



# INFORMATION SERVICES · SINGAPORE

PRESS  
STATEMENT

SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT.

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SPEECH BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR, SIR WILLIAM GOODE, AT THE NANYANG UNIVERSITY CELEBRATIONS ON SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 1958, AT 4 P.M.

I am very happy to be associated with this important function today which marks the completion of the first phase of the building programme of Nanyang University. The fact that this is only the first phase proves that Nanyang will continue to grow, and that is what it should be. It is in the nature of a university to grow.

I want to thank the Chairman for his gracious remarks about the interview he had with me in 1953 when he and a few others proposed to establish this University. That was the beginning of this great plan, and I am particularly happy today to see this great plan coming to fruition. I am sure it was not so much the encouraging words I said at the interview in 1953 as the determination of the Chinese community and its leaders in the field of education that has made the plan for this University a success.

Today these stately buildings, with all that goes on within them, are a symbol of Chinese enterprise in the field of education. The Chinese traditional love for learning can find no better expression than in the provision of this institution.

How well said is the Chinese proverb - "All pursuits are mean in comparison with that of learning." It is my earnest hope that this University will provide education of a high order for the boys and girls of this country so that **they** will play their part well in the future, and that both the staff and the students alike will uphold the good reputation of those who have gone before them in making this country what it is today.

I am glad to note that the benefactors of this University have come from all walks of life, and from both the Federation of Malaya and Singapore. This is evidence of the unity of purpose, and may I suggest that this unity of purpose will continue to inspire those with money to give money and those with strength to give strength, so that this University may continue to prosper and to perform its important functions. The future of the University and its graduates lies very much in your own hands.

By your own hands I mean the hands of the promoters of the University and of those who run it. You must aim at standards comparable to that of the other well-established universities in the world. It is better to have no university than to have a university of low standards. I am sure that the aims of the promoters of Nanyang are high and noble and that the academic staff will do their best to be equal to the task given them.

Finally, I want to say how lucky the students of Nanyang University are in finding places here. There is an overall shortage of places in all institutions of higher learning in the world today. I therefore hope that the students of Nanyang will make full use of this opportunity to complete their education, for every character is worth thousands of gold and this treasure follows its owner wherever he goes.

Today is a day for rejoicing because of the successful completion of these beautiful and useful buildings. I therefore wish Nanyang the best of luck and further successes in the years to come.

MARCH 30, 1958.

(Time issued at 1600 hours)

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