Abstract

The leaders of the Nanyang Headquarters of Tongmenghui (Revolutionary Alliance) included Tan Chor Lam, Teo Eng Hock, Lim Ngee Soon in Singapore, and Goh Say Eng, Chen Hsin Cheng and Ng Kim Keng in Penang. After the Subao Case, the leaders in Singapore had learned the importance of propaganda. Consequently, they began to publish their first revolutionary newspaper called Thoe Lam Jit Poh. Through publishing newspapers, establishing reading clubs, giving speeches and organizing drama troupes, the revolutionary ideas were conducted by the Singapore leaders. In 1906, Tongmenghui Nanyang Headquarters was established in Singapore and it had become the most important revolutionary organization among the British and the Netherlands colonies. The leaders were in charge of the matters of linking connection and passing information among the members and also convening the leaders of other branches to discuss the matters relating to the raising fund for the revolt and the military action. The General Headquarters of Tongmenghui was based in Japan and the split among the revolutionary leaders in Japan had caused the split of this organization. This incident had also indirectly affected the unity among the leaders of the other branches and caused the Tongmenghui in Singapore ceased to function. As the consequences, Tan Chor Lam and Teo Eng Hock became inactive in handling the revolutionary affairs.

The inactivity of Tongmenghui in Singapore caused Sun Yat-sen to transfer the headquarters to Penang. The leaders from Penang helped him to rebuild the unity among the members in order to facilitate the revolutionary acts. For example, The March 29th Uprising in Guangzhou was planned and led by them. Although it was unsuccessful at the end, it did accelerate the future revolt: Wuchang Revolt of 1911 had successfully overturned the monarchy in China. Thus, the advent of the Republic of China was brought hand in hand by Sun Yat-sen and the overseas Chinese.