tiang Dua New Village is a typical case in Malayan history, showing the impact of the new village policy on society during the colonial period. Although Tiang Dua New Village faced many challenges and problems at the beginning of its establishment, such as hasty construction and imperfect facilities, the residents helped each other and worked together to overcome many difficulties and achieved a happy life in the new village. With the British government's post-relocation care policy, the lives of Tiang Dua villagers have gradually become richer, such as the education, medical care, culture and other public service facilities in the new village have also been gradually improved.

Political organizations played an important role during the implementation of the New Village Policy, especially the MCA in assisting Chinese immigrants to the New Villages. By issuing welfare lottery tickets to raise funds, the MCA provided assistance and services to the affected Chinese. However, although the welfare lottery was originally intended to support the Chinese community, it was banned by the British government in 1953. In addition, the MCA also played a role in politics, through elections and forming groups to represent and serve the community. In contrast, the Labour Party had a shorter presence in Tiang Dua New Village, being legally registered from 1966, but de-legalized by the government just a few years later. However, with the acceleration of urbanization and the continuous advancement of economic development, many young people choose to leave the new villages and go to cities to seek broader development opportunities and better living conditions, resulting in population loss in the new villages. This population loss phenomenon not only leads to an imbalance in the age structure of the new villages, but also exacerbates the increase in vacant houses.

From a historical perspective, Tiang Dua New Village, as a product of the British colonial period, has a basic layout that reflects the social structure and planning concepts of the time. The existence of this phenomenon not only makes us reminisce about the past, but also deserves our in-depth thinking on how to better promote contemporary community development while inheriting historical culture.

## Chapter 4.2

### Forced Resettlement into Regroupment Areas and New Villages Comparative Analysis

Prepared by Dr Francis Loh Kok Wah

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Anglo-Boer War

The destruction of homes and forced relocation of civilian populations into new settlements first emerged as an aspect of British counter-insurgency operations during the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902) in South Africa.

It marked an important turning point from the usual conventional wars which the British army resorted to as it established and consolidated its colonies throughout its Empire. This idea of forced relocation was also influenced by the experiences of establishing settler colonies (like in the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and Israel) where the native communities were either exterminated, expelled or relocated into newly constructed “refugee” or concentration camps to separate them from the colonial settler population, and to expedite the interests of the colonial settlers.

From the Anglo-Boer War, there developed three key tenets of conducting counterinsurgency: population control, food control and spatial control. Forced resettlement into areas controlled by the colonials would deny the insurgents access to supporters and recruits; to food, in this case grazing cattle and sheep; and to operational space for the enemy. Deportation of Boers was also resorted to.

To separate the population from the insurgents, detention camps referred to as “refugee camps” were created. In essence, the British resorted to punishing the civilian population instead of the insurgent combatants whom they could not easily identify. It was argued that counterinsurgency operations would lessen deaths and the level of brutality; and that the conventional wars would be replaced by “small wars” and the use of “minimum force”.

In fact, poor sanitation, overcrowding and the lack of food resulted in the deaths of more than 26,000 Boer women and children in the camps which had been constructed hastily and shoddily.

## The Malayan Emergency

After two World Wars and some 50 years later, the British resorted to counterinsurgency operations again in Malaya during the Emergency (1948-60), the name euphemistically referring to the anti-British independence struggle. During 1951-53, the British colonial government compelled 1.2 million rural dwellers, approximately one-seventh of the Malayan population then, into about 600 new settlements. Some 650,000 people (32% Malays, 45% Chinese, 18% Indians & 5% Javanese and others) were "regrouped" in rubber estates, tin mines and around existing towns. Another 573,000 people (85% Chinese, 9% Malays, 4% Indians & 1% others) were resettled into 480 New Villages (NVs), often located miles away from their original homes. The regroupment and resettlement processes formed the backbone of the counter-insurgency effort to fight the CPM.

Under the Briggs Plan, the regroupment areas and NVs were securitised via barbed wire perimeter fencing, check points at the entrance to the NVs where body searches were conducted, dusk-to-dawn curfew, and so on. No doubt, resettlement cut the CPM from accessing its supporters and sympathisers denying them recruits, information, funds, food, medicine and other supplies.

It has been claimed by one military analyst that "the outright brutality of the South African war" had "morphed into a subtler, coercive policy in Malaya". Deportation and resettlement were still resorted to, but no "indiscriminate destruction" occurred. "The overall outcome was a reduced cost in lives". The detention camps, now renamed "New Villages" were "better managed, with reasonable sanitation and facilities". It is usually also mentioned that "titles to the land they farmed were also given". It was on the basis of these improved circumstances that these analysts claimed that the British succeeded in winning over the "hearts and minds of the villagers", in spite of their relocation and living under highly securitised conditions in the NVs.

In fact, there were two other considerations: First, the British resorted to a "divide and rule" strategy disallowing popular unity among the three major ethnic groups to emerge. The anti-British uprising was deemed to be an uprising led by the Malayan Communist Party which was, in turn, dominated by the Chinese; it was not the party of all Malaysians. Second, it was also the promise of self-rule and the proclamation of Malaya's Independence in 1957, not simply its Briggs Plan to resettle more than one million rural dwellers, which facilitated the end of the Emergency. And in this regard, the Alliance Party was presented as a multi-



ethnic coalition of the three ethnic groups – Malays, Chinese and Malays in contrast to the socialist alternative dominated by a single ethnic group, i.e. the Chinese.

### Comparison with “Agrovilles” and the “Strategic Hamlets” Programmes

The “Agrovilles” program was conducted by the French colonial government between 1952 to 1954 in various parts of its Vietnamese colony. It involved the resettlement and “pacification” of some 3 million rural dwellers throughout the colony and was co-funded by the US. In essence, it was a lame counterinsurgency attempt by the French colonisers to re-establish their control over the colony after the Japanese Occupation. Although the Agrovilles promised community development programs for the rural dwellers, it was not tied to an offer of Independence. Not surprisingly, the project was resented by the Vietnamese in most parts of the colony. The program was terminated, and most Agrovilles dismantled, with the French defeat in Dien Bien Phu in 1954, which ultimately led to its withdrawal from Vietnam.

Following the defeat of the French, the communist government led by Ho Chi Minh established the People Democratic Republic of Vietnam in Hanoi. Meanwhile, an independent government of South Vietnam, led by Ngo Dinh Diem, and propped up by the American government, took over in Saigon. Diem and the Americans revived the notion of “community development” which had been an important aspect of the Agrovilles project. The new programme was named the “Strategic Hamlet Program” (SHP) and Diem’s brother Ngo Dinh Ngu was appointed to head it. Unlike the Agrovilles, greater emphasis would be given to their protection as well, not community development per se.

