

The Peranakans

A user's perspective in researching a people group



Profile

- ◉ Senior Librarian at the National Library of Singapore
- ◉ Reference Librarian since 1997, specialising in the Singapore heritage collection
- ◉ Telecommuting out of Vietnam since 2006



Bonny Tan



Context

- A Baba bibliography
- 1,500 annotated entries
- Newspaper articles, monographs, serials, dissertations, websites, chapters in books

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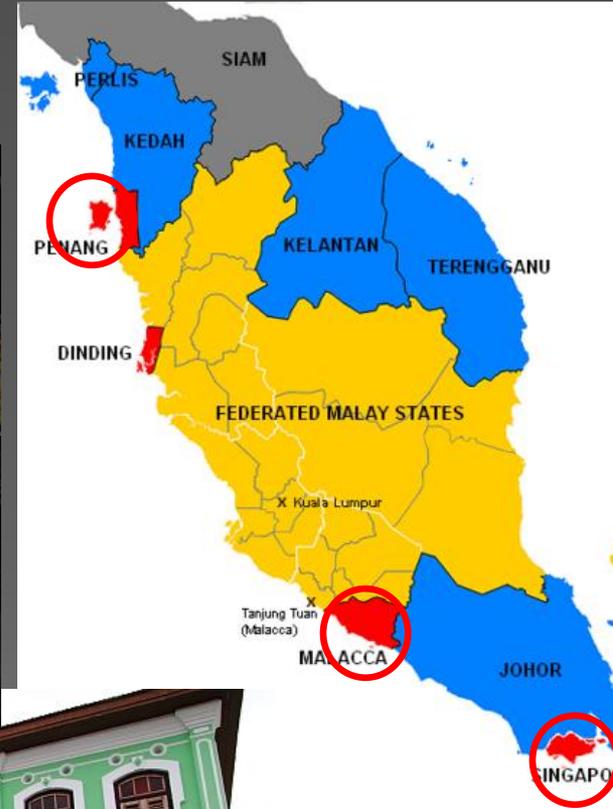
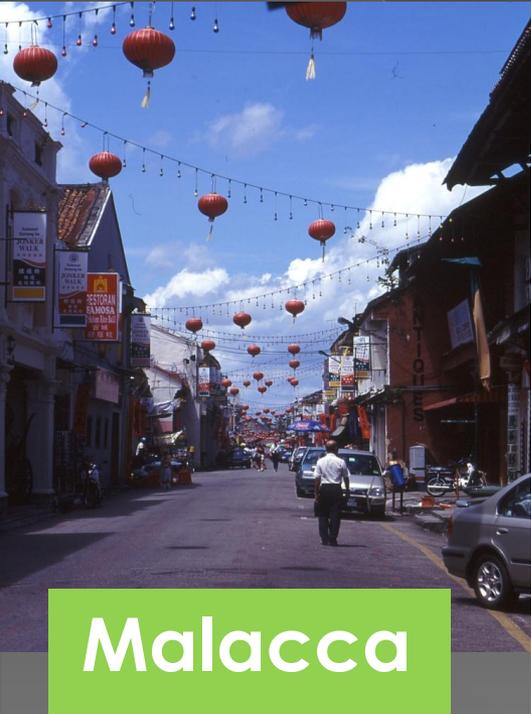
Overview

- ◉ Defining a people group
- ◉ Resources for informing
- ◉ Challenges & advantages of using digital newspapers

Who are the Peranakans?



Who are the Peranakans?





