

ADRIAAN KOEK – MALACCA'S UNSUNG DUTCH BURGHER

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Towards the end of the Dutch rule of Malacca, one prominent Dutch Burgher¹ family there was the Koek family. Historians who study this period of Dutch-Malaysian history from archival records and history books are not able to miss this family name. From this family, a person named Adriaan Koek appears to dominate the records as he would probably have also dominated much of what happened in Malacca then. Some notable primary sources, which attest to the prominence and importance of Adriaan Koek in the development in Malacca's history, include the historically acclaimed autobiography, Hikayat Abdullah. Another is the Tuhfat al-Nafis—the history of Johor, Riau and Lingga.

The Koek Family History and their Relations

Adriaan Koek was born on December 24th, 1759 in Malacca. His parents were Joost Koek (b. 1731, Malacca, d. 1790, Malacca) and Catharina de Roth (b. circa 1735, Malacca). Catharina de Roth was the daughter of Johan de Roth from Grave, the Netherlands² and a woman who was an emancipated slave of Singhalese origin.

Ecclesiastical records show that the Koek family had established their roots in Malacca going as far back as the mid-17th century. In fact, Adriaan Koek belonged to the fourth generation of Koeks at Malacca, descended from Joost Danielsz Coek and Joanna Barbier (b. circa. 1665, Malacca). Joost Danielsz Coek was from Middleburgh in the Netherlands. He came to Asia

in 1675 with the ship 'Alexander' which was from the VOC³ chamber of Amsterdam and he was employed as a *baasscheepstimmerman* (ship's master carpenter). While in Malacca, Joost Danielsz Coek was first married to Maria Hogewerf (b. ca. 1665, Malacca). His second marriage was to Joanna Barbier, who was the daughter of Christoffel Barbier and Maria van Macau.⁴

Adriaan's grandparents were Josua Koek (b. 1705, Malacca), a deacon and *oud-kapitein der burgerij* (former captain of the Burghers), and Maria Meecke (b. 1704, Malacca, d. 1733, Malacca).

The Koek family was also connected to many other Burgher families in Malacca at that time. There were many Dutch Burgher families of either ancient or more recent origins. They were somehow related to a Koek. Families in Malacca such as Kraal, Meyer, van Moesbergen, and Velge were related to the Koeks. They were some of the oldest Dutch families from Malacca, and their descendants continue to live today in Malaysia and Singapore. Adriaan Koek was the second child in a family of five. The eldest in the family was Jacomina Maria Koek (b. ca. 1756, Malacca, d. 1795, Batavia). She was first married to Johannes Adrianus van Moesbergen (b. ca. 1751), who was an assistant with the VOC and *luitenant der burgerij* (lieutenant of the civil guards) at Malacca.

In 1789, following the death of her husband, Jacomina Maria married Jacob van Kal (b. 1754, Delfshaven, d. 1829, Haarlem) from the Netherlands. Jacob was secretary of the castle of Batavia before he was posted to Malacca in 1788. In Malacca, Jacob held various governmental posts and he was eventually made Resident of Riau. While in Riau, van Kal soon fell out of favour with the Sultan of Johor and was sent back to Malacca. While in Malacca, van Kal landed in prison and was detained for 28 months before he was sent to Batavia for his trial. His wife and two children accompanied him to Batavia, but during his

detention, his wife and children perished there. Jacob finally returned to the Netherlands where he spent the last days of his life.

The third sibling was Johan Jozua Koek who was christened in Malacca on January 24th, 1762. The fourth sibling was Catharina Johanna Koek (b. ca. 1763, Malacca, d. 1843, Bogor). She was first married to Joan George Abeleven (b. 1747, d. 1779) who was also from Malacca. Joan George Abeleven worked with the VOC as a *boekhouder* (book-keeper) in Nagasaki, Japan and a *burgervandrig* (civil ensign). After the death of her husband, she married Abraham Couperus (b. 1752, Leeuwarden, d. 1813, Surabaya) from the Netherlands.

