

Rashid Ali Sickander
(Demised - 18th August 2001)



Rashid Ali Sickander was born on 1. 8.1948 in humble surroundings in the village of Keelayore, Ramnad District, South India. He was the 3rd child among six siblings.

At the tender age of 7, he was sent to then Malaya to stay with his uncle in Tangkak, Johore. Deprived of a normal family life from such a young age Rashid Ali started primary school in Tangkak destined not to be forever put under the yoke of poverty. His daily routine till the age of 15 was school by day, work at his uncle's provision shop in the afternoon and evenings and studies at night.

At the age of 16 he was accepted into Malacca High School where he successfully negotiated his MCE. He thereafter was offered the post of Court Interpreter due to his fluency and ability in Tamil, Malay and English.

It was during his stint at the Lower and High Courts in Malacca that the love for the Law blossomed. He then joined Bernama as a stringer in 1970 at the crimes desk which also led him back to court life where he covered daily happenings in the various criminal trials back then.

Rashid Ali then took the bold step of flying off to London in 1975 to read Law at Lincolns. Whilst in London he continued to serve as a stringer with Bernama at the agency's London Bureau.

In London Rashid Ali not only read law but he also found the love of his life ,Biby, a Malaysian girl who at that time was studying nursing there. They got married in 1976 and a year later in May 1977 Rashid Ali's first son was born in London.

After qualifying Rashid Ali decided to return to Malaysia where in 1978 he commenced his pupillage with the eminent counsel Y M Raja Aziz Addruse. Rashid Ali was called to the Bar in 1979 and subsequently practiced in Kuala Lumpur. He then decided to set up on his own and practiced as Rashid Ali & Co. in 1982 in Malacca and mostly took up criminal and civil litigation matters.

In 1992, Rashid Ali decided to cease practice and joined a property developer, Dwtasik Corporation, as a Legal Adviser which post he held till 1997. He also used this time to obtain his Diploma in Shariah Legal Practice (D.S.LP) from HUM, Kuala Lumpur. But the lure of practice at the Bar was much too great to resist and he recommenced Rashid Ali & Co. in Klang in 1997 till his untimely death on 18.8.2001 due to a stroke. He was 53 years old.

Rashid Ali was always a keen member and participant in the various committees and activities of both the Selangor and Malacca Bar.

He leaves behind his wife Madam Biby, his three sons Muhammad Rafique an Advocate & Solicitor, Muhammad Razlan a Lecturer in Journalism in Lim Kok Wing University, Muhammad Redzwan, a Doctor in Sabah and the youngest a girl Rashidah Tasneem who is currently pursuing her degree in Hospitality & Tourism in the University of Sunderland, UK.

Rashid Ali had always placed much importance in education and acquisition of knowledge. He was a disciplined and hardworking man, qualities which he instilled in his children from an early age. The success of his children is testimony of this fact.

He will be sadly missed by all those who knew him. May his soul rest in peace.

**Muhammad
Rafique Bin
Rashid Ali**