

KOLOKIUUM PENYELIDIKAN 2021  
INSTITUT TADBIRAN AWAM NEGARA

**THE CONSCIOUSNESS AND MEMORIES OF  
MALAYSIAN JOURNALISTS WHO COVER WARS**

**Pushpa Al Bakri Devadason**

**KEMENTERIAN PERUMAHAN DAN KERAJAAN TEMPATAN**

# MALAYSIAN JOURNALISTS' WAR ACCOUNTS

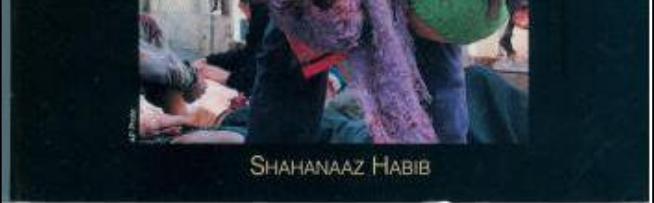
JUST READ!

"We support the legitimate authority but legitimacy

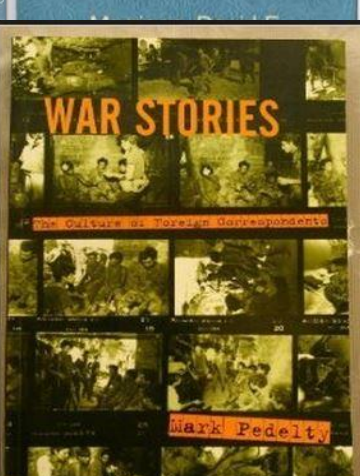
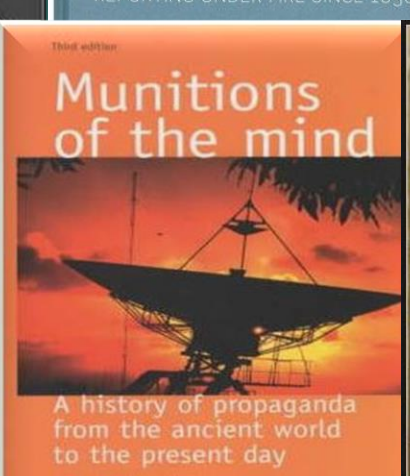
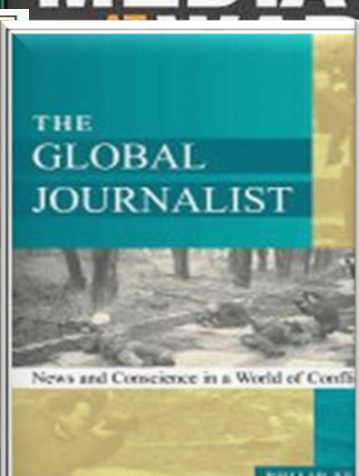
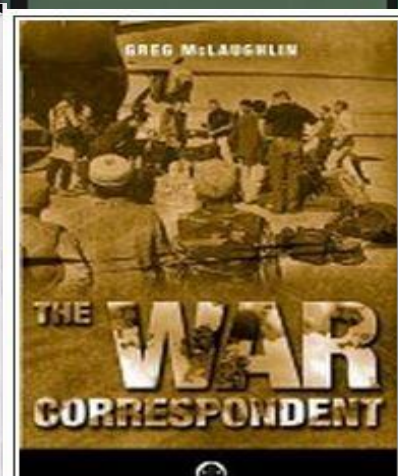
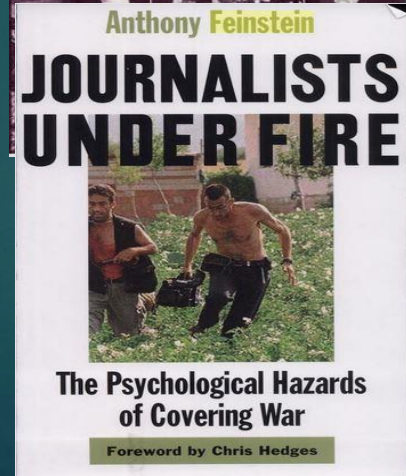
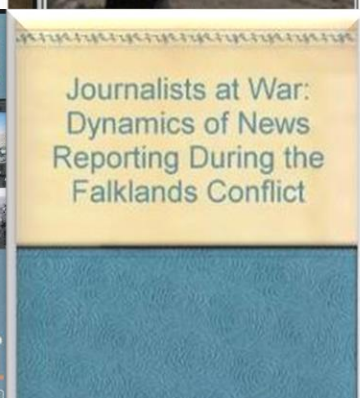
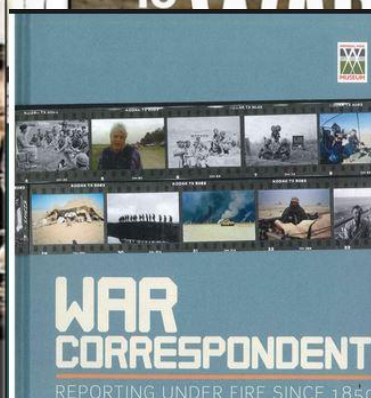
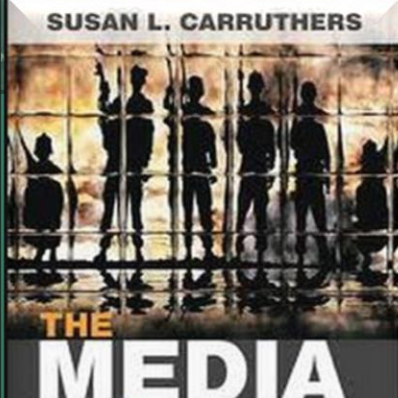
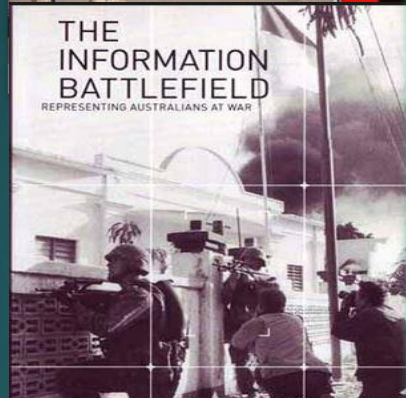
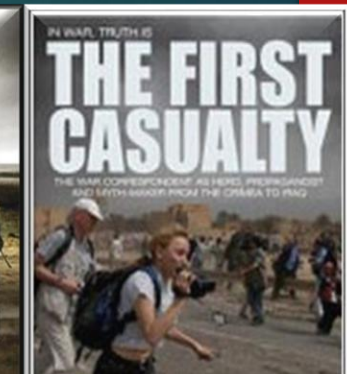
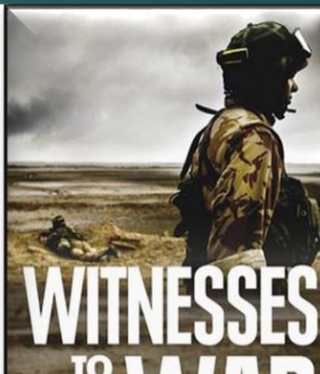
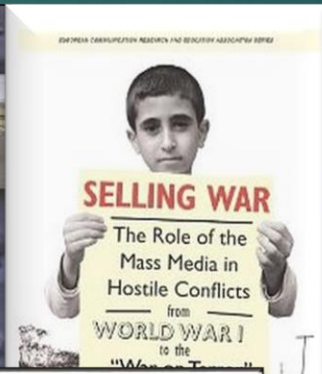
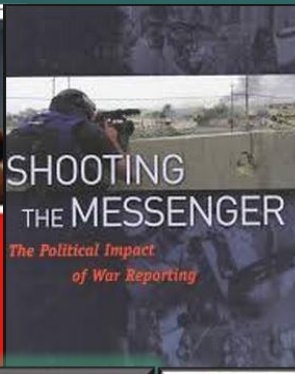
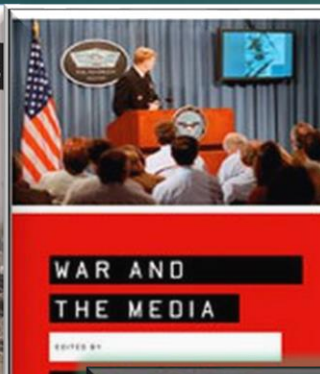
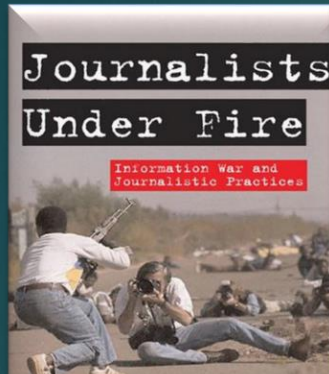
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**Star** SHAHANAAZ HABIB  
reporting from Rafah, Egypt