Abraham Couperus first joined the VOC's Amsterdam office in 1772, and in 1776 was sent to Java, where he rose through the administrative ranks from junior bookkeeper to become Governor of Malacca (Governor, 1788 - 1795). He was described as a man "*of mild and peaceful disposition, without the slightest trace of pride or arrogance*". Johann Anton Neubronner⁵, who was seeking the patronage of the Governor upon his arrival at Malacca in November 1789, described Couperus as "*a helpful Frisian*".

During the Napoleonic wars in Europe, Dutch possessions in the East—including Malacca—became the target of capture by the British for fear that it would fall into the hands of Napoleon's French navy. Therefore, on August 26th, 1795, Governor Abraham Couperus was forced to surrender Malacca to the British.⁶ Couperus and his family were eventually removed from Malacca as prisoners of war on January 4th, 1796 and brought to Madras by the British. Between 1796 and 1807, Couperus and his family lived in exile at the Danish settlement of Tranquibar, on the Indian Coromandel Coast. In 1808, Couperus and his family were finally relocated to Batavia where he held official posts, including council member of the East Indies until his death in 1813.

The eldest daughter of Abraham Couperus and Catharina Johanna Koek, named Gesina Couperus, was married to Jan Samuel Timmerman Thijssen from the port city of Hoorn in the Netherlands. Timmerman Thijssen became the first Dutch governor during Malacca's second Dutch rule (Governor, 1818 – 1823). He was also Adriaan Koek's nephew by marriage.

These influential relationships would eventually play an important role for Adriaan Koek. Adriaan Koek's youngest sister, Magdalena Wilhelmina Koek was christened in Malacca on May 12th, 1765. At the age of 26, Adriaan Koek was married to Maria Dionicia Wilhelmina Dieterich. Born circa 1769 in Malacca, she was the daughter of Gustaaf Dieterich and Kittjil van Makassar—an emancipated slave girl originating from the Spice Islands.

Wealth and Businesses

In the days of the Dutch Company in Malacca, Adriaan Koek was a senior company merchant who at times acted as deputy head of the administration. Between 1798 and 1818 he was a member of the *Raad van Justitie* (Council of Judicature), which was made up of a committee of leading citizens. Between 1812 and 1824 he was the Council's president.

Adriaan Koek's wealth and connections were such that he assumed a high position in the *Raad van Justitie* of Malacca despite being a private merchant. He was placed in authority over the two dozen private Dutch merchants in Malacca, and was the leading member of the committee supervising the *Weeskammer* (Orphan Chamber or Court of Chancery), which provided capital for mercantile investments.

From Malacca's census of slaves in the 1820s, Adriaan Koek was recorded as the largest slave owner there. He owned 63 slaves over the age of 8 years and 8 slave children. In comparison,

Governor Timmerman Thijssen merely owned 37 slaves above the age of 8 years and 11 under this age. Adriaan Koek's son-in-law, Petrus Johannes de Wit appears to have been a rather modest slave owner who only owned a 14-year old boy named Dale from Soembawa and a 13-year old Bugis named Slammat.

As a businessman, Koek had forged a substantial network of trading connections. He had come to exercise a strong personal influence among several of the local Malay rulers, particularly the royalties of Johor and Kedah.

Properties in Malacca

Initially, Adriaan Koek was not a member of the Dutch administration in Malacca. He was an independent Burgher who was engaged in trade and shipping. He owned considerable landed property in Malacca, including a plot of land at Banda Hilir.⁷ His landed properties outside the town of Malacca were located in the northern coastal region of Malacca, from Klebang to Sungei Bahru.

Already during the time of Adriaan's grandparents, Josua Koek had owned landed properties in Malacca. One of such properties owned by Josua Koek was a piece of land identified as "Passal & ca."⁸ Josua Koek purchased this property on July 5th, 1735 at a public auction. It was previously owned (since 1708) by a person known as Kalikaula.⁹

Unfortunately, the location of Adriaan Koek's family home remains a mystery. It seems unlikely that he would have lived within Malacca's fortress. He would probably have lived on his land at either Banda Hilir or Kampung Belanda.¹⁰

Only company servants were usually allowed to dwell within the Malacca fortress. Outside the fortress there had been various *kampongs* (villages) which names reflected the respective ethnic groups that inhabited it. The majority of the wealthy population of

the town resided in Kampong Belanda, the Dutch quarter in Malacca that is today still known to locals by that name. Other suburbs were Kampung Cina for the Chinese, and Kampung Serani where the Portuguese descendants lived. Kampung Palli and Kampung Keling were inhabited by the Malays and Indians.

