



Quarterly

MALAY NEWS LETTER TERANG



SURAT KHABAR ORANG MELAYU SRI LANKA

Published and distributed by
PERSATUAN MELAYU KANDY.

VOLUME 2 - NO. 2

APRIL - JUNE 1998

Historical Events & Meritorious Achievements adorn the Malay Socio - Cultural Pot-pourri 1997

Oleh : M.A. Sourjah

The Year 1997 is a year of years. It has been quite outstanding and propitious for the Sri Lankan Malays - Socio-cultural outlook.

It was indeed a historic milestone in the life of the Sri Lankan Malays, when the Sri Lanka Malay Association (SLMA) inaugurated its Secretariat & Cultural Centre on 22nd February, 1997, at the 'Padang Complex', the Headquarters of the SLMA in Slave Island. The chief guest being His Excellency, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lakshman Kadirgamar who paid a glowing tribute to the all-round versatility of the Sri Lankan Malays, from down the ages in promoting both socio-cultural activities and sports in the country. Congratulatory messages were received from Her Excellency the President, Chandrika Bandaranayake Kumaranatunge, the Prime Minister, Srimavo Bandaranayake, His Worship the former Mayor of Colombo K. Ganeshalingam, His Excellency Abdul Kadir Deen, former High Commissioner of Malaysia for the success of the unique occasion.

There was a large gathering of local dignitaries and the foreign delegates were headed by Tan Sri Dato Haji Mohd Bin, Haji Mohd Taib, Chief Minister of the State of Selangor who launched the South East Asian Branch of the International Malay Secretariat. (Secretariat Malayu Antarabangsa) in the 'Padang Complex'.

The main objective of this organization was to create and facilitate the net working of Malay communities all over the world. This net working will give the opportunity to the 60,000 strong Malay community of Sri Lanka access to about 300 million Malays all over the world. This access apart from helping to interact on cultural and linguistic affinities of the Malay communities, will also serve as an important network for business, commercial and investment links between Malays globally.

All Sri Lankan Malays should be proud of the great work done in the regard by the SLMA president, Mr. B.N. Juranpathy and his erstwhile Committee who helped him in his undertakings.

The year also marks the 125th Anniversary of the Colombo Malay Cricket club (1872- 1997), one of the oldest cricket clubs in Sri Lanka. The founding fathers of the CMCC were Dr. Abbas Juman along with

Warish, Makil Adjie, Rahman Pakeer, Amjadeen Mohamed, B.B. Nasir, Zain Jakdeen, Zain Jumat, Bahar Baba, Dawood, Sappideen, Kabir Cuttilan, Dylan Salasa, Mass Amoo, Hassim Mastan and Aleph Sourjah. According to S.P. Foenando, in his "60 years of Ceylon Cricket" (1924) the CMCC was initiated in 1871 and inaugurated in 1872. Rifle Green was where the CMCC had their Cricket grounds and Pavilion and the Jainudeen Memorial Hall opened in 1926 by His Excellency Sir Hugh Clifford, the then Governor of Ceylon. When World War II broke out it was commanded by the Army, in 1942. It was after a long wait of about 13 years, somewhere in 1955 that the 'Padang' was allotted to the CMCC. The new Cricket Grounds and Pavilion were ceremoniously opened on 3rd September, 1960 by the Governor General Sir Oliver Goonethilake.

Some of the famous cricketers that CMCC produced was the Great A.C. Ahamat who in 1941 captained the first Ceylonese team that met and beat a powerful Australian team led by E.P. Waddy. This was indeed a unique distinction for Ahamat as the Ceylonese team consisted of several Europeans too. S.S. Hassan was the first Malay to find a place in the All Ceylon side dominated by the Europeans to play against the Strait Settlements, in 1895 which included Major Henry McCallum, who later was a Governor in Ceylon. Some of the famous cricketers of the CMCC hailed from the families of Ahamat, Hassan, Jaldeen, Deane, Burah, Mantara, Cuttilan, Sappideen, Adjie, Sourjah and Musaffer, to mention a few.

Sri Lanka Malay Association (formerly All Ceylon Malay Association) (1922-1997), celebrates its Diamond Jubilee, this year. It was formed to cater to the social, cultural and religious interests of the Community. Mr. Naim Juranpathy, its President, appealed to the Malay youth to come forward and prepare themselves to take over the SLMA leadership when he presided at its 74th Annual General Meeting held early this year. He has been able to create the Secretariat and Cultural Centre, the Library Artefacts Room in addition to the existing playing field and the Club house, for which prosterity should be thankful.

