

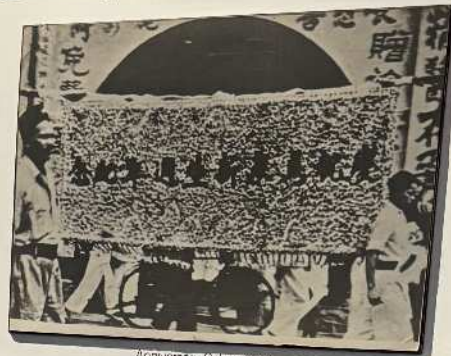
The Japanese followed different policies towards different communities. They treated the Chinese harshly, while attempting to enlist the support of Malays and Indians.



Japanese takeover in Singapore



Japanese Syonan Troops



Anniversary Celebrations



First anniversary celebrations of the Fall of Singapore



General Post Office turned into Military Headquarters



1942 soldiers during 'sook ching'



Celebrations of Japanese Emperor's birthday after the Fall of Singapore

日本軍はコミュニティによって異なる政策をとりました。マレー系とインド系の支援を得ようとする一方で華人に対してはひどい仕打ちをしました。

日本对新加坡的不同种族群施行不同的政策。他们严厉对待华人，但却希望争取马来人和印度人的支持。

The Operation Clean-up was planned and executed by Col. Tsuji and endorsed by Gen. Yamashita. It was aimed at removing pro-British anti-Japanese elements, such as members of the DALFORC and the Singapore Volunteer Corps, and those who contributed funds in support of the Nationalist Chinese war against Japan.



Kempeitai Officer

No official records are available on how many perished during Operation Clean-up. The Kempeitai reported 6,000 Chinese executed but the actual number could have been as high as 20,000.

The "sook ching" destroyed Japanese hopes of gaining the cooperation of Singaporeans.



In March 1942, an Overseas Chinese Association was formed and with the release of prominent Chinese leaders was secured. A demand made by the Japanese authorities for a \$50 million donation from the Chinese in Malaya and Singapore. Singapore had to pay \$10 million and \$50 million demanded.

The operation, code-named Operation Clean-up, was planned by Col. Tsuji and endorsed by Gen. Yamashita. It was aimed at ridding Syonan of pro-British and anti-Japanese elements, such as members of the DALFORCE, Singapore Volunteer Corps and those who contributed funds and support for the Nationalist Chinese war against Japan.



Colonel Tsuji



Kempeitai Officer



Kempeitai Headquarters, YMCA

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粛清  
文字どおりの意味は好ましくなく、  
ル陥落後まもなく行われました。  
月17日に5つの指定検問所に集  
検問に合格した者は中国語で書  
るいはシャツや腕に四角い印を  
した。  
不運な者は三角の印を押印され  
ました。  
暗号名「粛清作戦」は辻大佐が  
南島からデルフォースやシンガ  
党への募金や支援をする者等の  
的としていました。

“肃清”

“肃清”意即清除反日分子，  
即告开始。所有年龄介于18至  
日五个指定的“检查站”排  
通过检查的人会收到一张蓝有  
们的衣衫或手臂上盖一个四方  
而好几个月都不敢洗掉这个四  
不幸未能通过检查的人则被  
带走。这些人最后都惨遭杀害。  
代号“肃清”的清除行动由日  
本文大将批准执行。该行动由  
加坡）所有的亲英抗日志士，  
坡义勇军以及那些曾出钱出  
的人士。

肃清作戦で実際にいくつもの命が失われたかは公式文書が残されて  
いません。憲兵隊は6千人の華人の処刑を報告していますが、実  
際の数には2万人以上と推定されています。  
シンガポール人の強力を得ようとしていた日本軍の希望は「粛清」  
によって打ち砕かれました。  
1942年3月に華僑協会が設立され、著名な華人指導者の釈放が  
保証されました。日本軍当局はマラヤとシンガポールの華人から5  
千万ドルの献金を要求しました。5千万ドルが要求された場合シ  
ンガポールは1千万ドルを負担しなければならませんでした。  
在肃清行动中丧命的被害者人数并无官方统计数字。日本宪  
兵队的报告是6千名华人被杀，但实际的死亡人数可能高达2  
万人。  
“肃清”行动也打破了日本争取新加坡人合作的希望。  
1942年3月，海外华侨协会成立，并协助促成了日军释放华侨  
领袖。当时日本当局特别命令居于马来亚和新加坡的华人缴  
交5千万奉纳金，其中新加坡被令缴交1千万。



って異なる政策  
ンド系の支援を  
付してはひどい仕  
  
詳施行不同的政  
且却希望争取马



tions of Japanese Emperor's  
y after the Fall of Singapore

## Japanese adopted different policies towards the Ethnic Groups

The Japanese were **harsh** in their treatment of the Eurasians, whom they **distrusted** because of their European descent. Eurasians suspected of being British sympathizers were interned and intensely interrogated to determine their loyalty and involvement in the British defense efforts. Others were warned to regard themselves as Asian.