Unlike the Malays who mostly lived in villages, the Chinese were found in the outskirts of the town, while the Indian Hindus and Muslims lived in the northern suburbs. The more affluent Dutch inhabitants preferred their brick buildings at Kampung Belanda in Malacca town.

From historical records, it is known that Johann Anton Neubronners acquired a house on Heeren Street (now Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock) in 1804, and it remained the family home until 1849. During the time of Abraham Couperus, the senior merchant, Francois Thierens, also lived at Heeren Street. Sultan Hussain Shah, the person who signed the treaty with Stamford Raffles in 1819 for the lease of a part of Singapore to be used as the English trading base, lived in exile in Malacca and for part of the time occupied a rented house at Kampung Belanda belonging to a Dutch Burgher named Adriaan Minjoot.

It was only between the 1830's and 1850's that the Peranakans and Chinese began to take over these former Dutch houses in Kampung Belanda and furnished their homes lavishly. Unique colonial Dutch architectural influences are still found on many of the buildings there today. It is not unreasonable to assume that the family of Adriaan Koek could have occupied one of the houses at Kampung Belanda too.

A Friend of the Malay Rulers

Through his connections with the Malay royalty, Adriaan Koek was appointed as agent to Sultan Mahomed of Johor

with the power of attorney to collect the tithe from the produce of all the Sultan's land on the west coast of Johor, from Batu Pahat and Parit Jawa spanning north towards Johor's boundary with Malacca.

In referring to a dispute between Adriaan Koek and the Dutch Burgher De Wind family on a triangular section of property between Mount Ophir (Gunung Ledang), the Kesang River and Chinchin Hang that was claimed by the Sultan of Johor in 1808, the highly capable British officer, William Thomas Lewis who had come from Bencoelen (now Bengkulu, Sumatra) in 1825, explained that *"it was a notorious fact that the late Adriaan Koek in those days was greatly feared and that in fact he did as he pleased..."* in Malacca. Governor Fullerton concurred with Lewis in his report on the matter and concluded that *"such... was the power of Mr. Koek, and so much his power was dreaded, that he met no opposition"*.

(Munshi) Abdullah bin Abdul Kadir reported in his autobiography—the *Hikayat Abdullah*—that his father was employed by Adriaan Koek. Abdullah wrote that Koek was *"very friendly with the Kedah Rajas"*. Abdullah reported that the Kedah Prince, Tengku Daud, had once presented an elephant to Koek as a gift. The elephant arrived in Malacca, much to the amusement of the local people there.

Abdullah's father was made captain of a large sailing boat owned by Koek, called *'The Trailing Sail'*, which travelled between Malacca and Kedah for trade. During his employment with Koek, Abdullah's father also acted as envoy to places like Lingga, Riau, Pahang, Terengganu, Kelantan, Palembang and even to places as far away as Java and other neighbouring territories.

It was likely that when Abdullah wrote about his father acting as envoy for Koek, he was referring to the mission of acquiring old Malay books his father was put in command of by Adriaan Koek in 1821. Adriaan Koek was then acting as Malacca's Vice-Governor in the absence of Governor Timmerman Thijssen.

To the local Malay chiefs and rulers, Adriaan Koek was called the *Tuan Raja Muda* of Malacca. The title signified that he was similar to a Crown Prince or co-ruler, second only to the Governor of Malacca. The Governor of Malacca was called *Tuan Raja*, a title that acknowledged the highest authority in Malacca. It aptly portrayed the importance of Adriaan Koek's position in Malacca. In Dutch, Koek was the *Secunde*.

A Friend to the British

During the take-over of Malacca by the British from the Dutch in 1795, British forces landed at Malacca and established a bridgehead on a piece of property owned by Koek. Since he was friendly with the new British administration, there were rumours of his treacherous role in facilitating the landing of British troops in Malacca.