The SLMA Rupce Fund is its social service wing, counting 45 years of unbroken service to the less fortunate and deserving. The late Mrs. Mashmoon Lye daughter of Late M.K. Saldin, Member of the State Council and wife of late Baba Zahiere Lye, M.P., was its founder

(Cont: Page 2)

President. Mrs. Lye as President of the Fund was responsible in setting up many social service oriented projects. Setting up of textile Weaving Centre, a milk Feeding Centre for under-nourished children and a Scholarship Fund for talented students who could ill-afford higher studies and University education. Many are the grateful students who successfully passed out and are serving the nation as doctors, Engineers, Architects, etc. She also organized the annual Sadaka distribution of fitr and cash during the month of Ramazaan and other consistent services provided to the needy. She was the first Malay women to emerge from the role of traditional housewife to face up the challenges of modern times by her involvement in the welfare of the community. Travel had broadened her horizons and it was in the Malaysian newspapers that she had been featured as "MOTHER OF THE MALAYS". She was born on June 18th 1908 and died on her 86th birthday.

The Uniques Malay Club celebrated its Diamond Jubilee on the 13th September 1997. The original name of the club was "Appetizers Club" - meaning appetite for knowledge. The founder members were E.F. Saldin (President), B.Z. Lye (Secretary), M.P. Drahman, E.B. Abdue, Z Mansoor, B.I. Doole, L.J. Sourjah and T.K. Halaldean. The present members of the club which was founded in 1922, are all descendants of Baba Ounus Saldin, the Literary savant who published the first Malay newspaper in the East "The Alamat Lankapuri" in 1869.

His grand father Pantasih came from Indonesia to Ceylon during the Dutch occupation of this country. The "Uniques" have achieved most of their objectives. In the twenties and thirties, they became westernised and joined the ranks of the ruler of Sri Lanka, the privileged English speaking 5% of the population. Since then they have produced legislators, medical specialists, university professors, chartered accountants, artists, company directors, architects, engineers, authors, civil servants and "Kalabushanas". Their members adorn the highest rungs of every occupation and three of their former presidents: M.K. Saldin, M.P. Drahman and B.Z. Lye have served as appointed members in the legislature of the country.

The progress and versatility of a community is adjudged, it is said, by the quality of life pursued and achieved by its members in uplifting of its ethnic ethos in the body politic. If that be the criterion, our Malays had always been in the forefront of socio-cultural activities and sports in the past and perhaps, have not lagged behind in recent years too, in performances meriting awards for services rendered to the Community and the nation.

The Ministry of Cultural & Religious Affairs has been pleased to confer the title of "Kalabushana" on three senior malays - Al Haj Durham Dirakshan Saldin, Hajiani Nona Gnaima Dain and Mohamed Shaheed Stanly Oumar for their services to Malay arts and culture.

Al Haj Durham Dirakshan Saldin (born 16th April, 1921) is a direct descendant of Pantasih who came from Indonesia during the Dutch occupation of Ceylon and grandson of Baba Ounus Saldin the literary savant who published the "Alamat Lankapuri", the first Malay newspaper in the East, in 1869.

He joined the public service and rose to fill the

post of Secretary, Consulate-General in Indonesia (1951), Secretary, Colombo International Exhibition (1952), Administrative Assistant Department of National Planning (1971-72), Office Assistant to the Attorney General (1972-74), Asst., Director of Social Services (1975-76).

He has contributed much to the preservation and exposition of Malay heritage in Sri Lanka by leading the Sri Lanka Malay Association Goodwill Mission to Malaysia in 1962, SLMA delegate to Malay International Conference held in Penang, Malaysia, in 1985 and Malay Archipelago Language Conference in Brunei. He continues to hold posts in various Malay cultural organizations and he has used the spoken Malay word in the course of Islamic Malay Culture.

Haji D.D. Saldin also presented the weekly Malay religious and cultural program "Suwara Melayu" for quarter of a century from 1970 to 1995. He also gave attention to the teaching of Malay Language through radio "Malay made easy". He played an active role in the bridging of cultures and heritage of the many communities of Sri Lanka.

Hajiani Nona Gnaima Dain who was born on 26th February, 1927 took to teaching as a profession and rose up to become a member of the Sri Lanka Education Administrative Service (SLEAS). After her completion of training at the Government Teacher's Training College, Maharagama, she was attached to Dharga Town Muslim Balika Vidyalaya and in 1952 was appointed as Training Mistress and Lecturer at the first Training College for Muslim Girls at Aluthgama.

Later she came back to Colombo and in 1961 was appointed to C/ Khairya Muslim Girls School and served for 26 years as its Principal.

She made it an important Muslim School for Girls. At the same time she attended to the aspects of pre-vocational training for girls as well as Islamic ceremonies such as the celebration of Meelad. She, thus raised the status of the school. Its name became a household word and the school was known even abroad. She was deeply interested in Home Science and the role of Muslim Girls in this subject. She has been generally acclaimed as a leading educationist.

