

# THE PAPERS OF LEE KUAN YEW

## SPEECHES, INTERVIEWS AND DIALOGUES

### 1950–1990

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### Description

Lee Kuan Yew (1923– ) is a prominent Singaporean statesman. He was the first prime minister of the Republic of Singapore and governed the island nation for three decades (1959–1990). By the time he stepped down to enable a smooth leadership renewal, he had become the world's longest-serving prime minister. He was Singapore's senior minister (SM) from 1990 to 2004 and then minister mentor (MM) from 2004 to 2011. As the co-founder and first secretary-general of the People's Action Party (PAP), he led the party to eight victories from 1959 to 1990, oversaw the separation of Singapore from Malaysia in 1965, and engineered its subsequent transformation from an underdeveloped colonial outpost with no natural resources into a First-World Asian Tiger. He remains one of the most influential political figures in Southeast Asia.

*The Papers of Lee Kuan Yew: Speeches, Interviews and Dialogues* is a compilation of all the speeches, interviews and press conference presentations delivered by Lee Kuan Yew from 1950 through 1990. It covers four decades, including the period before Lee became the prime minister of Singapore and the period when he served as the prime minister. It consists of ten volumes covering the following years: 1950–1962 (Volume 1), 1963–July 1965 (Volume 2), August 1965–1966 (Volume 3), 1967–1968 (Volume 4), 1969–1971 (Volume 5), 1972–1974 (Volume 6), 1975–1977 (Volume 7), 1978–1980 (Volume 8), 1981–1987 (Volume 9), and 1988–1990 (Volume 10).

### About the National Archives of Singapore

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### Key Features

- The most comprehensive collection of various types of presentations of Lee Kuan Yew, the founding prime minister of Singapore
- A first-hand source for examining the thoughts of Lee over four decades (1950—1990) on a wide range of topics such as independence, decolonisation, Malaysian Malaysia, separation from Malaysia, British withdrawal, industrialisation, public housing, multiracial harmony, civil service and leadership succession
- Rare historical photos are dispersed throughout the volumes to give readers a sense of time and place
- Some terms and names are annotated to help readers unfamiliar with contexts unique to Singapore and Southeast Asia

### Target Audience

Scholars who are engaged in Asian and Southeast Asian studies; all public and university libraries.

## Reviews

The volumes presented here . . . are an indispensable source for the thinking of one of the seminal leaders of our period. They show a statesman of rare skill navigating difficult choices as his state secured its independence, built its distinct identity, navigated domestic and regional upheavals, and emerged as a crucial and influential component of the modern world order.

**Dr. Henry Kissinger**, former Secretary of State, the United States of America

The centrality of Lee Kuan Yew to Singapore's national story is undisputed; his papers will have a wide readership within and outside Singapore. The utility of this ten-volume collection for researchers lies in the comprehensive nature of the papers. While many of the papers are available elsewhere, to have them indexed and united in a single source will be immensely useful for researchers.

**Dr. Nicole Tarulevicz**, School of Asian Languages and Studies, University of Tasmania, Australia

The former prime minister of Singapore, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, has been a very instrumental figure in the processes of decolonisation of Southeast Asia and in the creation and consolidation of Singapore as an independent nation that has become an economic, political and social model for the region for almost half a century . . . He is one of the key figures of the second half of the 20th century and is still a required reference for the beginnings of the new century. For all these reasons, the proposal by Cengage Learning Asia to publish Lee Kuan Yew's papers is a major contribution to the study of East and Southeast Asia. The proposed edition is complete and comprehensive and very attractively designed. There are convenient explanatory notes in the margins that facilitate the task of the reader and the material is organized chronologically, thereby providing a detailed portrait of the socioeconomic, political and foreign policy history of one of the most dynamic regions of the world for the past 50 years. This is a highly worthwhile endeavour.

**Dr. Sean Golden**, Professor and Director, Institute for International & Intercultural Studies, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

Lee Kuan Yew is not only a Singapore icon but also, as its longest serving prime minister, the maker of the Singapore Story. This collection of his papers contains a treasure trove of information that will be indispensable reading for the scholar and interested student of Singapore history. In its pages are illuminating snapshots of an extraordinary man and his extraordinary times.

**Albert Lau**, Associate Professor, Department of History, National University of Singapore

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