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**SPEECH BY PRIME MINISTER
AT THE DEDICATION CEREMONY TO NAME THE INSTITUTE OF
EAST ASIAN PHILOSOPHIES (IEAP) LIBRARY
ON FRIDAY, 9 OCTOBER 1987**

We meet today in memory of the late Mr John Tung who died a year ago. We are glad to have with us his wife, Mdm Zhang You-Ying (张有映) and Mr Robert Wang. Mr Tung made a handsome contribution to this institute four years ago when he made an unsolicited donation of S\$3 million on 4 July 1983.

Mr Tung was born in Shanghai in September 1914, third son of the late Tung Jifu (董吉甫). In 1935, he studied at the Hu Jiang (沪江) University. 1949 proved an eventful year when he married Mdm Zhang and the couple moved to Hong Kong to take charge of his father's enamel ware factory. Mr Tung diversified into vacuum flasks and his products found a good market in Southeast Asia and Africa. Within the next 10 years, he set up factories in the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand, and Nigeria. His Nigerian enterprises diversified into metals, plastics, glass, waterpipes, fibre weaving, iron and steel, making no small contribution to Nigeria's development. In the 1980s, further diversification took place into real estate in the US and computer hardware in Taiwan and the US.

Mr John Tung represented the breed of entrepreneurs whose migration from Shanghai to Hong Kong had propelled the colony into a powerhouse of manufacturing and business. Hong Kong, one of the four small dragons, provides a striking example on how business enterprise operating in an environment of stable government can produce rapid increases in material standards of living.

Despite the pressure of business, the late Mr Tung found time for public service. He served on the boards of various business associations. Among the many positions he held outside of business were: Vice Chairman of the Jiangsu and Zhejiang Residents Association in Hong Kong. Director of the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals, and Pok Oi Hospital, member of the Board of Governors, New Asia College of the Chinese University, Director of the Jiangsu and Zhejiang Primary School, Advisor to the Confucius Temple and the Yan Chai Hospital.

National Archives of Singapore

Mr John Tung believed that the ethical code of Confucius can guide a man through the vicissitudes of life and produce not only a successful businessman but also a person worthy of public esteem. He has led a full, busy yet unostentatious life and it is fitting that the Library of the Institute of East Asian Philosophies be named the John Tung Library in his memory.

I now dedicate this Library in memory of Mr John Tung.

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