She was also interested in Muslim social activities and helped the all Ceylon Muslim Women's Association in organising their Montessori Centers, the hostel and vocational training centres. In 1990, she was member for Muslim Female Education of the All Ceylon Muslim Education Conference.

Hajiani Dain was also a member of the Islamic Fine Arts Panel of the Sahithiya Mandalaya. She has taken part in various seminars including the 1994 National Conference of the Education of Muslims in Sri Lanka (Muslim Majliss). She is deeply interested in languages including, English, Tamil, Sinhalese, Arabic and Sanskrit.

Deeply committed to the preservation and the maintenance of the traditions and heritage of Sri Lankan Malays, Hajiani Dain was president of the Ceylon Malay Research Organisation (CEMRO). In 1985, at the 2nd Malay Symposium Duniya Melayu (Malay World) held in Colombo, she was the Malay Exhibition Chairperson. She also read a paper on "Malay Society, Culture and

ITU INI

Oleh B. D. K. Saldin

In the days of the Malay Regiment the Malays used to write in gundul and many are the literary works they produced. Some of these are still extant but sadly few of us are able to read these literary gems. However we have an oral tradition and many of the sayings proverbs our Nenek and Moyangs used have been handed down to us. Unfortunately fewer and fewer of the younger generation now speak Malay and all these priceless sayings which are part and parcel of our culture will be lost to us before long.

In order to prevent such a tragedy, I thought I should put down in writing what little I have come across. My idea is to stimulate an interest among our Nenek and Kakeks who may read this. I am sure some of what I have stated may be wrong and the omissions may be many. I shall be happy to acknowledge my errors and add to my knowledge. So do please write to the *Terang* giving us your views.

I am writing Malay as is spoken in Sri Lanka but the spelling I have adopted is the standard Malay spelling. Those who are familiar with English spelling may not find it easy to pronounce the words at the first but if you know your Malay, then it would not be difficult at all.

We are familiar with the phrase *kore ara bilang*. This is the phrase used to reprimand a person for not doing something that is expected of him such as not inviting a person for a wedding in the family. *Ah sendiri su makan bukan? Or Kitanang sekarang su lupa bukan?* are phrases we are familiar with. If you were to visit a relative after a long time do not be surprised if you are greeted by *Siapa emande lorangnang jalanya tununjukkin or Itu jo ini hari ara hujan*. When the visit is over and the guest are about to depart the host will invariably say *Duduklah nasi abis makan boleh pi*. Why this invitation is not extended at the beginning of the visit, I cannot comprehend. The host will go out of her way to attractively display as many dishes as possible on the table. For *Perut menkinyang nang pertama mata mesti kenyang*.

Meal time is as good as any for a gossip. *Cerita membilang*. Some times two people are supposed to be so close to each other that it gives rise to the picturesque though salacious saying *Atu pantat dari are berak*. If an inquiry is made as to how a child is fairing at school the reply could only be *Alhamdulillah*, which is neither here nor there. It could be an Islamic influence but on the other hand the speaker may be afraid of *Mata anti kena* and he is reluctant to speak of the child's achievements. At the same time the guest is careful not to praise excessively fearing that he be accused of his *mata* causing some set back to the host. If the subject of their conversation suddenly drops the speakers will say *panjang umur* and if a person is questioned and there is no response he will be asked *Apa mulut ka puttu*. An unexpected guest after partaking of a meal will say *Sini rezeki suada*. The term *rezeki* is very difficult to define but it roughly means that each of gods creatures has his portion of food and other worldly goods divinely allocated

This reminds me of the difficulty the family planners in Indonesia had when they tried to propagate their policy of small families among the rural folks of Java & Sumatera. The farmers told them *banyak anak banyak rezeki*. The word for a corpse in Indonesian is *mayat* while the word for dead animal is *bankai*. In Sri Lanka we refer to a dead Muslim as *mayat* whereas the body of a non Muslim is referred to as *bankai*.

When we were children we were taught to bersalam our elders by touching their feet and saying *Seppe sumba bapak/ Emak/ Kakek/ Nenek* (as the case may be) *gunung payung*. The umbrella signifying protection from all kinds of weather and the mountain standing solidly behind in support. There are certain Javanese customs that have been handed over to us by our ancestors which are preislamic. As to whether these should be thrown over board is a moot point. All I can say is *Banyak undang banyak garam, banyak orang banyak ragam*. Quot *homines tot sententiae*. in Latin. All which in plain English is "There are as many opinions as there are men"

Our kakeks were adepts at *wasil* that is to invoke blessings so as to cure. I remember if a child should fall and hurt himself the *kakek* calls him and consoles him that he will recite a *doa* which would ease his pain *Astakadi pintu siapa nakal menjadi begitu*. Little does the child realize the full impact of the *doa* which reprimands him for being naughty.