Ngu proposed two types of resettlement projects. A first type would relocate people who had recently arrived in the South from the North; they would usually have relatives and communication with other Vietnamese in the north. They were not reliable supporters of the Saigon government but would be given security from the Viet Cong or pro-Hanoi rebel groups.

The second type would be new villages where supporters of the Saigon government would be resettled. They would be strengthened and become a centres of support for the Saigon regime. In both types, emphasis would be given to social engineering programs, as well as to establishing local defence forces who would be mobilised to share duties of defending their own hamlets.

It is well known that Sir Robert Thompson, head of the British Advisory Mission to South Vietnam, had played a key advisory role to the Ngo brothers as well as to the American advisors in their counterinsurgency programs. He stressed the importance of the civilian government governing by the laws of the land in order to win the hearts and minds of the people.

Apart from Thompson, the well-known economist W.W Rostow was also recruited to advise on the development programs for the strategic hamlets. His advice was summarised into a 3-Stage Program comprising: 1) "a clearing stage" when rebels in the surrounding areas of the hamlet would be repelled; 2) "a holding stage" when government authority would be restored and held; and 3) "a winning" stage when schools, new roads and irrigation canals, sanitation and other health facilities would be laid out. Via these 3 stages that the Vietnamese villagers would be propelled into modernisation. They would be attracted to the liberal capitalist projects being introduced and they would be attracted to and buy into the Saigon government's program, ultimately.

In fact, the proposed programs met with much opposition from the American military who, surmising from their experiences in South Korea, insisted that greater emphasis be given to "search and destroy" operations in fighting the communists especially in those rural areas where the communists were influential. They opposed programmes towards consolidating the strength of the Saigon regime by securitising the more urban populated areas, and winning support of the population there. Contrary to Thompson, they opined that it was not useful to expand the local defence and security forces which for Thompson had proven critical in Malaya.

In Sept 1962, 4.3 million people in South Vietnam had been relocated into 3225 completed hamlets. By July 1963, the numbers had further increased: 8.5 million resettled into 7205 hamlets. Yet it was revealed that only 20% of the hamlets in the Mekong delta were still under the control of the government in early 1963. Many had also participated in the resettlement but had not abandoned the original villagers which they continued to visit, not least because their ancestors were buried in their original homes.

There were numerous complaints that the promised aid had not been forthcoming. Many Agrovilles were in a state of "being unfinished". Wide-spread corruption, and the antics of the Ngo brothers, who tended to favour their fellow Catholics, caused an erosion of support for the regime. Among those protesting against the strategic hamlets program were: the Cao Dai and Hoa Hao sects, the Dai Viet, dissenting Buddhist and Catholic groups.

With the arrest and assassination of Ngo Dinh Diem in a CIA-backed coup on 1 Nov 1963, the SHP was effectively terminated. Many strategic hamlets were soon abandoned and people returned to their original villages. Thereafter, greater emphasis was given to air strikes and search and destroy operations by the US military in its Vietnamese operations, rather than to social engineering operations as proposed by Thompson and Rostow, and as contained in the strategic hamlets program too.

There is no doubt that the scope and scale of the Strategic Hamlets programme was just too widespread and large as compared to the Briggs Plan. No hearts nor minds were won by the American government, nor by its Saigon proxies. If the hearts and minds were won by the British in Malaya, it was on account its steady steps towards Independence and handing over control of Malaya to the Alliance leaders. It was not because all the promises of the Briggs Plan had been fulfilled (because deterioration of the NVs would set in quickly in the 1960s and 1970s).

### **The Mau Mau Uprising, Kenya, 1952-60**

A last case worth citing was the anti-British Uprising which occurred in Kenya. Following a series of raids on white settler farms and the killing of livestock by the Mau Mau (also known as the Kenya Land and Freedom Party), apparently, to seize back land previously taken from them, the colonial government declared a state of Emergency in 1952. This land matter was an issue that had been raised time and again prior to the Uprising, by among others, Jomo Kenyatta, a Kikuyu leader and head of the Kenya African Union.

The Kenya Human Rights Commission estimated that an estimated 90,000 people were killed, tortured and maimed. As well, 160,000 Mau Mau supporters were detained without trial in “appalling conditions” in “an archipelago of concentration camps”. The vast majority of the Mau Mau were Kikuyu, the largest ethnic group in Kenya. With the arrest and detention of their leaders, some of whom were subsequently found guilty and hanged, approximately one million of the Kikuyu people, who were farmers and herders of livestock, were resettled into villagers like in the Briggs Plan and the Strategic Hamlet Programme. Apparently, conditions under the Briggs Plans were better than in the Kikuyu resettlement schemes.

However, the successful suppression of the Uprising was not due to the resettlement programs. It was largely due to the “divide and rule” policy adopted by the British, as they also did in Malaya. So, particular ethnic groups were recruited into their British Home

Guards. Consequently, some ethnic groups fought alongside the British against the Kikuyu who dominated the Mau Mau movement. Unfortunately, bad blood between those who fought on opposite sides of the Uprising persists until today.

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## Chapter 4.3

### Papan

Prepared by Dr Francis Loh Kok Wah

The case to include Papan, located in the Kinta Valley, Perak, as part of the serial nomination for UNESCO listing is, of course, on account of its being one of the New Villages, as well as regroupment areas, created in the early 1950s, during the Emergency. Like the other cases of Chaah, Berapit, Sekinchan, etc. discussed in this submission, Papan, too was subjected to similar severe security restrictions – dusk to dawn curfew, body searches at check points at entrances, community cooking, restriction of movement, barbed wire of settlements, and so on.

However, unlike the other New Villages in our application, the original settlement of Papan dates back to the 1870s. Its history and early development was directly related to the emergence of the Kinta District as the world's most productive alluvial tin mining region. Due to this relationship with tin mining, the Kinta also emerged as the District with the largest concentration of NVs throughout the country. So, our discussion and inclusion of Papan and its New Villages cannot be divorced from this earlier history.

