# The Peranakans

A user's perspective in researching a people group





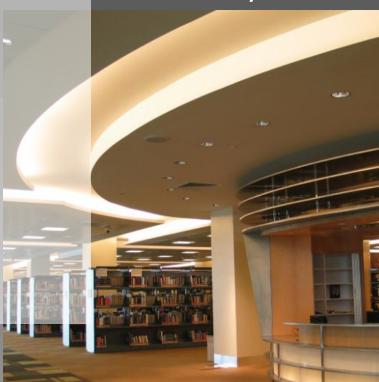


# **Profile**

- Singapore Started and the star
- Senior Librarian of 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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ABBREVIATIONS		

# Overview

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

# Who are the Peranakans?



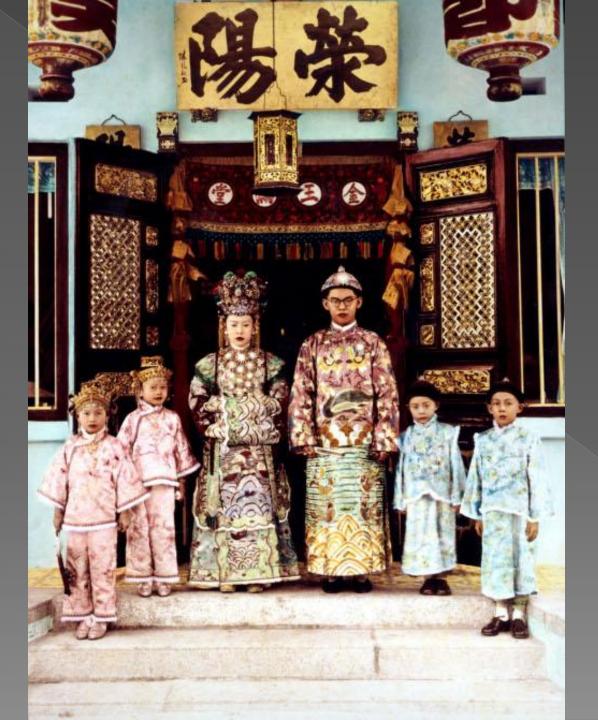
# Who are the Peranakans?







Penang



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









Pre-war

Independence

1800s

- Business leaders
- Political identity
- Social identity



# Bibliography creation

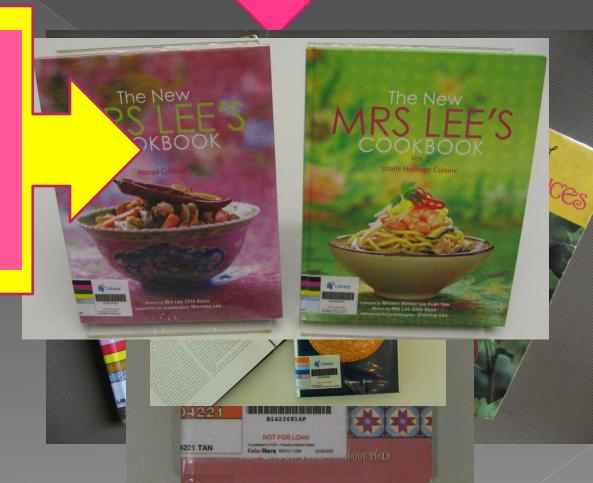
Subject informed by

- Multiple resources
- Multiple perspectives

# How they viewed themselves

- Biographies
- Reminiscences
- Language

How others viewed them



aterial Iture odways

# How they viewed themselves

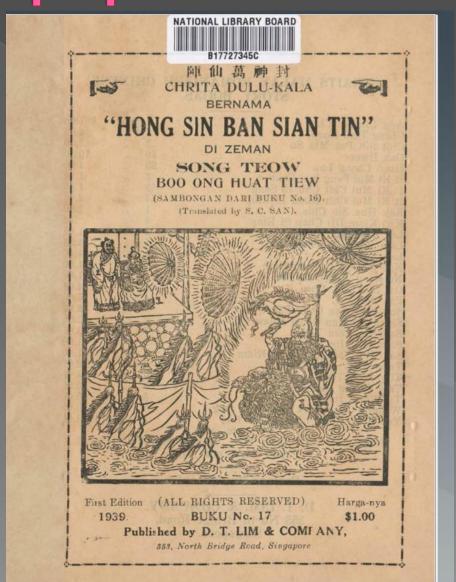
How others viewed them



How academics viewed them

- Social Identity
- Literature & Language

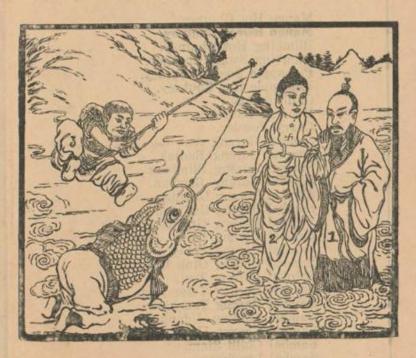
# Newspapers & Serials



# D. T. LIM'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, 353 North Bridge Road, Singapore. Chun Thay Tohjin suru dia punya anak-murid Chweehay Tong-choo pakay bamboo-kesaktian Luk-kun Shengcheng-hi panching tangkap sama Dewa Oh-hoon-sian.