- Chinese immigrants adopting local culture
- Language
- Dress
- Customs



Pre-war

Independence

1800s

- Business leaders
- Political identity
- Social identity



Bibliography creation

Subject informed by

- ◉ Multiple resources
- ◉ Multiple perspectives

How they viewed themselves

- Biographies
- Reminiscences
- Language

How others viewed them



Material culture
Foodways



How they viewed themselves

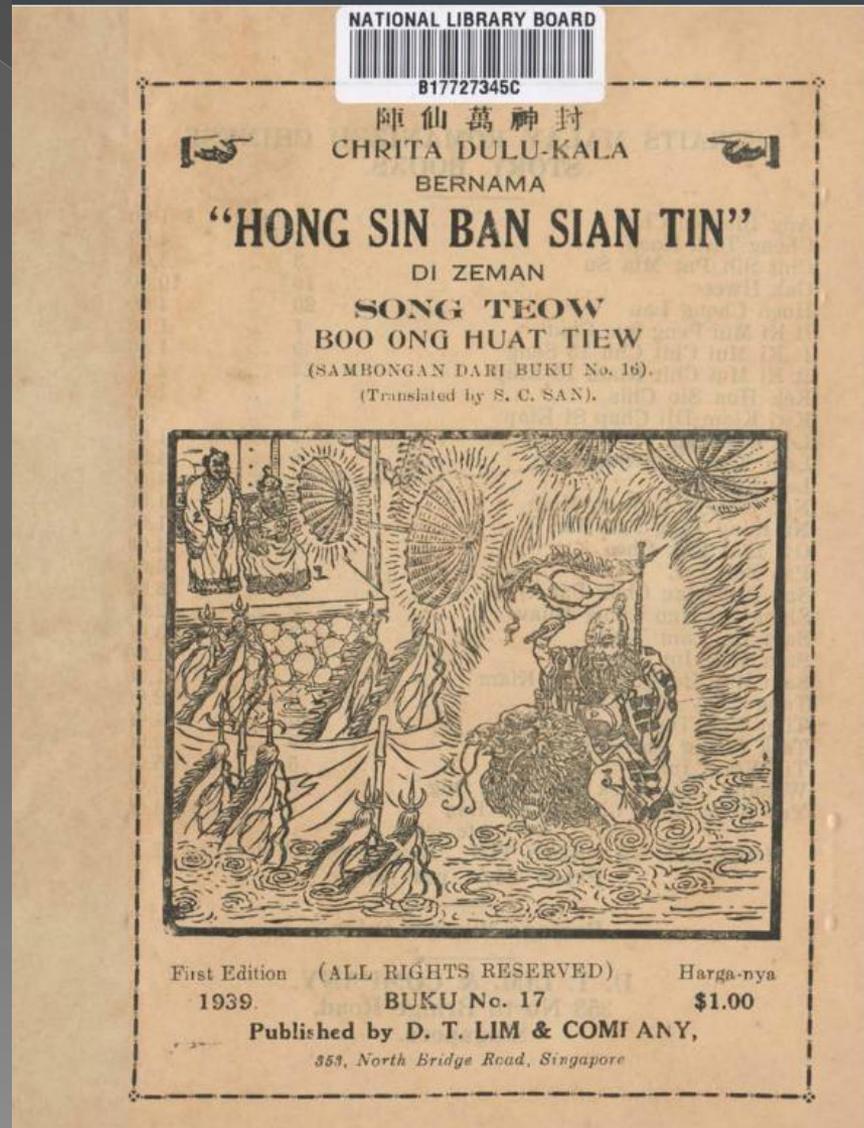
How others viewed them

How academics viewed them

- Social Identity
- Literature & Language



Newspapers & Serials



D. T. LIM'S F A M O U S

Krupok Udang.
 Krupok Ikan.
 Prawn Chips.
 Krupok Emping Blindjo.
 Mixed Plain Pickles.
 Mustard Mixed Pickle.
 Young Gerkins Pickle.
 Young Ginger Shoots Pickle.
 Young Garlic Pickle.
 Young Onion Pickle.
 Young Indian Corn Pickle.
 Young Chilli Pickle.
 Small Chilli Pickle.
 Young Bamboo Shoots pickle.
 Young Rumania Pickle.
 Beetroot Pickle.
 Lime Curry Pickle.
 Mango Curry Pickle.
 Rumania Curry Pickle.
 Mixed Curry Pickle.
 Fish Roe Curry pickle.
 Brindjal Curry Pickle.
 Salt Fish Curry Pickle.
 Prawn Curry pickle.
 Blimbing Curry Pickle.
 Pork Pada Pickle.
 Chicken Vindaley Pickle.
 etc., etc.

D. T. LIM. & COMPANY,
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Chun Thay Tohjin suru dia punya anak-murid Chwee-hay Tong-choo pakay bamboo-kesaktian Luk-kun Sheng-cheng-hi panching tangkap sama Dewa Oh-hoon-sian.



子 童 火 水 提 準 子 成 廣
 Chwee-hay Tong-choo, Chun Thay, Kong Seng Choo
 山 雲 鳥
 Oh Hoon-sian

Oh-hoon-sian menjalma jadi ikan Kim-chew Ngor-hi.