Significantly, Papan's tin mining history, involved collaboration between the Malay-Mandaling Penghulus and the immigrant Chinese miners and their coolies, distinguishing it from tin mining endeavours elsewhere, which tended to be exclusively Chinese or British/European efforts. Consequently, the built heritage of Papan includes not only the New Villages; a Main Street with uncharacteristically high roof shophouses dating back to pre-WWII years; disused mining ponds behind Papan and reservoirs built on a hill to facilitate tin mining; but also the Mandaling-styled Rumah Asal, Rumah Besar Raja Bilah and an old mosque – all three reminding us of the Mandaling-Chinese collaboration.

More than that, there exists a house, 74 Main Street where lived a Malaysian nurse Sybil Karthigasu (and her doctor-husband) who provided medical assistance to the Malayan People's Anti-Japanese Army (MPAJA), the guerrilla army which resisted the Japanese army during its occupation (1941-45). For defying the Japanese who banned any form of assistance for the MPAJA, she was tortured by the dreaded *Kempeitai* (secret police). In recognition of her bravery and contribution towards the defeat of the Japanese army, she was awarded a George's Medal by the British government. No doubt, her house down Main

Street should be restored and conserved too, visitors encouraged to visit, and the story of her bravery told, again and again, to Malaysians, young and old. For she was one of Malaysia's greatest ever heroines.

Papan's place in history was also highlighted when thousands of its residents – young and old – rose to protest against the proposed siting of a radio-active waste dump in its vicinity in the 1980s. The proposed dumpsite - which the residents resisted due to its flimsy construction which they feared would result in leakage that would contaminate their water sources and result in undue health consequences – still stands. Street protests – a rare occurrence in post-Independence times - led by Papan community leaders occurred and the nation outside Papan was awakened to their plight as well as to the dangers of environmental degradation. In our era of ecological consciousness, this episode in Papan is an important history lesson to Malaysian peoples; for it registers how a group of common folk displayed much courage and foresight to stand up against radioactive waste dumping by investors, and disallowed radio-active waste to be stored “in our own backyard”.

This, then, is our vision when presenting the Papan case. For the criteria for Papan's inclusion is not based on Item no. v in the Criteria for Selection, namely, because Papan represents “an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement and land use which is representative of a culture, or human interaction with the environment that is becoming vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change”.

Rather, it is because Papan represents “an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates significant stages in the human history of the place. By our efforts, we hope to restore and conserve not only Papan's built heritage but to present Papan as a living museum encompassing not only its new village and regroupment area but its history, built heritage and landscape prior to, and subsequent to the Emergency. This is Papan's “outstanding universal value”, we believe.

### **Historical and geographical background**

Papan is a small town located in the Kinta District, which is one of the administrative districts of the state of Perak. Though only 36 miles long and 28 miles broad at its extent, the Kinta District has been put on the global map as the most productive alluvial tin mining region in the world, ever since the discovery of alluvial tin there, from the late 1880s. It was a reputation it held until the 1980s, i.e. for about 100 years. Invariably, Papan's own history

and evolution is related to Kinta's emergence as the "capital" of alluvial tin mining and production.

The western and eastern boundaries of the Kinta District are marked by the crests of the granite Kledang and the Main Ranges, respectively. From the Kledang watershed flow the Rivers Pari, Johan and Tumboh, and from the Main Range flow the Choh, Pinji, Raia, Sanglop, Teja and Kampar. All these tributaries feed into the Kinta River, which flows through the District from north to south before joining the Perak River. Half the District's 724 square miles is jungle-covered mountain, while the other half forms the triangular-shaped valley, which is some 8 to 10 miles wide through the length of the District. This riverine system contributed to the harvesting of head waters used in hydraulic sluicing of the tin bearing soil, as well as the transportation of tin ore in the Kinta as well.

### *Origins as a timber outpost*

According to historical records available, Papan is the oldest town in Kinta, perhaps in Perak state as well. The name of the town is derived from the Malay word *papan* which means plank. For Papan began as a timber outpost where the forest around Kampong Chengal and Ulu Johan close-by were logged, since the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. Its proximity to Sungai Johan, otherwise known as Sungai Papan, was also critical because the logs could be easily transported via the river to Papan, where the logs were sawn into planks, floated downstream to Pengkalan Pegoh, then onwards via Sungai Kinta and Sungai Perak to Teluk Intan located at the river mouth, for export elsewhere. The much sought after chengal hardwood was reportedly used to build boats, for construction of buildings and the making of furniture.

That said, Papan is better known as a mining town, perhaps the first mining town in the Kinta. Around 1873, according to historical records available, a Chinese miner had acquired a plot of mining land from Sultan Ismail, then the monarch of Perak who claimed ownership rights over the said land, and so determined the issuance of mining permits. The permit allowed the Chinese towkay to mine at a place called Tongkang, and to establish a small settlement along Sungai Johan. Reportedly, some 250 Chinese coolies worked the mine.

### *Raja Bilah and the Mandailing Connection*

After Sultan Ismail was ousted by the British following the Perak War in 1875, his mines in the Kinta were confiscated by the British authorities and awarded to Raja Asal, the "warlord

of the Mandailing” (who originated from North Sumatera), who had sided with the British against Ismail in the Perak War.

In 1876 Raja Asal was appointed as the Collector of revenue (on behalf of the British) for the mukim of Papan and Sungai Johan. After his death in 1879, his nephew and adopted son, Raja Bilah, succeeded him. In fact, Raja Bilah was appointed as Penghulu (district head) by the British colonial government in 1882, and made directly answerable to the British. In effect, this was a new model of colonial administration which linked the British colonisers to the district via the appointment of a local native chief, in this case, Raja Bilah.

As Penghulu, Raja Bilah assumed “multifarious duties”, the most important being maintaining law and order, administering justice, and the collection of revenue (land rent on smallholdings, passes for timber cutting and gutta collection, fishing stake licenses, and the kerah (corvee labour) tax. To better execute his duties, he relocated his family and his followers from Pengkalan Kacha to Papan, the most significant tin-producing area at the time. Together with his uncle he was responsible for establishing the Mandailing settlement in Papan as well.

Hence, a feature of the tin mining industry in Papan, was the partnership of the Mandailing leaders with Chinese tin miners. This cooperation contributed towards the rapid growth of Papan and turned it into one of the richest towns in the 1880s and 1890s. The beautiful Rumah Asal (or Bagas Godang) that Raja Asal built on the hill in Papan in 1883, and the two-storey mansion Rumah Besar Raja Bilah built in 1896, are testimony to the wealth and involvement of the Mandailing leaders in the tin mining industry during this time. Partially restored, both buildings have been listed on the National Heritage Register.