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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 KUABAR PERANAKAN.

SINGAPORE, THURSDAY, 12ND FEBRUARY, 1894.

No. 25

## L'Hotel des Colonies. Biley Hargreaves & Co.

SHANGHAI,

CHINA.

## 

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CIVIL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS,

IRON FOUNDERS & SHIP BUILDERS

MANAGER SHOP & SHIPPIPPERSON, NAME

Albion Engine Works, Beach Road,

. FILL AND SAUR BOOM.

Opposite the General Post Odlas

MAKERS OF

S Patent Rice Min.

so at Wood Working Machinery.

From Self Astron. For present Machinery.

Source Mail From,

Lyon's Liberra Coffee Pulpers

Improved Math Process on W. Walleride,

Empirica and Microsy Machinery.

Fatosphe From Ching Hant.

Ange Malay Plonghe and Harners, A. L. &c.,

tenoning and Boring Machines, Tangye's Centrifugal Pumps, (\* 57 Clay Pug Mills, Soif Actua: Saw Denches, Serew Cutting Lathe 8" centres, Tube Well and other House Pamps



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CONTRACTORS TO

# The Friend of

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. L.

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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#### വാരക്കാരക്കാരക EDITORIAL. CHANGE CHANGE

Ini kita sudah kluarkan kita punya Magazine. Kita rasa suka sbab kita tahu sudara (our readers) pun suka. Kita suka shab kita sudah boleh turutkan apa orang baik-baik punya suka; sudara sbab sudara sudah dapat tahu yang sudara sudah dapat satu magazine yang yang sudara sudan dapat satu magazine yang sudara boleh bacha dngan snaug, dngan untong dan dngan berguna. Barangkali ada yang lain yang suka hati sbab lain per-kara. 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, ttapi 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 Ada yang sudah bli sampai lima tahun. Ada yang sudah bli sampai lima 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 sudiri 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 trima kaseh sama dia-orang. Kita mau kata yang kita suka smoa sudara tulis apa-apa yang kita suka smoa sudara tulis apa-apa sudara suka, dan jikalau baik itu perkura, 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-hal 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 kirimkan itu perkara tulisan lbeh dhulu 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 t'ada kata, kita t'ada nanti buat.

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

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

Ada orang yang ta'boleh bacha Inggris; ada orang boleh bacha, ttapi susah mngerti; ada yang tahu bacha dan boleh mngerti, ttapi ta'boleh trangkan kpada lain orang; Sbab itu smoa orang, kita rasa, msti mngaku yang ini Magazine utul-lah chukop baik-nya. Mau bacha boleh, mau mngerti snang, dan mau trangkan kpada lain orang t'ada

### THE

# Straits Chinese Annual.

Published in Aid of the Building Fund for Principal's Quarters. Singapore & 193 Chinese Girls' School : : :

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

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



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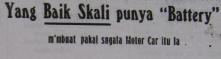
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hilip W. Thayer, Ocean Building, Singapore.



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

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PONES ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS.

Jam de Crissone Louis de Ralydre, Odenato, Germano Ol, Alamie extract, Essente C. Bouces Window and Todes to nazza, Wanfe Germa, cubi Cre-ciación dista, Sabraiga Saga, Lip na Porder, Powder Boise and Pro-com and Stage, Riof. Tooth and N com and Stage, Riof. Tooth and N com, Devening and Poriso Gerides as-



#### Upturn spurs job switches

A RALLY in the jobs market fuelled by the contorner securery is reducing demand for a government-traded, scheme that encourages firms to take

on brainess.

And a few of those who took traineeships and the depths of the downlars may leave for other lobe that pay better than the moderate solaries offered under the scheme.

#### Economy hits bump in 4Q

SINGAPORE'S accompress Their hit a SINGAPORE'S economy stelly not a upond bramp in the locath quarter of this year, with a drop in narrallacturing probably leading to flut growth between September and December, economiets and about of **MONEY PAGE 820** 



troll-boeted sirliner.
Mr. Oliuma was bald on Tuesday flavo had been warnings of possible Christmes holiday attacks, and information that the

"There were bits of information availa-within the Intelligence commonly that edit zaws - and should larse - beau. CNN, cling an constand warse it de-commendation of the constant of the White beauty of the whole is the White beauty of the devia stations where the his within the intelligence commonly that could have - and should have - heen

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8 ways to a new. healthier you IN MIND YOUR BODY

Library's most borrowed books M LIFE! PAGE C2:

