

## NATIONAL TRANSLATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS



### **Mr Tan Kiat How (Chairperson from 15 May 2021)**

Mr Tan Kiat How was elected a Member of Parliament (MP) for the East Coast Group Representation Constituency (GRC) during the General Elections held in July 2020.

Mr Tan is the Senior Minister of State for National Development and for Communications and Information. He is also Chairman of REACH, the lead agency in facilitating whole-of government efforts to engage and connect with Singaporeans on national and social issues close to their hearts. Mr Tan had also previously served in the Prime Minister's Office as Minister of State.

Prior to entering politics, Mr Tan spent close to 20 years in the public service. He began his career in the public service as an IT consultant in the Ministry of Education, under a National Computer Board scholarship. He held several appointments in the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore, before moving to the Ministry of Finance to head its economic programmes department. Mr Tan started the Pioneer Generation Office, which is now known as the Silver Generation Office. Under his leadership, the Pioneer Generation Office mobilised 3,000 volunteers to reach out to almost 500,000 seniors within two years.

Mr Tan subsequently took on leadership roles as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI), and later Chief Executive Officer of the Infocomm and Media Development Authority (IMDA).

As a computer engineer by training, Mr Tan has a passion for using technology to enhance the lives of Singaporeans. He led the shaping of the national cybersecurity masterplan and championed a more digital economy and society, including the ethical use of Artificial Intelligence, rollout of 5G mobile networks, and launch of the SG Digital Ambassadors Programme. He helped to develop the Intelligent Nation 2015 blueprint and drove the implementation of the nationwide fibre-to-the-home infrastructure.

Mr Tan graduated summa cum laude from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with Bachelor's degrees in Economics and Computer Engineering in 2001. He also holds a Master's degree in Management Science & Engineering from Stanford University.

Mr Tan is married with one child. In his spare time, Mr Tan enjoys the outdoors and spending time with his rescue dogs.

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### **Ms Agnes BL Lim**

Ms Agnes Lim currently serves as Director for Marketing Communications in the Land Transport Authority (LTA). She is responsible for strategic communications planning, marketing, events management, social media and corporate communications. Prior to LTA, Ms Lim held roles in the Ministry of Defence, SMRT Corporation Ltd and Public Service Division (PMO).



### **Ms Ang Yiting**

Ang Yiting (洪奕婷) has been in the Chinese news industry for nearly 20 years. Moving from broadcast to print, evening papers to morning dailies, and newspapers to new media, she has been with Channel U TV News, Lianhe Wanbao, My Paper and Lianhe Zaobao, covering a wide range of news in different formats, and was part of a key team driving the digitalisation efforts of the newsroom. She is currently the Associate Editor of Lianhe Zaobao overseeing digital matters of zaobao.sg. Yiting graduated from NTU with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies (Honours), and also holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from NUS Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy.

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### **Mr Cheng Yong Tai**

Mr Cheng Yong Tai is currently the Chief Editor of Chinese News at Mediacorp Pte Ltd. He oversees news operations for Mediacorp's Mandarin channels, Channels 8 and U. With over 20 years in the TV industry, he has experienced the entire gamut of TV news production, as well as planning, coordinating and directing coverage for large-scale news events. He graduated with a Master of Arts in Applied Sociology and a Bachelor of Arts in Chinese Studies and Sociology from the National University of Singapore.



### **Mr Christopher Gordon**

Christopher Gordon is a civil servant by profession. He currently serves as Director (People & Government Engagement Division) in the People's Association. He leads a team which oversees the planning, review and coordination of last-mile Government communications to citizens and stakeholders via PA's grassroots movement.

Chris received the Public Service Commission's Overseas Merit Scholarship (Foreign Service) in 2002, and obtained a BA and Masters in Engineering from Christ's College, Cambridge University. He started his career with the Singapore Government in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), before serving stints in the Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Prime Minister's Office (Communications Group) and Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI), where he led a team overseeing the coordination of Whole-of-Government messaging and media engagement.

In his personal capacity, Chris currently serves on a number of national bodies and organisations including as Chairman of the Eurasian Association Youth Committee and Secretary of the OnePeople.sg Management Committee. Some of the topics that Chris actively champions as a youth advocate include enhancing inter-racial and inter-faith harmony; and promoting

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mentoring and youth mental well-being.



### **Mr Don Wee Boon Hong**

Don Wee, is an experienced practitioner in the space of accountancy, governance, and sustainability. Serving as a Member of Parliament, he spearheads initiatives in Sustainability and Trade which draw from his experience dealing with the Singaporean SMEs and Chinese businesses. Proficient in English and Chinese, Don's biculturalism and bilingual acumen are pivotal in engaging diverse stakeholders. An award-winning finance professional, his educational accolades, including MIT Sloan and Harvard Kennedy School, underscore his commitment to excellence. With affiliations in critical national level committees, Don Wee stands as a paragon of leadership, contributing profoundly to Singapore's business and cultural scenes.