Eurasian Welfare Association was formed under the leadership of **Dr C. J. Paglar**, guided by the Japanese Military Administration. The objective was to promote Japanese culture and ideals and to ensure that the Eurasian community obeyed Japanese dictates.

Some Eurasians were **resettled** in **Bahau** in Malaya to cultivate the land, to ease food shortage in Singapore. However, due to lack of farming skills, poor soil and malarial condition, many lost their lives.

### The Eurasians



# Eurasian

**Sook Ching**  
Literally meaning the purge of undesirable elements, the "sook ching" took place soon after the fall of Singapore. On 17 February, Chinese males between the ages of 18 and 50 were ordered to concentrate at 5 designated camps for screening.

**DECLARATION**  
I hereby declare that I am a Chinese male between the ages of 18 and 50 and I am hereby reporting for screening.

Those who passed the screening were issued with a paper with the word "examined" in Chinese and English square ink marks stamped on their shirts or arms, which they had to preserve for months.

The uniformed ones were stamped with triangular marks and driven to a tragic fate.

## Japanese adopted different policies towards the Ethnic Groups

### The Chinese



The Japanese resented the Chinese because of their support for China during the Sino-Japanese War, 1937-41. The fierce resistance by the local Chinese force during the Japanese advance into Malaya also deepened the dislike of Japanese military against the Chinese. One of the reprisal acts of the Japanese military was the operation 'sook ching' of the Chinese community.

While the Chinese were brutally treated, the Japanese also recognized the need for Chinese co-operation to revive the chaotic economy. The Japanese initiated the formation of an Overseas Chinese Association with Dr Lim Boon Keng as its president. The Association was forced to raise a \$50million gift for the Japanese administration.

Throughout the Syonan years, Japanese brutality and intimidation deepened the hatred of the Chinese community against the Japanese regime.

# Chinese

## different policies towards the Ethnic Groups

more friendly towards the Malays were not threatened. Japanese goodwill towards Malay royalty and Islamic matters were maintained as elite.



### The Malays

encouraged to emerge from their kampong during the modernization process and in Malaya and Malai. All Malays were taught to become employed in factories, offices or monopolized by non-Malays.

Syonan years stirred the thinking of their communal feelings and gave rise to a sense of national unity.

# Malays

# KEMPEITAI

# BL

Kempeitai was a military police force. Specially trained in interrogation methods, its task was to crush all resistance to military rule. It had powers to arrest and extract information from civilians and military alike and was thus feared and dreaded by all. The Kempeitai would employ secret agents and informers to denounce those suspected of disloyalty.

Thus citizens destroyed all evidence of connection with the colonial regime — English books, Boy Scout uniforms, western gramophone records, etc.

Unscrupulous informers would blackmail anyone especially the affluent professionals, as a word from these informers meant instant arrest and imprisonment without trial. Torture and starvation were also tools of the dreaded Kempeitai and the whole period of the Occupation was a time of rumour, fear and secrecy when it was unsafe to voice any opinion at all.



Kempeitai Headquarters, YMCA

The Blue Cross Maltese cross white background "distress" and began with the streets. The feeding centre provided medical stages of the went into fire fire victims wh

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後

*[Faded typed document, likely a report or statement.]*

*[Faded typed document, likely a report or statement.]*

Copy of Mr. Yap Pheng Geck's statement on his nephew being taken away by the Kempeitai



# SID

The Sidang system was a population control system. It was based on the household system. A "headman" was appointed to take charge of a group of households which in turn controlled the population. The headman was responsible for the star sidang area. All families in the sidang area were given a number. The system kept track of movements as well as rationing. The headman reported to the Japanese police. The sidang in Singapore was used for police control.

Japanese adopted different policies towards the Ethnic Groups

## The Indians



Japanese policy was to harness Indian co-operation, in return, Japanese promised support for the independence movement in India. The Indian National Army (INA) was formed to mobilize the Indians for action and gathered momentum under the charismatic leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose.