THE

STRAITS-CHINESE HERALD

OR

SURAT KHLABAR PERANAKAN.

SINGAPORE, THURSDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 1906.

No. 25

L'Hotel des Colonies.

SHANGHAI,

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J. W. LYON & CO.

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By Royal Letters Patent.



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CONTRACTORS TO

The Friend of Babas.

A MAGAZINE FOR THE SOCIAL AND MORAL PROGRESS OF THE STRAITS CHINESE.
 "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people."—Proverbs XIV. 34.

Vol. I. No. 1.

JULY, 1906.

Price Ten cents each.

The Friend of Babas.

A Monthly Magazine for Straits-Chinese People.

Office:—48-1, Chin Swee Road, Singapore.

Printed at the Methodist Publishing House, Singapore.

EDITOR.

CHEW CHENG YONG.

ASSOCIATE EDITORS.

GOH HOOD KENG, GOH LENG INN.

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Ten cents a Copy or \$1.25 a year Post free Payable in Advance.

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All orders and Subscriptions should be sent to the EDITOR. No Subscription or Advertisement will be discontinued unless so ordered.

Remit in Postal Order or Money Order payable to the EDITOR. One-cent Straits Stamps will be accepted as cash for sums under One Dollar.

EDITORIAL.

Ini kita sudah kluarkan kita punya Magazine. Kita rasa suka sbab kita tahu sudara (our readers) pun suka. Kita suka sbab kita sudah boleh turutkan apa orang baik-baik punya suka; sudara sbab sudara sudah dapat tahu yang sudara sudah dapat satu magazine yang sudara boleh baca dngan snang, dngan untong dan dngan berguna. Barangkali ada yang lain yang suka hati sbab lain perkara. Baik-lah. Kita ta'tahu apa itu lain perkara, dan kita ta'mau agak pun.

Bergitu pun kita ada lain-lain perkara yang sukakan hati kita, tapi kita mau katakan sudara satu sahaja.

Kita bersuka suka sbab banyak sudara sudah tolong sama kita. Banyak yang sudah

bli ini Magazine sampai satu tahun. Ada yang sudah bli sampai lima tahun. Ada yang sudah tolong kita oleh dia-orang punya khabaran gudang-nya (advertisements). Kita harap smoa sudara kita boleh bli barang deri-pada gudang-gudang dan kdai-kdai yang ada tersbot di dalam ini Magazine. Dia-orang punya barang smoa ada nombor satu, herga ada-murah, dan dia-orang sendiri ada baik dan banyak hormat. Dan ada yang sudah tolong dngan dia-orang punya perkara tulisan. Dia-orang tulis dalam banyak kerja; jadi itu kita rasa lagi banyak triuma kaseh sama dia-orang. Kita mau kata yang kita suka smoa sudara tulis apa-apa sudara suka, dan jikalau baik itu perkara, kita nanti chapkan dngan banyak suka hati, apa sudara suka, sudara boleh tulis. Kalau fasal agama pun kita suka. Perkara yang kita suka skali, ia'itu deri-bal rumah tangga Baba-Baba dan Nonya-Nonya. Perkara yang boleh baikkan Pranakan kita dalam adat, klakuan dan lain perkara yang tinggi.

Bila tulis slalu pakai sblah kertas sahaja, dan slalu kasi tahu jikalau kita boleh chap sudara punya nama. Tolong-lah kiriman itu perkara tulisan bebh dahulu lima blas hari bulan orang Puteh. Lagi satu, jikalau sudara boleh kasi kita tahu, kita boleh juga kirim balek apa perkara yang kita ta'boleh chap. Kalau ta'ada kata, kita ta'ada nanti buat.

Well, skarang sahya mau tulis sdikit fasal kita punya Magazine ini bulan. Orang yang tahu baca bahasa Inggris ta'usa kita kata, dia sudah boleh tahu yang smoa perkara yang tertulis dalam itu bhasa ada baik dan berguna. Tapi kita ingat yang ada sudara yang ta'tahu baca Inggris. Jadi itu sahya nanti kata sdikit fasal apa yang ada tertulis dalam ini bhasa.

