

NATIONAL LIBRARY BUILDING
GALLERY, LEVEL 10
30 JAN – 28 AUG 2016

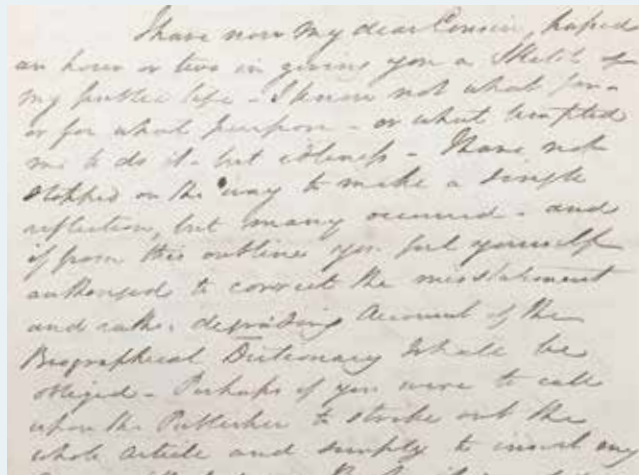


EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS



Details of a document presented to Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh from the Singapore Chinese merchants during his visit to Singapore in 1869.

Written on silk, this document expressed the Chinese community's loyalty to Queen Victoria and colonial rule over the Straits Settlements.



Detail of a letter from Stamford Raffles to Reverend Dr Thomas Raffles, at sea, 14 October 1819.

This letter to his cousin is the longest private and only autobiographical letter by Stamford Raffles. It contains a detailed account of his rise to prominence from humble beginnings.



Fotoalbum Singapur by G. R. Lambert & Co., 1901.

This album, which contains over 60 photographic prints of early Singapore scenery and people, was created by G. R. Lambert & Co., a leading photographic studio in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Documents, publications and photographs from Singapore's early days reveal fascinating insights into our history and culture. For instance, an 1819 document on the establishment of Malay College reveals how Raffles envisioned Singapore not just as a commercial hub but also as a centre for learning, culture and the arts.



Illustration from Haji's Book of Malay Nursery Rhymes.

Early literary works, religious tracts and dictionaries point to a thriving publishing industry in Singapore with printing presses run by English missionaries, Chinese literati and Muslim publishers. Cross-cultural exchanges, which have always been an element of Singapore society, gave rise to the first 'fusion' recipes in early cookbooks such as *The Mem's Own Cookery Book*, published in 1929. As Singapore came into its own, discussions and debates about the Singapore identity are reflected in early 20th century magazines and 1950s poetry.

Discover early Singapore from a fresh perspective through over 100 highlights from the National Library's collection of rare publications, manuscripts, documents, maps, photographs and more.

ORGANISED BY:



National Library
Singapore

GETTING TO THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

BY TRAIN

10-minute walk from:
Bugis MRT Station
Bras Basah MRT Station
City Hall MRT Station

BY BUS

Cosmic Insurance Building
Bus stop (01029)
7, 32, 51, 61, 63, 80, 145, 175,
197, 851

Bras Basah Complex
Bus stop (01019)
2, 12, 33, 130, 133, 960, NR7

St. Joseph's Church
Bus stop (01013)
130, 133, 145, 197, 851, 960,
NR7

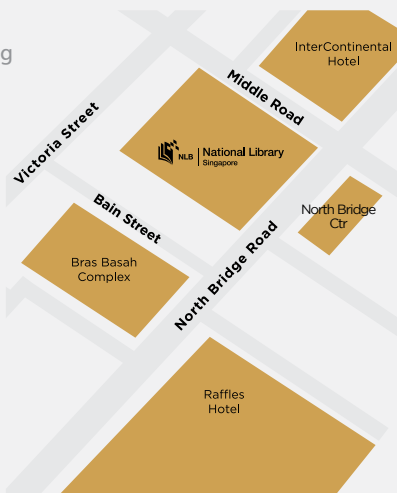
Hotel Grand Pacific
Bus stop (01012)
2, 7, 12, 32, 33, 51, 61, 63, 80,
175, NR7

ADDRESS

National Library Building
100 Victoria Street
Singapore 188064

OPERATING HOURS

Monday to Sunday
10am – 9pm
(except Public Holidays)



Information is correct at time of print.
The National Library of Singapore reserves the right to make changes to the programmes without prior notice.



