

## Publishing and Legal Deposit for Posterity

The National Library Board (NLB) hosted the "Publishing & Legal Deposit Seminar" on 3 April 2006. The first in a series of seminars for publishers, NLB invited major Singapore publishers to the National Library, to provide updates and information on legal deposit, International Standard Book Number (ISBN) and International Standard Serial Number (ISSN).

Legal deposit is a statutory provision in the National Library Board Act 1995 that requires Singapore publishers to provide two copies of every publication to the Board, regardless of form or medium.

Calling on publishers to deposit their publications with the National Library, Dr N Varaprasad, Chief Executive of NLB, spoke about how the NLB needs to preserve and catalogue materials in both the electronic and print formats for the future.

The ISBN and the ISSN are both unique sets of numbers that serve as the fingerprint for publications. It was announced that from 1 January 2007, the ISBN will be extended from 10 to 13 digits in order to increase the numbering capacity of the ISBN system to handle the exponential growth in publishing.

The seminar also discussed the process of depositing the publications with NLB, and legal responsibilities.

Panel from left: Ms Cynthia Chong, Assistant Registrar of Newspapers, Media Development Authority; Mrs Lim Siew Kim, Deputy Director, LPS, NLB; Ms Ngian Lek Choh, DCE, NLB; Mr Raju Buddhharaju, Director, Digital Library Services, NLB; Ms Shaan Sathy, Legal Officer, NLB.



## Lee Kong Chian (LKC) Research Fellows

By Lena Kua, Assistant Director, Publishing and Research Services

The Lee Kong Chian (LKC) Research Fellowship is established to encourage research into various aspects of Asian content; namely its culture, economy and heritage, this initiative is primarily to enrich the strong Asia-centric collections and resources of the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library at the National Library, Singapore.

The fellowship has been awarded to Ms Adeline Melissa Koh, Mr Chan Chow Wah and Ms Soh Choi Yin.

**Adeline Melissa Koh Shu Ling** has a Masters of Arts, Comparative Literature, from the University of Michigan. A recipient of several awards, scholarship and funding, she is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and is writing her dissertation entitled *English Lessons: Education, Race and Englishness in Singapore and Malaysia from Colony to Nation*.



Adeline's research interest is in the area of English Language and the British Empire, Critical Race Theory, and Asian Studies, and has presented papers at international conferences as a result of her many distinct researches.

**Chan Chow Wah** has a Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA) from the National University of Singapore (NUS) and a Masters in Social Anthropology (MSc Social Anthropology) from the London School of Economics (LSE), UK. He is also a Fellow of The Royal Anthropological Institute, UK, and Member of the American Anthropological Association.



His interests include consumption, cultural marketing, Chinese cultural studies, relationship between religion and society, and issues of social identity and modernity. He has conducted seminars and workshops on a range of topics. Recent projects include 'Sculpting Compassion' (Singapore), 'River of Time' (Beirut, Lebanon), 'TeaTalk' (London, UK), and "FoodTalk" (Durham, USA).

**Soh Choi Yin** is currently pursuing her Master Program in Design (Honours by Research) at the University of New South Wales. Her research examines cultural identities in cyberspace among Chinese youth from Hong Kong, Shanghai and Singapore.



She graduated with a BFA in Computer Arts majoring in Interactive Multimedia from the Academy of Art College in San Francisco in 1998 and a Diploma in Visual Communication from Temasek Polytechnic in Singapore in 1995. Choi Yin has 8 years of experience as a designer/consultant with several multimedia companies. She also contributed digital graphics for *Zavtone Magazine*, a magazine for the digital age in Tokyo during 1998. Choi Yin does illustrations as a past time. Her drawings and doll design are exhibited and sold at Homespun located at The Arts House.

*Application for the fellowship ends on 31 July 2006. We invite both local and foreign applicants whose research focus requires use of the National Library archived and preserved collections. For further information about the Fellowship, please contact Ms Lena Kua, National Library Board at [Lena\\_KUA@nlb.gov.sg](mailto:Lena_KUA@nlb.gov.sg)*

# National Library (NL) Distinguished Readers

By Lena Kua, Assistant Director, Publishing and Research Services

In the previous issue, we introduced eight of our Distinguished Readers. In this issue, we are pleased to announce that seven other prominent Singaporeans have been appointed as National Library (NL) Distinguished Readers.

**Mrs Hedwig Anuar** was the first Singaporean Director of the National Library and occupied this position from 1965 to 1988. Under her leadership, the library underwent many successful changes and development, including the implementation of children's programmes, services to teenagers and young people, expansion of the Southeast Asian collection, and a mobile library service. She was also a member of various committees of the then Ministry of Culture, including its Censorship Review Committee.