I would like to conclude by mentioning some common mistakes that are made when Malay is being written in Sri Lanka. *Dua* is two and *doa* is a prayer. I have often seen the word *dua* used to mean prayer. *Bagian* means section or branch where as *Bahagia* means happiness. So to say *Bahagian Wanita* to mean women's branch is incorrect because it means women's happiness. The word *janaza* means dead body in Arabic. Therefore it is rather funny to state in an obituary "Janaza will take place at such and such time. How can a dead body take place? To say 'Janaza will leave at such a time' may be permissible. The letter 't' is always pronounced softly and the letters 'th' is not used. So to close is to *tutup* and not *thutup*. The letter is always pronounced as *oo* as in *ular*. So *Selamat datang* is the correct way to spell welcome and not *Slamat datung*

Reference : B.D.K. Saldin The Sri Lanka Malays and their Language (Orang Melayu Sri Lanka dan Bahasanya)



Kabar kabar kabar.....from the sister Malay Associations Around Sri Lanka

The Editor regrets that the response from Malay Associations throughout the Island has been very poor. The *Terang* is your news letter and every reader would like to know the activities of other Malays all over Sri Lanka.

Please respond and forward articles for publication in this News Letter. All Articles, write-ups, poems, pantuns, stories, etc., received for publication- relating to the Malays will be definitely published from time to time.

THE FATE OF SLAMAC

In your esteemed newsletter 'Terang' of Oct - Dec 1997 issue, I came across an article entitled "Malay United Front" written by Saudara M. Aarifeen Sourjah, which aroused my interest. Aarifeen's article is in response to Saudari Honeida Packeer's comments in Terangs 10th Anniversary Commemorative Supplement.

At the very outset I am glad to know that Aarifeen is now gaining recognition as a renowned writer, poet-laureate and an able composer of Malay songs, lyrics and panthungs. I wish him success in his new venture.

Among the 17 Malay Organisations listed as founder member - Associations, Sri Lanka Malay Association has been duplicated, while the Ceylon Malay League of which the president at that time was Saudara M.D. Kitchilan, has been erroneously omitted.

It is hard to believe how true and from a practical point of view how applicable that age-old adage "United we stand, divided we fall" is when we examine today the sorry plight of our Malay Community. Aarifeen in no uncertain terms has made a forceful attempt through some meaningful quotations and poetry to highlight the importance and urgent necessity for Malay Unity and Solidarity. To my knowledge, Mr Suffri Jusuf, the Indonesian Ambassador in Sri Lanka during the period 1983 - 1985, shared the same views now expressed by Aarifeen and the Ambassador took a bold step further to assist us to pave the path for the formation of an umbrella body. It was his contention that this body should be built on a strong foundation and made powerful with the whole-hearted support and encouragement of the 55,000 strong Malays, so that even the Government of the day will take cognizance of any grievances or short-comings of the Malay community.

After several meetings with the Presidents and Representatives of many Malay Organisations in the country at that time, Mr Suffri Jusuf in the company of Al Haj T.H. Nooramith, conducted a familiarisation tour of the country, which enabled them to meet the Malay population in the outstation districts. They were also able to persuade them to form their own Associations in areas predominantly occupied by the Malays.

18th August, 1984, was a historical day for the Malay community as it was on this day that the Inaugural meeting of the Sri Lanka Malay Confederation in English and KOMFEDERASI RAKYAT MELAYU LANKAPURI in Malay (abbreviated to SLAMAC in English to KORAMEL in Malay) was held at the official residence of the Indonesian Ambassador at Horton Place, Colombo 07. Nearly 110 delegates from 18 Malay Organisations attended the meeting and unanimously voted in the traditional Malay Custom through deliberations (Mushawarah and Mufakat) for the formation of SLAMAC. This was followed by adoption of the constitution, an extract from the preamble to SLAMAC Constitution is reproduced below:-

"For the preservation of cultural heritage and their existence as a race of Malay origin, the Malays as an integral part of the sovereign people of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, organise

themselves into a bond of unity and solidarity with the ultimate aim of achieving justice, security and prosperity for themselves and their descendents".

The election of office-bearers next took place and the delegates were thereafter hosted to a sumptuous lunch by Mr Suffri Jusuf.

In the formative years of SLAMAC, Mr, Suffri Jusuf, donated 1000 Songkos to SLAMAC so that they could be sold and the proceeds collected to open a bank account for SLAMAC. The next most important matter that received the attention of the General Council, was a Flag for SLAMAC. After an extensive research, careful deliberations and much thought, a well designed and an attractive flag was created, which was unanimously accepted by the General Council. Thereafter at all functions and meetings of SALMAC, its flag was seen flying in gay splendour taking its pride of place above all others, waving briskly in the breeze, braving the weather and above all symbolising its true meaning for peace, Malay Unity and solidarity.