Kita mau jadikan ini Magazine satu Magazine yang berguna, yang sdap baca, yang sudara boleh suka mau simpan, dan yang bagus skali dalam bukan sahaja ini Pulau, tapi dalam lain-lain pulau dan lain-lain negri.

Ada orang yang ta'boleh baca Inggris; ada orang boleh baca, tapi susah mgerti; ada yang tahu baca dan boleh mgerti, tapi ta'boleh tranakan kpada lain orang; Sbab itu smoa orang, kita rasa, msti mngaku yang ini Magazine itu-lah chukok baik-nya. Mau bhasa boleh, mau mgerti snang, dan mau tranakan kpada lain orang ta'ada

1. 1. 1900. chcl

THE Straits Chinese Annual.

Published in Aid of the Building Fund for Principal's Quarters, Singapore Chinese Girls' School

1930

Editor: SONG ONG SIANG, C.B.E., M.A., LL.M. (Cantab), V.D.

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With Seven Pages of Sketches and Cartoons, BY LOCAL ARTISTS.

Price:—ONE STRAITS DOLLAR NET.

PRINTED BY THE STRAITS TIMES PRESS, LIMITED, CECIL STREET, SINGAPORE. PUBLISHED BY KWA SIEW TEE, HO HONG BANK, SINGAPORE.



.....TO SEE OURSELVES AS OTHERS SEE US." Pak-chindek:—"Jalan tuapan-tuapan sikit."



KABAR SELALU



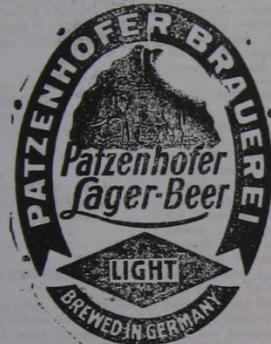
ROMANIZED-MALAY STRAITS-BORN CHINESE DAILY NEWSPAPER

Printed and Published at 100 & 102, Tank Road, Singapore.

No. 21

Hari Lima, 1st February, 1934.

Harga 5 cents.



(CHAP GAJAH AYAM).

Paling Yang Baik Skali.

P'sanan oleh:

PATERSON SIMONS & CO., LTD.

Singapore. Penang. Kuala Lumpur. 15

Yang Baik Skali punya "Battery"

m'mbuat pakal sngala Motor Car itu la

Exide

Jengan sala Kamu dapat barang yang b'tul dan yang baru sampai punya trus' deri-pada

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Wearne Brothers, Ltd.
ORCHARD ROAD,
SINGAPORE.

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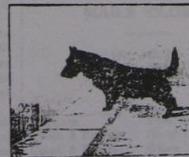


The Flavour Lasts

Deri Smua Orang Berkdai—4 sen kamu dapat 4 biji yang sdap rasah-nya.

KUASA-NYA

Philip W. Thayer, Ocean Building, Singapore. 16



BUCHANAN'S
Black & White
WHISKY.

Bila Kamu Eli. Charek Chap "ANJING."

Di mana mana kadai boleh dapat dia.

KUASA-NYA

THE BORNEO CO., LTD.
(INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND). 14



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Lianhe Zaobao 《联合早报》 and **Berita Harian** are now available on NewspaperSG. With the inclusion of these newspapers, we have introduced the multi-lingual user interface to allow users to navigate the site in English, Chinese or Malay. We have also made **Sin Chew Jit Poh** 《星洲日报》, **Nanyang Siang Pau** 《南洋商报》 and **Tamil Murasu** available for browsing in our Preview section.