His friendliness towards the British could not be denied. In 1808, his good friend William Farquhar, the British Resident of Malacca (Resident, 1803 – 1818), honoured Koek with the title '*Captain of the Civil Guards*' and granted him land outside Malacca's Tranquerah gate, located north, just outside the old commercial part of Malacca's town.

Farquhar had also sent Koek to Bulang to personally warn the Bendahara of Pahang not to interfere in a dispute over the Riau-Johor succession. Farquhar even recommended that Koek be awarded a generous 'compensation by the withdrawing British forces from Malacca in 1818.

Back with the Dutch

Adriaan Koek was said to be "*always the power behind the Malaccan throne, whether it was occupied by a Dutchman or an Englishman*".

On the return of Dutch rule to Malacca in 1818, the new governor—Jan Samuel Timmerman Thijssen—immediately turned to Adriaan Koek to use his good connections with the Malay princes to restore Dutch authority. Koek wrote personally to the princes of Rembau, Siak and Riau, explaining that there had been a change of government in Malacca; and the reinstated Dutch government desired that everything should be back on the old footing.

Adriaan Koek became a senior member of the Malacca Council. He was said to have even influenced the Governor's actions when the Dutch had disputed the validity of Sir Stamford Raffles' settlement in Singapore.

The Development of Riau and Singapore

In October 1818, Dutch authorities in Batavia had sent Koek ahead to prepare the ground for the Dutch expedition to Riau, aimed at reasserting Dutch suzerainty over the dominions of Johor. On arrival at Riau, he stayed in the residence of Raja Muda Jaafar, who was then away at Lingga. When Jaafar returned, Koek was received warmly, and met him daily.

The *Tuhfat al-Nafis* gives a lengthy account of Koek's intervention at Riau and suggests that it was his ties of personal friendship that averted an all-out war with the Dutch and swayed the Sultan and the Raja Muda to accept the Dutch rather than to side with the English. William Farquhar himself visited Riau twice during this tense time, and used one of Koek's sons-in-law as one of his emissaries.

The situation in Riau at that time was highly charged by the fact that the arrival of Adriaan Koek was soon followed by Dutch Rear-Admiral Wolterbeek with two armed ships and 300 marines ready to apply "*appropriate military force to facilitate the renewal of the contracts and, if need be, to compel by force*

of arms any princes who were unwilling or indifferent”.

The ensuing negotiations at Riau threw Adriaan Koek together with Captain C.J.P. Elout, the Dutch Government's Secretary for Native Affairs who was also the Governor-General's *aide-de-camp* and an experienced trouble-shooter. Elout arrived at Riau with Wolterbeek, and initially hovered about offshore on one of Wolterbeek's ships, ostentatiously taking soundings of water depths as a signal to the Sultan and the Raja Muda that the Dutch were preparing to use naval force. Elout then joined Koek in the “*delicate and tortuous negotiations*” that ensued. Wolterbeek empowered them both to advance negotiations, but Elout often had to stand in for the already elderly Koek who was in poor health.

The negotiations were a success and both Koek and Elout were present at the signing of the treaty at Riau, each in his capacity as Wolterbeek's interpreter-cum-adviser. Also present there was Abdul Kadir, who probably helped draft the Malay version of the agreement ceding Tanjung Pinang to the Dutch in 1818.

Koek and Abdul Kadir stayed on to see to the implementation of the agreement, backed by artillery captain C. E. Konigsdorffer, who subsequently became the Dutch Resident of Riau (1818-1821). It was Koek and Elout who jointly employed their negotiating abilities and language skills in the project to revive and entrench Dutch authority over Riau, deflecting British competition in a precarious political situation.

Unfortunately, despite Koek's best offices, the Riau agreement eventually did not go well. The former British Resident of Malacca, Farquhar, made a hurried visit to Riau to try to frustrate the reassertion of Dutch power. While Farquhar's visit was not directly successful, it enabled Sir Stamford Raffles to exploit splits in the Riau-Lingga nobility to counter the Dutch with the establishment of a new British free port at Singapore in 1819.

In 1822, Adriaan Koek also accompanied Governor Timmerman

Thijssen to Riau to seize the regalia of the Riau-Johor Sultanate.

