




SINGAPORE PERSPECTIVES2026



Fraternity


手足情谊 • Persaudaraan • நாம்





"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

- The United States Declaration of Independence



**"We, the citizens of Singapore,
Pledge ourselves as one united people,
Regardless of race, language or religion,
To build a democratic society
Based on justice and equality,
So as to achieve happiness, prosperity and progress for our nation."**

- The Singapore Pledge

**“to build a democratic society ... so as to achieve happiness,
prosperity and progress *for our nation*.”**

“build a democratic society ... so as to achieve happiness for oneself, and hopefully, prosperity and progress for our nation.”

**“We, as citizens of Singapore,
pledge ourselves to forget differences of race, language and religion
and become one united people;
to build a democratic society where justice and equality will prevail
and where we will seek happiness and progress by helping one
another.”**

- Mr S. Rajaratnam's first draft of the Singapore Pledge

In this vision, citizens are not meant to be singularities – individual separate self-enclosed nodes within the space of a city-state. Each citizen is meant rather to exist in a relationship to other citizens: Subject to one another; serving each other; “helping one another”; and thereby forming a “nation”. Citizenship in Singapore is meant to be a relationship among ourselves, a network.



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MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
SINGAPORE.

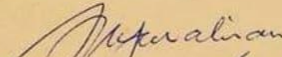
18th February, 1966.

Dear Pang Boon,

Sorry for the delay in replying to your letter of
2nd February, 1966. Herewith my suggestion for the pledge
for your Flag Raising Ceremony:-

"We, as citizens of Singapore, pledge
ourselves to forget differences of race, language
and religion and become one united people; to
build a democratic society where justice and
equality will prevail and where we will seek
happiness and progress by helping one another."

Yours sincerely,


(S. Rajaratnam)

Mr. Ong Pang Boon,
Minister for Education,
Singapore.

745/A
Get a chairman to look
to see how it works.
See 55
6/1/8
1/2

NOT

to build a democratic society ... where we will seek happiness and progress by working with one another.

to build a democratic society ... where we will seek happiness and progress by cooperating with one another.


to build a democratic society ... where we will seek happiness and progress by uniting with one another.

INSTEAD


to build a democratic society ... where we will seek happiness and progress by helping one another.



Liberté, Égalité, Fraternité



We, the citizens of Singapore, pledge ourselves as one united people, regardless of race, language or religion, to build a democratic society based on justice and equality so as to achieve happiness, prosperity and progress for our nation.



We, the citizens of Singapore, pledge ourselves as one united people, regardless of race, language or religion, to build a democratic society based on justice and equality so as to achieve happiness, prosperity and progress for our nation.



Solidarity is the foundation of our nationhood



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