# ANGLO-EURO DOMINATED SCHOLARSHIP



# RESEARCH METHOD

ORAL HISTORY  
TESTIMONIES



DOCUMENT/  
LIBRARY RESEARCH

# POLICY MAKERS



**Zainuddin  
Maidin**



**Dr Mahathir**



**Khalid  
Yunus**

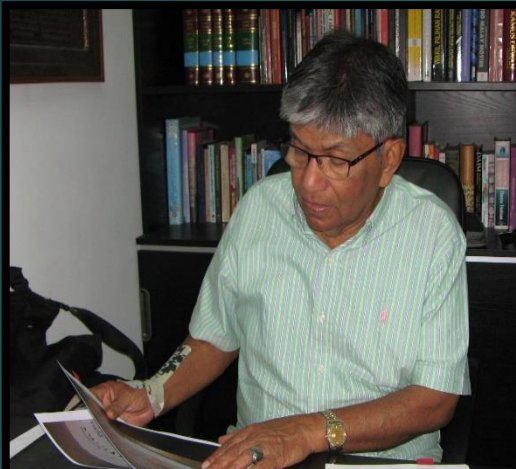


**Rastam  
Mohd Isa**

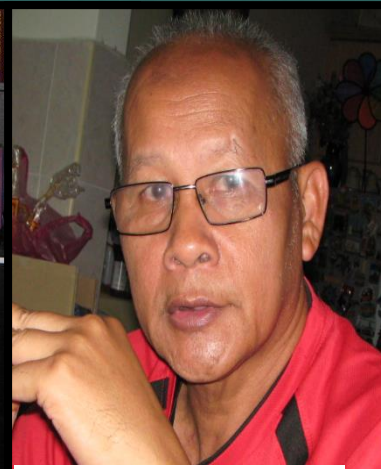


**Zukri  
Valentino**

# NEWS MANAGERS



**Zainuddin Maidin**



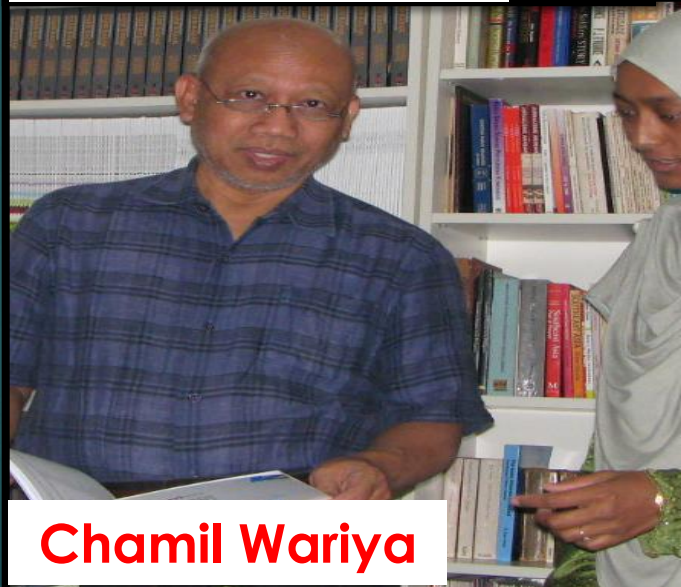
**Mohamed**



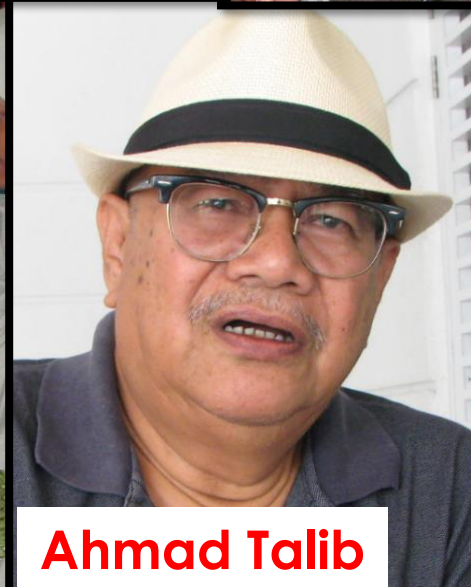
**Azura**



**Yazid**



**Chamil Wariya**



**Ahmad Talib**



**Bunn Nagara**

## REPORTERS: *KONFRONTASI* (1963-1966)



**Khalid Yunus**

**REPORTERS: CONFLICTS OF 1980s - 1990s  
(IRAN-IRAQ, SOVIET-AFGHANISTAN, BOSNIA, ISRAEL-PALESTINE, SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES, SOMALIA)**



**Astora Jabat**



**Ainul Amriz**



**Rosnah Majid**



**Sufi**



**The Family of Zainon Ahmad**



**REPORTERS: CONFLICTS OF 2000 – ONGOING  
(ISRAEL-PALESTINE, IRAQ, EGYPT-LIBYA-YEMEN-TUNISIA,  
SOMALIA, MYANMAR)**



**Syed Azwan**



**Shamsul**



**Melissa**



**Shahanaaz**



**Amy**



**Azura**

# PHOTOJOURNALIST



**Kamarul**



**Omar**



**Raj**



**Aji**



**Bazarul**



**Roslan**



**Annuar**



**Kamarudin**



# FINDINGS




**THEME 1:  
THE GROWTH OF MALAYSIAN WAR  
REPORTING**



**THEME 2:**  
**THE IDENTITIES OF MALAYSIAN WAR JOURNALISTS**



**THEME 3:  
THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR  
REPORTING**



**THEME 4:**  
**THE STRUCTURE AND PRACTICE OF**  
**MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING**



# **SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS**



# MEMORIES OF “OUR WARS”

## Malayan Emergency & *Konfrontasi*

- ❖ Incomplete and fragmentary
- ❖ Journalists were severely controlled by 3 mechanisms (accreditation, law, ownership)
- ❖ Memory that was a social construct of the authorities
- ❖ Evidence suggest memories excavated were politically orchestrated/staged
- ❖ Decades later such memories remain uncorrected
- ❖ From Emergency to *Konfrontasi* liberation (bylines/sources/eye-witness accounts)

# MALAYAN EMERGENCY (1948-1960)

## KONFRONTASI (1963-1966)

**The Straits Times**  
MALAYA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER, ESTABLISHED 1945  
SINGAPORE, THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1953

**NOW IT'S \$250,000 FOR PUBLIC ENEMY No. 1**  
—if brought in alive

KUALA LUMPUR, Wednesday.