A mosque was built in 1888, opposite the Rumah Asal; it was constructed in the pure wooden peg-and-mortise style of Mandailing architecture. As the earliest mosque in the district, the Papan Mosque was attended by Muslims from miles around - from Pusing, Lahat, Batu Gajah, Siputeh and as far as Tronoh. Subsequently, this Mandailing settlement in Papan was named as Kampong Masjid.

### **Developments during the Kinta Tin Rush**

From the available historical of this early phase of tin mining, Hugh Low, who was the third Perak British Resident, apparently visited the Papan's tin mines which he remarked were “very productive and abundant”. John Errington de la Croix, the French mining geologist



who visited Papan in 1881, wrote that "thirteen mines [were] in full swing, and [involved] 500 men, Chinese and Malays". (In fact, these "Malays" were the Mandailing people; there were also Rawa and Minangkabau peoples involved). De la Croix further mentioned that a four-mile road was being constructed from Papan to Batu Gajah, then the capital of the District.

In 1884, the first British owned mining company in Kinta, the Perak Tin and Smelting Co., was granted a concession of 250 acres of mining land in Papan. In a map drawn by the French explorer Jacque Morgan, it was shown that the Mandailing, Chinese and the Europeans were mining side by side in Papan along the Sungai Johan, under the Gunong Hijau foot hill. Another European company called the Shanghai Tin Mines obtained a huge concession near Papan as well. It was reported that the Governor of the Strait Settlements Cecil Clementi came to visit "one of the most productive tin mines of Kinta, in Papan", in 1889.

There is also an account of "a riot" occurring in Papan. In 1886, reportedly, some of the houses in Papan town were burnt in a case of arson, arising from "rising tensions between two rival Chinese secret societies". Tensions worsened and in November 1887 a fight occurred in Papan - some 500 men from the nearby mining settlements attacked a few mining kongsi's (lodging houses) in Papan. Raja Bilah, with the support of the British, prevented a further escalation of the conflict.

Rebuilding must have taken place. For it was reported in 1888 that a new police station had been built after the riot. As well, along its main street could be found 146 houses of which 4 were brick, 80 were zinc-roofed, and 60 were attap-roofed wooden houses. In 1889, a new market was built. There were also "gharry stables, post office, police barracks, fire brigade, temples, theatre, dispensary and a school". The temple mentioned must have been the *Guan Yin Gu Miow* (Temple of the Goddess of Mercy), first built in 1874, and then rebuilt and relocated in 1898. The temple still stands magnificently today after yet another rebuilding exercise. In fact, there was also a smaller Taoist temple which practiced shamanic rituals and charm chanting. Yet another temple was named *Tze Yeh Miu*; it was abandoned after WWII.

In 1892, it was reported that Papan's population comprised "1,523 souls", and its main street had become "the main business centre of Kinta with entertainment outlets such as club house, restaurant, gambling house and opium smoking den and mixed with high density of living souls in each shophouse". The Straits Trading Company had set up a tin

smelting plant at the end of the main street. With all these attractions and amenities, Papan served as a hub for new miners flocking into Kinta. Presumably, they sailed up the Perak River, into the Kinta River and stopped at Papan, to regroup and replenish their necessities, before navigating further north to the newly opened towns of Menglembu, Lahat, Farlim and Ipoh.

In 1901, the population in Papan reached 2,441 people. The Ipoh-Batu Gajah railway opened and had a station in Papan. A gaol was built to house the inmates who worked in the quarry in Papan in 1910.

In 1916, a new Magistrate's Court was established at Papan, to relieve the congestion in the Ipoh Magistrate's Court, as well as to serve the districts of Menglembu, Tronoh and Papan. Presumably, the Court helped to resolve not just criminal cases but civil disputes regarding the tin mines.

During the Inter-War years, several privately-owned and operated Chinese schools were also launched in Papan. Initially, they offered an education based on the traditional educational system adopted in China. In 1926, the "modern education system" established after the Chinese Revolution led by Dr Sun Yet Sen, made its way to Papan. So, the Papan Wah Kiau Public School was established with 150 students. The school has survived until today and is part of the national educational system in Malaysia.

All these developments contributed towards the built heritage of Papan. Of pride of place was its Main Street flanked with unusually large pre-war shophouses which used to belong to some of Perak's wealthiest Chinese tin-miners. The bucket dredge, which was successfully adopted in Kinta in 1913, led to the issuance of numerous mining concessions to western-owned dredging companies throughout Kinta. In 1920, one of them, the British-owned Johan Tin Dredging Co. obtained 700 acres of mining lease in Papan. Its presence further contributed to wards Papan's development. Significantly, Papan, a booming town was flanked by four tin mining settlements nearby, namely Tampoi, Kongmei, Tongkang and Kap Ban Hao. Within a short distance from the town and settlements were the mines, now marked by disused mining ponds (where fresh-water fish is reared commercially). A water reservoir was also built on the hill behind Papan to collect water but also to control and manage the use of water in the mines and in the booming town; this is yet another testimony to the historical legacy of Papan.

Not forgetting the Rumah Asal and Rumah Besar plus the old mosque which were established and used by the Mandailing community residing in the little hill just outside Main Street. Under the leadership of Raja Bilah and his sons, the Muslim and Chinese communities reportedly lived peacefully. Symbolising this relationship is the hill in Papan, which is a unique burial ground shared by both communities, with the Muslim dead buried on the western slope and the Chinese dead on the eastern slope.

### **Papan in the Context of the Kinta**

Indeed, it was not only Papan that witnessed growth in the 1880s and 1890s. A slew of other towns were founded in the Kinta Valley. Ipoh grew rapidly and soon became the largest town in the District. It was declared the capital of Perak State subsequently. To the southwest of Ipoh could be found not only Papan and Batu Gajah, but the towns of Menglembu, Lahat, Farlim and Pusing. Later, still to the southwest of Ipoh, were founded Tronoh and Tanjong Tualang. Gopeng and Kampar located to the south east of Ipoh also emerged.

This “urbanization” of the Kinta was directly related to the discovery of the rich tin mine fields and the so-called “Kinta tin rush”, beginning from the 1880s. Consequently, the settlement pattern was transformed and Kinta’s population grew from an estimated 4,000 in the early 1880s to 58,587 in 1891, to 122,737 in 1901, and to 184,693 in 1911 comprising mainly immigrant male Chinese employed in the mines. Of this population in 1911, approximately 72 percent were Chinese immigrants, the vast majority working as coolies in the tin mines. (In fact, the numbers employed in the Kinta tin mines peaked at 123,000 in 1913 due to increasing mechanization of the mining industry, which will be discussed below).