In 1969, she was awarded the Public Administration Gold Medal. Mrs Anuar was accorded honorary Life Membership by Persatuan Perpustakaan Malaysia (PPM) in 1973, honorary Life Membership of the Library Association of Singapore in 1980, and Honorary Fellow of the Library Association (Britain) and *Her World's* Woman of the Year 1993 award on March 1994.

Appointed Hon Secretary of the National Book Development Council of Singapore (NBDCS) when it was founded in 1969, Mrs Anuar was Chairman of NBDCS from 1988 – 1995 upon retirement. From 1989 – 1993, she undertook consultancy work for the International Development Research Centre and the Library Information Development Consultations (LIDC). Mrs Anuar is also a founder member of the Association of Women for Action and Research (AWARE), and served in various capacities on its Ex-co. She initiated the Women Learning English (WISH) Programme of the Society for Reading and Literacy (SRL) of which she was a founder member.

**Mr Koh Seow Chuan**, a retired architect, is a founder of DP Architects Pte Ltd, the firm that designed the Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay. He was appointed Chairman, Singapore Art Museum in 2005 and will serve as Board Member from 1 August 2005 – 31 July 2007.

Mr Koh helped to put Singapore on the philatelic map of the world. He brought prestigious exhibitions and competitions to Singapore and mounted important exhibitions. These included the late President Ong Teng Cheong's letters, as well as the 117th IOC Stamp Exhibition.

He is also a world-renowned philatelist and avid collector of social historical documents, maps, antique books and art books. Mr Koh and Mrs Koh gave a long-term loan of their private collection to the National Library Board. The collection includes unique and out-of-print titles, hand-carried letters and petitions in their original form with signatures. Comprising some 2,500 items, the collection is open to the public to view and access.

**Mr Kwek Leng Joo** is a well-known and respected member of Singapore's business community. Managing Director of City Developments Limited (CDL) and an Executive Director of Hong Leong Group Singapore, he contributes actively to the business and civic community. He is the Immediate Past President of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vice-Chairman of the Singapore Business Federation, Chairman of the National Youth Achievement Award Council (NYAA) Board of Trustees, Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall, Management Committee of the Chinese Language and Culture Fund and the People's Association Chingay Advisory Council 2007/2008. Mr Kwek also sits on the Board of Trustees of the Nanyang Technological University, Chinese Development Assistance Council and National University Hospital Endowment Fund. He is also a member of the National Council on Problem Gambling.

A keen supporter of the arts and an avid photographer, Mr Kwek has produced many works of art. Some of these pieces have raised close to half a million dollars in fund-raising activities for the President's Challenge and Ren Ci Hospital. In addition, his love for the arts has brought about his role as a Council Member of the National Arts Council, Honorary Chairman of The Photographic Society of Singapore, Honorary Advisor to the Singapore Colour Photographic Society, Patron of the NYAA Young Photographers Network, Honorary Patron of the Photo-Art Association of Singapore and Honorary Patron of Tampines Photo Imaging Club. He also sits on the Board of Directors of the Singapore Tyler Print Institute.

For his many outstanding contributions to the community, Mr Kwek was conferred the Public Service Medal in 2000 and more recently, the Public Service Star in 2005, by the President of the Republic of Singapore.



**Mr R. Ramachandran**, is currently Executive Director, National Book Development of Singapore. He was awarded the “CONSAL Outstanding Librarian Award” at the CONSAL XIII Conference in Manila in March 2006 for his contribution to library development in Singapore and the region.

Mr Ramachandran, former Director National Library and Deputy Chief Executive, National Library Board, joined the National Library Service in 1969. He spearheaded the early development of Branch Libraries, National Library services and library education in Singapore. He later played a pivotal role in the modernisation of the library system when it became a Statutory Board in 1995. He helped to set up the CONSAL Secretariat and was appointed its first Secretary – General. As Secretary- General, CONSAL, he traveled widely in the region providing training and promoting libraries and library cooperation intensively. On an international level he served in several committees dealing with different aspects of library development. For several years he was Chairman of CDNLAO (Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania.) and President of the Library Association of Singapore. Following his retirement from the National Library Board, he was appointed as Secretary-General, International Federation of Libraries and Institutions (IFLA) in The Hague, Netherlands.



