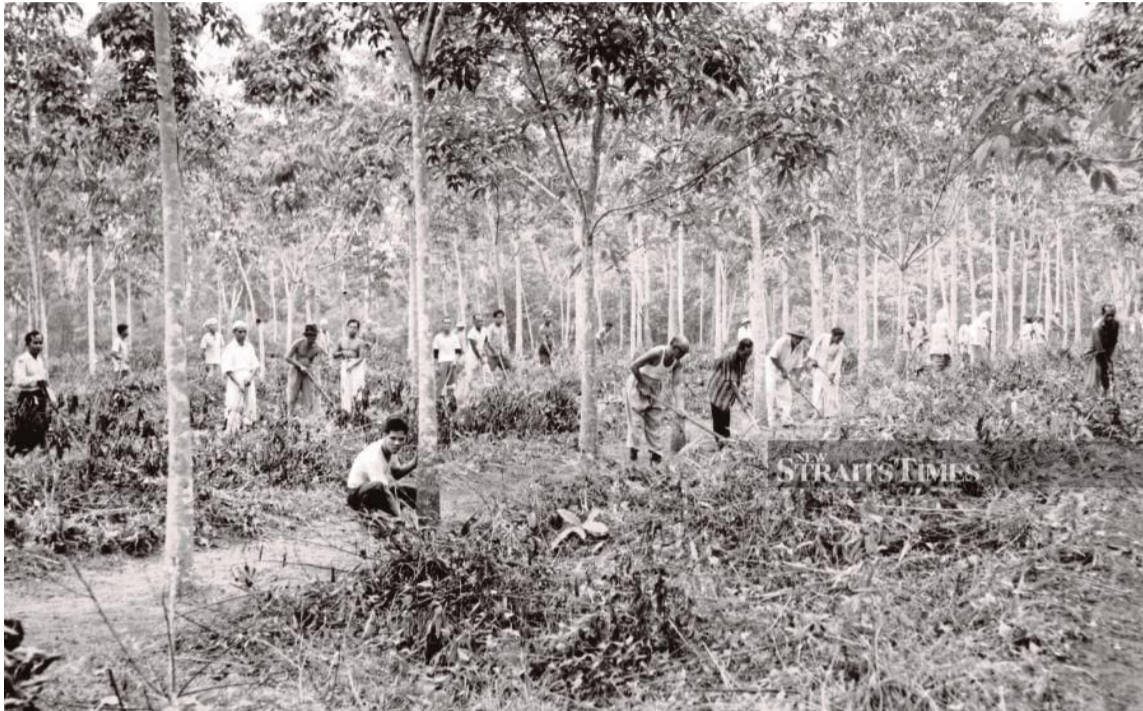


Estate Chronicles: From a few rubber seeds...

By [Ravindran Raman Kutty](#) - January 8, 2023 @ 12:06am



NSTP file pic

ESTATES were and still are an important source of revenue for Malaysia. In 1876, Sir Henry Wickham brought the rubber seed from Brazil to Singapore.

Then, Sir Henry Nicholas Ridley brought a few seeds to Malaysia, which led to great changes to the physical, economic, social and even political landscape of Malaysia.

Malaysia was the largest global producer of rubber till the late 1970s. The indentured foreign Indian labourers planted the rubber trees and harvested the latex under the watchful eyes of the British.

Several thousands estates were developed across Malaysia; one of them was Bukit Jalil Estate, located at Batu 6 1/2, Jalan Puchong, where my parents worked as rubber tappers and built our home.

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Today, the area of my childhood home is occupied by the National Stadium, Technology Park Malaysia, a golf course and many other housing developments.

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I was raised in this rubber estate until 18 years old. I was blessed to have obtained an education under the watchful eyes of my parents, mainly my mother and elder siblings.

I excelled in my studies and served in multiple organisations as head of the communications departments.

I am sharing stories of my childhood days with *New Sunday Times'* readers because I want them to know that way before we became a fast-developing device-dependent community, we had dirt roads, no electricity or clean water, no proper lavatories and medical care. But we still triumphed, mainly because of determination and hard work, camaraderie and love-filled minds and hearts.

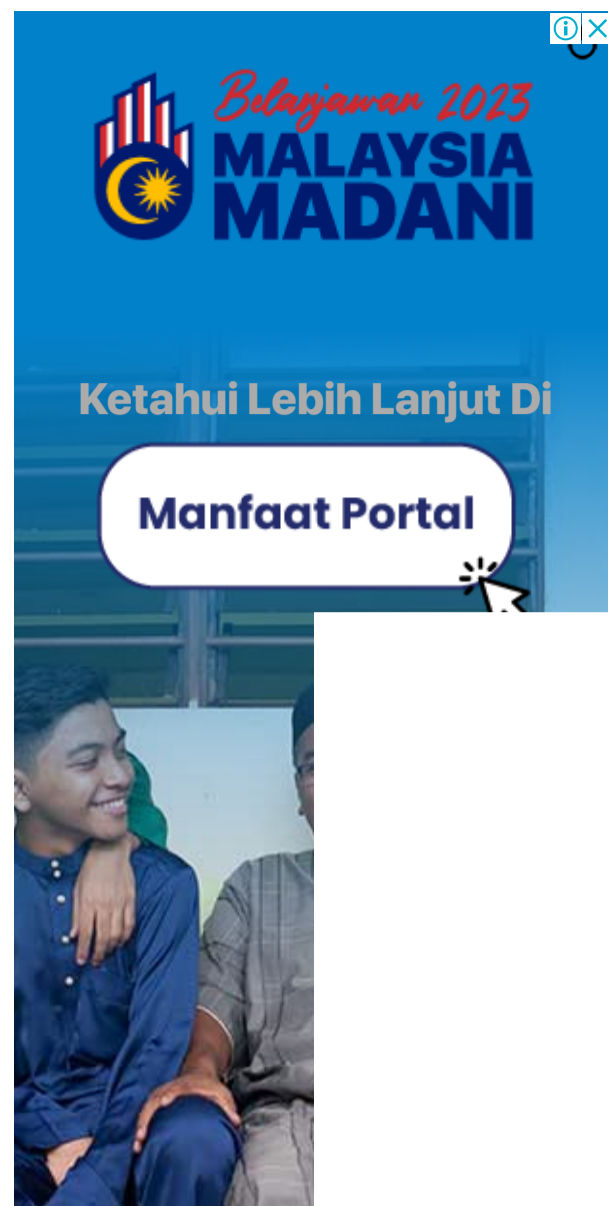
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