

THE FEATURES OF
THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE VARIETY
SPOKEN BY THE MALACCA BABAS

AN ACADEMIC EXERCISE SUBMITTED
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEGREE OF
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BY

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ABSTRACT

This academic exercise has been written in five chapters. Chapter One deals with the rationale and aims of this study, the nature and method of data collection as well as the methodology used in the analysis of the data. A brief account of the informants who participated in this study is also given in this chapter.

Chapter Two presents a brief (historical) survey of the Malacca Baba community. It deals very briefly with the origin of the Malacca Babas and the characteristics that characterise the present day Baba.

Chapter Three describes the features of pronunciation evident in the spoken English of the Malacca Babas under three sub-headings - (i) the pronunciation of vowel sounds (ii) the pronunciation of consonant sounds and (iii) the pronunciation of consonant clusters.

Chapter Four focuses on the syntactical features of the Malacca Babas' English language variety. Eight such features are observed : overgeneralisation, omission, reduction, substitution, restructuring, repetition, translation and interlingual paraphrasing/translation.

Chapter Five outlines the salient features of the Babas' English language variety at the level of vocabulary. Here, two main features are observed, namely borrowing and code switching.