Upon the death of Governor Timmerman Thijssen on January 15th, 1823, Adriaan Koek became the Acting Governor of Malacca and held the governor's post for about a year. He was succeeded by Hendrik Stephanus van Son (Governor, 1823 - 1825).

Saving the Malay Heritage

During his time, Adriaan Koek had become renowned among the Dutch in the East Indies for his familiarity with Malay society. Dutch Rear-Admiral Wolterbeek described him as an *"elderly man highly respected equally by natives and the government"* and as *"very knowledgeable in all matters touching the native, and besides regarded for a number of years now by the princes as their friend and counsellor"*. Wolterbeek's assessment of Koek is confirmed in the *Tuhfat al-Nafis*, where Koek was introduced as an old and personal friend of Raja Muda Jaafar of Riau and Lingga.

In April 1821, Abdul Kadir, who was then also the Malay translator for the Resident in Riau, was commanded by Adriaan Koek to travel to Lingga, Riau and Terengganu in search for *"treatises in the Malay language, and romances, stories, and narratives of olden days"* and to acquire or copy them for the Batavian government. As a result of Koek's assistance, princes and viceroys of these places were only too happy to assist with the Dutch acquisition of the books, and some of the books were presented to Abdul Kadir without charge, simply as a form of goodwill.

The purpose of these acquisitions was for the Dutch colonial government to prepare and publish a concise Malay-Dutch dictionary. In 1820, no living Dutchman and only less than a handful of Englishmen had a grasp of the scope of Malay

literature. This endeavour had unwittingly helped to save a number of antiquated Malay works such as the *Hikayat Hang Tuah*, *Seri Rama*, *Kobat Laila Indera*, the stories of *Sang Kancil*, *Gangga Sakti*, *Carang Kulina* and other stories of the old Malay kings.

Already at that time, Abdul Kadir had experienced difficulties in his quest for old books in Malay. Abdul Kadir reported that there were some Muslim teachers who had rejected and proscribed the reading of romances of olden-day kings, and that some people had even burnt these books. Some of the literary works had already been carried off to other countries.

The Batavian government had appointed Dutch specialists in linguistics to prepare and publish a Malay-Dutch dictionary, and a committee for this purpose was appointed by the Governor-General in Batavia. The Batavian government wanted someone with a sound practical knowledge of Malay for this purpose. Koek was therefore nominated for membership of the Dictionary Committee. The most promising of the young language cadets, Christiaan van Angelbeek (b. 1802, Amsterdam, d. 1825, Bogor), was posted to Malacca specifically to learn Malay, and probably to be under the wings of Adriaan Koek. Christiaan's brother, Eduard van Angelbeek who also arrived in Malacca, later married one of Adriaan Koek's daughters, Johanna Koek.

The Descendants of Adriaan Koek

The surviving children of Adriaan Koek and Maria Dionicia Wilhelmina Dieterich were Catharina Maria Koek, George Koek, Jacobina Elizabeth Koek, Wilhelmina Koek and Johanna Koek, who were all born in Malacca.

The only surviving son of Adriaan Koek, George Koek (b. 19.12.1796, Malacca, d. 17.1.1828, Malacca), was probably named after the reigning King of England at that time, as he was born during the first British take-over of Malacca. George Koek

worked as a clerk in Malacca, and later became the assistant bookkeeper. He died a bachelor at the age of only 32, bringing an end to the male line of this family.

The daughters of Adriaan Koek were married into influential families. Catharina Maria Koek (b. 6.1.1793, Malacca) was married to James Carnegy (d. 1823, Malacca), who was a master mariner in Malacca.

Jacobina Elizabeth Koek (b. 26.10.1797, Malacca, d. 6.5.1868, Malacca) married Petrus Johannes de Wit (b. 1796, Cape Town, d. 1831, Batavia) from South Africa. Petrus Johannes had come to the Indies in 1816 and worked as a clerk in Malacca. Later, he became a merchant. After de Wit's death, Jacobina married Jan Tessensohn (b. 1808, Malacca).

Johanna Koek (b. 1801, Malacca, d. 27.9.1853, Batavia) was married to Eduard van Angelbeek (b. 1801, Amsterdam, d. 1825, Batavia), a Dutchman who was the chief clerk in Malacca, and later secretary at Cheribon.

