

Speech by Ng Yew Kang, Immediate Past President, Genealogy Society Singapore at The Singapore Family History Seminar 2025 on Saturday 7 June from 9 am to 5.30 pm at Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, Recital Studio, Level 6

Mr Eric Chua, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Social and Family Development and Ministry of Law, my co-organisers, ladies and gentlemen, good morning and a very warm welcome.

First of all, I like to introduce the new President of the Genealogy Society Singapore. He is none other than Mr Ronney Tan Koon Siang, President of the 200-year old Keng Teck Whay, a brotherhood society founded by 36 successful Straits-born businessmen from Malacca. A retired accountant, he is the Honorary Treasure of the Peranakan Association Singapore and helped keep the accounts of the Genealogy Society Singapore, a docent of The Peranakan Museum, The Asian Civilisation Museum, and the Preservation of Sites and Monuments.

This is the first time a seminar on family history is ever organised by 4 significant organisations to share their experience, expertise and resources with Singaporeans. The four are Genealogy Society Singapore, FamilySearch International from the USA, which owns the world's largest collection of genealogy books (zupus and jiapus), Chinese Ancestry Research from Singapore, a Facebook Group with 26000 international members, and My China Roots, a company set up by an ethnic Chinese born in the Netherland but is now based in China.

Speakers are Brian Edwards, Portfolio Director, FamilySearch International, Eric Leach, Chinese Product Manager, FamilySearch International, Raymond Goh, Vice President, Genealogy Society Singapore, and a well-known graves finder, Ms Clara Poh, Archivist, National Archives Singapore, Nathan Co, Founder, Chinese Ancestry Research, and Huihan Lie, Founder and CEO of My China Roots.

Besides giving tips and the basics of searching for family ancestry and writing family history, the audience will also have an opportunity to try their hands using the FamilySearch software to build their family tree and to connect with possible unknown relatives. The interesting topics are spread over the morning and afternoon. You are welcome to attend either or both sessions. A package lunch will be served from 12.30 – 1.00 pm for those who wish to try their hands on the family tree software. For others, lunch is from 12.30 to 2.00 pm.

I would like to thank Mr Eric Chua for making time from his busy schedule to be our Guest of Honour. Thanks also go to FamilySearch International, Chinese Ancestry Research, My China Roots and National Archives Singapore. Our Venue Sponsor, Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre deserves our heartfelt thanks for sponsoring the Recital Studio without which this Seminar would not have been possible.

Last but not least, I thank all of you for making time to participate in this Seminar.