SLAMAC is now dormant and has failed in its commitments. The last batch of office-bearers who were elected before SLAMAC went into oblivion, is to be blamed and held responsible for the sad state of affairs of SLAMAC. It is now their responsibility to review SLAMAC from its state of inactivity. Immediate steps should be taken to convene a Special General Meeting of the General Council of SLAMAC in order to determine its fate. If SLAMAC is to carry out its functions most effectively, it will be necessary for new office bearers to be elected. If, on the other hand, SLAMAC is to wind-up, meaningful steps should be taken for the disbursement of its funds and for the safe repository of its flag.

In the meantime, we shall pray that the office bearers concerned will take serious note of this vital issue. Mr Suffri Jusuf and Al Haj T.H. Nooramith are no more with us, but their spirits still lingers on. In order therefore to perpetuate their sacred memories and express our appreciation of their dedicated services to the community, it is the bounden duty of everyone to direct their minds to resurrect SLAMAC so that it could continue on its onward march to achieve its objective for Justice, Security and Prosperity for the Malays of Sri Lanka.

Oleh : Capt. Anwar Dole (Sydney Australia)



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Sri Lanka Merdeka
Ulang tahun Kelimpuluh
(1948-1998)

MERAYAKAN NYANY

KELIMPULUH TAHUN SRI LANKA MERDEKA
 BANGSA MERAYAKAN ITU BANYAK UTAMA
 MELAYU KITA BERSATU KUMPUL LAIN BANGSA
 'SATU BANGSA - SATU NEGRI' SRI LANKA

ORANG MELAYU DATANG KE SRI LANKA
 TIGA RATUS TAHUN YANG HABIS ADA
 LAIN BANGSA SAMATINGAL ADA
 KERJA AMAN DAN KEJAAN NEGRIKA

SALAMAT SRI LANKA - KITA NEGRI
 BERAPA BANGSA, AGAMA ADA NEGRI
 MARILAH KITA BAIKAN MEKERJA
 BEGITU MARI BERSATU KUMPULLAH.

KELIMPULUH TAHUN SRI LANKA MERDEKA
 BANGSA MERAYAKAN ITU BANYAK UTAMA
 MELAYU KITA BERSATU KUMPUL LAIN BANGSA
 'SATU BANGSA - SATU NEGRI' SRI LANKA.

SRI LANKA
 50TH INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY
 (1948 - 1998)



COMMEMORATIVE SONG

50 YEARS SRI LANKA - INDEPENDENT NATION
 MOST MEMORABLE EVENT FOR COMMEMORATION
 LET US MALAYS IN SPIRIT OF PEACE AND UNITY
 HAIL SRI LANKA : ONE NATION - ONE COUNTRY.

WE MALAYS CAME TO SRI LANKA
 AND HAVE LIVED OVER 300 YEARS
 WITH DIVERSE RACES OF THE COUNTRY
 IN A SPIRIT OF PEACE AND HARMONY.

HAIL SRI LANKA - NOW OUR COUNTRY!
 LAND OF DIFFERENT RACES AND FAITHS
 LET US BLEND AND UNITE IN HARMONY
 TO LIVE AS A PEACEFUL COMMUNITY.

50 YEARS SRI LANKA - INDEPENDENT NATION
 MOST MEMORABLE EVENT FOR COMMEMORATION
 LET US MALAYS IN SPIRIT OF PEACE AND UNITY
 HAIL SRI LANKA : ONE NATION - ONE COUNTRY!



SAILAN MELAYU KERIKET KELAB
 ULANG TAHUN
 RATUS DUAPULUH LIMA
 (1872-1997)

SAILAN MELAYU KERIKET KELAB HABIS MULAKAN
 RATUS DUAPULUH LIMA TAHUN SUDAH GENAPKAN
 ORANG REJIMEN DAN DR. ABBAS JUMAN BER HORMAT
 DENGAN LAIN KITA MELAYU ORANG - ORANG:

WARISH, MAHIL, ADJIE, RAHMAN, PACKEER
 AMJADEEN MOHAMED, T.V. BAWA, B.B. NASIR
 ZAIN JALDEEN, SAPPIDEEN, ZAIN JUMAT, BAHAR BABA
 DAWOOD, KABIR, CUTTILAN, ALEPH SOURJAH
 DYLAN SALASA, MASS AMOO, HASSIM MASTIN.

KITA KAKEY - MOYANG AMBEL CAPE MEMULAKAN
 MELAYU KERIKET KELAB DI NEGERI SAILAN
 BEGITU KALAU - SAUDARA MINTA DOA PADA TUHAN
 LAGI - LAGI TAHUN C.M.C.C., MENERUSKAN.

