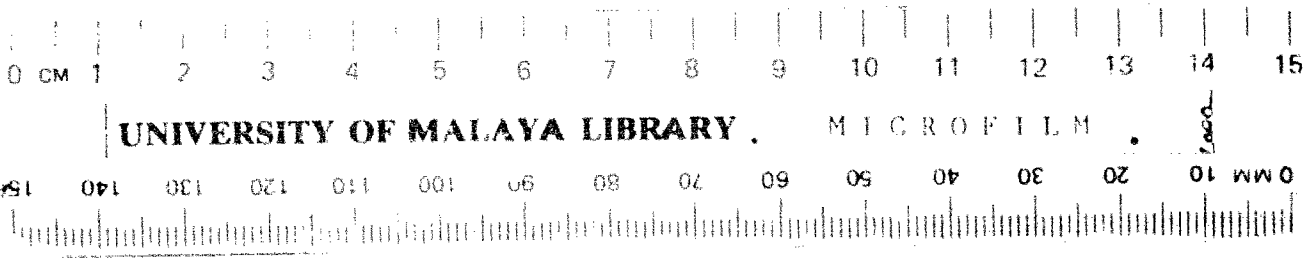


AAU-4007



AN APPRAISAL  
 OF THE  
 KUALA LINGGI FISHERMEN RESETTLEMENT SCHEME

by  
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A Candidate Thesis presented to  
 the University of Malaya in  
 part fulfillment towards the  
 Degree of Bachelor of Arts  
 with Honours in Economics

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event, the rural population of the world is the subject of discussion in one part of the world. Without, especially in the developed world, the rural population has been a neglected area. Since the achievement of World War II, the problems of rural poverty have been regarded as crucial to the development of the world. The Government has not hesitated in giving rural development a high priority in her National Development Plans. The first major objective of the Second Five Year Plan 1961-1965 is "to provide facilities and opportunities for the rural population to improve its standards of economic and social well-being." The Government is devoting a very substantial portion of its development budget for the benefits of the rural population.

The number of fishermen in Malaya has been estimated to be around 54,000 and taking the total population to be approximately 8 million, this forms about 6% which is quite a significant proportion. It is also realised that their economic conditions are characterised by such familiar features of some poverty such as heavy indebtedness, low income, low productivity, and exploitation that without substantial financial assistance from the State there is no hope for them to extricate themselves from their present position of poverty and misery. In addition, fishing has never been a profitable occupation in this country and consequently, there is a shortage of capital for its development. Under such circumstances, it becomes imperative that the provision of financial aid by the Government appears to be the only sensible way by which these fishermen can ever hope to better themselves.

As a result, the Government of the Federation of Malaya has embarked upon several elaborate fishing aid schemes with the primary aim of raising the social and economic well-being of the fishing community. At the time of writing of this "Exercise Exercise", there are several such schemes in operation in various parts of this country but most unfortunately, few proved to have been successful. It is the task of this "Exercise" to examine critically and appraise one of these schemes.

An attempt is made to critically appraise the Kuala Linggi Fishermen Resettlement Scheme which is the first of its kind that has been launched by the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Malaya. It is hoped that the final outcome of this "Exercise" will bring to light

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<sup>1</sup>See Malaysia, Interim Review of Development in Malaya under the Second Five Year Plan. Govt. Printer, K.L. 1964.

not only the special problems that the Scheme is facing but also the approach to solving them, in the solution of these problems.

The task of collecting material of this nature is necessarily beset with numerous problems. In the lack of literature on this topic in the past 2 decades, almost no historical development of this country is unfortunately reflected in the rest of the world's publications for the field. In this respect, I was most fortunate, however, to have a large part of the materials which this "Exercise" is based on obtained from various confidential reports and monthly progress reports which were made available to me by the General Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Malaysia. The rest of the materials were obtained during a field trip to the site of the Scheme itself. I was equally fortunate that I was able to take several beautiful photographs at the resettlement site, some of which were carefully selected for illustration.

A few words of explanation may usefully be included here about certain terms employed throughout this "Exercise". The term "Scheme" will be used to denote the Kuala Linggi Fishermen Resettlement Scheme, at Kempong Nelayan Kuala Linggi, Malacca, and the term "Society" will be used to mean The Kuala Linggi Fishermen Co-operative Credit and Marketing Society Unlimited. "Members" will be employed to refer to those fishermen who joined the Kuala Linggi Fishermen Co-operative Credit and Marketing Society Unlimited and who received loans as well as enjoyed (and still enjoy) all the facilities provided by the Scheme.

I wish to record my profound gratitude to the Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Malaysia, for having given me full co-operation as well as having made all necessary arrangements to enable me to write this "Exercise".

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T.C.L.