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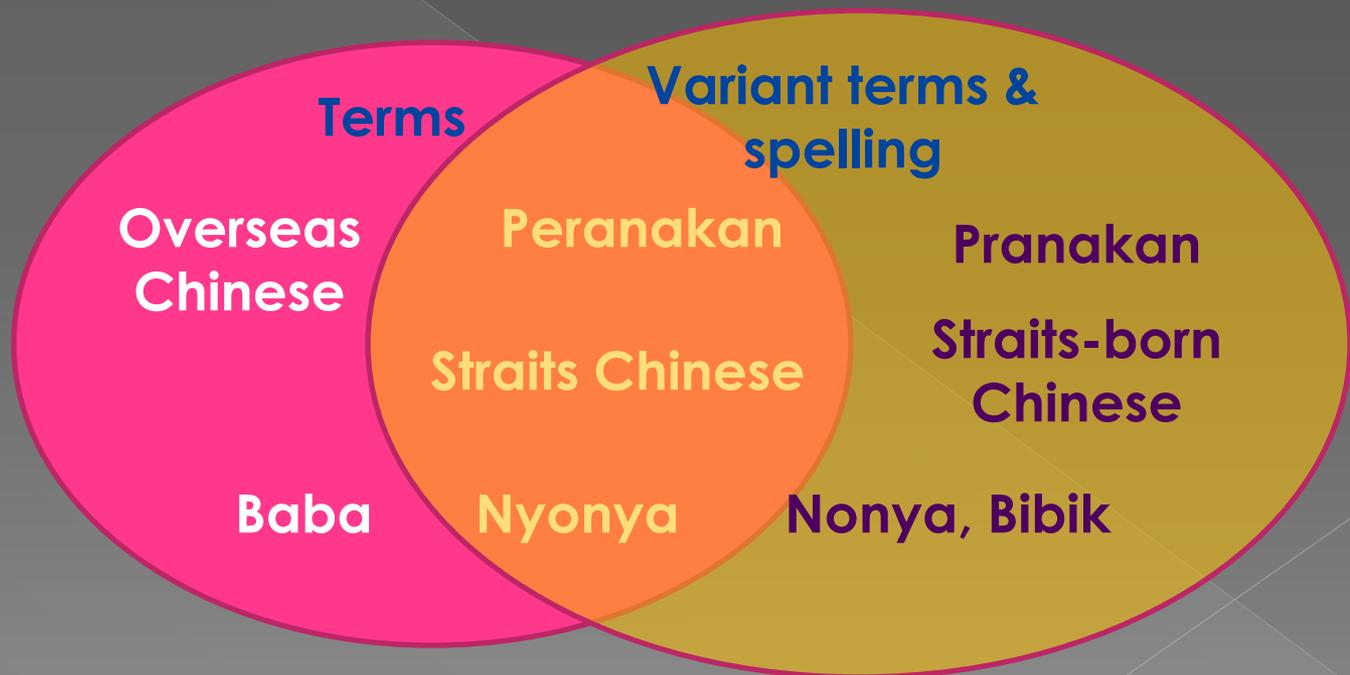
[Advanced Search](#) ▾ | [Browse by Newspaper Title](#) ▾ | [Search Tips](#)

Challenges to newspaper search

- Changing subject - Evolving identity of the Peranakans
- Multiple & merged languages – Baba Malay, Hokkien, English
- Non-standard spellings

Challenges to newspaper search

- Search terms –variant spelling, variant terms



Advantages to newspaper search

- ◉ Opens new leads
- ◉ Depth - Granular details
- ◉ Breadth - Across time

655 results found for felix chia

Enter Keyword(s):

felix chia



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[Page 1 Advertisements Column 2 \[Advertisements\]](#)

The Straits Times, 13 June 1995, Page 1

Tuminah Sapawi reviews **Felix Chia's** Si Adek Beradek (8 words)

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[OTHER HIGHLIGHTS: \[Articles\]](#)

The Straits Times, 31 October 1981, Page 10

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS: DIALOGUE: Comments on and criticisms of the recent Dr LEE on those bald tyres and the hazards they pose to both motorist and pedestrian

Chia reminisces over autograph books. (38 words)

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[A PLAY ABOUT PERANAKANS \[Articles + Illustrations\]](#)

Singapore Monitor, 1 February 1984, Page 6

A PLAY ABOUT PERANAKANS The Culture Ministry will be featuring a play about this year's Festival of Arts. Those who are interested in Peranakan culture can appreciate the play Mamantau, by **Felix Chia**, will be held in the Reception (95 words)

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[Roof over Peranakan Place \[Articles + Illustrations\]](#)

Singapore Monitor, 2 June 1985, Page 16

Roof over Peranakan Place **Felix Chia** Singapore 1128 I refer to the article head love it, others don't" (The Sunday Monitor, May 26). After having been born and 23 years, I would have certainly noticed that the reconstructed roof of (80 words)

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[Untitled \[Articles + Illustrations\]](#)

The Straits Times, 21 November 2002, Page 14

Authors

Peranakan writers –
eg. Felix chia

Academics – eg.
John Clammer

Columnist – eg.
Violet Oon

Q & A