A look back at Singapore A decade of change and challenges

# PRIME, PAGES A10811



#### More claims against docs

COMPUNSATION claims against doctors are on the rise. From about 40 to 50-claims a year, early fills decade, it is now up to 250' compliants a year. Sood are distributed or settled by the innover, with only about 2 per court making it to court. In PRIME PAGE A3

#### China eyes bases abroad

CHINA meds a persupont turns base pversus to resupple its slope on anti-pence missions in the Sulf of Aden off Semula, Rear-Admiral 'tim Disso seld. The enggestion raises the idea that China could build foreign



## Obama hits out at intelligence failures

President demands to know why information was not properly shared

FIRST S'PORE WOMAN

recriminations mounted over the botched ... In a frustrated tone, the President de-

After 36 days of hard brisking over 900km in temperatures as two as mores 30 days C. Ratam Sophia-Pang became the first Sepageness woman to air from the Actanotic coact to the South Fein. The 27-special becames of an of

### Indonesia's ex-president Gus Dur dies, 69

By Sacar Ossess DEDONÉSIA CHERENITENDENT

ARCENTA Indoessia's former president Abstronimum Water, better tunwer as Gen Dyn, died at a lakarta hospital but right of complicatives southing from least and inches his one of the part of the same of

The nearly bitted former presi-draft land been foughtained at the Cigits Mengankasons in hospital in laborts after folling II while visiting the graves of his father and grandfather in lembarg. East lives,

lest week. On Tourday, he underwent cor-

On Tousday, as underwork str-gacy to entione a window tooth.
A highly expected sociale Mus-lim clerk, Mr Abdurrahman mised for a later poiled in the malion's find youn of damatesay, following the fall of long-time strengtom So-

He became the first independe to win a contested presidential vote in October 1999, edging out Megawati Sokamopatri, the daugh-ter of founding president Sukamo But he straggled to fulfil his ambillions plans in the face of a broker occurry and an anatable and trag-monted political system.

mented pottlead system. He presidency elithratisty collupted and be was replaced by the Magnowith in high 2001.
Hought director Alexa Tarler shad Modern V. You Can died at Modern V. You Can died at Modern V. You Can died be and darbeite heart fellene behalf the best of darbeite file affect. Whe need not making to determine file eard come of death. But the former provident had been enterously ill since hed morning when we mixed thin to control of the co

daughter Yenny Wahid, were at his budiede when he died.

"We will morem the death of

by builed at the family burial

## The Straits Times, 1845 July

## The Straits Times, 2009 December

CNN, in the mountime, reported that the US and Yemen were reviewing targets affiliate claimed responsibility for last Pri-

Gas Dur, who cost-buted fremen-dotsly to the nation and country. It call on all indocessans to pray for his und."
Dr Yudhoyono said there would 25—year did Nigorian alayed bender was a sumation was passed to component of the data was not properly disordine disordine data was component of the service and the data was component of the data be a state figureal today. Mr. Abdurrabman's body was

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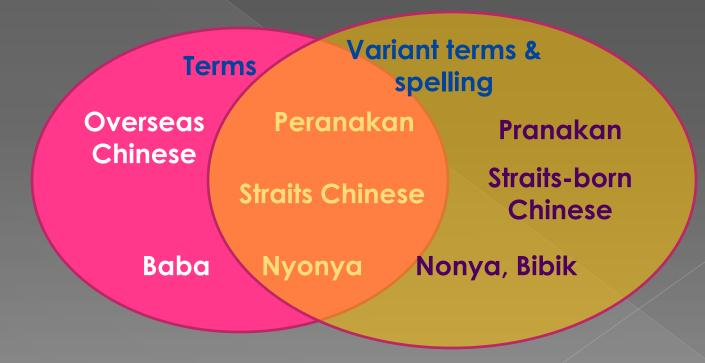
flags" and p

# 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



Advanced Search V | Search Tips

The searchable newspaper text that appears in the article extract has been automatically generated using an Optical Character I



The Straits Times, 13 June 1995, Page 1
Tuminah Sapawi reviews Felix Chia's Si Adek Beradek
Page View | Table of Contents | Microfilm Reel NL20043 | Save to myLibrary | Add to Citation

## 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 pedestric
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 abouthis year's Festival of Arts. Those who are interested in Peranakan culture can aputhe play Mamantau, by Felix Chia, will be held in the Reception (95 words)
Page View | Table of Contents | Microfilm Reel NL14366 | Save to myLibrary | Add to Citation

## 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 Moni- tor, May 26). After having been born and 23 years, I would have certainly noticed that the reconstructed roof of (80 words) Page View | Table of Contents | Microfilm Reel NL15064 | Save to myLibrary | Add to Citation

## **Authors**

Peranakan writers – eg. Felix chia

Academics – eg. John Clammer

Columnist – eg. Violet Oon

## Untitled [Articles + Illustrations]

The Straits Times, 21 November 2002, Page 14

# Q & A