THE FEDERATION GOVERNMENT today announced a reward of \$250,000 for "bringing in alive" or giving information leading to the capture of the leading Malayan Communist terrorist, Chin Peng.

The new reward is three times the reward of \$80,000 offered for Chin Peng in June last year.

Mr. Pong, 31-year-old secretary-general of the United Malayan Communist Party, is the man responsible for directing the armed Communist units in Malaya.

A sum of \$100,000 will be paid for information leading to Chin Peng's arrest.

In June 1951, \$80,000 was offered for his death.

An indication that the new reward might be directed at the "bringing in alive" of the leading Communist figure in the Federation is given in the Government statement accompanying the reward.

**"REWARDS OF ALIVE"**  
THE FEDERATION IS "UPHOLDING THE POSSIBILITY OF BRINGING IN ALIVE" THE LEADING COMMUNIST TERRORIST IN THE JUNGLE.

It is known that most of the leading Communist have remained loyal in new states and towns in the Federation.

**Other rewards**  
Other rewards included today were for the capture or killing of 25 Communist leaders whose names were listed.

That the Commissioner of Police had already announced and paid the full month of enhanced reward of \$8,000 to the person who gave information which led to the recent successful capture of Long Poo in North Selangor.

Long Poo was a member of the Selangor state committee of the Malayan Communist Party and commander of the Selangor region of the Malayan Communist Party's armed terrorist organization.

The Government also issued a warning to bandits who might have thought they were safe in the jungle but had not given thought to the reward.

**\* See Page Seven**

**AS LABOURERS WORK ROUND THE CLOCK—**

**GEN. TEMPLER MAKES THE CLERKS JUMP**

SEREMBAN, Wednesday.

STARTLED clerks jumped to their feet to greet the Swedish State Secretariat in Seremban today as the High Commissioner, Gen. Gerald Templer, paying a surprise visit, walked through the office.

One terrorist who doubts how the jungle and hills in Seremban would be his ally, if later arrested, will be classified as "captured."

It such persons report themselves voluntarily to the police authorities they will be classified as "surrendered."

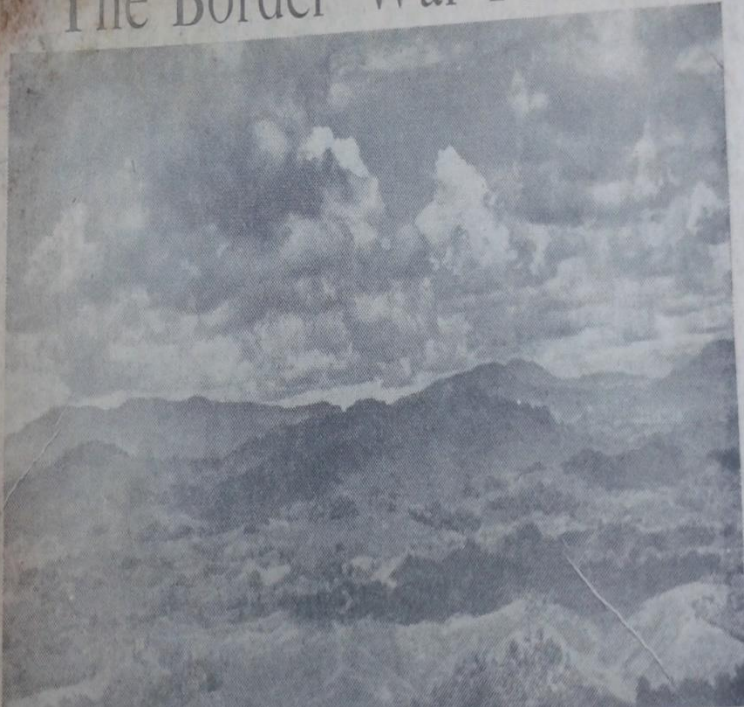
The new date of reward announced today are that in view of "bringing in alive" or information leading to the capture of Chin Peng, the reward of \$250,000 is offered for the capture of Chin Peng.

**REWARD OF \$250,000** announced today for the capture of Chin Peng, the leading Communist terrorist in Malaya.

**THIS IS CHIN PENG:** The brain behind the terrorism in Malaya, he is worth \$250,000 to anyone who has information which will lead to his capture.

MALAYAN TIMES, SUNDAY, MAY 24, 1964.

**The Border War Pictures**



THIS is the type of territory on the border with Indonesia, where Malaysian security forces and frontier guards are operating against Sukarno's terrorist gangs.

# MALAYAN EMERGENCY (1948-1960)



- ❖ Anonymous bylines: “Our staff correspondence”/“From Our Staff Correspondent”/“From a Special Staff Correspondent”
- ❖ **Gerald Templer said to Harry Miller,** “The emergency will be won by our intelligence systems – our Special Branch. And there are going to **be many inside stories that may never be written.**”  
[*The Straits Times*, 25 Dec 1972, ‘Story of Red War in Malaya’]

# KONFRONTASI (1963-1966)

## WITHDRAWAL OF 32 INDONESIAN INSURGENTS IN TEBEDU

*The Straits Times, 20 June 1964*

### **PULL-OUT BEGINS**

#### **32 guerillas appear at village**

*GIVEN SAFE CONDUCT PASSES, THEY SET OFF FOR CHECKPOINT TEBEDU—SIX MILES AWAY—AFTER COOKING EVENING MEAL*

From

**GEOFFREY GELDARD**, STRAITS TIMES REPORTER  
at the border checkpoint

TEBEDU, Thursday

**N**EWs was flashed to the Thai verification team here this evening that 32 armed and uniformed Indonesians had turned up out of the jungle at the border post of Pangkalan Ammo, two hours' hard walking distance from this checkpoint, at about 3.45 this afternoon.

Up to late tonight, the Thais were waiting in front of Tebedu police station for the Indonesians to come.

Official sources said later the guerillas were expected to arrive at this checkpoint for counting between midnight and 2 a.m.