### **Mdm Heng Boey Hong**

Mdm Heng is currently the Director of Mother Tongue Languages Branch, Curriculum Planning and Development Division at Ministry of Education.

She began her career as a Chinese language teacher and later held leadership position as Principal of Nanyang Primary School (2003-2009) and Nanyang Girls' High School (2010-2017).

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Madam Heng is actively involved in the field of education and beyond. She currently serves as a Councillor of North-West CDC and holds director positions on the Boards of the Singapore Chinese Orchestra, Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, Mee Toh Foundation, and Nam Hwa Opera Limited, among others. Proficient in both English and Chinese, Madam Heng is a regular presenter at local and international conferences.



### **Ms K. Kanagalatha**

Ms K. Kanagalatha is a senior member of Tami Murasu's editorial staff. As the Associate Editor of Singapore's Tamil daily, she handles various responsibilities. Apart from writing and editing the news, she also oversees the student tabloid, the youth section, feature articles and special editions. She has been working at the newspaper since 1990 and has held various posts within the organisation, namely, Features Editor, News Editor, Sunday Editor and now, the Associate Editor. In addition, she is a Singapore Literature Award winning Tamil writer, who has published three Tamil books and one English book. She is also an avid follower of Tamil literary developments in the Tamil diaspora.



### **Ms Lin Rongchan**

Ms Lin Rongchan is a Lecturer at the Learning Sciences and Assessment (LSA) Academic Group, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University (NIE, NTU). She is the Programme Leader for LSA Professional Development Programme and is a member of the NTU Senate Committee on Faculty Development (8th Senate). Her research interests include assessment literacy and instrument validation.

Rongchan was born and raised in Singapore, and also received education in China and the United States. While she has a global perspective, she remains sensitive to local educational contexts and is passionate about language learning and

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assessment. Locally, she is a committee member (1 January 2021– 31 December 2024) of the Committee to Promote Chinese Language Learning. Beyond Singapore, she chaired the Nominating Committee of the Asian Association for Language Assessment (AALA) and served as an AALA Regional Representative (Singapore). Being effectively bilingual, she gives talks, conducts courses, and publishes in both English and Chinese. Outside of academia, Rongchan is passionate about poetry writing and has won awards for her contemporary Chinese poetry.



### **Ms Mazlena Bte Ahmad Mazlan**

Ms Mazlena is the Director (Community Outreach), Media Division at the Ministry of Communications and Information. Besides a member of the National Translation Committee, she is also a member of the Malay Language Council, Singapore as well as its Bulan Bahasa Committee. Previously, she headed the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore's Strategic Communications Unit. Prior to MUIS, Mazlena held several positions in the media. At Mediacorp she was Head, Research/Resources & Executive Producer, Caldecott Productions International. She was also News Editor, Mediacorp Radio and Editor, Malay News and Current Affairs Unit. Her first foray into journalism was with Berita Harian, Singapore Press Holdings (SPH).



### **Dr Mohd Mukhlis Bin Abu Bakar**

Dr Mukhlis Abu Bakar is Associate Professor and Head of the Asian Languages and Cultures Academic Group at the National

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Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University. He has a PhD in Linguistics from the University of Wales, Bangor, UK. He taught at the Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore, prior to joining the Institute in 2002. Dr Mukhlis teaches courses in Malay linguistics, discourse analysis, literacy, and bilingual education. His research interest spans a number of inter-related fields: language, literacy, bilingualism, and learning at home, in school and in faith settings. He is presently engaged in a number of funded research projects on biliteracy and bilingualism in young children. His service roles include sitting on committees in MCCY, MCI and MOE.



### **Mr N Gunalan**

Mr N Gunalan is Chief Editor of MediCorp's Tamil News & Current Affairs. He leads and sets the strategic editorial direction for his 34-member team of reporters and editors. Tamil News and Current Affairs produces a daily TV news bulletin; 10 radio news bulletins; a weekly current affairs TV programme and runs a news website/app.

In addition, the team runs several community engagement initiatives. Gunalan has been in journalism and PR for over two decades having held senior positions at several regional media organisations.

Gunalan serves on several community organisations which promote Tamil language. He holds a BA from NUS and an MSC in International Politics of Asia & Africa from the School of Oriental and African Studies. He received the latter as a recipient of the Chevening Scholarship, funded by the British Government.



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### **Mdm Norhayati Awang**

Mdm Norhayati Awang is the Centre Director of the Malay Language Centre of Singapore (MLCS), Ministry of Education. She leads a team of Master Teachers in conducting in-service Professional Learning (PL) Programme for all Malay Language teachers. The PL Programme includes courses, professional sharing sessions, seminars, immersion programmes and regional conference programmes. Mdm Norhayati also currently sits as a member of the Malay Language Learning and Promotion Committee (MLLPC). Prior to her posting in MLCS, Mdm Norhayati was teaching in a junior college and was a Vice-Principal of a secondary school.