Japanese propaganda helped to whip up intense Indian patriotism during the Syonan years. Although the promise of Japanese support secured the co-operation of Indians in Singapore, some had doubts about Japanese sincerity.

# Indians

Japanese adopted different policies towards the Ethnic

The Japanese were harsh in their treatment of those whom they distrusted because of their European ancestry. Eurasians suspected of being British sympathizers were intensely interrogated to determine their loyalty and in the British defense efforts. Others were warned to identify themselves as Asian.

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Some Eurasians were resettled in Bahau in Malaya to ease food shortage in Singapore. However, due to lack of farming skills, poor soil and malarial condition, many lost their lives.

## The Eurasians



# Eurasians

## Japanese adopted different policies towards the Ethnic Groups

The Japanese were generally more friendly towards the Malays and their lives and properties were not threatened. Japanese goodwill was also extended to the Malay royalty and Islamic matters were left to the Malay religious elite.



### The Malays

The Malays were actively encouraged to emerge from their kampong and to participate in the modernization process and in the defence of Syonan and Malai. All Malays were taught new skills so that they could become employed in factories, offices and other jobs hitherto monopolized by non-Malays.

The development during the Syonan years stirred the thinking of Malays and enhanced their communal feelings and gave them added self-confidence.

# Malays

## different policies towards the Ethnic Groups



Indian co-operation, in support of the independence National Army (INA) was organized and gathered momentum under the leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose.

It led to an intense Indian nationalist movement. Although the promise of Indian independence in Singapore, the Indian community was not united.

## Indians

## different policies towards the Ethnic Groups

Their treatment of the Eurasians, Chinese and Japanese, and the use of their European dependants, and the fact that British sympathizers were interested in their loyalty and involvement. Others were worried to regard.

A community was formed under the leadership of the Indian National Congress. The objective was to promote Japanese co-operation that the Eurasian community.

in Bahari in Malaya to encourage the Singapore. However, due to both the Indian and Chinese, many had their



## Eurasians





## WATER TORTURE

"They forced water down my throat until my belly bloated. They then tied me to the ladder, and let go. Two persons carried me and threw me into the airwell. With their foot on my chest, they trampled hard on it. Water just gushed out. After I regained consciousness, I was sent back to my cell. On the following day, the same whole process of torture was repeated.

I lost a lot of weight due to the psychological effects. Very serious. It was not good to have water forced down, your health would be affected.

During the period when I was terribly tortured, I dreamt someone told me this: 'You must admit, or else they [the Japanese] would beat you to death.' I replies: 'I did nothing wrong.' The answer came back as: 'Even if you have not, you must still admit you're wrong.' The next day when I was taken out to be tortured again, I admitted and for that, I did not receive the water treatment."

~ Lim Seng, civilian POW  
extracted from The Japanese Occupation 1942-1945

EXIT

8 FEBRUARY  
1942





Caucasian women internees forced to bow to their Japanese guards at Sime Road Camp in 1942

## HELL ON EARTH

Life outside of prison was not much better. The Japanese designated Singapore as the capital of Japan's southern region and renamed it Syonan-To, meaning "Light of the South" in Japanese.

The Japanese implemented a policy which favoured Malays and Indians over the Chinese.

The Chinese were to bear the brunt of the occupation, in retribution for support given by Singapore Chinese to Mainland China in their struggle against Japanese invasion and the Occupation of China in 1931.

The most notorious example of this was 'Operation Sook Ching' - a systematic extermination of perceived hostile elements among the local Chinese population.

# SURVIVING DARKNESS

"In the early days you dreamt of escape, but after a while what you really wanted was a quick death."