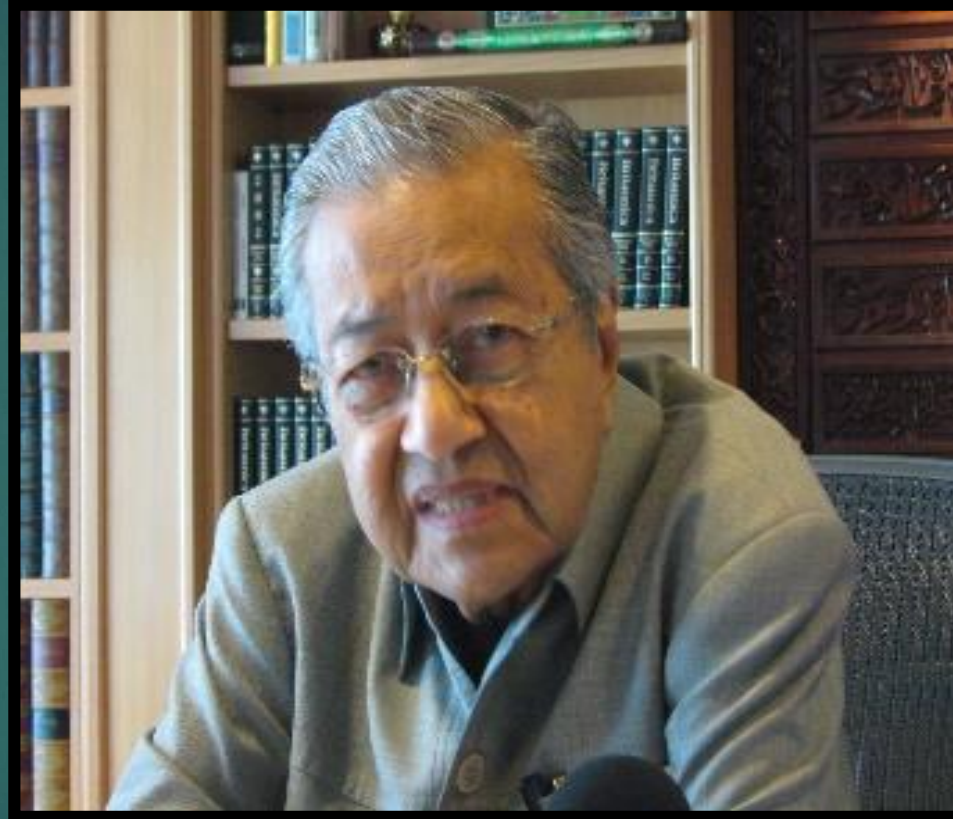
# THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING A MALAYSIAN JOURNALIST



# THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING A MALAYSIAN JOURNALIST



# AN INSTITUTION IN THE MEMORIES OF WAR





# INFLUENCE ON FOREIGN POLICY



# CAN WAR JOURNALISTS BE OBJECTIVE?

- ❖ Origin of Objectivity in Journalism
- ❖ Objectivity – “an ideology of the distrust of the self” (Schudson, 1978, Discovering the News, p. 71)
- ❖ **“Tawheed method of knowledge” – objectivity & subjectivity**  
(complimentary in the quest for knowledge)
- ❖ **Objectivity never ceases to come into conflict with the humanity of war journalists (secular or God conscious)** – Martin Bell, Christianne Amanpour, Michael Nicholson - Bosnia War
- ❖ **Why do 4 of the 27 Malaysian war journalists aspire to “Objectivity”**
  - ▶ Journalism training
  - ▶ Journalism education

# THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING: PLACING THE INNATE NATURE OF MAN IN ITS PROPER ORDER

## “TRUTH”

- ❖ Truth as a moral obligation to home audiences
  - ❖ Truth as a means of verifying information
    - ❖ Truth seeking as a primary motive
      - ❖ Truth as they perceived it



## THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING: LETTING THEIR *FITRAH* PLAY ITS ROLE



*“Haji Anuar was the one who felt most pity and gave the girl some money. She refused to take the money. And Anuar then went to see the doctor and gave the doctor the money for medicine or for food for the girl. That, the doctor took and then they called me [in Jordan] and said “Can we bring this girl back?” I said, “Bawalah kalau boleh kan” ... We were not just journalists going there to cover, we were also there trying to be good Samaritans as well - life savers.”*

*(Ahmad Talib, NST,, Iraq)*



## THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING: LETTING THEIR *FITRAH* PLAY ITS ROLE



*“Saya terlupa saya jurnalis. Yang saya ingat saya manusia waktu itu untuk buat sesuatu.”*

(Ainul Amriz, Utusan Malaysia, Bosnia)

