

THE NEWS GALLERY BEYOND HEADLINES

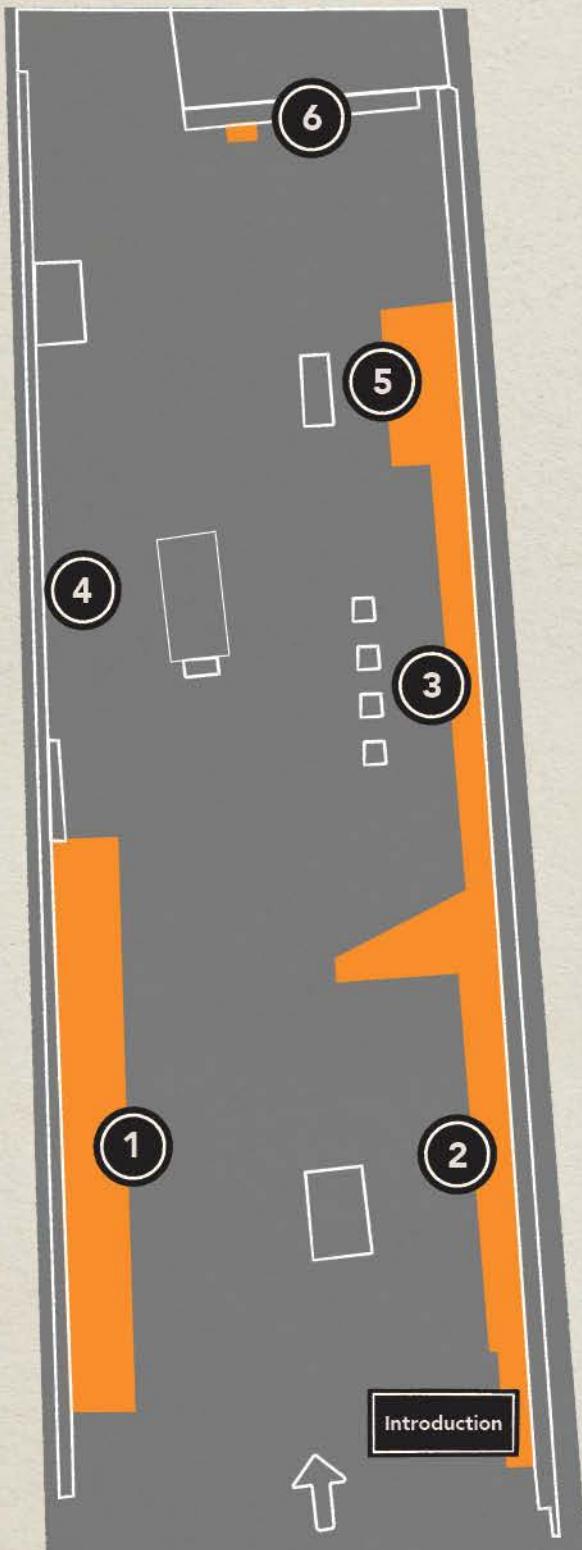


Exhibition Guide



National Library
Singapore

Exhibition Floor Plan



First published in the 17th century, the modern newspaper is one of the oldest channels through which people receive information about events taking place around them and beyond. As the Internet revolutionised media in the 21st century, one's ability to interpret, evaluate and make use of information has become an essential life skill.

The News Gallery: Beyond Headlines offers an interactive platform where visitors can learn to be more discerning about information and media through the National Library's rich resources on newspapers. This permanent exhibition tells the stories of Singapore newspapers in the library's collection dating from the 1820s, presents episodes from Singapore's history through the perspectives of different media, offers insights on fake news, and explores the different facets of the fascinating yet bewildering world of news media.