The growth of Papan which was directly related to the fortunes of the tin mining industry began to be arrested by two related developments, namely 1) the mechanization of the tin mining industry during the inter-War years, which halted new arrivals to Papan and Kinta; and 2) the vagaries, or ups and downs of the international market price of tin. During the depression of the early 1920s, and especially the global depression of the early 1930s, Papan was badly hit with tin mines closing, and the ranks of the unemployed rising.

## The impact of Mechanisation

Population growth in the Kinta was directly related to the discovery of the rich tin fields in the District in the early 1880s. Since the methods then used to mine tin were labour intensive, increasing numbers of workers needed to be recruited.

To improve productivity and increase profits, labour-saving mechanical devices were introduced. For example, the monitor, supplied with either a natural or artificial head of water at high pressure was capable of breaking the *karang* (tin bearing earth) through hydraulic sluicing at a tremendous rate. Likewise, the introduction of the gravel pump enabled the *karang* to be lifted to a *palong* (the sloping sluice box mounted on a wooden scaffolding) mechanically, instead of manually. The use of centrifugal pumps run by steam engines was also a faster and more efficient way to remove water from the mine pit.

But the most revolutionary machine introduced was the bucket-dredge which was first successfully set up on a European-owned mine at Batu Gajah in 1912. It not only made hydraulic sluicing and lifting the *karang* unnecessary, but the use of the *palong* as well. Floating on a water-filled mine, its chain of buckets dug into the *karang in situ* and lifted it onto the dredge where, through use of jigs, tin ore was separated from its waste. Its scale of operation was large but the number of workers required, extremely small.

In 1916, only nine dredges had been floated in Perak, most in the Kinta. By 1923, 32 dredges were in use throughout Perak. By 1928, just before the Great Depression set in, there were 59 dredges in use, 12 others under construction, and 7 others on order. In 1923, the so-called “mechanical capacity” of the mines was estimated at some 50,000 hp in Perak. By 1929, it reached 124,721 hp. Accordingly, the absolute number of coolies in the mines also dropped by about half from 126,631 in 1913 to only 61,655 workers in 1923. Put another way, mechanisation, especially the introduction of the dredges, led to the displacement of tens of thousands of coolies.

## The vagaries of the International Tin Price.

During the First World War, due to shipping difficulties, the price of tin fell considerably and the mines were closed. The colonial government diverted the unemployed to increase food production instead. The same problem cropped up during the 1920-22 economic slump, when employment prospects in the mines were curtailed. Once again, the government encouraged the mine coolies to cultivate food crops. Temporary Occupation Licenses

(TOLs) were readily issued to cultivators who grew food in temporary Food Production Reserves which were specially created.

Due to the two related developments: mechanization and the vagaries of the tin mining industry caused by the ups and downs of the global tin price, the development of Papan was arrested even before the outbreak of the Second World War. The population in Papan fell and many of the government amenities were closed and moved out from Papan, beginning from the 1920s. The Straits Trading Company closed its operations in Papan, and did not return.

### **The Japanese Occupation – Papan as an MPAJA stronghold**

The Japanese invaded Malaya in December 1941. Within a few weeks, they had taken over Ipoh and the Kinta Valley as well. All mining activities ceased. From a thriving business centre, Papan became a remote small town during the Occupation. The unjust rule and cruelty of the Japanese towards the Chinese in Malaya due to their support of the anti-Japanese movement in mainland China since 1937 resulted in the *sook ching* in all the major towns, including in Ipoh. Consequently, many urban residents fled to smaller towns like Papan, and to the countryside generally. As well, unemployed workers turned to farming food crops to feed themselves and their families; there emerged a food crisis. Moving to the rural areas was also a means to escape harassment by the Japanese army and its proxies.

Before the British surrender to the Japanese in early 1942, plans had been hatched by the British to organize a “stay behind” force and to train Malaysians, including the local Chinese to fight against the Japanese occupiers. Hence, we saw the formation of Force 136, the group of guerrillas comprising Kuomintang (KMT) cadres and supporters who were hastily trained as the Japanese marched down the peninsula, from Penang and Ipoh, down to Kuala Lumpur and the Slim River, downwards to Johore Baru and Singapore. Another group of trainees comprised members of the so-called Malayan Peoples’ Anti-Japanese Army (MPAJA), which was actually directed by the Malayan Communist Party (MCP). Trained and armed by the British, these two groups of guerrillas re-entered the peninsula quietly and moved into the rural areas, especially where the Chinese agricultural squatters resided. MPAJA sympathisers in these rural areas organized recruits, food and other supplies, and provided money and information to the guerrillas. At no point during the Occupation did the MPAJA or the Force 136 pose a threat to the Japanese. However, in certain districts throughout the peninsula where they had a base and presence, they provided protection

for the rural Chinese dwellers in particular. However, they also established camps in the forests where they provided military training as well as indoctrination on their political ideology.

As it turned out, the MPAJA established their bases in the mountain ranges. One of their wings, organised as the 5th Independent Regiment of MPAJA operated from the Chemor Hills in northern Kinta. Using the Kledang Range as their "superhighway" they organised sabotage activities that compromised Japanese interests and targeted in particular those who served as Japanese agents or "running dogs". Papan town, located between the southern end of the Kledang Range, Gunung Hijau, and the major road from Ipoh to the southern regions of the Peninsula was strategically situated along this "superhighway". Indeed, one had to by-pass the Papan Hills and Gunung Hijau in order to get to Sitiawan in order to rendezvous with British agents who arrived in Pulau Pangkor via submarine. These British agents travelled past the Papan Hills again to return to the 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment's base in the Chemor Hills, apparently, to prepare for a proposed Allied invasion of Malaya (which, however, did not materialise).

A stop on the superhighway aside, Papan also served as a catchment area to recruit people into the MPAJA, a place for the MPAJA to replenish food and other supplies, a centre to gather information about Japanese movements in the vicinity, as well as the progress of the War generally, information derived from those Papan people who had access to wireless sets which they listened to clandestinely.