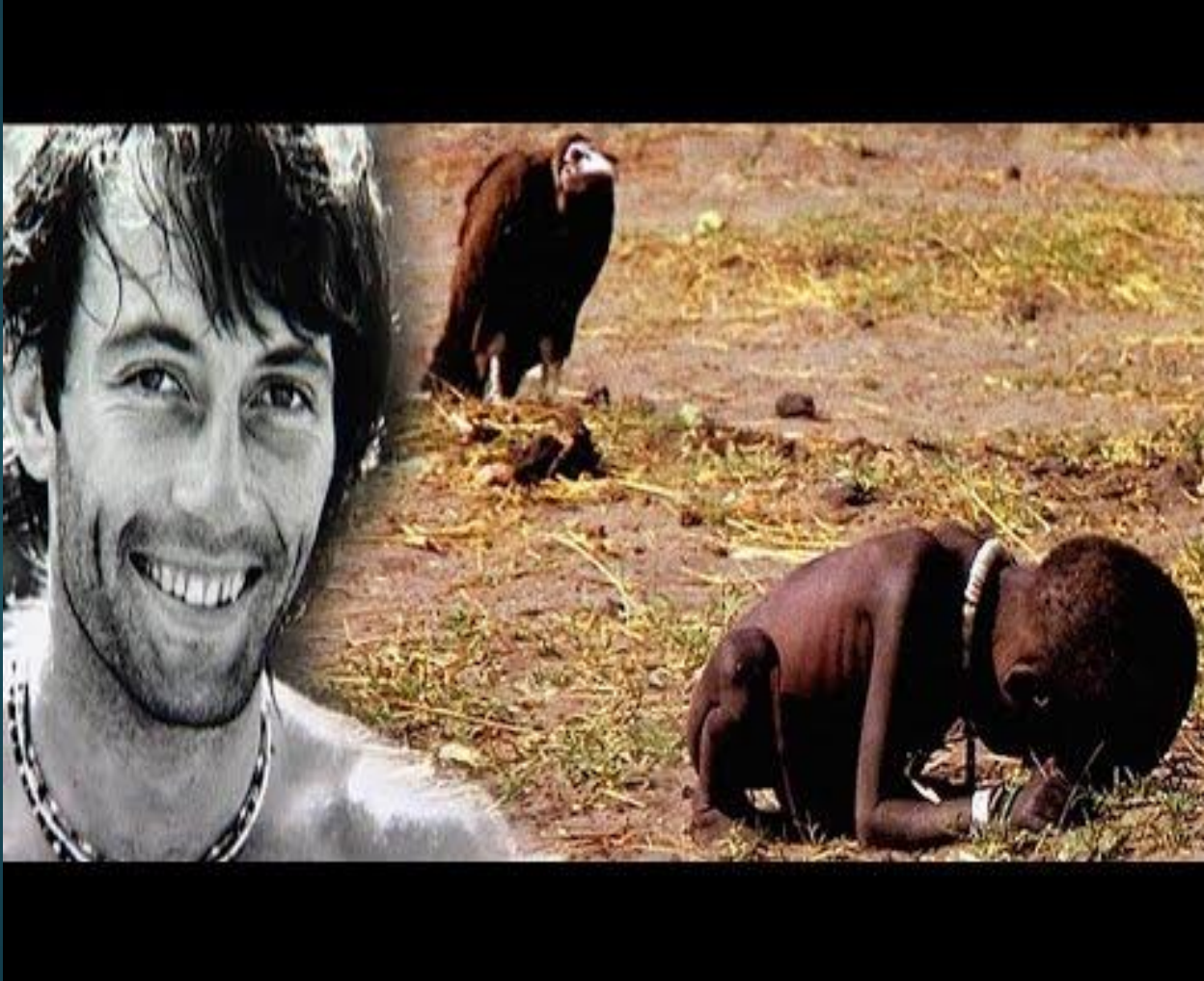


*“I just broke down and cried half way through my stand upper ... I was feeling really emotional. So, my boss had to call me. “Can you stop being emotional” [he said]. I said, “I cannot.” I said, “You come here and you see the sufferings then you will [understand] ... Your story may not even do justice to the magnitude of suffering they are experiencing ... It was a job but it was not really a job because it was working in my heart.”*

(Melissa Ong, NTV7, Mogadishu)



**KEVIN CARTER, 33 , COMMITTED SUICIDE 3 MONTHS AFTER  
WINNING PULITZER PRIZE FOR ICONIC PHOTO IN WAR-TORN SUDAN**



**Suicide Note:**

**“depressed ... I am  
haunted by the vivid  
memories of killings &  
corpses & anger & pain  
... of starving or  
wounded children, of  
trigger-happy  
madmen, often police,  
of killer executioners  
...”**

# STRUCTURE AND PRACTICE OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING

## 1. Instinctively conduct based on:

- ✓ the foundations of the profession
- ✓ their social memory as “the other”

*Not merely dictated by technology, deadlines, norms and space as suggested by Reese, 2001.*

## 2. Sources silenced/ignored by the international media:

- ✓ civilians
- ✓ insurgents
- ✓ humanitarian workers
- ✓ anti-war protestors
- ✓ others







# Penduduk Gaza sengsara Mesir isytihar darurat

» Penutupan sempadan Rafah tambah derita Palestin



Syed Azwan Syed Ali  
syedazwan@bhd.com.my

► Siri akhir

**A**wal minggu ini, Mesir bertindak drastik dengan mengisytiharkan darurat selama tiga bulan di wilayah tengah dan utara Sinai akibat ancaman militan yang semakin membarah. Tindakan diumumkan Presi-

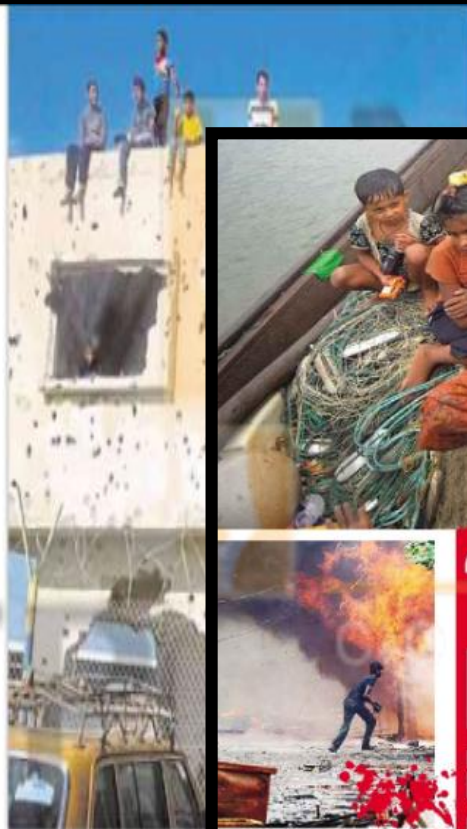
nsiden terburuk dalam masalah domestik yang membelenggu negara itu sejak Presiden Mohamed Morsi yang dipilih secara demokratik, disingkirkan kudeta tahun lalu. Insiden itu membawa signifikansi yang amat besar bukan hanya kepada Mesir, tetapi 1.8 juta warga Palestin yang tersepung di Gaza.

Serentak dengan pengisytiharan darurat itu, pintu sempadan Rafah di bawah kawalan Mesir yang juga satu-satunya 'talian hayat' bagi warga Palestin di Gaza ditutup serta-merta atas faktor keselamatan.

Gaza yang mula pulih daripada luka peperangan 50 hari akibat diserang rejim Zionis sehingga geneatan senjata tanpa had dicapai pada 26 Ogos lalu, tentunya tertekan dengan perkembangan terbaru itu.

## Laluan utama

Selain pintu sempadan Karem Shalom yang di bawah kawalan Israel, Rafah juga menjadi laluan



rangan atau menghidap penyakit kronik seperti kanser dirujuk ke hospital yang lebih baik di Kaherah kira-kira 380 kilometer perjalanan darat.

Malah bagi sesetengah pihak misalnya Dr Gurboz Rabah dari Algeria, yang penulis temui ketika memasuki Gaza pada 15 Oktober lalu, pintu Rafah kini menjadi talian hayat utama bagi Gaza selepas terowong bawah tanah yang



**'Biarlah kami hidup di sini'**

» Etnik Rohingya Muslim

Oleh Syed Azwan Syed Ali  
syedazwan@bhd.com.my

**A**bdul Malik, 25, nampak polos dan mesra ketika ditemui di Hospital Kecemasan Dar Faing di pinggir Sittwe, wilayah Arakan (Bakhine), barat Myanmar. Ketika itu, pelarian Rohingnya itu masih belum pulih daripada kecederaan di belakang badannya akibat terkena tembakan polis dalam insiden rusuhan berdekatan Kem Pwarian Onh Taw Gyi di pinggir Sittwe, awal Ogos lalu. Perjumpaan selama 20 minit dengan bapa kepada tiga anak itu membuka mata penulis tentang nasib malang menimpa etnik Rohingnya yang disifatkan Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu (PBB) sebagai bangsa paling ditindas di dunia.

# Brave rebels march on to 'break' Gaddafi's backbon



Lanuf, a major oil town which has been the scene of fierce fighting between rebels and Gaddafi's fore-

# CONCLUSION

**Malaysian war journalists are significant players in the competing discourse and narratives of wars around the world**



**THANK YOU**

# NON WESTERN WAR REPORTING



## Language and Intercultural Communication

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/rmlt20>

### The culture of witnessing: war correspondents rewriting the history of the Iraq War

Noha Mellor <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Kingston University London, UK

Published online: 14 May 2012.