Cermin mata bagi segala orang yang menuntut pengetahuan (Eye glass for those who seek knowledge), published by Mission Press, 1859.

This is one of the earliest Malay journals published in Singapore by Christian missionaries.



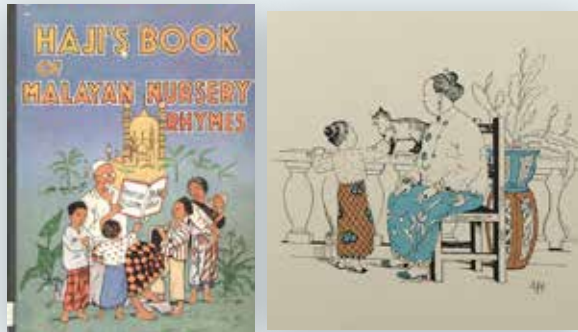
(Above left) An advertisement from *The Mem's Own Cookery Book*: 420 tried and economical recipes for Malaya, by W. E. Kinsey, 1929.
(Above right) *My Favourite Recipes* by Ellice Handy, 1952.

The Mem's Own Cookery Book is a unique cookbook that shows how the colonial community adapted their recipes using local ingredients. *My Favourite Recipes* is sometimes referred to as the 'bible of Singapore home-cooking', and is the first locally published cookbook by a Singaporean author.



Munajathu Thirattu by Muhammad Abdul Kadir, 1872.

This collection of Muslim religious poetry written in Tamil by Muhammad Abdul Kadir is the earliest Tamil publication in the National Library.



Haji's Book of Malay Nursery Rhymes by A. W. Hamilton, 1939.

This unique publication comprises Malay translations of better known English nursery rhymes. The translations preserve the spirit of the Malay language and its idioms. It also contains charming illustrations depicting Malayan lifestyles.

Find out about our programmes, talks and tours on the next page!

Illustration from Chrita Dulu-Kala Nama-Nya Sam Kok.



PROGRAMMES & TALKS

180年前新加坡刊行的一部中文小说 - 《是非略论》
华语讲座 | 2016年1月30日 (六), 下午二时到四时
Possibility Room, 五楼
讲员: 庄钦永博士, 新加坡新跃大学新跃中华学术中心兼任研究员

1835年, 新加坡坚夏书院出版了传教士郭实猎 (Karl F. A. Gützlaff, 1803-1851) 所著的小说《是非略论》——一部鸦片战争前撰写的重要文学创作。通过小说, 著者为旅居广州之泰西人呐喊: 他们不满在中国所受到的歧视与限制。演讲将探讨小说之创作背景, 将文本与档案进行比读, 深入挖掘其纸背后之深意以及弦外之音。

A Chinese Novel Published in Singapore in 1835 – *Shi fei lüe lun (A Brief Discussion of Right and Wrong)* by Karl F. A. Gützlaff (1803-1851)
Conducted in Mandarin | Saturday, 30 Jan 2016, 2.00pm – 4.00pm | Level 5, Possibility Room
Speaker: Dr David K. Y. Chng

The talk will focus on the novel *Shi fei lüe lun (A Brief Discussion of Right and Wrong)* written by Protestant missionary Karl F. A. Gützlaff (1803-1851), published in Singapore in 1835 by the American Board Mission Press. It is a very important piece of literature that sheds light on Sino-British relationships in the 1830s. The talk will also explore the historical context of the novel.

Dr David K. Y. Chng is a part-time researcher at the UniSIM Centre for Chinese Studies, SIM University.



Portrait of Karl F. A. Gützlaff.

In Honour of Dead Friends: The Ethics of Antiquarian Book Collecting
Thursday, 18 Feb 2016, 7.00pm – 9.00pm | Level 16, The Pod
Speaker: Dr Farish A. Noor

Books are the repositories of ideas and world views of those who have come before us, offering a glimpse into other life-worlds that in turn present us with alternative ways of understanding our world. Book collectors, therefore, play an essential role in preserving our published heritage.