### *Sybil Kartigasu - the "Nightingale of Malaya"*

Residing at No. 74, Main Street in Papan during the Japanese Occupation was Sybil Kathigasu and her doctor-husband who, like so many people, had fled from Ipoh to a small town, namely Papan, to escape the attention and harassment of the Japanese. How wrong that proved to be! In fact, No 74 turned out to be the site to which the MPAJA turned when members of its brigade in the Papan Hills fell ill. So, she provided medicine, syringes and other medical necessities to treat malaria and other diseases. There was also need for one of MPAJA leaders to be operated on which had to be conducted at No 74. Since Sybil Kathigasu kept a shortwave radio set and listened to the BBC World Service broadcasts, she also shared information about the progress of the War with others, including the MPAJA.

Alas, her husband was arrested in July 1943 and she was arrested a month later. They were both subjected to cruel methods of torture by the Japanese's Kempeitai. She even had to endure watching her husband and children getting tortured in front of her.

Despite being interrogated and tortured severely by the Japanese military police for two years, she persisted in not disclosing information about the existence of the guerrillas. Her jaw was broken as a result of kicks to her face while she suffered a fracture of her spinal-cord due to incessant multiple beatings. Finally, she was found guilty, given a life sentence, and thrown into the Batu Gajah jail in February 1945; her husband was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. Fortunately, Japanese surrendered in August 1945 and the War ended. Released from prison, she returned to her home in Papan where she was given rousing reception and pronounced a wartime heroine. Since she needed immediate medical attention, the British Military Administration (BMA) Government flew her to Britain. Although her spinal-cord injury was contained and she could walk again, her broken jaw could not be treated in time and septicaemia set causing her death on 12 June 1948. Several months before her death, she received the George Medal which is awarded to civilians for their bravery.

Numerous Malaysians showed up at her funeral service in Malaysia. Among them were the MPAJA, who sent her a bouquet of flower and referred to her as the "Mother of the Guerrillas", while the media honoured her as the "Nightingale of Malaya".

Fortunately, this brave woman recounted her story in the war-time memoir *No Dram of Mercy* which she wrote before her death. The account would later become the basis of a movie *Apa Dosa Ku?* starring Elaine Daly (a local actress who was a former Ms Malaysia and grand-niece of Sybil Kartigasu) which was directed by Bernard Chauly. Surely No 74 Main Street must be restored, conserved and turned into an commemorative cum educational hub about the evils of the Japanese Occupation and of the courage of Sybil Karthigasu who stood up for Freedom and the Truth.

### **The Emergency, New Villages and Resettlement**

The resettlement process conducted during the early 1950s was just as transformative a process as the Kinta Tin Rush in the 1880s and 1890s. According to *The Corry Report 1954*, 34 New Villages were created, involving the relocation of 106,889 people. Although the number of NVs accounted for only 27.4% of the total number of NVs created in the state of Perak, it involved the relocation of 54%, or more than half of all people relocated in Perak.

The Table below combines the data obtained from the *Corry Report 1954*, and two other sources: Ooi Jin Bee's study which is based on 1952 data, and the findings by the Malayan Council of Churches, from its 1959 Survey of all NVs in the Peninsula. Each of these sources omits a few NVs which were either too small or attached to existing townships (thereby being accounted for as a part of the established towns). From these three sources, we conclude that a total of 41 New Villages were created throughout the Kinta District.

In addition, another 214 regroupment areas were created involving the relocation of the residents of 324 mines and 73 estates. The accompanying maps show how the creation of these NVs and regroupment areas have transformed the settlement pattern of the District dramatically, over a period of only a few years. In the event, one-half of the Kinta District's population was resettled either into these 41 New Villages and another 214 regroupment areas. This made the Kinta, the district with the highest concentration of NVs in the entire peninsula.

### *Why were there so many New Villages in the Kinta?*

This was because the labourers displaced from the tin mining industry turned to the cultivation of food and other cash crops to make a living. Beginning as a small group of farmers, squatter agricultural communities soon appeared throughout the Kinta. The greatest expansion of the squatter agricultural communities occurred during the great Depression of the early 1930s and the Japanese Occupation.

During the Depression, there occurred mass unemployment in the mines. The erstwhile Food Production Reserves of the 1920s slump were re-established and financial aid provided to farmers to plant, among others, tapioca and groundnuts. Alas, after the Depression was over, the Reserves were discontinued and labour encouraged to return to the mines, again! Evidently, every small plot of land in the Kinta contained tin ore. Accordingly, beginning from the 1920s., the colonial government adopted the policy that no permanent titles should be issued to squatters on mining or potential mining land anywhere in the Kinta.

Additionally, during the Japanese Occupation, due to the closure of mining activities and acute food shortages, a massive expansion of the squatter agricultural activities occurred. And since a food shortage crisis persisted in the immediate post-war years, the farmers were encouraged to continue their planting activities. Hence an unprecedented large population of former tin mine workers were engaged in the cultivation of food crops for a



decade - for four years during the Occupation, and another five years after the War had ended. Due to the on-going food shortages, the squatter agricultural communities became a permanent feature of the Kinta landscape. (No longer a productive tin ore region, Kinta is more well known for the tapioca, groundnuts, pomelos, jambu, chili, and green vegetables produced and for the fresh water fish reared in the disuse mining ponds)

### Papan – New Village and Regroupment Area

One of the 41 NVs created in the Kinta was located in Papan. According to oral historical research conducted with Papan residents, there were four traditional villages located near Papan town. Three of these villages were forcibly relocated to the Papan town area, resulting in the establishment of Papan New Village. This relocation was classified as a Type C New Village, i.e. as a suburb or appendage to an existing town or large village, but which has a unique identity of its own. However, one of the villages was compelled to resettle in a new site called Sungai Durian, near Tanjung Tualang.

These traditional villages were:

- (A) Kong Mei 港尾 (Johan Tin's mining site)
- (B) Tampoi 淡背 (near Tampoi River)
- (C) Kap Ban Hao 甲板口 (near railway station)
- (D) Tongkang 东庚 (near Papan Tin)

However, the village of Tongkang, located near Papan Tin's mining site was compelled to relocate to the Sungai Durian Resettlement Camp in Tanjung Tualang. Due to decades of mining, agricultural and development activities in the area, there is no longer any trace of these villages except for the memories of the older generation and the odd records salvaged from a deserted school building that provided evidence of their earlier existence. Prior to the resettlement in the 1950s, Papan had a population of approximately 2,000 inhabitants. From 1950 to 1952, the population rose to 3,000 and occupied an area of approximately 40 acres behind barbed wire fencing. In 1952, the only Chinese school in Papan, Wah Kiew, applied for a grant from the Malayan Chinese Association (MCA) to construct three additional classrooms to accommodate the increasing number of students. At the beginning, Papan New Village was divided to two areas. First, called Gai Cheong Bui San Chun 街场背新村, means new village behind the main street. Second, just called San Chun (新村, means New Village). In 1952, the former was addressed as North New Village,

and the latter was addressed as South New Village. Later, two more settlements appeared and addressed as Resettlement Area and Regrouping Area respectively.

