

The highly technical and intricate task of preparing Loyal Addresses to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her Coronation in June has now been completed by the Cartographic Section of the Federation Survey Department, Kuala Lumpur. Ten craftsmen of the Section took some three and a half months to complete the four originals and four replicas.

The Loyal Addresses were prepared in duplicate on behalf of Their Highnesses the Rulers, the Federation of Malaya and the combined Settlements of Penang and Malacca.

The Illuminated patterns, which are of original design, were painstakingly executed by hand on vellum (sheepskin) in Old English script and in Jawi. The Crest of each of the nine Rulers is embodied in the ornament which is of Mohammedan design. Their Highnesses the Rulers had two Addresses prepared, one of which contained Jawi script and the other the English translation. Their Highnesses' signatures appear on each address.

The Federation of Malaya Address is also of Mohammedan design and carries a loyal message in both Jawi and English text. The coat of Arms of the Federation, together with the crest of each State within the Federation, is incorporated in the ornamental border and the Address bears the signatures of His Excellency the High Commissioner, General Sir Gerald Templer and the Deputy High Commissioner, Sir Donald MacGillivray, followed by those of each member of the Federal Legislative Council.

The craft of illuminating documents dates back to days long before the dawn of the age of printing. The same process and materials used by craftsmen of the past was applied to the preparation of these Addresses.

While apart from the use of litho-photographic aids and other technical methods to reduce time and cost, the Department's craftsmen executed the colouring of the border illumination by hand just as painstakingly as their fellow craftsmen did hundreds of years ago.

Designs of the four Addresses follow different 'motifs'.

Gothic ornament was adopted for the Address prepared for the Combined Settlements of Penang and Malacca. The Crests of both Settlements are displayed prominently and the Old English text is signed by His Excellency the High Commissioner, and the Settlement Councillors of Penang and Malacca.

KUALA LUMPUR  
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