

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IPS to launch *Singapore Chronicles*

The **Institute of Policy Studies (IPS)** will launch a series of publications, written by Singaporeans recognised for their contributions to academia, public policy, and journalism, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Singapore's independence next year.

Titled *Singapore Chronicles*, the series will comprise 50 books covering a wide breadth of topics from the fields of politics and governance, environment, arts and culture, society, and the economy. A stellar cast of authors will helm the series. They include Ambassador Chan Heng Chee; former Permanent Secretaries Peter Ho and Bilahari Kausikan; journalists Zuraidah Ibrahim and Godfrey Robert; food writer Sylvia Tan; academics Tan Tai Yong and Chua Beng Huat; and biologist N. Sivasothi. IPS Director Janadas Devan, IPS Special Research Adviser Arun Mahizhnan and IPS researchers Yap Mui Teng, Gillian Koh and Christopher Gee are also among the authors.

Each book in the *Singapore Chronicles* series will serve as a primer on one subject. The author will focus on key aspects of the subject, providing analysis and insight as well as a historical account. The series will be rolled out throughout 2015.

In conceptualising *Singapore Chronicles*, IPS - Singapore's only think-tank dedicated wholly to domestic public policy research - set out to record, explain and offer some insights into what makes Singapore, Singapore. The Institute chose to draw authors from among Singapore's recognised researchers, scientists, engineers, writers, and policy practitioners so that each volume in the series will give a sophisticated, yet concise overview of the specific subject. Explaining how IPS chose the subjects, IPS Director Janadas Devan said the aim was to cover "the philosophical to the prosaic, the fundamental to the expedient".

Said Mr Devan: "These subjects represent the multiple facets of Singapore's history, culture and living environment and they have shaped life as we know it in Singapore today. Each book in this series will be accessible and engaging. We hope *Singapore Chronicles* will be useful for young people and all those seeking to better understand the country."

Further details on *Singapore Chronicles* will be available toward the end of this year. Enquiries about the series can be directed to ips.publicaffairs@nus.edu.sg

About the Institute of Policy Studies

The Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) was established in 1988 as an independent think-tank to study and generate public policy ideas in Singapore. Today, IPS is an autonomous research centre of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. The Institute continues to advance its core mission: to analyse public policy; build bridges between thought leaders; and communicate research findings to a wide audience. IPS examines domestic policy challenges across a variety of fields and studies the attitudes of Singaporeans through surveys of public perception. It adopts a multi-disciplinary approach in its analysis and takes the long-term view in its strategic deliberation and research. For more information about IPS, visit www.lkyspp.nus.edu.sg/ips/

Media contact

Lynn Lee
Associate Director (Public Affairs)
Email: lee.lynn@nus.edu.sg
Tel: +65 6516 8380/ +65 96835120

ANNEX A

SINGAPORE CHRONICLES: TOPICS

| S/N | Topic |
|------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Pre-colonial Singapore |
| 2 | Colonial Singapore |
| 3 | Japanese Occupation |
| 4 | Emergency |
| 5 | Merger |
| 6 | Confrontation |
| 7 | Separation |
| 8 | Politics |
| 9 | PAP |
| 10 | Opposition |
| 11 | Governance |
| 12 | Constitution |
| 13 | Presidency |
| 14 | Law |
| 15 | Defence |
| 16 | Policing |
| 17 | Diplomacy |
| 18 | Civil Society |
| 19 | Economy |
| 20 | Finance |
| 21 | Trade |
| 22 | CPF |
| 23 | Gateway |
| 24 | Transport |
| 25 | Trade Unions |
| 26 | Demography |
| 27 | Water |
| 28 | Energy |

| S/N | Topic |
|------------|------------------|
| 29 | Environment |
| 30 | Flora & Fauna |
| 31 | Architecture |
| 32 | Heritage |
| 33 | Urban Planning |
| 34 | Theatre |
| 35 | Literature |
| 36 | Visual Arts |
| 37 | Multiculturalism |
| 38 | Religions |
| 39 | Language |
| 40 | Media |
| 41 | Food |
| 42 | Sports |
| 43 | Chinese |
| 44 | Malays |
| 45 | Indians |
| 46 | Eurasians |
| 47 | Housing |
| 48 | Education |
| 49 | Healthcare |
| 50 | Social Services |

ANNEX B – Author bios

Multiculturalism

Chua Beng Huat

Professor Chua Beng Huat is Provost Chair Professor at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences in the National University of Singapore (NUS). He is the head of the Department of Sociology in NUS and Research Leader, Cultural Studies in Asia Research Cluster, Asia Research Institute. Prof Chua has researched and written extensively on multiculturalism, popular culture and urban planning in Singapore and Asia. He is the author of *Life is not Complete without Shopping* and *Structure, Audience and Soft Power in East Asian Pop Culture*. He is also a founding co-editor of *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*.