**Mr Tan Swie Hian** is Singapore’s most celebrated multi-disciplinary artist. He published his first collection of modern poetry, *The Giant*, in 1968, a landmark in the history of modern Chinese literature in Singapore and Malaysia. To date, he has published 50 titles of poetry, essays, stories, criticism and translated works. Mr Tan is multilingual and is the first person to have translated works by literary giants such as Henri Michaux, Jacques Prevert, Samuel Beckett, Vaslav Nijinsky and Marin Sorescu into Chinese as well as works by great Indian philosophers such as Ramana Marhashi, J.Krishnamurti, Sri Aurobindo, and N.Chaitanya. Mr Tan held his first art exhibition in 1973 at the National Library at Stamford Road and has since exhibited his works in numerous shows (solo and group) in Singapore and around the world.

Among his many achievements, Mr Tan was conferred the Chavalier de l’Ordre des Arts et Lettres by France (1978), the Singapore Cultural Medallion Award (1987), the World Economic Forum’s Crystal Award (2003), the Meritorious Service Medal by the President of the Republic of Singapore (2003), and the Officier de l’Ordre National de la Legion d’Honneur, the highest honour conferred by France (2006). He is the only artist in Singapore to be given this prestigious award. Mr Tan also won the Gold Medal in Salon des Artistes Francais, Paris (1985), the Marin Sorescu International Poetry Prize in Romania (1998), and the Seoul International Calligraphy Gold Medal (2002). Since 1987, Mr Tan Swie Hian has been the first and only Southeast Asian artist to be elected as a correspondent-member to The Academy of Fine Arts of the Institute of France.



**Mr Tang Wee Kit**, is currently Chairman & Managing Director of Tang Holdings Pte Ltd. He is also Board Member of the Singapore Hotel Association (SHA) for the period 2005 – 2007. Graduated from Menlo College with a BSc. in Business Administration, in 1976, Mr Tang started his career as Personal Assistant to the Managing Director of C.K. Tang Limited in 1979, rose to the rank of Deputy Managing Director/ Director of Stores in 1991 – 1993, before taking over the helm as Managing Director of Tang Choon Keng Realty Pte Ltd (now known as Tang Holdings Pte Ltd). During his illustrious career, he has held directorships in local as well as overseas including Indonesia and South Africa.

Outside of the business world, Mr Tang also holds appointments in civic community and educational organisations. He was member of the Barker Road Methodist Church Redevelopment Committee (1988 –1990) and was on the Board and Committees of various organisations including Anglo-Chinese Junior School (ACJS), ACJS Fund Raising & Building Committee and, Anglo-Chinese School Old Boys Association (ACSOBA). He was also Council Member of the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) for the period 2001/02. Mr Tang is an active member of the Young President’s Organisation (YPO), membership of which is by-invitation-only and held position of Chapter Chairman for the period 2001 – 2002. He is currently also a member of the World President’s Organisation (WPO).



**Mr Yatiman Yusof** was former Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts, and MP for Tampines GRC. He served as a Member of Parliament for five terms. In his 22 years as an MP, Mr Yatiman has held several key appointments in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts. He was elected the Member of Parliament (MP) for Kampong Kembangan Constituency in 1984 and served as one of the MPs for the Tampines Group Representation Constituency from 1988 to 2006. He played a big part in the progress of the Malay community together with the Malay MPs, under the different leadership of Dr Ahmad Mattar, Mr Abdullah Tarmugi and Assoc Prof Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, and has managed to create a more positive political environment among the Malay community.

Mr Yatiman also held key positions in *Berita Harian* and *Berita Minggu* up to 1986. He has been appointed Board Member of the 9<sup>th</sup> NParks Board with effect from 6 June 2006.





# NLB's Executive Management Programme: "Perspectives in Web Intelligence and Terrorism Research"

By Ms Veronica Chee, Senior Librarian, Publishing and Research Services

The Publishing and Research Services Division (PRS), NLB, organised its inaugural Executive Management Programme on 10 April 2006. Executive Management Programmes are high-level conferences, forums, roundtables and briefings organised for management and business communities to interact, share ideas, exchange information and to keep abreast with the latest developments in specialised knowledge sectors.

Held at the Hotel Rendezvous, the conference *Perspectives in Web Intelligence and Terrorism Research* aimed to orientate practitioners and researchers to new technologies and approaches towards web intelligence, enable participants to understand the information landscape of political violence and terrorism, its current state and the amount of information available for public consumption, and foster a network of political violence and terrorism research learning community in Singapore.

