



Eurasian Community House

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THE EURASIAN ASSOCIATION LAUNCHES 100th ANNIVERSARY BOOK “STANDING THE TEST OF TIME”

28 May 2022 - The Eurasian Association (EA) launched its 100th Anniversary Book “Standing the Test of Time” this morning at the Eurasian Community House. Transport Minister S. Iswaran, the Minister representing Eurasians in the Cabinet, was the Guest-of-Honour. He was joined by EA Patron Mr George Yeo, who represented the Eurasians in Cabinet from 1992 to 2011.

“Standing the Test of Time” shares insights of the EA since its inception in 1919 and covers events up until its centenary celebration in 2019. It focuses on the Association’s key events – formation, the war years, struggles through independence, nation building efforts in the 1970s and 1980s, and becoming a self-help group in 1994. The book also features quotes from prominent Singaporeans such as President Halimah Yacob and Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, who shared their thoughts on the EA’s role in working to nurture community bonds and helping the less fortunate, while playing a key role in nation building as part of Singapore’s multi-racial society.

In his foreword, Minister Iswaran paid tribute to the Eurasians for their contributions to Singapore over the years. He said, “Our Eurasian community is quintessentially Singaporean, the embodiment of a diverse heritage that is integral to the vibrant tapestry of our society. Though small in number, Eurasians have left an indelible mark on many aspects of Singapore life. So it is fitting that as we commemorated Singapore’s bicentennial, we also recognised the significant contributions of the Eurasian community to the growth and development of Singapore.”

Giving his advice as the EA charts its journey forward, EA Patron Mr George Yeo said, “The Eurasian community was one of the four interlocking arms which symbolized the founding of independent Singapore. If we are not to be progressively subsumed under ‘Others’, we must continuously improve ourselves and contribute to Singapore’s well-being. And be seen doing so.”

Ms Sandra Theseira, the EA’s first elected female president, shared how the book was a significant record and reference point: “This book will benefit future generations of Eurasians, as well as the wider community, who will be able to better understand how the EA has contributed to society over the last hundred years. I am sure the EA will continue to stand strong in its unwavering focus in the years ahead - to help not just our own community, but also to work together with the other ethnic communities in Singapore to further our unique multi-cultural identity and build on mutual understanding and trust.”



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FACTSHEET ON EA100 “STANDING THE TEST OF TIME” BOOK

Donors:

Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth through the ‘Care and Share’ Fund
National Heritage Board

Book Committee:

Chairperson: Benett Theseira
Timothy de Souza
Gerry de Silva
Edward D’Silva
Alexius A. Pereira
Julia D’Silva

Writers:

Melody Zaccheus and Janice Tai

Published by:

Straits Times Press

Book production timeline:

While the initial timeline was one year, the book took nearly three years to complete, partly due to the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the need for extra time to do in-depth research on facts and to include more substantial information in the book.

Cost of book:

\$50

Where to purchase:

At the Eurasian Community House, or through online purchase at <https://shop.eurasians.sg/>.
Available for purchase from 1 June.

Where to download:

From the EA website, at <https://www.eurasians.sg/books>. Download available from 1 June.



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ABOUT THE EURASIAN ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

The Eurasian Association of Singapore (EA) has a long history of serving the interests of the Eurasian community in Singapore since its inception in 1919. In 1994, the EA was formally accorded 'Self-Help Group' status by the Government to act on behalf of the Eurasian community in Singapore.

The EA provides services for the community in three key areas: Educational Advancement, Family Support Services and Community Development. The EA works towards preserving the unique Eurasian heritage and traditions as part of its mandate of serving the community, as well as increasing awareness about Eurasians in Singapore. The Eurasian Community House is the home of the EA and Eurasian Heritage Gallery and is a focal point for the Eurasian community to work together for the good of the community. For more information on the EA, visit – <https://www.eurasians.sg/>.

Social Media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eurasianassociation/>

Instagram: @the_eurasian_association

For enquiries, contact General Manager Lester Low at lester@eurasians.org.