Oleh : M.A. Sourjah

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'CRICKET UP, UP 50 UP'

The Sunday Times of 1st February 1998, which was published as a Special Supplement to mark Sri Lanka's 50 Years of Independence, contains interesting reading, especially the article written by Mr. Mahinda Wijesinghe under the above caption. However, I was disappointed and sad that the Colombo Malay Cricket Club which is now 126 years existence with a proud record of cricket to its credit, has not been mentioned nor even included among the other clubs referred to in the article by the learned writer. In fact the glorious tributes and encomiums made by cricketing giants of the past, to name a few Dr. S P Joseph, S.P. Foenander and F.L. Goonewardene on the achievements and historical record of the club, have gone unnoticed.

It is true that where ever the British planted their Union Jack, the cricket stumps too followed suit. In a research conducted by the late Mr. M. Murad Jayah of the Ceylon Malay Research Organization it was revealed that the Malays had formed a cricket team as far back as in 1868 and were actively engaged in friendly encounters with the British Garrison in Colombo, the Colombo Club (later C.C.C.), the Ceylon Police Force and the Colombo Customs. The Malay team was mainly composed of members drawn from the famous Ceylon Rifle Regiment and learned and mastered the game from the British Officers of the Ceylon Rifle Regiment. The Malay team with its high performance and with in a short period of time gained popularity, praise and recognition from the cricket loving public at that time. This led to the foundation of the Colombo Malay Cricket Club by a band of enthusiastic Malay Sportsmen in 1872 and the Club had the Rifle Green, which was the parade ground of the Ceylon Rifle Regiment, as its Cricket grounds. A pavilion was built shortly afterwards with funds raised by the club and donations received from well wishers and philanthropists, one of which was the late Mudaliyair A.I. Jainudeen. At the outbreak of Second World War, the Army occupied Rifle Green and the end of it, the whole section of Rifle Green allocated to Malay C.C. was taken over by the Ceylon Police, including the pavilion and converted into a housing complex for Police families.

Mr. B. Zahiore Lye, was the president when the club was shifted over to its new location presently renamed Jalang Padang in Konpaniveedya. He was an indefatigable worker and in view of his interest in sports and other social activities, he functioned as President of the Club for nearly 16 years in succession. The old pavilion was given a new face uplift after extensive building contructions had been carried out for additions and improvements to accommodate the Sri Lanka Malay Association Secretariat and Cultural Centre which was inaugurated on 22nd February 1997. Mr. B.M.N. Jurangpathy, the present President of both organizations, the SLMA and the CMCC is to be congratulated for accomplishing this task with a band of energetic members of the SLMA and the Club. A magnificent building now overlooks the Padang.

A dip into the past shows the Malays as strong rivals of the Colombo Cricket Club and the Colombo Colts Cricket Club, whom they met frequently at the Racquet Court or at the Rifle Green, where they had the opportunity to display their prowess- in the game. In 1889, R. Engha captured six wickets for a paltry four runs for Malays against a strong team drawn from the Gordon Highlanders. In the same year, Engha captured eleven wickets for nineteen runs against, the British Garrison stationed in Colombo at that time. In 1895, S.S. Hassan who was reputed to be a dashing and a stylish batsman was selected to play for an All Ceylon Team against Strait Settlements. At this match, Hassan was one of the few players from the Ceylon XX, who stood upto the bowling of Dr. Fox, a famous leg-spinner of Straits Settlements. In 1898, another well-known bowler A.A. Baba captured eleven wickets for forty-eight runs against Colts. Mr. M.L. Warish, an old Wesleyite, was ranked as one of the best fast bowlers in Ceylon. His best feat was when he in 1902 playing for Malays bundled 12 Kandy Sports Club batsmen for only twenty runs. While Warish was the most destructive bowler of his time. A.C. Amath proved himself easily the finest batsman in the Club. In 1910, A.C. Amath scored a century for the Malays against the Colts, which was the rare feat. As up to that time only Lieut W.F.O. Faviell of the Worcester and later Essex Country had succeeded in scoring a century against the Colts. As a bowler, A.C. Amath mainly exploited the fast leg break with a round-arm delivery. It was a unique style admired by all. In addition of his high standard of batting and bowling, he was also classified as a superb fieldsman. He had the distinction of Captaining the Colombo Malay Cricket Club for eighteen years. In 1914, when the Rev. E.F. Waddy's team visited Ceylon and suffered only one defeat, the victorious Ceylonese team was captained by A.C. Amath.

In 1907, the Malays toured India under the able Captaincy of J.A. Cuttilan. In this tour, M.A. Jaldeen scored a century against Borah C.C. and A.C. Amath made an unbeaten ninety seven against Bombay Gymkhana. M.L. Warish made a dazzling seventy six against Islam Gykhana, C.H. Mantara headed the batting average, while A.A. Deane was top of the bowling average.

