1942年2月新加坡淪陷

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馬來亞戰役

日本於1941年12月8日進攻馬來亞，當日第25軍在馬來半島沿岸登陸。同日凌晨，日本遠程飛機首次轟炸新加坡。兩天後，日本陸基飛機擊沉了戰艦威爾斯親王號及戰鬥巡洋艦卻敵號，這兩艘主力艦正是殖民地海上防衛所倚靠的。[1]兩艦的損失暴露了新加坡基地的戰略前提，即假設英國艦隊會及時抵達保衛基地。

半島上的戰役為時不足兩個月。英國、印度、澳洲及馬來亞部隊經馬來亞一路南撤，最後越過長堤退守新加坡島。1942年2月8日晚上8時30分前不久，日軍開始渡過柔佛海峽。白思華（Arthur Percival）中將在島上指揮約85,000名同盟國軍人，而他的對手山下奉文（Tomoyuki Yamashita）中將則率領約30,000人沿半島南下。[2]儘管如此，在隨後島上一週的戰鬥中，日軍始終掌握制空權及主動權。

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在福特汽車廠投降

到2月15日，約一百萬平民擠在同盟國部隊仍控制的地區，面積只約佔全島的1%。淪陷前不久，日軍奪取了位於武吉知馬路上段（Upper Bukit Timah Road）的福特汽車廠，並將其作為軍事總部。白思華在那裏與山下奉文會面商討投降條件，並於1942年2月15日在廠內的會議室簽署投降文件。一般認為新加坡於當日傍晚6時20分淪陷。約80,000名英國、印度、澳洲及本地軍人成為戰俘，另有50,000人在馬來亞被俘。邱吉爾稱之為英國軍事史上最嚴重的災難。[3]

對殖民地的商人及銀行家而言，投降意味著自1819年以來支撐其業務的秩序崩潰。自由港一直依賴英國的海上力量、英國的法院，以及以存放於倫敦的英鎊儲備支持的貨幣。到投降當晚，這些保障全部消失。第B部分第I章描述了直轄殖民地的法律基礎設施，其立法局、最高法院及各項條例為商人帶來他們所重視的可預期性。1942年2月，這套基礎設施一下子停止運作。法院停止運作後，日本人設立軍事法院，執行軍法。[4]

昭南島：新名稱與新秩序

日本人把新加坡島改名為昭南島（Syonan-to），正式名稱為Shonan Island，意即「南方之光」。[5]這個名稱表達了新加坡在大東亞共榮圈中的地位，而日本在共榮圈中自稱為把亞洲從西方殖民主義中解放出來的解放者。實際上，昭南成為日本南方帝國的軍事及後勤中心。其港口、海軍基地及機場為戰爭服務，而其人口則須以勞動力、糧食及金錢支持佔領者。

新秩序亦伸展至司法行政。1942年5月27日的一份公告使法院重開，兩天後昭南最高法院（*Syonan Koto-Hoin*）開庭。當局在文件上設立了一個上訴法院，但它從未開庭。一項當時就日佔時期法律問題所作的研究指出，日本人大致尊重原有的本地法律，但刑事司法的執行則遠遠超出容許的界限。同一研究認為，宣布日本貨幣為唯一貨幣，是佔領者所作出最具革命性的改變。[6]

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註釋

1. Wikipedia, "Fall of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：日本第25軍於1941年12月8日以兩棲登陸方式入侵馬來亞；1941年12月8日凌晨，"Singapore was bombed for the first time by long-range Japanese aircraft"。Wikipedia, "Fall of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：*Prince of Wales*號及*Repulse*號於1941年12月10日被日本陸基飛機擊沉。 ↩

2. Wikipedia, "Fall of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：日軍於1942年2月8日晚上8時30分前不久開始渡過柔佛海峽。Wikipedia, "Fall of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：白思華 "commanded 85,000 Allied troops at Singapore"；山下奉文 "had advanced with approximately 30,000 men down the Malayan Peninsula"。 ↩

3. Wikipedia, "Fall of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：到2月15日，約一百萬平民擠在同盟國仍控制的地區，面積佔全島1%。Roots.gov.sg（新加坡國家文物局），"Former Ford Factory"（2026年11月瀏覽）：日本人 "seized Ford Factory and made it the Japanese military's headquarters"；"Singapore's fate was sealed on 15 February 1942"；白思華在廠內與山下奉文會面，並 "signed the document in the factory's boardroom"。Wikipedia, "Japanese occupation of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：新加坡於1942年2月15日當地時間傍晚6時20分淪陷。Wikipedia, "Fall of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：約80,000名英國、印度、澳洲及本地軍人成為戰俘，另有50,000人在馬來亞被俘；邱吉爾稱之為 "the worst disaster in British military history"。 ↩

4. Supreme Court of Singapore, "History of the Courts", judiciary.gov.sg（2026年11月瀏覽）："The courts ceased to function when the Japanese invaded Singapore in 1942. The Japanese established a Military Court of Justice to administer military law." ↩

5. Wikipedia, "Japanese occupation of Singapore"（2026年11月瀏覽）：日本人把新加坡改名為昭南，正式名稱為昭南島（Shōnan-tō）；

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Roots.gov.sg, "Japanese magazine, *Syonan Gaho* Vol. 1 No. 4"（2026年11月瀏覽）："Syonan, meaning 'Light of the South', was given to Singapore during the Japanese Occupation." ↩

6. Supreme Court of Singapore, "History of the Courts", judiciary.gov.sg（2026年11月瀏覽）："In a Proclamation dated 27 May 1942, the courts were re-opened. The Syonan Supreme Court or 'Syonan Koto-Hoin' opened on 29 May 1942. A court of appeal was also created, but it never sat." Hla Aung, review of S. K. Das, *Japanese Occupation and Ex Post Facto Legislation in Malaya*（Singapore, Malayan Law Journal, 1960），*University of Malaya Law Review*, vol. 2, no. 2, December 1960, 352–355，第352頁：在馬來亞 "no revolutionary changes were made in the pre-existing municipal law"，但在刑事司法方面 "the occupation authorities went far beyond the permissible limit"；"Perhaps the most revolutionary change … was the declaration of the Japanese currency as the sole currency"。 ↩

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