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2 Behind Every Story

3 Fact or Fake?

4 Extra! Extra!

5 Read All About It

6 Make Headline News!

THE NEWS GALLERY

BEYOND HEADLINES

Current display of early newspapers



The Straits Times, and Singapore Journal of Commerce

5 August 1845

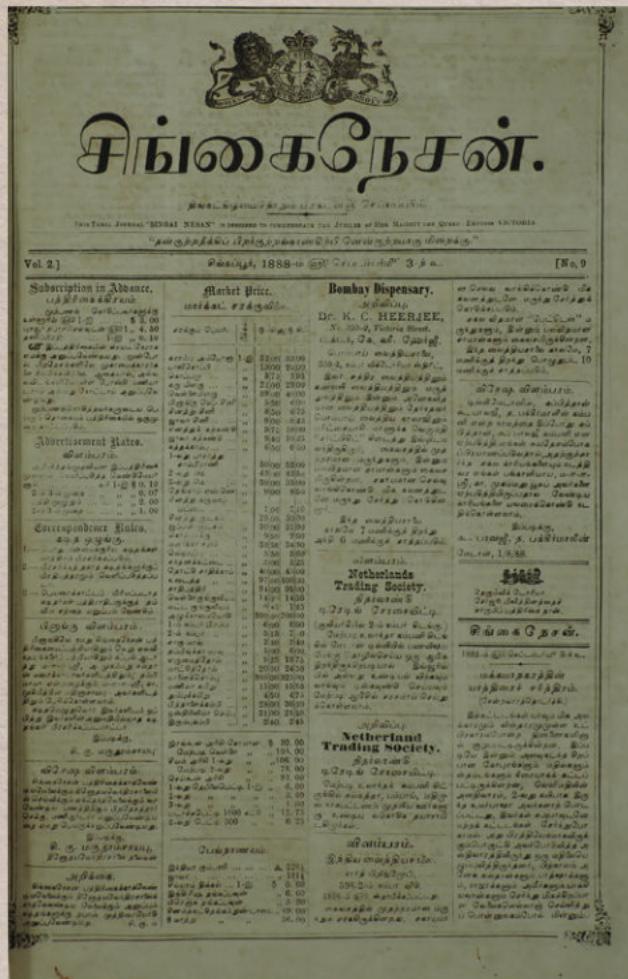
Singapore: Straits Times Press

The Straits Times was first published on 15 July 1845 as *The Straits Times, and Singapore Journal of Commerce*, an eight-page weekly newspaper. The paper covered local and foreign news, as well as commercial and shipping information.

The Straits Times diterbitkan buat pertama kali pada 15 Julai 1845 sebagai *The Straits Times, and Singapore Journal of Commerce*. Akhbar mingguan setebal lapan muka surat ini menyajikan berita dalam dan luar negara serta maklumat perdagangan dan perkapalan.

த ஸ்ட்ரெய்ட்ஸ் டைம்ஸ் செய்தித்தானும், சிங்கப்பூர் ஜர்னல் ஆப் காமர்ஸ் என்ற எட்டுப் பக்க வாராந்திர செய்தித்தானும் 1845-ஆம் ஆண்டு ஜூலை 15-ஆம் தேதி தொடங்கப்பட்டன. இவ்விரு பத்திரிகைகளும் உள்ளுர், வெளியூர் செய்திகளையும், வர்த்தகம், கப்பல் போக்குவரவு, கடல் வாணிபம் முதலான செய்திகளையும் வெளியிட்டன.

《海峡时报》于1845年7月15日首次出版。当时该报的原名为《海峡时报与新加坡商务期刊》，是一份共八页的周报。该报报道了本地和海外新闻，以及与商务和航运方面有关的资讯。



சிங்கக நேசன்

(*Singai Nesan*)

3 September 1888

Singapore: Denodaya Venthira Press

Singai Nesan (Singapore Friend) is one of Singapore's earliest Tamil-language news journals, first produced for the Tamil diaspora. The weekly newspaper featured happenings in Southeast Asia and Tamil-speaking countries such as India and Sri Lanka. Publication of *Singai Nesan* ceased in 1890 due to little support.

Singai Nesan (Rakan Singapura) merupakan antara akhbar Tamil yang terawal di Singapura. Dihasilkan untuk diaspora Tamil, akhbar mingguan ini melaporkan kejadian di Asia Tenggara dan negara-negara di mana bahasa Tamil digunakan seperti India dan Sri Lanka. Penerbitan *Singai Nesan* dihentikan pada tahun 1890 kerana kurang sambutan.

புலம்பெயர் தமிழர்களுக்காக சிங்கப்பூரில் தொடங்கப்பட்ட சிங்கக நேசன், தமிழில் வெளிவந்த ஆரம்பகால செய்தித்தாள்களில் ஒன்றாகும். இந்த வாரப்பத்திரிகையில் தென்கிழக்காசியா, தமிழ் பேசும் மக்கள் வாழும் இந்தியா, ஸ்ரீலங்கா போன்ற நாட்டுச் செய்திகள் இடம்பெற்றன. 1890-ஆம் ஆண்டு போதிய ஆதரவு இல்லாமல் சிங்கக நேசன் பத்திரிகை நிறுத்தப்பட்டது.

