

Lee Kong Chian

1962 - 1965



Education

- Born in China and came to Singapore in 1903.
- Anglo-Tamil School; attended night classes at Yung Cheng School.
- Later switched to St. Joseph's School and Tao Nan Chinese School.
- Won a scholarship to study in Shanghai at age 15.
- Studied civil engineering at Tangshan Engineering College in north China but returned to Singapore in 1912 due to the political turmoil in China.

Career

- 1912 Held positions of primary school teacher at Tao Nan School, later a municipal surveyor. Was also a translator for a local Chinese newspaper.
- 1929 Started his own company, Lee Rubber Company.
- 1952 Was well known as a philanthropist. Set up the Lee Foundation to help schools and charitable organizations.
- 1962-65 Became the first Chancellor, University of Singapore. He was also one of its principal benefactors.

Offices held

- President, Royal Commonwealth Society; Great Britain-China Centre; Federation of Commonwealth Chambers of Commerce; Britain Burma Society.
- President, Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Committee Chairman, Singapore Chinese High School

Honours

- Hon. Doctor of Laws (University of Malaya, Singapore)
- Hon. Doctor of Letters (University of Singapore)
- Panglima Mangku Negara
- Seri Paduka Mahkota Johor
- Seri Jiwa Mahkota Kelantan

Addresses by His Excellency the Chancellor

- [12 June 1962](#) installation address as the first Chancellor of the University of Singapore at the Victoria Theatre
- [12 June 1962](#) convocation at the Victoria Theatre
- [6 June 1964](#) convocation at the National Theatre