With the sponsorship and support from the US Embassy and the Nanyang Technological University, the conference featured international as well as local speakers from Singapore. These included Professor Edna Reid, Terrorism Informatics Track Coordinator from the University of Arizona; Dr Brad Robison, Information Centre Director with the National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism; Professor J. Srivastava from the University of Minnesota; Professor John Harrison, Head of Research at the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, NTU; Dr K.I. Sudderuddin, Former Director with the Resilience Division of MICA and Mr Ronnie Tan, Reference Librarian with PRS. The keynote address was delivered by Mr R. Ravindran, former Member of Parliament for Marine Parade GRC and former Chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Defence and Foreign Affairs.

A total of 64 participants from organisations and ministries such

as the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority, Internal Security Department, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Home Team Academy, Singapore Police Force and Ministry of Defence attended the conference.

For the remaining year, another three programmes will be organised focusing on the areas of copyright, impact measurement and Asian collection leadership.



## Former Director of National Library Honoured

Mr R. Ramachandran, Executive Director, National Book Development of Singapore has won the "CONSAL Outstanding Librarian Award". The award was given by CONSAL – a regional organisation of librarians in Southeast Asian Countries founded in 1970. CONSAL, honoured Mr Ramachandran at its Conference Gala Dinner, in Shangri-La, Manila, on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2006, for his contribution to library development in Singapore and the region.

Mr Ramachandran paid tribute to his mentor, former Director National Library, Mrs Hedwig Anuar and his colleagues at the National Library Board and the Library Association

of Singapore "without whom libraries in Singapore could not have developed to a world class standard"



Mr Ramachandran receiving his award from Mr Alex Byrne, President, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

Commenting on library development in the region, he said, "libraries in this part of the world have great potential as the region develops and focuses on education and training. Libraries will play a leading role in life long learning and along with schools will become the most important institution, impacting education, developing the potential of readers, students and researchers by facilitating ready access to relevant and reliable content worldwide." Mr Ramachandran said, "the award was particularly meaningful as it was given by my peers whom I hold in high esteem and by CONSAL which has nurtured me since its formation in 1970."

## Japanese Imperial Couple Visits the Knowledge Icon

On the second day of their three-day visit to Singapore, 9 June 2006, Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko visited the National Library. Waving flags, 700 students lined the walkway to welcome the Imperial Couple. As they made their way to the main lobby, Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko stopped to greet many among the enthusiastic crowd.

The royal guests came to the library bringing their personal donation of 18 books that spoke volumes of their private interests. Some books are even penned by the Emperor and Empress themselves and will be displayed for public reference later.

The Imperial Couple watched a special performance put up by 13 Primary Two students from Concord Primary School. They are also members of the kidsREAD programme in their school. KidsREAD is a nationwide reading programme targeted at children from the lower income families.

A group of lower secondary and junior college students who take Japanese as a third language were

also specially selected to meet Their Majesties. Accompanied by Mr Khaw Boon Wan, Minister in attendance and his wife as well as Ms Lim Soo Hoon, Chairman, NLB, Dr N Varaprasad, Chief Executive, NLB, and other selected Board Members of NLB, the Imperial Couple proceeded to tour the National Library. They were shown the Lee Kong Chian Reference Library's Singapore and Southeast Asian

Collections, including a letter written by Sir Stamford Raffles in 1819.

The Imperial Couple also signed the NLB's guest book before departing. To mark this visit, the Japanese Foundation also donated 500 books to the National Library. To promote cultural exchange between Singapore and Japan, the foundation has been donating books to the National Library since 1981.



Front row, 2nd from left: Mr Khaw Boon Wan, Minister in attendance, Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.  
Back row, 6th from left: Ms Lim Soo Hoon, Chairman, NLB and Dr N Varaprasad, Chief Executive, NLB engrossed with the skit performance.

## Singapore Honours – An Exhibition

Join us in honouring some of our country's most distinguished citizens at the *Singapore Honours* exhibition at the National Library.

The inspirational and heart-warming exhibition features a glittering collection of medals that have been awarded to extraordinary Singaporeans like Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew, Lt Gen (Retd.)

Winston Choo and Ms Elizabeth Choy, Singapore only war heroine. You will also get to see a whole array of medals from The Prime Minister's Office and the Singapore Civil Defence, amongst many others.

In the "Distinguished Citizens" hall, you will be touched by tributes to the late Dr Alexandre Chao and the late Mr Heng Yeow Pheow,

both of whom gave their lives selflessly while in the very act of saving lives. Also, learn more about how Singaporeans like Major Kadir (SCDF) and BG (Dr) Lim Meng Kin made major sacrifices to help others in time of tragedy and distress.

The exhibition is open to the public from June 22 to August 31 2006.