Another of Koek's daughters, Wilhelmina Koek (b. 10.10.1798, Malacca, d. 16.12.1852, Batavia) was married to Lodewijk Carel Count von Ranzow (b. 1787, Ceylon, d. 1865, Batavia). Count von Ranzow was Inspector for the tin mines at Jeboes (Banka). He went on to become the Resident of Riau,¹¹ then Assistant Resident of Benkoelen (Bengkulu) and Assistant Resident of Soemanep (Madura). The von Ranzow family is from the German aristocratic line descended from Duke Frederic I of Saxe-Gotha, the same ancestor of George III of Hanover, King of England (1760 - 1820). She was known as Wilhelmina Countess von Ranzow.

As seen from the genealogical structure of the Koek family, it was common for the females from the Malacca Dutch community to be married to newly arrived Europeans. Therefore, the population in Malacca's Dutch colony can be said to be largely made up of issues from such union. Whether incidental or otherwise, this was consistent with the Governor-General Rijkloff

van Goens's¹² call for Eurasian daughters to be married to newly arrived Netherlanders, so that Dutch Eurasians in the East would retain their original Dutch character. Through these intermarriages, the Malacca Dutch community was able to retain its open character and its heterogeneous cultural traditions. In the case of Adriaan Koek, it was obvious that he enjoyed a politically advantageous position on account of such alliances.

With the death of his only son—George Koek—in 1828, Adriaan Koek was left with no surviving male heir. However, many of the descendants from his daughters continued to exist in Asia until the middle of the 20th century.

From the line of Jacobina Elizabeth Koek, who was first married to Petrus Johannes de Wit, came the De Witt family. Magdalena Johanna de Wit, the daughter of Petrus Johannes and Jacobina Elizabeth Koek married a Batavian government official named Charles Antoine Dieudonne Wierds van Coehoorn (b. 1824, Oud-Beyerland, South Holland) at Batavia and their three children returned to the Netherlands. From Jacobina Elizabeth's second marriage to Jan Tessensohn, came the descendants of the Tessensohns. Both the Dutch Eurasian De Witt and the Tessensohn families are still found in Malaysia today.

From the line of Wilhelmina Koek and Lodewijk Carel Count von Ranzow came the families von Ranzow, Swaab, Meyer and Oelrichs; whereas, from the line of Johanna Koek and Eduard van Angelbeek came the families Niessen and van Zuylen.¹³ These Dutch families have their roots in Indonesia and they lived there until they were repatriated to the Netherlands around 1950, where many of their descendants can be found today.

The Legacy of Adriaan Koek

On May 19th, 1825, hardly two months after the British returned to permanently occupy Malacca, Adriaan Koek died at

the age of 65 and was buried in Malacca. It was reported that he was buried in the Koek family tomb located on St. Paul's Hill, Malacca. However, the name of Adriaan Koek does not appear on any of the tombstones either on St. Paul's Hill or elsewhere in Malacca.

After the British assumed permanent control over Malacca in 1825, many from the Malacca Dutch community stayed on. They adapted their lives to the new political conditions and continued to be of service to the British as during the time of Adriaan Koek. One person, who could be said to have continued the friendly ties between the Malacca Dutch community and the British in the spirit initially fostered by Adriaan Koek, was Johannes Bartholomeus Westerhout (b. 1794, Malacca, d. 1856, Malacca).

Tuan Barchie, as Westerhout was popularly known by the locals, initially served as a clerk with the *Raad van Justitie* (Council of Judicature) in 1823. During British times, he became the Superintendent of the district of Naning and was the Assistant Resident of Malacca between 1837 and 1845.

An agreement dated March 14th, 1828 was made between the owners of properties held under Dutch land titles in Malacca and the British East India Company. This agreement caused the ownership of their landed property to be acquired by the British East India Company. The '*lands and gardens*' of Adriaan Koek at Klebang, Batang Tiga, Tanjung Keling, Kundor, Sungei Bahru and in '*the Settlement of Malacca*' were acquired for a consideration of an annuity of 2,000 Sicca Ruppes to be paid to his heirs in perpetuity.