Journal of War & Culture Studies  
Volume 5 Number 2  
© 2012 Intellect Ltd Article. English language. doi: 10.1386/jwcs.5.2.157\_3

**NOHA MELLOR**  
Kingston University London

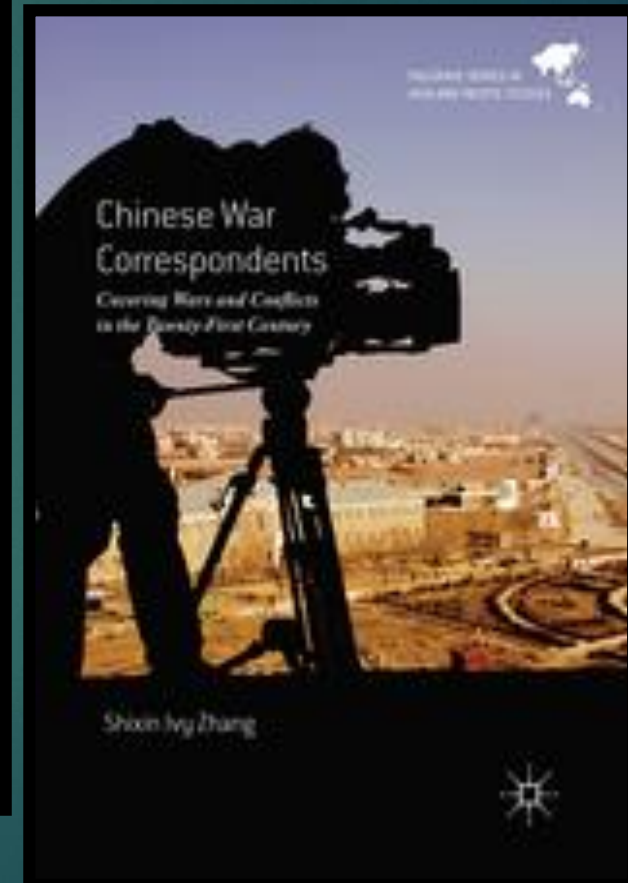
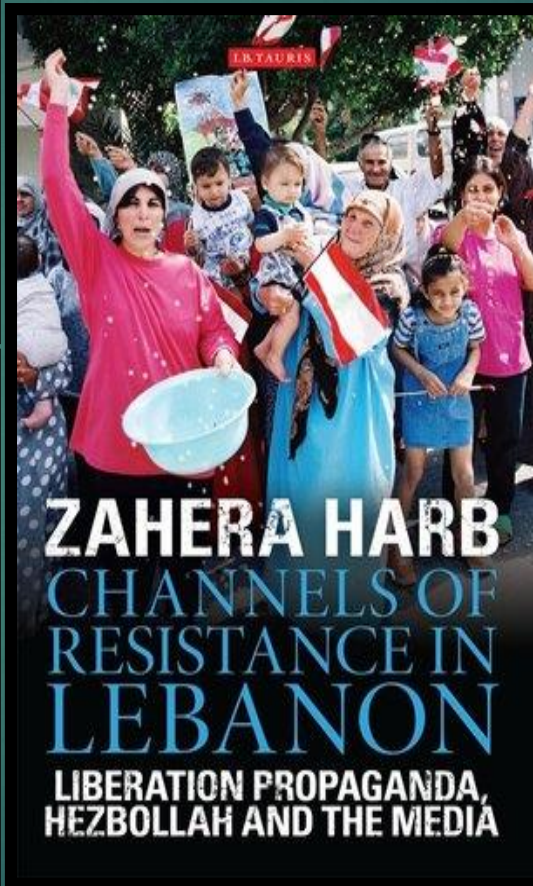
### ‘My Eyes Were There’: A comparative analysis of war reporters’ testimonies

#### ABSTRACT

*The aim of this article is to analyse a sample of war reporters’ testimonies in Iraq, as cultural memories rather than journalistic practices. Although journalists here may reflect on their professional practice, their primary aim in publishing these memories is to establish an authoritative narrative about Iraq as a conflict zone. The article adopts a comparative method to juxtapose four testimonies about the Iraq War by two European and two Arab reporters. The analysis focuses on the journalists’ role as eyewitnesses and how they have managed to foreground events and people absent from the mainstream media coverage of the war. The aim is to show how journalists mediate the war memory while bridging Iraq’s past and present, which calls for the*

#### KEYWORDS

eyewitnessing  
Iraq War  
memory  
narrative  
New Journalism  
war correspondents