### **Dr Noridah Kamari**

Noridah Kamari is a book publisher and co-owner of Unggun Creative. She obtained her Doctor of Philosophy in Malay Literature from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) in 2019, and currently also works as an adjunct lecturer at two local universities. Her poems and short stories are published in several local and regional anthologies. Noridah is also active in producing academic writings for presentations and publications. Among them, she was a presenter for the Mastera Comparative Lecture Series in 2019 for a presentation entitled, "Excluded, and Alienated: A Comparative Study of Literary History Writing in the Nusantara."



### **Ms Nur-El-Hudaa Jaffar**

Ms Nur-El-Hudaa Jaffar is a freelance translator and editorial consultant. Her involvement in the publishing industry formally began in 2009. As an editorial consultant, she helps writers and publishers transform manuscripts into publications. She has



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translated several children's books and literary works. These include Cultural Medallion winner Mohamed Latiff Mohamed's short story "Yang Hilang", featured in the 'Living in Babel' anthology and extracts from works by Singapore Literature Prize Winners for the Singapore Book Council's 'Celebrating Our Writers 1992-2018' showcase. In addition, she translated a novel by John Mateer titled 'The Quiet Slave: A History in Eight Episodes'. In September 2019, her translation of five poems won the inaugural MASTERA Translation Prize (Singapore) organised by the Malay Language Council.

Nur-El-Hudaa is a published author of children's books and has written short stories and poetry. Her short stories have won her awards, such as the Golden Point Award 2017. As a featured writer for the Word-Go-Round programme run by the National Arts Council, she has conducted writing workshops and storytelling sessions for students and preschoolers. She has also participated in the Singapore Writers Festival and Asian Festival of Children's Content as a panellist and presenter.



### **Mr Phang Yang Bing**

Phang Yang Bing is an Account Specialist at Amazon Asia-Pacific Holdings. His role involves post-editing and proofreading projects using ATMS. He graduated from SIM University (now SUSS) with a BA in Translation & Interpretation.

Previously, at the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Yang Bing was part of the translation pool, where he assisted with Chinese language translations for ministry speeches, documents, and communications materials. He is proficient in using CAT tools like Trados and Phrase. Yang Bing seeks to enhance his localisation skills through a Master of Management (Translation & Technology) at SUSS. Furthermore, he connects with experts in the field through the LoLunch group.

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### **Mr Puad Ibrahim**

Puad Ibrahim joined BH in 1997. He has vast experience in journalism ranging from crime and community reporting to political and economic reporting, as well as writing for features, commentaries and BH leader. He has assumed several editor duties and responsibilities including many years in news planning, starting up BH digital, copy editing, night editing, acting editor and now print editor. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree from NUS and MBA from S P Jain School of Global Management.



### **Mr Randy Lim Chi Beng**

As Assistant CEO (Corporate), Mr Randy Lim oversees corporate governance and services in HDB and leads in the formulation of effective corporate strategies and policies to support HDB's operations and services. He directs the 5 Corporate Groups in knowledge management, organisational excellence, human resource development, corporate communications, information systems/ technology, finance, and legal/conveyancing.

Concurrently, Mr Lim is HDB's Chief Data Officer (CDO) and Chief Risk Officer (CRO). As CDO, Mr Lim sets HDB's data and analytics strategy and oversees enterprise-wide data policies/governance. As CRO, he oversees HDB's risk management system and processes, ensuring the robustness of HDB's risk management strategies and fostering a stronger culture of risk awareness & intelligence within HDB.

Mr Lim is a Director and Member of the Human Capital & Remuneration and Investment Committees on the Board of EM Services Pte Ltd. He also represents HDB in various inter-agency committees including the ServiceSG Council and Municipal

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Services Steering Committees.



### **Ms Rita Goh**

Ms Rita Goh is Deputy Director of the Language Division at the National Heritage Board, which is responsible for supporting Singapore's four language councils and campaigns - the Speak Good English Movement, the Promote Mandarin Council (for the Speak Mandarin Campaign), the Malay Language Council, Singapore (for Bulan Bahasa, Anugerah Persuratan and others) and the Tamil Language Council (for the Tamil Language Festival and others). Ms Goh has worked in communications, brand marketing, corporate & business development and e-commerce for thirty years and her career includes long-term overseas postings in China, Vietnam and Malaysia.



### **Mdm Santhi Sellappan**

Mdm Santhi Sellappan is currently the Centre Director of Umar Pulavar Tamil Language Centre. She had started her career in 1992 as a Tamil Language teacher in a primary school and moved on to teach Tamil and English languages for Secondary School students. She had an opportunity to serve as a Vice-Principal at Juying Primary School for 5 years.