Join Dr Farish A. Noor as he shares his 30-year journey of collecting antiquarian books and maps related to Southeast Asia.

Dr Farish A. Noor is an associate professor at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University. His research covers topics ranging from Southeast Asian history to contemporary politics, material culture, art and antiquities as well as the media. He is a collector of antiquarian books, maps, prints, photos and memorabilia of Southeast Asia since the 1980s, and is a valued donor to the National Library Board of Singapore.

Birdwatching & Exhibition Tour with Nature Society Singapore (NSS)
Saturday, 19 Mar 2016, 8.30am – 12.00pm
National Library Building and Labrador Park

Within the National Library's exhibition *From the Stacks*, is a beautifully illustrated series of books titled *Birds of the Malay Peninsula* that date as far back as 1927. Published by the earliest ornithologists in Singapore, Frederick Chasen and Herbert Robinson, the book details hundreds of bird species found in Malaya up to 1976.

In the spirit of exploration, join us for a fascinating walk around Labrador Park to identify and observe birds in their natural habitat.

This tour is organised in partnership with the Nature Society Singapore.

Programme	
8.30am	Meet up @ NL Building lobby, level 1 (chartered bus to Labrador Park)
9.00am	Introduction to birds and birdwatching
10.30am	Return to the National Library
11.00am	Tour of <i>From the Stacks</i> exhibition
12.00pm	End of programme

A bus will be chartered to bring participants to and from Labrador Park. Participants are advised to dress comfortably (e.g. walking shoes) as well as to bring their own water and binoculars. To join this tour, please email visitnls@nlb.gov.sg with the subject "Birdwatching Tour", indicating if rental of binoculars is required (\$10 per pair).



An illustration from *Birds of the Malay Peninsula* featuring the Eastern Swallow, a frequently spotted bird in Singapore.

Conservation Talk by National Archives of Singapore (NAS)
Saturday, 16 Apr 2016, 2.30pm – 4.00pm
Level 5, Imagination Room
Speakers: Dr Phang Lai Tee and Mr Chng Yak Hock

Ever wondered how Singapore's historical archives are conserved and preserved? What can you do to safely keep your own family records?

Hear from Dr Phang Lai Tee, Senior Assistant Director, Audio Visual Archives, National Archives of Singapore (NAS), as she shares about NAS's role in preserving the nation's audio-visual archives including family videos, broadcast archives and music albums.

Learn from Conservator, Mr Chng Yak Hock, who will introduce the art of paper conservation performed by NAS and provide advice on what you can do to maintain your old paper records at home.



Book pages being repaired through application of glue to its interior spine.

A Printmaker's Tale
Saturday, 25 Jun 2016, 2.30pm – 4.00pm
Level 5, Possibility Room
Speaker: Ms Lim Bee Ling

In this interactive session, artist and educator, Lim Bee Ling, will share with audiences different printmaking techniques through the ages. She will also showcase various matrixes and prints. Participants will get the chance to see these various print mediums up close.

Lim Bee Ling is a lecturer from the School of Fine Arts at LASALLE College of the Arts. Bee Ling has been practicing printmaking as a major art form. Her works deal with the notion of physical space as a medium of collective memory through the material and method she works with. She approaches this topic by manipulating the different printing principles in art-making, using archived images which are rooted in the memory of national identity.

Heritage Food Talk & Cooking Demonstration
Saturday, 6 Aug 2016, 2.30pm – 4.00pm
Level 5, Possibility Room & Courtyard
Speaker: Ms Aziza Ali

Join former chef and restaurateur, Aziza Ali, in this interactive session as she shares about the food from her childhood as well as traditional Malay heritage foods. Participants can also look forward to a cooking demonstration by Aziza using some of her family recipes.

Aziza Ali is a former chef, food consultant, business person, artist, jeweller, and author. She is credited with opening Singapore's first Malay restaurant, as well as introducing the concept of Malay fine-dining to Singapore.