### *Villagers caught in between*

In Papan, like in other NVs, the settlement was barbed wired, check-points installed and dusk-to-dawn curfew imposed in Papan, and even in nearby areas from time to time. The longest 24-hour curfew was imposed in 1951, along with nearby Pusing New Village, following the killing of a British Resettlement Officer in Pusing town. No one was allowed to leave the perimeter fencing of Papan during this time. The Pusing villagers were ultimately fined \$40,000 as punishment. Despite the challenges, the people of Papan persevered and tried to make the best of their situation.

Despite being enclosed by barbed wire fencing and closely monitored by the British soldiers and the local branch of the Kinta Valley Home Guards (KVHG), security in Papan was not guaranteed. Apart from the incident mentioned above, In November 1953, a fierce battle broke out between over 20 members of the MCP's Malayan People's Liberation Army (MPLA) and seven KVHG guards in November 1953, just 50 meters from the perimeter fencing surrounding Papan. On this occasion, the KVHG had seized a large quantity of supplies that had been gathered by sympathisers of the communist party, the min yuan (the people movement organization), in Papan. This caused the outbreak of the battle.

According to eyewitness accounts, food and supplies were still smuggled out to the MPLA after this occasion. Again, according to those interviewed, this was the modus operandi when collecting food from Papan villagers: apparently, the min yuan would enter into the homes of the villagers through the back doors, which would, by arrangement be left unlocked at night. The families were also instructed to stay in their rooms and not to come out, even if they heard anything unusual. This arrangement allowed the min yuan to do its collection without unnecessarily incriminating the villagers themselves, since they had not opened the door to allow for entry. Plus, they did not witness anyone entering their houses either

However, not all villagers were willing to take the risk of helping the MPLA. In such cases, the Min yuan resorted to monetary extortion and often threatened to harm them or their families if they did not comply with their demands. Reportedly, these villagers who refused helping the MPLA were occasionally accused by their enemies and subsequently kidnapped, unfairly tried, and ruthlessly killed by the MPLA.

Indeed, the villagers recounted that Tan Liew Kiew, the leader of the 9th Division of the MPLA and District Committee Member was particularly ruthless and oppressive. Tan had gone into hiding at the start of the Emergency in 1948 and had built a fearsome reputation for himself as the "Terror of Papan". Consequently, he was one of the MPLA leaders most wanted by the 2nd Battalion Malay Regiment who operated in the Papan area. With Tan's death and the surrender or death of almost half of his followers in February 1958, the threat from the MPLA in Papan was substantially reduced. The villagers were most relieved when Papan and its nearby towns were declared as a "White Area" in September 1958. Their town, finally was free from all restrictions, inconveniences, and dangers.

### **Danger looms for town with tin fortune**

Alas, the peace which accompanied the end of the Emergency in 1960, was soon disrupted. In 1964, the Perak State government gazetted the entire town as mining land and opened it for mining tenders. This was a massive shock. So, the residents formed a committee to object to and to protest against the decision, which had been taken arbitrarily. Although the government announced and instructed the winning mining company to provide proper compensation to those who would be affected before any mining activities could begin, the residents were not appeased. Why were they being forced out of the homes? In fact, the company which won the tender failed to comply with the government's request. The villagers felt they had been deceived and taken for granted.

The conflict between the mining company and the villagers persisted for about a decade. However, in 1975, the company, feeling increasingly frustrated, began mining at the North New Village, even though some villagers still lived in the homes that stood on the site. The situation became chaotic, and the state government had to step in to negotiate a settlement between the two sides. Eventually, the mining company agreed to provide a new location and compensation to the 52 households that remained in the North New Village. So, emerged the New Papan New Village. The former residents of the North New Village were relocated a few miles away from Papan town

After the mining gazette in 1964, several residents of Papan began to leave and relocated to nearby towns, while land ownership was transferred to the tin mining company. Papan was expected to disappear from existence, but ironically, the crash of tin prices in 1985 put a stop to all mining activities and saved the town from being destroyed. Many of the remaining residents in Papan were low-income earners who could not afford to demolish their old houses and build new ones. As a result, about 80 houses in the new village, with

approximately 150 inhabitants, remained untouched, that is with their original design and materials intact. This unexpected turn of events has resulted in Papan being one of the best-preserved New Villages in Perak, serving as a reflection of the hardship and history of the forced resettlement movement during the Emergency Period in Malaya.

### **Papan's Infamous Radioactive Dump Site**

The town was caught in another unfortunate incident arising from the Asia Rare Earth (ARE) factory located in Bukit Merah, about 9 km away. ARE's major shareholder was Mitsubishi Chemicals.

In 1984, the villagers of Papan discovered that drums of radioactive waste from the factory were dumped and buried illegally near the town, raising grave health concerns and further accelerated the abandonment of the town. The dump sites that were being used had been constructed shoddily. So, the villagers feared that the radioactive waste would leak into the soil and contaminate their water supply.

In a country that had disallowed street marches to be held, nonetheless the villagers – young and old, male and female - turned out in force. A series of strong protests were organized by residents of Bukit Merah and Papan supported by environmentalist groups from outside. It was, perhaps, the first occasion when the residents of a village, and the people of Malaysia more generally, stood up to protest against environmental degradation, a demand for environmentally sensitive development that is sustain able.

Reportedly, there had been a few cases of children born with defects and disabilities to workers from the factory and to villagers staying nearby the factory. Papan residents took the factory to court, and the prolonged agony finally ended in 1992 when the court ordered the closure of the factory and the removal of the radioactive waste. In this court case, scientific experts from America and Japan were among those who testified on behalf of the villagers. The case put Papan on the global map of people who bravely stood up to protest against threats of environmental degradation of their homes by big corporate interests with global connections.

The town and new village cover an area of about 69 acres and have about 60 shophouses in the old town area and 80 village houses surrounding it. Many of these houses are in a state of disrepair and have been left to rot.

## Association

Papan has two clan association, Cheng Loong 增龙会馆 and Dong Ann 东安会馆. Cheng Loong Association existed around 1880 and Dong Ann Association registered in 1935. Both mainly focused in helping those who are not afford or nobody to take care of their own funeral in the beginning. More functions such as arranging job, accommodation, arbitrary, celebration, fund raising, charity developed in later stage.