# RESEARCH GAP

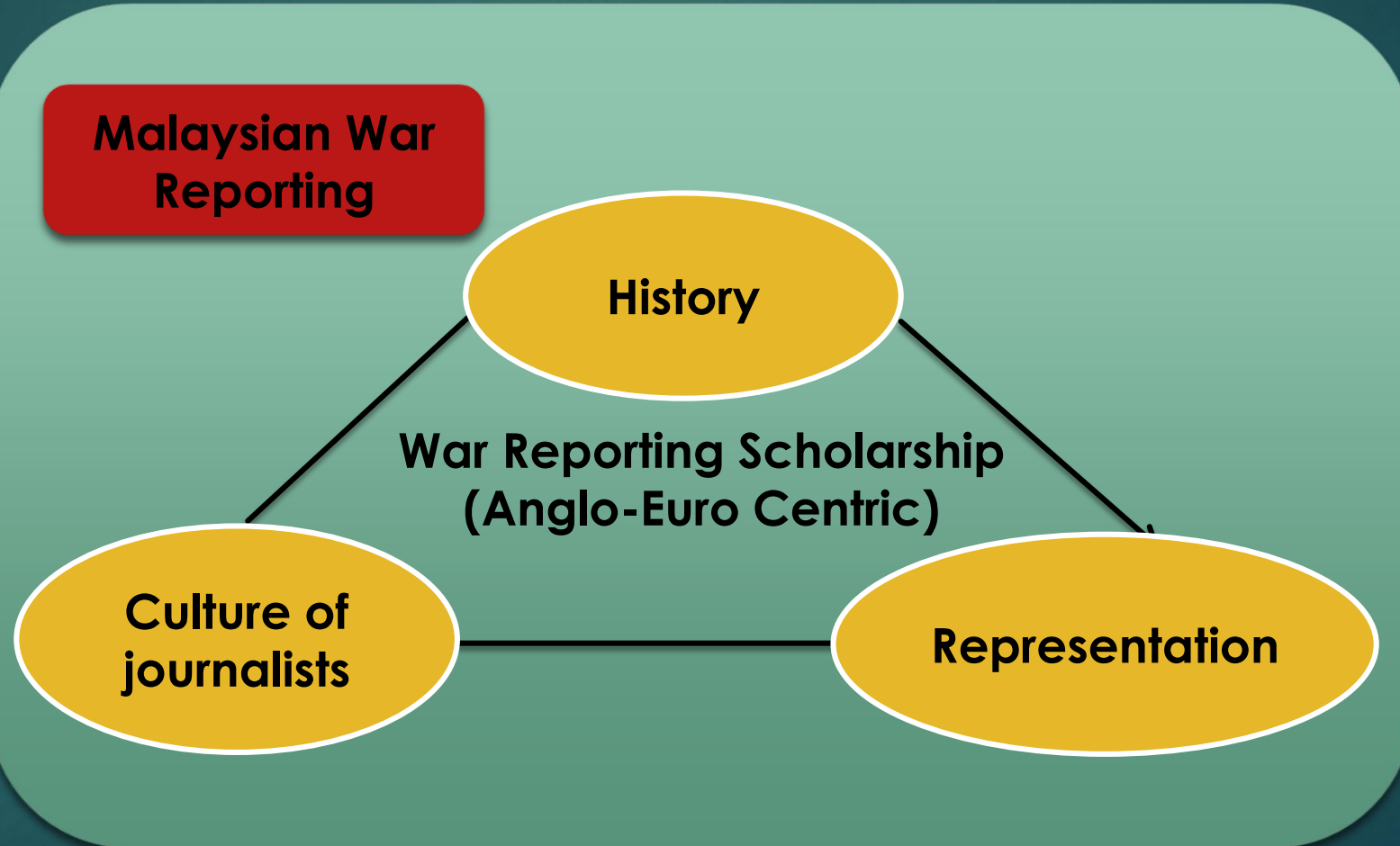
**Malaysian War  
Reporting**

**History**

**War Reporting Scholarship  
(Anglo-Euro Centric)**

**Culture of  
journalists**

**Representation**



## PROBLEM STATEMENT

**Malaysian journalists have been reporting from war locations for more than half a century. Yet, little is known about Malaysian war reporting as it remains an under researched area of investigation**

- ✓ Journalism scholarship influenced by Development Communication Model
- ✓ Dearth of documentation on Malaysian war reporting create indifference among researchers
- ✓ Malaysian newsroom agenda
- ✓ Professionalism of Malaysian journalists underestimated
- ✓ Western war correspondents given limelight

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

***“What are the memories of Malaysian war reporting?”***

- ▶ *RQ1: What shapes the memories of Malaysian war reporting ?*
- ▶ *RQ2: How do Malaysian war journalists construct their identities?*
- ▶ *RQ3: What are the values that drive Malaysian war journalists?*
- ▶ *RQ4: What is the structure and practices of Malaysian war reporting?*



## RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- ▶ To explore the developments, identities, structure, professionalism and consciousness of Malaysian war reporting
- ▶ To give Asian (Malaysian) journalists recognition as worthy subjects of investigation
- ▶ To broaden the understanding of war reporting scholarship
- ▶ To document the war memories and experiences of Malaysian journalists

# MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING

*The Innovation Journal: The Public Sector Innovation Journal, Vol. 16(3), 2011, article 4.*

## **Journalists and News Sources: Implications of Professionalism in War Reporting**

Faridah Ibrahim, Latiffah Pawanteh, Chang Peng Kee, Fuziah Kartini Hassan Basri,  
Badrul Redzuan Abu Hassan & Wan Amizah Wan Mahmud

### **ABSTRACT**

The study of journalism covers in broad perspectives the principles of reporting in various situations, whether in normal time based on events and press conferences or during news breaking in times of crisis, conflicts or disasters. In this instance, journalists are expected to perform their duty without fear or favour, but with responsibility and ethical considerations. In other words, the journalists need to be professional in their job. Nevertheless, one dimension that involves great discretion, diligence and thoughtful analysis on the part of the journalists is during the reporting of conflicts, for instance war, whether the war news is in their country or another. Studies have shown that government, diplomats, military and humanitarian aid agencies are increasingly affected by the news media through the issues, people and countries the media choose to highlight in war stories. Indeed, the media are seen to have great potential to have enormous influence over decisions and public opinion as well as national and international agenda. Using a qualitative research methodology, the paper seeks to discover the extent the media in Malaysia are professional in their reporting of war stories, especially when they themselves **come from a non-warring country**. At this juncture, it is also interesting to find out the nature of the news sources and journalists relationship and the extent of professional values they uphold.

JURNAL PENGAJIAN MEDIA MALAYSIA  
MALAYSIAN JOURNAL OF MEDIA STUDIES  
VOL. 13, No. 2, 2011  
PAGES 65-74

## **VISUAL DAN PEMBERITAAN PERANG DALAM MEDIA DI MALAYSIA**

**NORMAH MUSTAFFA, NURUL AIN A. HAMID, FARIDAH  
IBRAHIM, FAUZIAH AHMAD & MOHD HELMI ABD RAHIM**

### **ABSTRACT VISUAL AND WAR REPORTING IN MALAYSIAN MEDIA**

Visual plays an important role in trying to relay messages effectively in a world where facts are not always sufficient to convince audience. Through visuals, personal perceptions can be seen in different perspectives in order to make reasoned judgments. In war reporting, portrayals of visuals are often highlighted in various positive, negative or neutral forms. Relatively whatever forms portrayed, positive, negative or neutral, will register a certain interpretation in the mind of audiences. Thus this research aims to identify visuals used in war reporting in local media. Content analysis method was used to evaluate news on Israel – Palestinian war as highlighted in two mainstream newspapers, *Utusan Malaysia* and *The New Straits Times*. Research results revealed that *Utusan Malaysia* portrayed more visual graphics in reporting war compared to *The New Straits Times*. The visuals given were related to the news highlighted. Apart from that, both newspapers often used visual source from foreign agencies such as AP, AFP and Reuters. Visual reporting is able to relay convincing evidence as visuals will always portrays the truth.

# THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



## POTENTIALS

- Reveal personal/collective identity
- Unearth consciousness
- Disclose silenced history
- Contest popular narratives of events
- Reconstruct history
- Contest universalizing of monolithic generalities
- Reflect goals and prejudices

# THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



## MEMORY

- ✓ Memory as a Source of Identity
- ✓ Memory as Institutions of the Profession
- ✓ Memory as Sources of History

## INFLUENTIAL WORKS

- ✓ Syed Muhammad Naquib Al Attas
- ✓ Ahmad Murad Merican
- ✓ Edward Said



# ORGANIZATION OF FINDINGS

## Theme 1:

### The History of Malaysian War Reporting

- The Development of Malaysian War Reporting (Chapter 3)
- Reporting “Our Wars” – From The Malayan Emergency to *Konfrontasi* (Chapter 4)

## Theme 2:

### The Identities of Malaysian War Journalists

- The Identities and Image of Malaysian War Journalists (Chapter 5)
- The Consciousness of Malaysia as a Nation-State in Foreign War Zones (Chapter 6)

## Theme 3:

### The Ethics of Malaysian War Reporting

- Can War Journalists Be Objective? (Chapter 7)
- The Ethics of Malaysian War Reporting: Placing The Primordial Nature of Man in Its Proper Order (Chapter 8)

## Theme 4:

### The Structure and Practice of Malaysian War Reporting

- Structure and Practice of Malaysian War Reporting (Chapter 9)

## CHAPTER 2: THE HISTORY OF MALAYSIA

### ✓ War Memory ≈ Nation Building

- In the process of constructing the nation specific versions of national history/war memories have been promoted
- National Culture Policy 1971 – Malay centric history

### ✓ Role of Malay Journalism on Unity

- fostered knowledge of the unity and diversity of the Malay world
  - *Jawi Peranakan* (1876-1893)
- fostered the Malay's consciousness of the Muslim Ummah
  - *Al-Imam* (1906-1908)
  - *Neracha* (1911-1915)
  - *Warta Malaya, Al Ikhwan, Saudara*