In her former capacity as Deputy Director of Mother Tongue Languages Branch in Curriculum Planning & Development Division at Ministry of Education from 2016 to 2020, she had actively led teams in developing the National Tamil curriculum for Pre-school, Primary, Secondary and Junior College (JC) levels. She had obtained her degree in BA in Tamil Language and Literature from Madurai Kamaraj University, India.

She has been the Advisor to the Secretariat as well as a member of the Tamil Language Learning & promotion Committee (TLLPC) since 2016. She is a member of the Tamil Advisory Panel of National Library Board since 2017. She was also invited

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to serve in the Tamil Language Collaborative Engagement Committee (TCEC) by Academy of the Singapore Teachers in 2021. Mdm Santhi was appointed as a trustee of Singapore Tamil Teachers' Union in 2021 and is a member of the External Assessment Panel for National Heritage Board since 2022.



### **Ms Soffy Hariyanti**

Ms Soffy Hariyanti is the Senior Director of the Public Communications Division at the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI). Prior to this, she was the Director of Information Policy Division, overseeing content policy and regulation across different media platforms. At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, she led the MCI Gov.sg team to launch multiple campaigns and public communications efforts to keep the public updated on measures and the COVID-19 situation in Singapore. Ms Soffy has also worked at key agencies across the public service including the Ministry of Transport, National Population and Talent Division under Prime Minister's Office and Ministry of Manpower, where she led functions such as communications, engagement, and research, as well as serving as the Press Secretary to the Ministers.



### **Mr Sujadi Bin Siswo**

Mr Sujadi is the Chief Editor for Mediacorp Malay News and Current Affairs or BERITA Mediacorp. Concurrently, he is Head of Malay Community Engagement for Mediacorp. Prior to his current position, Mr Sujadi was Head of International Desk at CNA from 2017-2021. He was CNA's Indonesia Bureau Chief from 2004-2015. Subsequently, appointed as Senior Southeast Asia Correspondent from 2015-2017. Mr Sujadi started his career with then Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in 1989 as a news presenter, journalist, and editor with the Malay News.

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### **Mr Vikram Nair**

Mr Vikram Nair is Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC. He is Chairman of the Tamil Language Learning and Promotion Committee, a committee under the Ministry of Education which focuses on the learning of the Tamil language outside the classroom. Previously, he served as Chairman of the Indian Program Advisory Committee from 2011 to 2019, a committee under the Ministry of Communications and Information (MCI) which provides advice on the range and quality of programs on free-to-air channels on radio and TV carrying Indian content, with a particular focus on PSB-funded Tamil content on MediaCorp Vasantham and Oli.

Mr Nair also serves as Chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee (GPC) for Defence and Foreign Affairs and is a member of the GPC for Home Affairs and Law. Mr Nair is a lawyer by profession and is a Partner at Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP. His focus is dispute resolution, and he handles a wide range of matters before the Singapore Courts and arbitral tribunals.

He has a law degree from Cambridge University, where he was awarded the Lizette Bentwich Prize for law by Trinity College. As a student, he was Director of Debating at the Cambridge Union Society and was ranked amongst the top debaters in the world.



### **Mr Vincent Aw Chye Giap**

Mr Vincent Aw heads the Chinese Interpreters' & Translators' Section of the Singapore Police Force's (SPF) Criminal Investigation Department. He oversees a team of language executives providing translation, transcription and interpretation

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services for investigation purposes, as well as community engagement and crime prevention programmes by the SPF. Mr Aw has over 30 years of experience in the field, and his current responsibilities include translation and vetting of translation/transcription, interpretation in Mandarin, Hokkien, Cantonese and Teochew dialects for investigation purposes and DDP's interviews in preparation for trial in Courts. Mr Aw is also the President of the Singapore Interpreters and Translators Union (SITU).



### **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim**

Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim is the Chairman of M3@Chua Chu Kang. He is also a member of the Chua Chu Kang Citizens' Consultative Committee and Keat Hong Citizens' Consultative Committee.

Zhulkarnain, a lawyer by training, is a Senior Partner in Dentons Rodyk's Litigation and Dispute Resolution and Arbitration practice groups in Singapore. He has appeared before Singapore courts and arbitral tribunals under various rules, handling commercial matters, family law disputes, and Syariah Court matters. He has advised government statutory bodies on advisory and regulatory matters.

Zhulkarnain has been named in the ALB 40 under 40 2016 List and a shortlisted finalist in the 2017 Young Lawyer of the Year category of the ALB South East Asia Law Awards. He is a member of the Maritime Law Association of Singapore and the Muslim Law Practice Committee of the Law Society.

*(Information accurate as of 29 February 2024)*