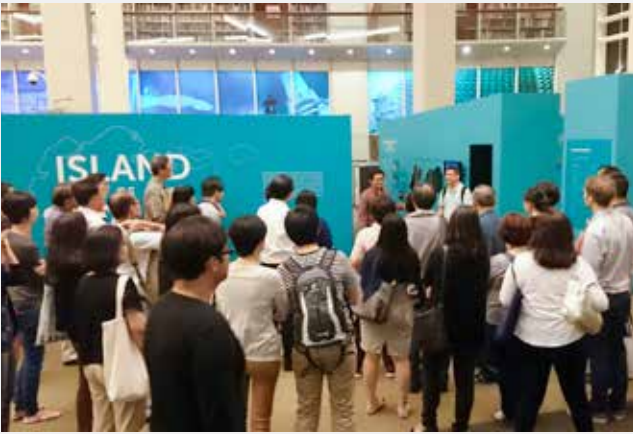
For more information and updates on our current and new programmes, please visit www.nlb.gov.sg/exhibitions/. Admission to programmes is free and open to all unless otherwise stated. Seats are limited, on a first-come first-served basis. Please register at [library eKiosks](http://library.eKiosks) or www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary.

All programmes will be held at the National Library Building (100 Victoria Street, Singapore 188064).

PUBLIC TOURS

Join our curator- or docent-led weekend tours and discover the rich treasures and fascinating stories of Singapore's published heritage from the collections of the National Library.

Your journey begins here.



Public tour conducted by one of our curators.

Curator's Tour
Conducted in English | 7.30pm – 8.30pm
19 Feb, 18 Mar, 15 Apr, 27 May, 17 Jun, 15 Jul, 19 Aug 2016
Meeting point: Level 10, outside the Gallery entrance
Register at www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary/programme/Tours.aspx. Admission is free.

Weekend Tours
Conducted in English | 1.00pm – 2.00pm
All Saturdays and Sundays from 20 February to 28 August 2016*
Meeting point: Level 10, outside the Gallery entrance
First-come first-served basis. Admission is free.

*There will be no tours on public holidays.

周末导览
华语讲解 | 下午一时半到二时半
每逢星期六, 从2016年2月20日至8月27日*
集合地点: 国家图书馆大厦10楼展厅外入场免费。

*公共假日导览暂停。

SCHOOL TOURS



Guided School Tours and Workshops
Experience the history of Singapore through the National Library's exhibition featuring rare publications, manuscripts, documents, maps, photographs and other resources.

Guided school tours can be arranged for students who will receive the specially produced *From the Stacks: Activity Booklet on Singapore History*. Through puzzles, illustrations, maps and photographs, students will be able to learn and apply the 5W1H approach of research and Information Literacy (IL).

Schools also have the option of enhancing the tour with a customised IL workshop that will teach the critical aspects of research, especially in analysing and using content from a variety of resources.

Interested schools can email visitnls@nlb.gov.sg for more details. Book early to secure a tour slot!

ROVING EXHIBITION



A showcase of some of the interesting library finds.

Library Finds!
What is the last thing you would expect to find at the National Library? Satisfy your curiosity as you explore cabinets and drawers full of ephemera from the library's closed shelves. An eclectic assortment of bits and bobs, explore a different side of history through the odds and ends of our collection.

Public Library	Date
Tampines Regional Library	18 Jan – 28 Feb 2016
Toa Payoh Public Library	29 Feb – 24 Apr 2016
Jurong Regional Library	25 Apr – 19 Jun 2016
Woodlands Regional Library	20 Jun – 31 Aug 2016

This exhibition is a roving component of *From the Stacks: Highlights of the National Library*.

FEATURETTE

Vice & Virtue: 1800s Singapore
From colonial power struggles to government sanctioned drug cartels and prostitution rings, 19th century Singapore was full of fantastic stories of vice and virtue. Join academic and history lover, Dr Farish A. Noor, as he takes us on a journey to uncover these forgotten stories buried in a treasure trove of rare collections.

Vice & Virtue: 1800s Singapore will be broadcast on Channel NewsAsia. You can also catch the documentary on www.channelnewsasia.com/sg50.

Selected artefacts in the exhibition are showcased in this documentary.



(Above) *Journal of a Tour Along the Coast of Java and Bali*, published by Mission Press, 1830. (Bottom) *The Journal of the Indian Archipelago and Eastern Asia* by J. R. Logan, 1847-1855.