## CHAPTER 3: THE DEVELOPMENT OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING

- ✓ Linked to Malaysia's
  1. socio-political administrative climate
  2. foreign policies
  
- ✓ Japanese Occupation(1942-1948)
- ✓ British Colonization (1824-1942)
- ✓ British Recolonization (1948-1957)
- ✓ Independent Malaysia (1957-present)



# CHAPTER 8: THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING: PLACING THE PRIMORDIAL NATURE OF MAN IN ITS PROPER ORDER

## FAIR COVERAGE

### Shamsul Akmar, NST, Iraq War, 2003

*"I was even prepared to have an open mind. To see, how evil was Saddam ... that he had to be removed at all costs ... we've heard all the stories about what Saddam was, how Saddam had run the country like his own personal domain, his own personal theatre .... Very brutal and ruthless and what not. But, at the same time we also hear stories about how the whole nation of Iraq get free food, support systems and education and everything. In fact, at that time, Iraq had the highest level of literacy and its level of literacy was even higher than some of the most accomplished western nations. So, all these gives you two sides of the whole thing.*

*If you were to rely on the western press at that time, everything about Saddam was evil. I saw what was evil about Saddam, but I also saw the more benign side of him - how he had built Iraq to be, what it was. Even during the sanctions, they were still able to provide food for the people of Iraq ... fuel was cheap ... for all that is said about Saddam, they [Western media] never took time, to show the much more benign side of him.*

*I would not dismiss or dispute that he was, a dictator, but, the level of evil that they have painted against him without showing the other side of him, is to me, something that is not balanced in terms of journalistic reporting ... I don't think that's fair at all and I don't*

### Rosnah Majid, Utusan, Iran-Iraq War, 1983-1984

*"Saddam was close to America and he wanted to build up Iraq to be a superpower. That is why he sends his people anywhere in the world to seek education. They have many engineers. That is why when Bush Senior bombed their bridge, in less than a year they built a new bridge. They have manpower. Saddam believed in educating his people. If he is a bad leader, he won't do that. I visited the agricultural area. They are self-sufficient. They produce their own rice and vegetables ...*

*When I revisited Iraq in 1984, my colleagues there said, "Let's go have dinner at the Yugoslavian Club... there were 23,000 Yugoslavian workers working in Iraq at that time - engineers and technicians. They built the highways. Saddam made sure his people were together to learn the technology - transfer the technology. He is a man with a vision. That is why they had to destroy him.*

*Of course, no politics in Iraq. He gives you everything except politics. Media, he controlled ... People cannot own typewriters without a license ... This was a controlled item in Iraq because he did not want the people to use typewriters to write things against him. The spray paint also cannot be owned to avoid people paint walls to go against him. In terms of education and living he built houses ... he wants more people ... he encourages his people to get married ... dowry very expensive ... so he gave the men [subsidized] the men to get married*

# CHAPTER 8: THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING: PLACING THE PRIMORDIAL NATURE OF MAN IN ITS PROPER ORDER



# THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING: PLACING THE PRIMORDIAL NATURE OF MAN IN ITS PROPER ORDER



## SIGNIFICANCE OF STUDY

- ▶ Expands the war reporting scholarship
- ▶ Reference to practitioners to make well informed decisions.
- ▶ Reference for policy makers to formulate policies that are relevant, creative and constructive to the Malaysian setting (policy makers in a variety of disciplines)

# TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN'S ADDRESS TO THE FIRST MALAYAN UN PEACE CORP MISSION TO CONGO

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT

D. INF. 10/60/18 (PM)

English translation of text of Farewell Address in Malay given by the Prime Minister, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, to the Malayan Special Force at Port Swettenham wharf this morning, October 4, 1960:-

We give thanks to Allah for on this day and at this moment the young nation of Persekutuan Tanah Melayu will be writing a page of history in the part she is about to play for the peace and security of the world in which we live because we are sending our Malayan Special Force to the Congo. This is our contribution towards that peace and security.

The people of this country and I will follow you wherever you go, follow your every activity. That is why we are sending with you the Malayan Film Unit and Radio Malaya to enable us to be present with you. As I said earlier you are writing a new page in the history of our country, and that history will be handed down. Your deeds will not only be remembered with pride, but will be an example both to the present and to future generations. That is why you must always be brave in spirit and carry out your responsibilities with good judgment.

## KONFRONTASI (1963-1966)



**Khalid Yunus, Utusan Melayu, 2 Mac 2015**

*"I remember this was a historically important event. A very historical moment in my life as a person, as a citizen because I witnessed it. Nobody else witnessed it but I was there to see the withdrawal of these people, the "Guerillas.""*



## INDIVIDUAL MEMORIES

1. The male journalists presented a heroic selfhood in the thick of action
2. Women pride in surviving a male dominated environment
3. The women demonstrated greater courage, consistency and determination to get the story.
4. Women memories more intense, emotional and passionate



  
**Myth of war correspondents as heroic figures**

## COLLECTIVE MEMORIES

1. National affiliation – mnemonic memories - Dr Mahathir
2. Privileged journalists
3. Photographers' memories were more graphic
4. Driven by sentiments of the *Ummah*



# THE ETHICS OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING: PLACING THE PRIMORDIAL NATURE OF MAN IN ITS PROPER ORDER

- ❖ **To be transparent**
- ❖ **Two (2) reasons for transparency:**
  1. **“Outsiders” with no vested interest**
  2. **Play moral role - limited resources for in-depth analysis**
- ❖ **Truth becomes a means to attain “justice” for :-**
  1. **Fair representation (balanced)**
  2. **Appeals for humanitarian compassion**

# GENESIS OF JOURNALISM TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA?

- ▶ Before 1957 – journalism as a guild – initiated - NST
- ▶ 1963 - 1<sup>st</sup> training initiative – International Press Institute (Zurich)
- ▶ 1971 – 1<sup>st</sup> tertiary prog. – USM – Alan Hancock (UNESCO)
- ▶ 1972 – 2<sup>nd</sup> tertiary – ITM – Ralph Kliesch (Ohio University)

# STRUCTURE AND PRACTICE OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING

## CATEGORY A

handful  
private  
self-initiated  
self-motivated  
independent  
secret travel  
move solo  
multi-task  
Legal/illicit entry  
-----  
minimal funding  
less red tape  
greater flexibility

## CATEGORY B

majority  
public/private  
accompany missions  
publicized travel  
specialized  
move in crews  
“sponsored journalists”  
legal entry  
-----  
govt funded  
restricted by bureaucratic  
process  
less flexibility

# STRUCTURE AND PRACTICE OF MALAYSIAN WAR REPORTING

## 3. Routinization (habitualization) → institutionalization

- ✓ Pre-departure preparations
- ✓ Hire fixers
- ✓ Invest in reliable sources
- ✓ Hire fixers
- ✓ Newsworthiness
- ✓ Technology

## 4. Cover wars at face value like their Western counterparts

- ✓ the deep level causes of war
- ✓ the causes and preludes to war
- ✓ the perspectives from all sides
- ✓ failure to identify the links between different wars over time