

**S R NATHAN
FELLOWSHIP
FOR THE STUDY OF
SINGAPORE**

BOOK LAUNCH:

***The Idea of Singapore: Smallness Unconstrained*
by Professor Tan Tai Yong,
IPS' 6th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore**

Friday, 8 November 2019
The Salon, Level 1
National Museum of Singapore
93 Stamford Road
Singapore 119244

PROGRAMME

12 noon – 12.45 pm

Registration and Buffet Lunch

12.45 pm

Welcome Remarks

Mr Janadas Devan
Director
Institute of Policy Studies

Remarks by Guest of Honour

Mr Desmond Lee
Minister for Social and Family Development

Speech by

Professor Tan Tai Yong
6th S R Nathan Fellow for the
Study of Singapore

Launch of Book

End of Official Proceedings

1.15 pm

Book Signing by Professor Tan Tai Yong

About
THE IDEA OF SINGAPORE: SMALLNESS UNCONSTRAINED
and
THE AUTHOR

THE IDEA OF SINGAPORE: SMALLNESS UNCONSTRAINED

Professor TAN Tai Yong is the Institute of Policy Studies' 6th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore. This book is an edited collection of his six IPS-Nathan Lectures, delivered between September 2018 and May 2019, and includes highlights of his dialogue with the audience.

In his lecture series, Professor Tan examines how Singapore has evolved over its 700-year history as a regional emporium, colonial port city and city-state. He shows that Singapore's history is influenced by the recurring themes of geography, movements of people, networks and globalisation. An understanding of the twists and turns of this long history, and the ways in which historical circumstances have shaped Singapore's fate and fortunes, can offer important insights and a better appreciation of our strengths and challenges as a city-state.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Professor TAN Tai Yong is President and Professor of Humanities (History) at Yale-NUS College.

Prior to becoming president in 2017, Professor Tan served as the College's Executive Vice President (Academic Affairs) (2014 to 2017). He also served as Co-Chair of the joint Yale and NUS committee that hired inaugural faculty members in the humanities and shaped the common curriculum in 2011.

A graduate of NUS, Professor Tan completed his doctorate at Cambridge University. He has been a faculty member of the NUS Department of History since 1992 and served the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences as Sub-Dean (1994–1999), Head of the History Department (2000–2003), Vice Dean (2001–2003), and Dean (2004–2009). Professor Tan was previously Vice Provost (Student Life) (2010–2014) at NUS. He was Founding Director of the Institute of South Asian Studies, NUS (2004 to 2015). He received Teaching Excellence Awards in 1992 and 2000.

Professor Tan is Honorary Chairman of the National Museum of Singapore, Chairman of the National Collection Advisory Panel and Academic Research Panel at the National Heritage Board, and a member of the Indian Heritage Centre Advisory Board. He was appointed to the Singapore Social Sciences Research Council in 2016, and is a member of the Singapore Bicentennial Advisory Panel. Professor Tan served as a Nominated Member of Parliament from 2014 to 2015. He was awarded the Public Administration Medal (Silver) at the 2009 National Day Awards.

President Tan specialises in South and Southeast Asian History, and has authored and co-authored several books, including *Seven Hundred Years: A History of Singapore* (2019); *Creating "Greater Malaysia"* (2008); *The Garrison State* (2005) and *The Aftermath of Partition in South Asia* (2001).

About
THE S R NATHAN FELLOWSHIP FOR THE STUDY OF SINGAPORE
and
THE IPS-NATHAN LECTURE SERIES

The S R Nathan Fellowship for the Study of Singapore was established by the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) in 2013 to support research on public policy and governance issues. With the generous contributions of individual and corporate donors, and a matching government grant, IPS raised around S\$5.9 million to endow the Fellowship.

The Fellowship is named after Singapore's sixth and longest-serving President, the late S R Nathan, in recognition of his lifetime of service to Singapore.

Each S R Nathan Fellow, delivers a series of IPS-Nathan Lectures during his or her term. These public lectures aim to promote public understanding and discourse on issues of critical national interest. The lectures are then edited and compiled in a book.

For information on the S R Nathan Fellowship for the Study of Singapore and the Institute of Policy Studies, please visit <http://www.ikyspp.nus.edu.sg/ips>.

S R Nathan Fellows:

- Ho Kwon Ping (2014/15)
- Bilahari Kausikan (2015/16)
- Peter Ho (2016/17)
- Lim Siong Guan (2017/18 Semester One)
- Cheong Koon Hean (2017/18 Semester Two)
- Tan Tai Yong (2018/19)

IPS-Nathan Lecture Series books:

- *The Ocean in a Drop – Singapore: The Next Fifty Years*
by Ho Kwon Ping
- *Dealing with an Ambiguous World*
by Bilahari Kausikan
- *The Challenges of Governance in a Complex World*
by Peter Ho
- *Can Singapore Fall? Making the Future for Singapore*
by Lim Siong Guan
- *Seeking a Better Urban Future*
by Cheong Koon Hean
- *The Idea of Singapore: Smallness Unconstrained*
by Tan Tai Yong

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