原为淡米尔侨民出版的《新加坡之友》是新加坡最早的淡米尔文新闻报章之一。该周报报道了东南亚和其他淡米尔族群居住的国家如印度和斯里兰卡的消息。因缺乏支持，该报于1890年停刊。



Warta Malaya

22 and 24 July 1933

Singapore: Syed Hussein bin Ali Alsagoff

Warta Malaya was first published on 1 January 1930. Written in the Jawi script, the newspaper championed Malay interests in education, economic development and political rights. An important voice on the community's affairs, it was the first Malay-language newspaper to be distributed beyond Malaya.

Warta Malaya pertama kali diterbitkan pada 1 Januari 1930. Ditulis dalam aksara Jawi, akhbar ini memperjuangkan kepentingan masyarakat Melayu dalam bidang pendidikan, pembangunan ekonomi dan hak politik. Suara lantang yang membincangkan ehwal masyarakat, ia merupakan akhbar Bahasa Melayu pertama yang diedarkan ke luar Malaya.

ஜாவி மொழியில் வர்தா மலாயா என்ற பத்திரிகை 1930-ஆம் ஆண்டு ஜனவரி முதல் தேதி வெளிவந்தது. மலாய்க்காரர்களின் அக்கறைக்குரிய அம்சங்களான கல்வி, பொருளாதார வளர்ச்சி, அரசியல் உரிமைகள் ஆகியவற்றில் அது கவனம் செலுத்தியது. மலாய் சமூகத்தின் குரலாக விளங்கிய இப்பத்திரிகைதான் முதன்முதலில் மலாயாவிற்கும் அப்பால் வினியோகிக்கப்பட்ட மலாய் மொழி செய்தித்தாளாகும்.

《马来亚报》于1930年1月1日首次出版。该报以爪夷文书写，倡导马来族群在教育、经济和政治方面的权益。该报是马来族群重要的发声管道，也是第一份在马来亚以外发行的马来文报纸。



星洲日报 (Sin Chew Jit Poh)

20-21 February 1957
Singapore: Sin Chew Jit Poh

Sin Chew Jit Poh was first published on 15 January 1929 by businessman Aw Boon Haw to advertise his Tiger Balm products. One of Singapore's leading Chinese dailies, it promoted patriotic sentiments towards China and the Kuomintang (Chinese Nationalist Party), with the latter's leader Chiang Kai-shek writing the masthead for its inaugural issue.

Sin Chew Jit Poh mula diterbitkan pada 15 Januari 1929 oleh ahli niaga Aw Boon Haw untuk mengiklankan produk Tiger Balm keluaran beliau. Sebagai salah satu akhbar harian Bahasa Cina yang unggul di Singapura, ia mengangkat sentimen setia kepada China dan Kuomintang (Parti Nasionalis Cina), di mana Chiang Kai-shek selaku ketua parti tersebut telah menulis judul utama (masthead) akhbar itu untuk keluarannya yang pertama.

தொழிலதிபர் ஆவ் பூன் ஹாவ், தனது டைகர் பாம் வணிக நிறுவனத்தின் பொருள்களை விளம்பரம் செய்வதற்காக 1929-ஆம் ஆண்டு ஜனவரி 15-ஆம் நாள் சின் ச்யூ ஜிட் போ என்ற சீனப் பத்திரிகையைத் தொடங்கினார். சிங்கப்பூரின் முதன்மையான சீன நாளிதழ்களில் ஒன்றான இப்பத்திரிகை, சீனா, குவோமின்டாங் (சீன தேசிய கட்சி) ஆகியவை குறித்து நாட்டுப்பற்று மிகக் உணர்வுகளை வெளிப்படுத்தியது. சீன தேசிய கட்சியின் தலைவரான சியாங் காய் ஷெக் இப்பத்திரிகையின் முதல் பதிப்பில் தலைப்புக் கட்டுரை எழுதியிருந்தார்.

1929年1月15日，商人胡文虎为宣传他的虎标万金油产品，出版了《星洲日报》。作为新加坡的主要华文日报之一，该报宣扬了对中国和国民党的爱国思想。该报的创刊号报头为当时的国民党领袖蒋介石所题。

Early Editions

Founded in 1824, Singapore's first newspaper was the *Singapore Chronicle and Commercial Register*. It remained the only local newspaper for more than a decade due to the gagging act, which banned any publication that was not approved by the authorities. When the act was repealed in 1835, it opened the market up to other newspaper publishers, such as *Singapore Free Press* (1835) and *The Straits Times* (1845). Vernacular newspapers such as Chinese-language *Lat Pau* (1881), Malay-language *Jawi Peranakan* (1876) and Tamil-language *Singai Nesan* (1887) brought business information and community news to

the various ethnic groups residing in Singapore and Malaya. These publications addressed the concerns and interests of the respective communities as well as championed causes important to them.