In the 1860's, three of Koek's heirs were persuaded to accept a lump-sum payment of 8,000 rupees each in lieu of the annuity they were entitled to, by way of indentures with the Secretary of the State for India.

On March 11th, 1902, '*The Adrian Koek's Estate Ordinance of 1902*' was enacted by F. A. Swettenham, the Governor and

Commander-in-Chief of the Straits Settlements for the distribution of the lump-sum payment in lieu of the entitled annuity to the beneficiaries of Koek's fourth legal heir.

Nowadays, there are no Koeks living in Malacca. Most of the descendants of the other Koek families have since emigrated to Singapore and to other parts of the world. In Singapore, there is a road called Koek Road, which was named after Edwin Koek, a prominent Singapore Eurasian lawyer from the 1870's and 1880's. He was descended from another branch of the Malacca Koek family.

In Malacca, there is no monument erected for Adriaan Koek and no streets named after him. His portrait does not hang in any of the museums, and even his tomb can no longer be found there. Despite his contributions to the development of Malacca, Johor, Riau and the surrounding territories, the memory of Malacca's Adriaan Koek no longer lives in the minds of the people, and may only be found in dusty archival records and a few history books.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 The word *Burgher* means "citizen" in Dutch but it also referred to a member of the "mercantile class".
- 2 The De Roth family originated from Koningsberg, Prussia, now Kaliningrad in Russia. Those who sailed on Dutch ships to the Far East were not only made up of Dutchmen but frequently included those of other European origins.
- 3 VOC stands for *Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie*, United East India Company.
- 4 Maria van Macau was probably an emancipated slave girl who came from Macau. The Dutch community did not appear to practice any racial discrimination, as evidenced by the fact that mixed-marriages or marriages with former slave girls were accepted, as long as they were

- first baptised as Christians.
- ⁵ Johann Anton Neubronner's family came from Germany and he was the progenitor of the Neubronner family in the East.
 - ⁶ On 26th August 1795 after only a token resistance, Malacca was captured by the combined English naval and military expedition under the joint command of Captain Henry Newcome and Major Archibald Brown. The English in the East India Company imposed a military garrison on the town. They appointed the Commandant of the garrison to act as *ex officio* Resident, but allowed the Dutch civil administration to continue more or less as before. The British first held Malacca for the period from 1795 to 1818. Malacca was restored to the Dutch on 21st September 1818 but at the beginning of April 1825, Malacca was traded by the Dutch for Bencoolen (Bengkulu) and the town was reassigned to the British. Malacca was then placed under the direct authority of the English Bengal Government.
 - ⁷ The vicinity of Banda Hilir at that time included the southern coastal area spanning from the fort's Land Gate (today popularly called the *Porto Santiago*) up to the area around St. John's hill. Areas encompassing Padang Merdeka and Melaka Raya (the town's modern commercial hub) were created from more recent sea reclamation projects.
 - ⁸ The property extended from Tanjong Pallas about 6 1/2 miles to the "Sireaus" River. Tanjong Pallas is an outward curve in the coast 10 miles from Malacca at Pulau. Governor Balthasar Bort calls it 'Passaal' and 'Passael'. Raja Haji, during his siege of Malacca, established himself near Telok Ketapang and built a stockade at Tanjong Pallas.
 - ⁹ J. Koek purchased the land belonging to Kalikaula on 5th July 1735 through public auction. Kalikaula purchased the land on 2nd June 1708 from Commera. Commera had purchased the land on 14th October 1699, but the deed was not found in the book of records.
 - ¹⁰ Kampung Belanda is made up of Heeren Street (now Jalan Tun Tan Cheng Lock) and Jonker Street (now Jalan Hang Jebat).
 - ¹¹ Lodewijk Carel Count von Ranzow succeeded C. E. Konigsdoffer as Resident of Riau in 1821.
 - ¹² Rijcklof van Goens, Governor-General of the East Indies (1678 - 1681). He supported the creation of Dutch settler communities resulting from mixed European-Asian marriages.

- ¹³ In 1925, renowned batik designer and producer, Eliza Charlotta van Zuylen from Pekalongan, Java owned the largest batik factory in Indonesia. She was the great-great granddaughter of Adriaan Koek.

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