



中,总有一个地方

向老师们致敬

the heart of **Learning**

a tribute to Teachers

Foreword

Education is the key to knowledge and skills; it influences our thoughts, values and beliefs. Despite vast changes in school curricula, lesson plans and pedagogies, character development remains a cornerstone of education. Teachers no longer teach only knowledge. They are the role models that students look up to.

Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan (SHHK)'s six affiliated schools have always been popular and many past students have succeeded in life. These achievements could not have been attained without the efforts of our dedicated and passionate teachers.

History remembers the contributions of many of our pioneers who laid the foundation for our legacy in education. This year, we decided to place on record our appreciation to our many teachers, for the sacrifices and contributions made when they answered their calling in education. This compilation of works pays a much deserved tribute to these unsung heroes.

While reading this publication, you will be touched by the smallest yet extraordinary acts of our teachers who shine like beacons guiding their young charges towards the shores of success. As we move on in life, our teachers' wisdom and compassion will continue to resonate with us. Every article and drawing within these pages depicts how each teacher has touched his or her students' lives.

The legacy continues.

Our teachers are our pride. Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan and I salute you.

Chua Tian Poh
President
Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan

序

教育增进人们的知识和技能，同时也影响人们的思想品德。尽管时代的巨轮不停地转动、教学方法不断推陈出新，教育的根本还是要奠定人格成长的基础。在这根本基础上，教师在教育活动中扮演着举足轻重的角色；教师不仅仅是教授课业的讲师，也是学生心目中的榜样。

新加坡福建会馆属下六所学校在我国均是受欢迎的学校，每年培育数以千计、品学兼优的学生。六校优异的表现，有赖全体教职员的努力付出，尤其是劳苦功高的老师们。

当年先贤们倾力办校，事迹记载颇多；当时一起辛勤耕耘的老师们却成了无名英雄。因此，会馆今年决定出版这本颂扬老师的纪念刊物，以铭记老师们对教育的无私奉献。

翻阅本书，读者肯定会对“教师是人类灵魂的工程师”这句话深感赞同。教师如同灯塔，引领着莘莘学子航向成功的彼岸；学生们即使毕业后，也不会忘记老师的谆谆善诱。书中一篇篇的文章都是每颗受了老师点化的心灵结晶。我相信老师在照亮学子的同时，也成就了自己。

新加坡福建会馆以教师们为荣；在此我谨代表会馆再一次向各位老师表示衷心的感谢！

蔡天宝
新加坡福建会馆会长

the heart of Learning
a tribute to Teachers

The Heart of Learning

President S R Nathan

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

~Henry Brooks Adams

Teaching is not just a career; it is a calling. A good teacher must have the passion to nurture students and inspire them to be the best that they can be. Most importantly, he must be someone who cares from the heart. The teachers I remember most from my childhood include some who were entertaining, others who were educationally serious, but most of all those who were kind to me.

Teachers exert a strong influence on their students and have the potential to play a pivotal role in moulding them. Teachers interact with children at various stages, from their childhood to teenage years, and when they become young adults. Children invariably look up to their teachers as role models; you are the window through which many young people see their future.

We have heard many stories of how a caring teacher could change the course of a person's life. When I was a student, not many teachers took notice of me, because of my circumstances. Yet there were exceptions, such as the sloppily dressed elderly form master, who showed me much kindness and affection that I still remember him, despite the years that have since passed.

My wife was a teacher until she retired in 1980. She always says that the greatest reward

from being a teacher is to know that you have made a difference in helping your students realise their potential and lead meaningful lives. One of her former students turns up at every Istana Open House to meet her and bring her flowers despite the years that have passed. My wife always looks forward to meeting her. Once in a while, someone would come up to her and tell that she was his or her teacher, and show their appreciation for what she has done for them. This is a satisfaction that made all her hard work and sacrifices as a teacher worthwhile.



All my three grandchildren studied in Tao Nan School. They have blossomed and benefited from the care and guidance of responsible teachers in the school, who have inculcated sound values in them and also helped them lay a strong foundation in Chinese Language, which enabled them to undertake the Higher Chinese subject at O and A levels. I believe that like my grandchildren, other Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan (SHHK) students have benefited much through the rigour of their schools' system and the values passed to them by their dedicated teaching staff.

My grand-daughter – a former student of Tao Nan – has this to say, remembering her school days, and I quote:

"My time in Tao Nan was filled with happy memories – friendships made which still hold strong to this day, school-related events which bonded

my family even more and fun times in and out of the classroom.

What I am most grateful for were the values inculcated in me during my time in Tao Nan. These have provided me with a strong foundation as I go through life. Traditional Chinese morals such as hard work, discipline, respect for your elders and determination were just some of the important beliefs that were emphasized and instilled in all the students.

All this would not have been possible without the dedication of all the teachers who taught me. The standard of education I received at Tao Nan was high and constantly challenged me to be better than my best. I would especially like to thank the following teachers for their never-ending faith in me and constant encouragement during my time in Tao Nan – Principal Tan Yock Leng, Vice-Principal Lui Jong Jit, Mrs. Irene Ho, Mrs. Pauline Tay, Ms. Clarice Ong and Ms. Lam May Fong.”

I am sure many former students of Tao Nan feel likewise.

For teachers to be able to nurture and educate our children, the family and society too have a role to play. We are fortunate that our communities, like the SHHK, have always attached great importance to education in their community endeavours and remained so ready to do their part even today.

SHHK is an exemplary example of an organisation that actively promotes education.

Founded in 1840, the association set up its first school in 1849. Today, its six affiliated schools – Tao Nan School, Ai Tong School, Chongfu School, Nan Chiau High School, Nan Chiau Primary School and Kong Hwa School – have a combined enrolment of 14,000 students.

Under The Hokkien Foundation, established in 1977, it presently provides a range of scholarships, bursaries and overseas training awards for the pupils and teaching staff of the schools under its management. Yearly it confers literary awards to winners in the Primary Schools Essay Writing Competition and the National Secondary Schools Creative Writing Competition. Thus it focuses on a holistic development of its students and to equip them with basic life skills. Schools like Tao Nan also aim to instil in their students a love for the nation and the community, as well as interest in pursuing Chinese language and Chinese culture. They also remain renowned for inculcating good values and virtues, such as respect for their elders, integrity, sincerity and perseverance.

A fundamental objective of education is to educate a child and bring out his or her greatest potential so that he or she will grow into a good man or woman and a useful citizen. As our society changes and become more complex, we will face new challenges. We will need to continue to find ways to effectively engage our students and equip them to face changing challenges, I believe teachers of the SHHK schools will strive towards that end, as they have done over the years.

I wish the Hokkien Kuay Kuan and all its Teachers every success in the days ahead.