Separation

Janadas Devan

Mr Janadas Devan is Director of the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS). Mr Devan previously spent 15 years at *The Straits Times*, having joined the paper in 1997 after teaching English in various institutions in Singapore and the US. He served as the ST's leader writer for many years, and wrote a weekly column on politics and economics as well as a column on language for *The Sunday Times*. In 2008, he became the editor of the paper's opinion pages, and in 2010, became the paper's Associate Editor. He left the paper in July 2012 on being appointed the Government's Chief of Communications at the Ministry of Communication and Information, a position he continues to hold.

Confrontation

Bilahari Kausikan

Mr Bilahari Kausikan is Ambassador-at-Large and Policy Adviser in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He is also Senior Fellow at the School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University. From 2001 to May 2013, Mr Kausikan was the Second Permanent Secretary and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He previously served in a variety of appointments including as Director for Southeast Asia, Director for East Asia and the Pacific and as Deputy Secretary for Southeast Asia. Mr Kausikan had also served as the Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York and as Ambassador to the Russian Federation. He retired from the Singapore Administrative Service in 2013.

Food

Sylvia Tan

Ms Sylvia Tan is a renowned food writer. She has written for various publications such as *Mind Your Body* (a weekly health supplement of *The Straits Times*), the *Business Times*, *Her World*, *Women's Weekly* and *Wine & Dine*. She won a special Singapore Press Holdings newspaper award for excellence in 1995 for her Mad About Food column in *The Sunday Times*. She has published several well-received cookbooks: *Singapore Heritage Food*, *Mad About Food: The Cookbook*, and *Eat to Live: Healthy Asian Recipes*. Ms Tan was previously a newspaper editor overseeing the lifestyle, business and local news sections for the *Singapore Herald*, *New Nation*, *The Straits Times* and *The New Paper*.

Governance (with co-authors Anuradha Shroff, Hazel See, Codey Tan and Lena Leong)

Peter Ho

Mr Peter Ho Hak Ean is Senior Adviser to the Centre for Strategic Futures, a futures think-tank within the Singapore Government. He is also a Senior Fellow in the Civil Service College, an Adjunct Professor with the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, and a Visiting Fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. Mr Ho holds several chairmanships, including at the Urban Redevelopment Authority and Singapore Centre on Environmental Life Sciences Engineering. He sits on several boards and advisory panels, and is a member of Statoil's Strategy Advisory Council, and the McKinsey Center for Government Advisory Council. Mr Ho was formerly Head, Civil Service, and served as Permanent Secretary in various ministries, including Defence and Foreign Affairs. He retired from the Singapore Administrative Service in 2010.

Literature (with co-authors Dr Koh Tai Ann, Dr Tan Chee Lay, Dr Hadijah Bte Rahmat)

Arun Mahizhnan

Mr Arun Mahizhnan is Special Research Adviser at the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS). He joined IPS in 1991 as a Senior Research Fellow and was made Deputy Director in 1997, holding that position till 2012. Before joining IPS, he had worked in both the public and private sectors for 20 years, mostly in public communications. Mr Arun is concurrently an Adjunct Professor at the Wee Kim Wee School of Communication and Information at the Nanyang Technological University.

Annex C – Additional information

Mr Peter Ho's four co-authors for the Governance book

Anuradha Shroff

Ms Anuradha Shroff is a Senior Researcher in the Institute of Governance and Policy in the Civil Service College (CSC) Singapore. She is also a facilitator and trainer for CSC's leadership and public policy programmes. Her current research focus is on the relevance and application of complexity theories to public policy and leadership. Her past research pieces include *Strategic Planning Story of the Singapore Public Service* and *The Rise of Post-Familialism: Humanity's Future*. Ms Shroff was previously a lead strategist and facilitator with the Strategic Policy Office, Public Service Division, Singapore where she helped develop strategic planning capabilities across the Public Service and researched on global trends impacting the future of Singapore.

Hazel See

Ms Hazel See Lei Chia is a Researcher in the Institute of Public Administration and Management in the Civil Service College (CSC) Singapore. Besides writing thought articles and case studies, she has led training consultancy projects for public sector organisations and regularly facilitates leadership and policy milestone training programmes. Her research interests include public sector governance, policy and service management. Ms See has been with CSC since 2010 and was previously with the Ministry of Education.

Codey Tan

Mr Codey Tan is a Senior Executive (Curriculum Development) in the Institute of Public Sector Leadership in the Civil Service College (CSC) Singapore. He is also a facilitator for CSC's public policy programmes. Mr Tan's research interest lies in public sector governance and the application of complexity theories to public policy. He was previously with the Centre for Public Economics, CSC.

Lena Leong

Lena Leong is a Principal Researcher in the Institute of Leadership and Organisation Development in the Civil Service College (CSC) Singapore. She has also facilitated Public Administration and Reform programmes for international participants. Ms Leong's research interests are in public administration and management, organisation change and leadership. She was previously with the Centre for Governance and Leadership, CSC.