H.A. Sappideen and M. N. Lye excelled in cricket and athletics and emerged as champions in various events at the Athletic Sports Meet held by the Club in connection with its Golden Jubilee Celebrations. S.A. Slaiman who was a leg spinner, together with H.A. Sappideen and M.N. Lye represented the Malays regularly at all tournament matches. Just before Second World War there emerged a young generation of cricketers. I could recall the names of a few that come to my mind. Allal Careem, M. Halaldeen, M.K. Jaldin, T.Y. Dole, M.T. Ousmand, Dr. A.R. Deane, H.C. Mantara, Col. B. J.H. Bahar and T.T. Packeer Ally, who turned out for the Malays, making a formidable side.

Malay C.C. is also one of the controlling clubs and had earlier greatly assisted the Ceylon Cricket Association and the present Board of Control for Cricket in Sri Lanka. T.A. Dole, Sr., a long-standing member of the

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club and an outstanding sportsman of his time, was the Hony Secretary of the Ceylon Cricket Association in 1937/1938 when P. Saravanamuthu was the President of the Association.

The services of B.J.H. Bahar (Snr) as a Cricketer, Captain and a qualified Coach should be taken note of. In 1938, Hockey was first introduced to the Club by Capt. Anwar Dole who was assisted by Daghlán, Lye and together they built a strong hockey team for the club. Daghlán popularly known as Douggie, served in every capacity for the past sixty years and he is now the Patron of the Club. The efforts of T.J. Dole who managed and trained the Hockey Team and his wife, Gunara, who trained the Netball Team and their contributions in many other activities of the Club are remarkable. In the late 1960, the Malay Cricket Club was opened to non Malays and I remember two non-Malay members, who played for the team - Lal Rodrigo and Kudahetty, who kept wickets. They were good mixers and took part in all the fun and games conducted by the Club.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the past Presidents and other officials of the Club for their invaluable services. They have, by their abiding interest, dedication and concern, been a tower of strength by keeping the club going for the past 126 years. Although it is said that "Old soldiers never die but they simply fade away", the Club will never fade away nor will it die. Believe me it is going from strength to strength with out any signs of weariness and with its glorious past and rich traditions it will be a popular rendezvous for the future generations of Malays in Sri Lanka.

Let me now conclude quoting an extract from the speech made by the late Vincent Perera, M.P. and a former Minister of Parliamentary Affairs & Sports, who was the Chief Guest when the Centenary Celebrations of the Colombo Malay Cricket Club was inaugurated on 26th March 1972:-

"The malays are great sportsmen. They will play the game in the face of all odds, on the field and off. Not only are they good at games, all their activities are characterised by sportsmanship".

Sydney - Australia (P.P.N)

Dear subscribers.....

If you have still not sent in your 1998 subscription for 'Terang' please do so. Your continued assistance will help the Terang to glow brighter and brighter in the years to come. Please be free to inform the Editor if you do not receive your copy of Terang quarterly, 'Terang' is the only Malay Newsletter that is being circulated quarterly in Sri Lanka and also reaches subscribers in Oman, Australia, London, South Africa, Kuala Lumpur and the U.S.A.

The 'TERANG' is the only Malay quarterly newsletter
of the Malays
to the Malays
for the malays
and
by the Malays

⑦

From Page ②

Historical.....

Customs in Sri Lanka", at the symposium. She has taken part in the activities of the Sri Lankan Women's Research and Action fund. In 1985, she was a Director of the Sri Lanka United Malay Front's Social Welfare Section.

Mohamed Shaheed Oumar (popularly known as Stanley Oumar) is a musician, violinist, music creator and a director in the sphere of Sinhala Drama and Music. He composes Malay songs which are broadcast over the radio "Suwara Melayu" program and on the Rupavahini Malay program "Slamath Melayu". He has completed 45 years as a violinist music creator and to mark the occasion has produced an Audio instrumental cassette (violin) which was launched recently at the Public Library Auditorium by Pundit Amaradeva and B. Victor Perera Sangeetha Visharadha.

The "Tenth Anniversary Issue of 'TERANG' (1987-96) states that the prestigious Library of the Institute of Malay Language and Culture (IBKKM), Kebangsaan University of Malaysia has recognised 'TERANG' to be a "credible source of information for scholars and research workers interested in the history of Sri Lanka Malays".

Saudara B.D.K. Saldin, B.A. (Econ.) F.C.A., a former member of the Terang Editorial Board has published The Sri Lankan Malays and their language together with Malay songs & Lyrics - Poems & Pantuns' (SLUMO PUBLICATION) written by writer of this article are recent literary contributions dedicated to the Malay cause.