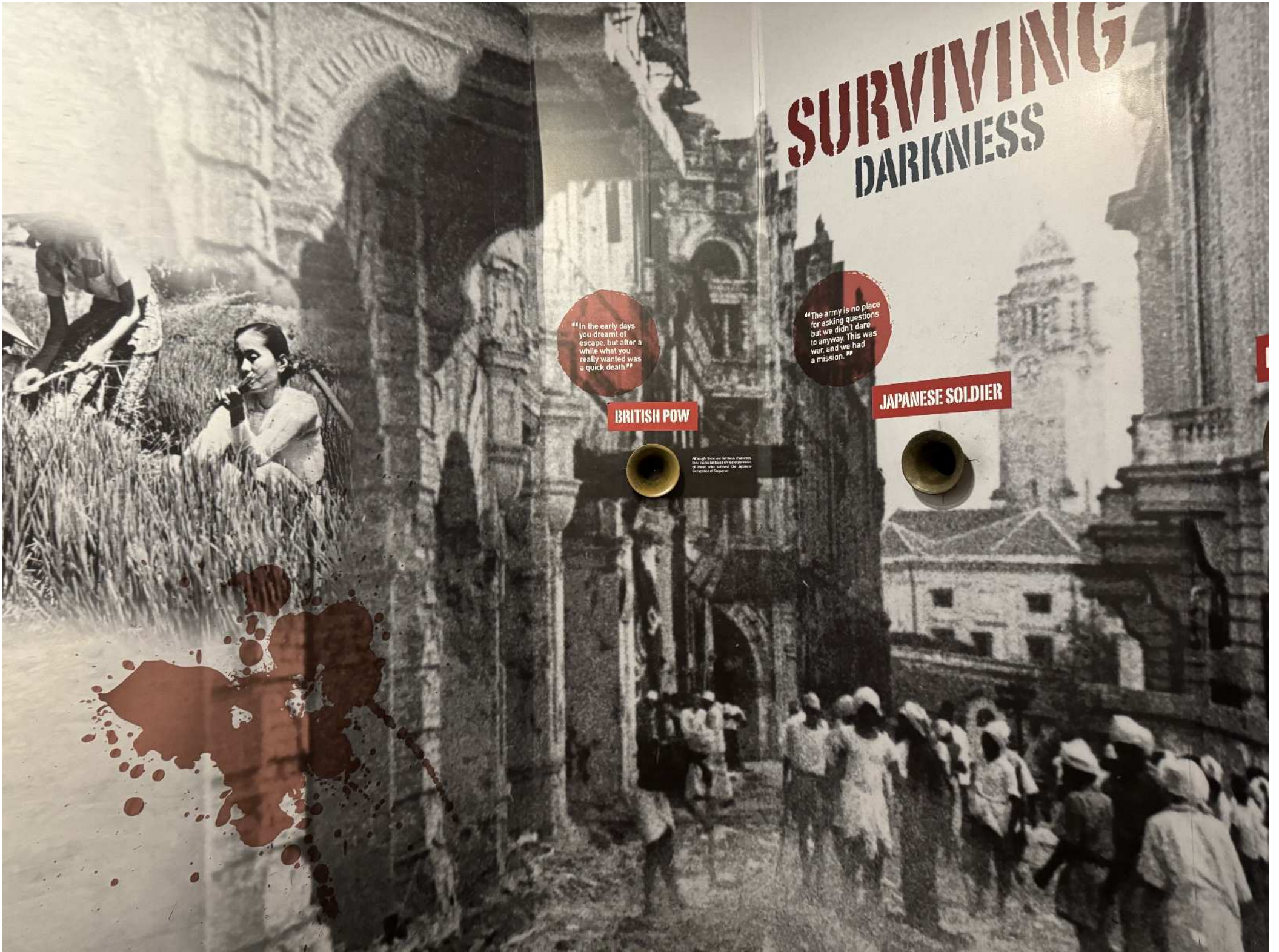
**BRITISH POW**



Although there are billions of people in the world, there are only a few who survived the horrors of the Holocaust.

"The army is no place for asking questions but we didn't dare to anyway. This was war, and we had a mission."

**JAPANESE SOLDIER**





**HIROSHIMA DESTRUCTION**

On 6th August 1945, approximately 80,000 people were killed in less than a minute.

# HOPE ON THE HORIZON

1945

Between November 1944 and March 1945, Allied raids on Singapore targetting the naval base and dockyard facilities, gave Singaporeans hope after 3 years of hell.

Following VE Day on 8th May 1945, the recapture of Malaya codenamed 'Operation Zipper' was negated by the dropping of the Atomic bombs in August 1945 and the subsequent Japanese surrender.

The reoccupation of Singapore, codenamed 'Operation Tiderace', began as the British quickly made the Japanese sign an agreement to terms

of surrender on 4th September 1945 onboard the HMS Sussex at Keppel Harbour, before the official surrender ceremony was held on 12th September 1945 at City Hall.

The British were tasked with disarming and removing Japanese troops and at the same time, liberating and relieving the Allied POWs.

At first, little changed in Singapore. Some armed Japanese troops were allowed to remain in the town, to maintain law and order until the arrival of the British forces.



Japanese representatives discussing terms of surrender on board the HMS Sussex, at Keppel Harbour

Damage by Allied bombings done to Japanese installations and equipment at Singapore docks, c. 1942



British POWs released from Changi prison in 1945