

## Media Release

### For Immediate Release

#### MADAM HALIMAH YACOB LAUNCHES THE HONOUR INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

**Singapore, 19 May 2016** – Madam Halimah Yacob, Speaker of the Singapore Parliament, opened the Honour International Symposium this evening at The Fullerton Hotel Singapore before an audience of 280 persons. Commenting on how Honour has played an integral role in the growth of our nation, Madam Halimah said: “Singapore had succeeded in the last 50 years not just because of our excellent infrastructure, good policies and a hardworking people. Much more than that, we succeeded because people trusted the Singapore brand which upholds values such as honesty, integrity, trustworthiness, dependability adaptability and hard work. In other words, our words and actions are based on Honour. As we look into the future, we have the same need to be a people whose word is our honour, and whose care for each other is our hallmark.”

Madam Halimah was presented a hand-drawn portrait by Ms Chang Kim Nghoh from Very Special Arts Singapore to commemorate the occasion. (Please refer to Annex A for the full profile of the Ms Chang.)

The Symposium is organised by Honour (Singapore) as part of the charity’s efforts to promote a culture of honour and honouring in Singapore. It kicked off with a special video message from Mr Jack Ma, Founder and Executive Chairman of the Alibaba Group, who explained how Honour and Integrity are critical for companies to succeed and grow.

Following this was a Panel discussion on how Honour is so important for many aspects of life. Speakers shared their insights on the importance of Honour for the well-being of nations, organisations, families and individuals across cultures and religions. It was moderated by Professor Kishore Mahbubani, Dean and Professor of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore (NUS). The panel comprised:

- H.E. Mr Walter Fust of Switzerland, President of Globethics.net
- Professor Huang Jing, Lee Foundation Professor on US-China Relations and Director, Centre on Asia and Globalisation at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS
- Mr Lim Siong Guan, Chairman of Honour (Singapore)
- Mr Mohammad Alami Musa, President of Islamic Religious Council of Singapore

The Symposium continues tomorrow with discussions on the theme of “Winning with Honour” in business, leadership, family, and life. Participants and speakers hail from Singapore and Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Switzerland, India, and the United Kingdom.



The Symposium will close with a keynote address by Tan Sri Dato' Francis Yeoh of Malaysia, who is the Managing Director of YTL Group of Companies.

Commenting on the turnout, Mr Lim Siong Guan, the Founder Chairman of Honour (Singapore) said: "The number of people attending the two-day symposium is very encouraging. I hope the discussions will help them be catalysts of change in their families, communities, organisations, and in our nation. Honour is an essential quality for the success and sustainability of all long-term relationships in business, leadership, family, community, and society. Together, we build a culture of Honour and Honouring in Singapore for the collective well-being of the nation."

Partners of the Honour International Symposium include:

- The Fullerton Hotel Singapore
- Pico International
- Asia PR Werkz

You can find translations for "Honour (Singapore)" in Chinese, Malay, and Tamil in Annex B.

**##END##**



## **ABOUT THE HONOUR INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**

The Honour International Symposium is organised by Honour (Singapore) in the belief that Honour, resulting in trustworthiness and dependability, has been an essential element for Singapore's economic success since its independence in 1965, and has enabled the small city state to draw investments and talent from all over the world. We also believe that Honour is critical for relationships and leadership in families, organisations, and communities in all nations.

The Honour International Symposium brings together participants who are leaders in business, government, and community groups. It is an interactive program to discuss the application of honour and honouring for successful business, stable homes, and strong nations.

Speakers at the Honour International Symposium come from a variety of backgrounds and from many countries. They will share their thoughts and experiences on the effective practice of Honour in business, leadership, family, and life.

For more information, please visit: [www.honourinternational.sg](http://www.honourinternational.sg)

## **ABOUT HONOUR (SINGAPORE)**

Honour (Singapore) is a charity with IPC status that seeks to promote a culture of honour and honouring for the well-being of the nation. It is multi-racial, multi-religious and multi-community in its outreach. Honour (Singapore) believes that there are two dimensions of Honour that are particularly important for the continued success and survival of the nation: to honour our word and to honour each other. Honour (Singapore) believes that such a culture of honour remains essential for Singapore's success and cohesion in the coming years. For more information, please visit us at: [www.honour.sg](http://www.honour.sg)

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**Profile of Ms Chang Kim Ngoh, Very Special Arts Singapore**

Occupation: Artist

Disability: Polio

Kim Ngoh graduated with a Diploma in Fine Art from the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts in 1970, specialising in watercolour painting.

She obtained her second Diploma in oil painting in 1980 from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, Canada.

Since her return to Singapore, Kim Ngoh has been working full-time as a professional artist.

Her home is also her studio where she paints vivid scenes from the past. Her favourite subjects are the old Malay kampungs that depict the carefree and simple life common during the Singapore's colonial days.

In 1998, Kim Ngoh bagged the Phillip Morris ASEAN Art Distinction Award and in 2000, she received the Very Special Arts Gold Award. Kim Ngoh has also worked on corporate commissions for The American Club and The Plaza Fitness and Spa.

**Translations of the name Honour (Singapore)**

Malay: Sanjung (Singapura)

Chinese: 尊义 (新加坡)

Tamil: (சிங்கப்பூருக்கு) பெருமை சேர்ப்போம்