- Worshipping places
- There are two Chinese temples in Papan.
- Church
- School

## Economic activities

Papan's resident are mostly retired. Some 30 acres of vegetable farms scattered are being worked by farmer who are not staying in Papan. About 30 ex-mining ponds used for fish farming or aqua-culture. Few bigger plots of land planted with oil palms. A private cemetery company occupied about 10 acres of land for burial purpose. The waste treatment company has used 30 acres land to build a waste water processing plant next to Papan town.

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## Chapter 4.4

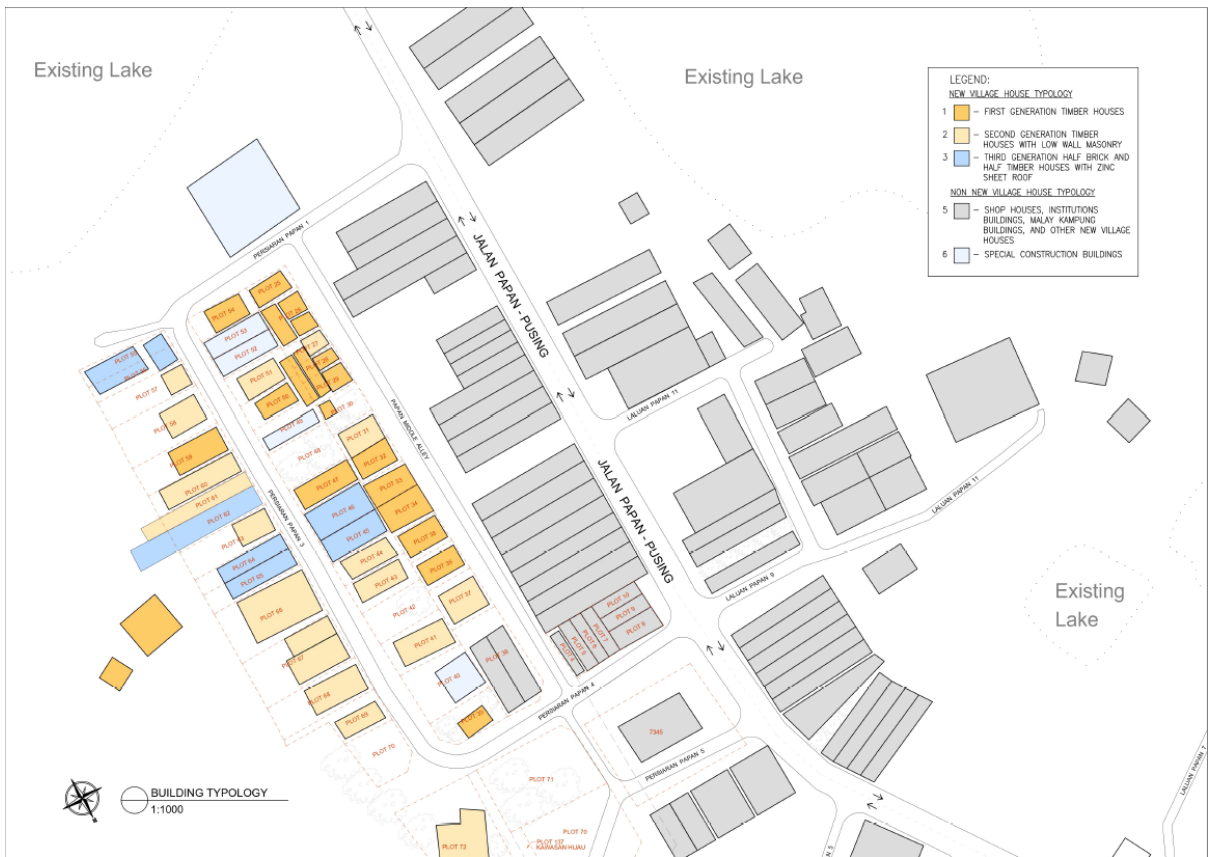
### Kampung Papan Site Studies

Prepared by Ar Alan Teh Yee Neng









## TYPICAL NEW VILLAGE HOUSE TYPOLOGY

### 1ST GENERATION HOUSE



Full timber structure house

### 2ND GENERATION HOUSE



Timber structure house with masonry works and zinc roof sheets

## SPECIAL CONSTRUCTION NEW VILLAGE HOUSE TYPOLOGY

### TIMBER HOUSE WITH SPECIAL ROOF DESIGN



Full timber structure house with gable roof, similar to Malay kampung house

### TIMBER HOUSE WITH SPECIAL STRUCTURE DESIGN



Two storey full timber house with timber trusses and structural wall bracing

### TIMBER WAREHOUSE



Full timber house metal sheet roof

### TWO STOREY HOUSES



Two storey houses with masonry brick and timber

**Papan old map (early 1900s) superimposed over modern day conditions (as referred to online map)**



Reference: Papan old map (early 1900s) superimposed over modern day conditions. Site visit and Ho Thean Fook's God of the Earth) <https://www.roamthisway.com/post/malaysian-ghost-towns-series-pekan-papan>

**Papan popluation as referred to online statistics**

**PAPAN**  
City in Perak State

**Population**  
The population development of Papan as well as related information and services (Wikipedia, Google, images).

Name	Status	Population Census 2010-07-06	Population Census 2020-07-07
Papan	City	313	173

**Papan**

- 173 Population [2020] - Census
- 0.2404 km<sup>2</sup> Area
- 719.8/km<sup>2</sup> Population Density [2020]
- 5.8% Annual Population Change [2010 - 2020]

Perak State: 2,299,582 (2020), 2,496,041 (2010)

Source: Department of Statistics Malaysia (web).  
Explanation: Population figures are not adjusted for underenumeration.

**Further information about the population structure:**

Gender (C 2010)

Gender	Count
Males	107
Females	66

Gender Distribution (C 2010): Males 38.2%, Females 61.8%

Reference: [https://citypopulation.de/en/malaysia/perak/admin/kinta/080349\\_papan/](https://citypopulation.de/en/malaysia/perak/admin/kinta/080349_papan/)



#### ICOMOS MALAYSIA

99L Jalan Tandok, Bangsar, 59100 Kuala Lumpur

[www.icomos-malaysia.org](http://www.icomos-malaysia.org) | [admin@icomos-malaysia.org](mailto:admin@icomos-malaysia.org)

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