

Childhood: Raja (extreme left) with his parents and younger brother, Seeva.



Above Raja at age 21 in 1936, a year after he arrived in London.

Left Outside his flat at 12, Steele Road, London. (NAS)

Reproduced from *S. Rajaratnam, The Authorised Biography, Volume One: The Singapore Lion*, by Irene Ng (Singapore: ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, 2024). This version was obtained electronically direct from the publisher on condition that copyright is not infringed. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the prior permission of ISEAS Publishing. Individual chapters are available at <<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg>>.



*Top left Whirl of activities:  
Learning to punt. (NAS)*

*Above Taking photos of street  
protests organised by the Left  
Book Club. (NAS)*

*Left Enjoying a picnic  
with friends at Champéry,  
Switzerland, during his Europe  
tour, 29 July 1937. (NAS)*



*Raja (extreme left) dabbles with drama as part of his literary adventures in  
King's College. (NAS)*



Spring dates: Raja relaxing with Pirooska and a friend. (NAS)



In love: Raja and Pirooska. (NAS)



Homeward: Returning to Malaya with his new wife, Pirooska. (NAS)

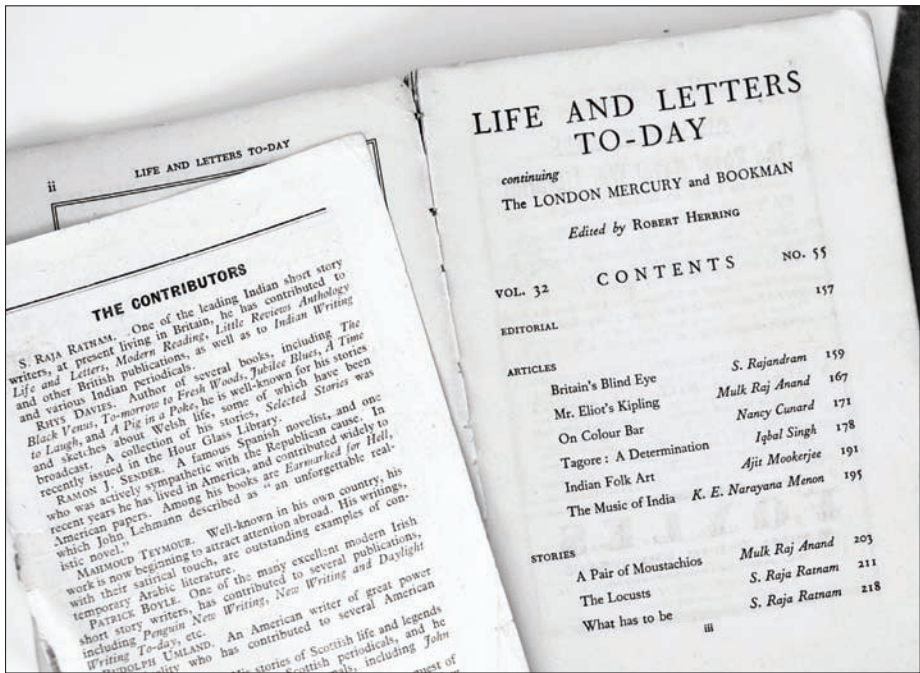


Carefree days: Raja (extreme left), with good friends. (NAS)



*Left Home:* Apartment at 89, Priory Road in West Hampstead, London. (NAS)

*Above* Tea cups, cigarette ashtrays and books reflect the couple's lifestyle. (NAS)



Writing between air raids in London: Described as a “leading short story writer” in *Modern International Short Stories*, 1947 (left), Raja’s stories also appear in the August 1941 issues of the *Life and Letters*, among others.

Wartime 1941:  
 Raja and Piroska display a spirited attitude to life as British friends go to war. Their friends also include Asian students, and Jewish refugees from Nazi Europe. (NAS)





Famous journalist: Raja (centre, standing with arms folded) with the *Singapore Standard* staff. (NAS)



Raja reading proofs in the newsroom.

