

A black and white portrait of Lee Kuan Yew, an elderly man with white hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is seated and looking slightly to the right of the camera with a calm expression. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

LEE
KUAN
YEOW

1923-2015



16 Sept, 1923: Born to middle-class, English-educated family at 92 Kampong Java Road . Lee's father was a store keeper and depot manager for the Shell Oil Company.



1935

- Came in first in Telok Kurau English School in an island-wide exam and won a place in Raffles Institution, where he met future wife Kwa Geok Choo in 1939. He previously attended two Chinese-medium schools.

Lee's classmates in 1941



1941 to 1945: The Japanese Occupation of Singapore put Lee's education on hold. He escaped the Sook Ching massacre by asking to leave Jalan Besar Stadium to collect his belongings.



1946

- Began law school at the London School of Economics but moved to Cambridge University the next year, when Kwa joined him. They married secretly on Dec 23, 1947.



1948: Lee married his wife, Ms Kwa Geok Choo, at Stratford-upon-Avon, the birthplace of Shakespeare while he was studying there. They had a three children from their marriage.



1950: Lee returned to Singapore from his studies at the University of Cambridge, England with his wife, Ms Kwa Geok Choo. Lee started work as a lawyer at Laycock & Ong.



1954: Lee co-founded the People's Action Party to participate in the 1955 Legislative Assembly elections. Lee was Secretary General. Toh Chin Chye was Chairman of the Party. Goh Keng Swee, Lee and Toh met regularly at Lee's home on 38 Oxley Road and were soon joined by others.



1959: PAP won landslide victory. Lee was elected as Singapore's first prime minister. He was aged 36 and one of the world's youngest prime ministers.



1965: Lee was informed by Malaysia that Singapore had to leave the Federation of Malaysia. This was after riots between Chinese and Malay communities broke out in 1964 over Malay rights and other issues.

May 1, 1965



1959 - 2015: Singapore continually restructured its economy from a labor-intensive economy to knowledge-based and skill-based one. This won for Singapore much respect and it became a model for countries such as China, Russia and other Third World countries.



1970: Lee Kuan Yew went to Britain and met Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Thatcher told Lee, “I like to think that once you learnt it from Britain. And now we are re-learning it from you”.



1976: Lee led a two-week goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China. It led to improved ties and trade links between China and Singapore.



1979: Lee Kuan Yew launched the first Speak Mandarin Campaign to encourage the use of Mandarin over the use of Chinese dialects. This was to promote the national Bilingual education policy.



1990: Resignation as Prime Minister on 26 Nov, 1990 to President Wee Kim Wee at the Istana. This made Lee the longest serving Prime Minister in history

Lee, with US President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. 2009.



2009: In October, US President Barack Obama welcomed Lee to the White House, calling him a “legendary figure of Asia in the 20th and 21st centuries”,



1963 and 2013: The Green City. Lee Kuan Yew planted a *mempat* tree to start an island wide tree-planting campaign. Five decades later, he returned to Farrer circus to plant a rain tree.



2015

- Mr Lee Kuan Yew dies aged 91 at 3.18am on March 23.



Thank you for being a Founding Father of Modern Singapore

“I have no regrets. I have spent my life, so much of it, building up this country. There’s nothing more that I need to do. At the end of the day, what have I got? A successful Singapore. What have I given up? My life – Lee Kuan Yew, (1923-2015)