Miskin pun kaya pun tidak peduli
Semua Melayu kalau satu hati
Sama dan sama orang Melayu
Maju terus dengan berani kalbu



IRISH EYES ARE SMILING

Wipe that tear from your eye
for victory is at sight.
Britannia divides and rules the world
and the Irish
God save the Irish People
from the king of England
How sweet and inspiring the words
of Bobby Sands.
Across the Irish Sea
That Glorious dear old Land.
What a struggle, What a Sacrifice.
Freedom! Freedom! Freedom!

(Johar Mustafa - Kandy)

THE SLAMacApa Kabar

⑧

Malays in general should be grateful and pay a glowing tribute to Mr. Suffri Jusuf, the then Ambassador of Indonesia for the bold step he had taken to assist the Malays and pave the path for the formation of the umbrella body - the Sri Lanka Malay Confederation (SLAMAC). His intention then, was that this body should be built on a strong foundation and made powerful with the whole-hearted support and encouragement of the Malay strength so that even the government of the day will take cognizance of the grievances and shortcomings of the community. He also took the trouble to visit the outstation districts predominant with Malay population and even took steps to persuade them to form their own Association. If not for his effort there would've been 21 Associations affiliated to SLAMAC.

Now where is this SLAMAC? Is it drugged or in a coma. Or is it HIJACKED? No one seems to know.

Born on 18th August 1986, SLAMAC will be 14 years old this year. This sleepy body could be given a pat on the back and woken up to hold its BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING. Shouldn't we Malays join hands, leaving behind petty differences, and persuade, with one voice, the SLAMAC presidium to call for a Special General Meeting immediately so that steps could be taken to hold the Bi-ennial meeting, at least this year.

One will not forget the memorable past when Malays from all parts of the Island gathered to participate in the activities organised to mark the Bi-ennial meetings. What a gathering it was. Some were even able to meet their relations for the first time at these get-togethers. Was it not a good idea to come to know a Malay from a far away town? Was it not good to know that there are Malays in so many towns? Yes. That should be the objective. To build unity among fellow Malays in all parts of Sri Lanka.

There tend to be petty differences of opinions amongst members in each and every Association, especially among the office-bearers. Some do not see eye to eye with each other. Some may be personal too. Does this mean that there should be a split among us. Should the innocent suffer? What seems the problem is that there is a struggle for power. The motive is not known. The Malays seem to enjoy when there is an opportunity but reluctant to get involved when there is a crisis. Our race and language is slowly diminishing. Many of us are not bothered. Why? The reason is best known to them. Let us unite and have one voice. Let that be the SLAMAC. Let it be our National Representative. Let us give it our Whole-hearted co-operation and make it strong. Let it be the Voice of the Malays. Let it be the forum to thrash out our differences and criticism. Let it be recognised by everyone here and abroad. Being a duly constituted body give it strength to fight for the MALAYS.

Wake up.....Wake up.....saudara and saudari. Let us resurrect the Sri Lanka Malay Confederation. Pray to ALMIGHTY to bless us in our efforts to build a united and strong Malay community in Sri Lanka. Help us to achieve our objective for justice - security and prosperity.

Oleh: Nizam Samath (Kandy)

~ MARRIAGE PROPOSAL ~

*Malay Parents from Matale District seek a suitable partner for daughter aged 17 years non-working. Land to build a house and jewellery as dowry. All correspondence strictly confidential. Reply to "The Editor Terang"

MP/3/98

*Malay parents seek religious fair pretty partner for 26 years old Executive son - 5'6" Please reply to Editor - Terang

MP/4/98

*Parents seek groom for pleasant daughter age 25 employed Kandy firm. Correspondence confidential. Apply c/o Editor / Terang

MP/5/98



TERANG

SURAT KHABAR ORANG MELAYU SRI LANKA

Terang - Perspective

'Terang', as you know is the only Malay research - oriented, cultural, non-political, independent newsletter which purports to promote free and fair comment regardless of the standing of the writer and immaterial of the interests he represents. It provides unshackled forum for expression and exchange of views however diverse pertaining to Malays here and abroad.

'Terang' therefore does not stifle the sentiments and aspirations of the Malays and helps project their healthy and democratic outlook. It's non-partisan outlook and policy is its forte that has earned it an appreciable standard and reputation in newsletter journalism both here and abroad.

Terang's perspective in principle precludes official comment. This aspect is clearly borne out in the Editor's note:

"The views expressed in the articles appearing in this issue are strictly those of individual writers' themselves and in no way whatsoever constitute those of the editor."

Terang thus encourages both sides of the story and the readership is at liberty to comment, judge, avenge and/or extol such virtues as merits the case to espouse Malay unity in diversity.

Editor / 'Terang'