The forging of unity in Malaya's plural society should be the major task of those who wish to see a Malaya developing in peace and stability. Our contributor suggests that such a unity should be forged first where the various communities meet on common ground—economics.

# ECONOMIC BASIS OF MALAYAN UNITY

S. Raja Ratnam

Page 16—April 19, 1953. SUNDAY POST STANDARD

*I write as I please*

IT IS everywhere a source of wonder and awe to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

For example, if the Chinese and the Indian were to hold fast to the economic and political theories that they have inherited from their respective countries, they would be unable to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

## Sob In His Throat

Of course there may be instances where a Malay customer may feel that he has been deceived by a Chinese shopkeeper. But he is likely to be deceived by a Chinese as he is likely to be deceived by a Malay shopkeeper. With regard to the race in Malaya, it is not the Chinese who are the cause of our economic, political and social ills. It is the whole of Malaya that is the cause of our economic, political and social ills.

Even then his anti-Chinese emotions have been directed against an individual Chinese and not against the Chinese as a whole. At least I hope a true community of interest will be established in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

COMMUNAL POLITICS IS BASED ON THE FALSE IDEA THAT PEOPLE FROM ONE OWN COMMUNITY ARE LIKELY TO HAVE GREATER AFFINITY FOR ONE ANOTHER. COMMUNAL POLITICS IS BASED ON THE FALSE IDEA THAT PEOPLE FROM ONE OWN COMMUNITY ARE LIKELY TO HAVE GREATER AFFINITY FOR ONE ANOTHER.

**WELFARE OF MY MALAY BROTHERS**  
I AM AN INDIAN WHO BELIEVES IN THE INTERESTS OF MY MALAY BROTHERS. I AM AN INDIAN WHO BELIEVES IN THE INTERESTS OF MY MALAY BROTHERS.

**Open Conflict**  
The idea that a Chinese or an Indian has a community of interest with the Malay people is a fallacy. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

# THE HOAX OF COMMUNAL SOLIDARITY!

Communal solidarity is a hoax. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

**Common Blood**  
The fact that the Chinese and the Indian have a common blood is a source of wonder to the Malay people. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.



STRANGE AS IT SEEMS

Communal politics is based on the idea that the members of a community have a common interest. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

**Lose No Sleep**  
People should not worry over much about the race in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

# Young Indonesian Woman Honour Emerita

by S. Raja Ratnam

It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

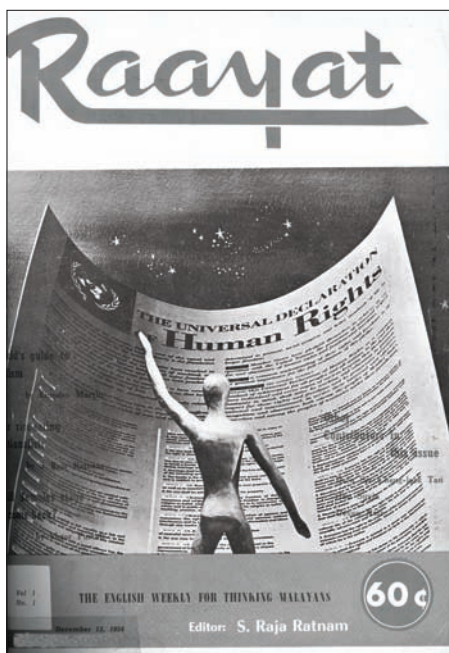
It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya. It is a source of wonder to the Malay people that the Chinese and the Indian have been able to establish a community of interest in Malaya.

Will Be Honoured

Raja stimulates thinking about controversial issues in his columns in the Malaya Tribune and, later, the Singapore Standard.



Dinner parties: Entertaining friends and contacts at his home in Chancery Lane in his younger days. (NAS)



Above He continues to host friends in his house right up to his old age, as in this party in 1984.

Left Cover of the first issue of *Raayat*, 13 December 1954.