



## LOKE Wan Tho 陸運濤 (1915.6.14–1964.6.20)

### Producer

A Cantonese native born in Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, Loke graduated from the University of Cambridge. He was not only the President of the eminent Cathay Organisation, but also the Board Chairman of Malayan Banking Berhad and Malayan Airways. Particularly noted for his philanthropy and contributions to education and arts in Singapore and Malaysia, he had been conferred knighthood in Malaysia, Britain and Japan.

Loke took over Yung Hwa Studios in 1955 and later restructured International Films Distributing Agency into Motion Picture and General Investment Co Ltd (MP & GI), marking his venture into the film industry. Under his leadership, Cathay developed into a modern film empire with its own production, distribution and exhibition chain, putting out a number of classics such as *Our Sister Hedy* (1957), which won Best Film at the 5th Asian Film Festival in 1958; and *Sun, Moon and Star* (1961), which won Best Feature Film at the 1st Golden Horse Awards in Taiwan in 1962. Cathay's distributing business did equally well in Southeast Asia. Loke served also as a board member at Rank and Fox film companies. He died in an air disaster in Taiwan on 20 June 1964.