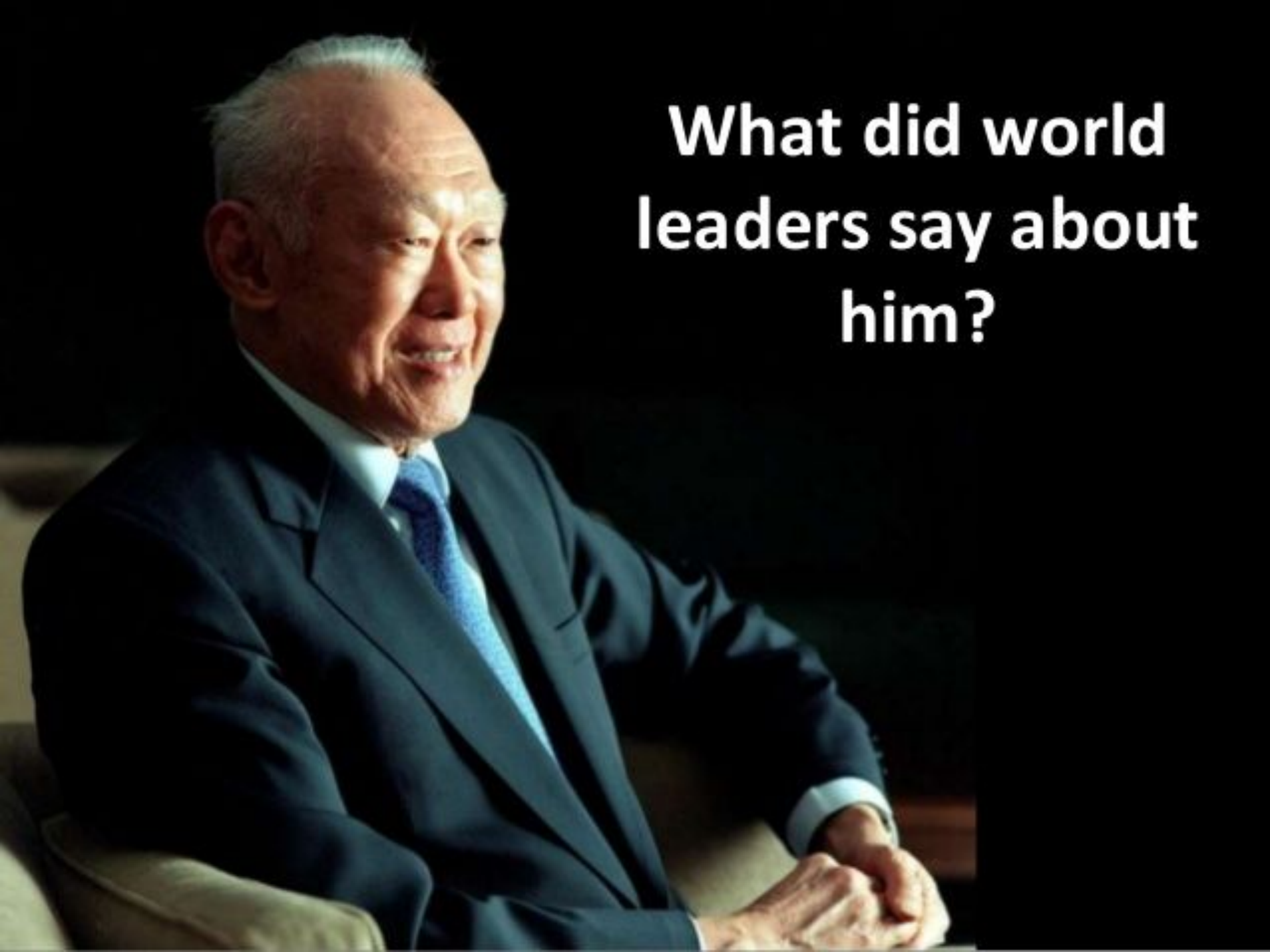


Lee Hsion Loong, his eldest son is the current Prime Minister of Singapore




Lee Hsion Yang, his younger son is the current Chief Executive Officer of SingTel company





**What did world
leaders say about
him?**

A photograph of President Barack Obama and Lee Kuan Yew, the former Prime Minister of Singapore, sitting in ornate chairs and talking. They are both dressed in dark suits and ties. The setting appears to be a formal office or library with a large bookshelf in the background.

“...will be remembered for generations to come as the father of modern Singapore...”

**President of the United States of America
Mr Barack Obama**



“...was always a friend to Britain...and many British Prime Ministers benefited from his wise advice, including me.”

**Prime Minister of the
United Kingdom
Mr David Cameron**



“ ... old friend of the Chinese people.”

President of the People's Republic of China
Mr Xi Jinping



"My definition of an educated man is a man who never stops learning and wants to learn."

“

*I have never ceased to be a student.
I have never ceased to learn.*

”

Mr Lee Kuan Yew
Speech at the Seminar on 'Education and Nation-building', 27 December 1966





Villagers in Adam Park washing clothes near a well. In the early 1960s, people who lived in kampungs had to draw water from common wells. In an effort to improve standards of living across Singapore, Mr Lee ensured that homes had access to taps from which potable water flowed. -- ST FILE PHOTO



NOV 23, 1959 (above): Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew (centre) leading a mass drive to spring-clean the city for the National Loyalty Week in December. -- ST FILE PHOTO

Singapore's education system is relentlessly forward-looking. From adopting bilingualism with English (in addition to the mother tongue of Mandarin, Malay or Tamil), to its focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (Stem), Singapore anticipated many of the key education strategies being adopted by today's policymakers.





Dear Mr Lee,
 Thank you for your contribution to the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The support you have given us is much appreciated. We will be thinking of you every day. Love, your family and friends.

LEE KUAN TEW
 Thank you for all your support and love. We will be thinking of you every day. Love, your family and friends.



TO: MR LEE KUAN TEW
 Thank you for the support and love you have given us. We will be thinking of you every day. Love, your family and friends.



MR LEE

The first time I met a great person is not through a word. It is through a deed. I met Mr Lee when he was in his 80s. He was a man of great integrity and a man of great vision. He was a man who had seen the world and who had seen the future. He was a man who had seen the world and who had seen the future. He was a man who had seen the world and who had seen the future.

Dear Mr Lee,
 Thank you for all your support and love. We will be thinking of you every day. Love, your family and friends.

Tributes from Sec 2 Zhonghvarians

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