The stories of Singapore newspapers reflect the country's diverse socio-cultural tapestry. The National Library is home to a rich archive of over 120 Singapore newspaper titles published since 1827. On display are the original copies of selected newspapers from the library's collection, which will be refreshed from time to time.



Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser

7 January 1836

Singapore: Singapore Free Press

First published on 8 October 1835, the *Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser* was Singapore's second English-language newspaper after the *Singapore Chronicle*. It was so named to mark the abolishment of the gagging act. The newspaper ceased publication in 1869 but was revived in 1884. It was acquired by *The Straits Times* in 1946.



Nanyang Siang Pau

10 April 1941

Singapore: Nanyang Press Ltd

Nanyang Siang Pau was a Chinese-language newspaper first issued on 6 September 1923. It was established by businessman and philanthropist Tan Kah Kee with the aim of promoting commerce and education. Some of the most well-known Chinese writers and journalists from China and Singapore worked for the newspaper, such as Fu Wumen (傅无闷) and Hu Yuzhi (胡愈之). On 16 March 1983, *Nanyang Siang Pau* merged with *Sin Chew Jit Poh*, another leading Chinese daily, to become *Nanyang Xingzhou Lianhe Zaobao* (later shortened to *Lianhe Zaobao*) and its evening edition, *Lianhe Wanbao*.



Utusan Melayu

26 September 1945

Singapore: Utusan Melayu Press Limited

First published in Singapore on 29 May 1939 as a Malay daily in Jawi script, *Utusan Melayu* was a landmark publication as it was the first Malay newspaper to be wholly owned, financed and written by Malays. Before that, Malay newspapers were controlled by Muslims of Arab and Indian origins. Yusof bin Ishak, who later became Singapore's first Malayan-born Yang di-Pertuan Negara (Head of State) and subsequently president, was one of the newspaper's prime movers.



Tamil Murasu

5 May 1936

Singapore: Sarangapany

First published on 6 July 1935, the objective of *Tamil Murasu* was to propagate socio-economic reforms carried out by the Tamil Reform Association, one of the earliest Tamil associations in Singapore. Concerned about the status and rights of the Tamil community in Singapore, *Tamil Murasu* often discussed the need to uplift Tamils through social and economic transformations.

Behind Every Story

At first glance, a news story might seem to be a mere account of an incident or development in the world. In truth, a news article is subjected to many forms of influence, such as a newsroom's political affiliations, its source of funding, expectations of its readers, causes it champions, personal opinions of its editors and journalists, and public sentiment. Understanding this enables readers to be more discerning and inquiring about the news they come across.

This multimedia exhibit presents events from Singapore's history and how they were reported in newspapers and other media. By comparing the different ways these events were presented and interpreted in the media, one can gain insights into history through the lens of journalism as well as learn how the media works.



The Singapore Free Press and Mercantile Advertiser
14 February 1938

Impregnable fortress or propaganda? Opening of naval base

Before the Second World War, Singapore's defences were thought to be so robust that the island was touted as an "impregnable fortress". Local English newspapers portrayed the opening of the naval base in Sembawang in 1938 as a historic milestone, highlighting it as the largest in the world, equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. Hence, it was a shock to many when Singapore fell to the Japanese in 1942, shattering the illusion of its invincibility.



Singapore Standard
13 May 1955

Communist unrest or industrial dispute? Hock Lee bus riots

The Hock Lee bus riots in 1955 are among the deadliest riots in Singapore's history, arising from a labour dispute between bus workers and the management of the Hock Lee Amalgamated Bus Company. The local newspapers held different views on what had triggered the violent outbreak. The English press pointed to communist operations behind the scenes, while the Chinese press alluded to mistreatment of the workers and police brutality as its causes.

The Straits Times
10 August 1965

Crisis moment or business as usual? Singapore's separation from Malaysia

On 9 August 1965, Singaporeans awoke to the shocking news of Singapore's separation from Malaysia. The local press differed in their focus and sentiments in their reporting of the historic event. Both *The Straits Times* and *Berita Harian* gave more coverage to the press conferences of Malaysia Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman, while *Nanyang Siang Pau* mostly featured Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's views. While *The Straits Times* described the separation as "tragic news", the Chinese paper adopted a non-emotional and almost positive tone in its reports.

Fact or Fake?

With the advent of the Internet, fake news has become a global threat, proliferating particularly on new media platforms. People can now self-publish at low or no cost, remain anonymous and dodge accountability. As such, questionable content can be easily created and disseminated widely.

The impact of fake news can be profound and devastating. It has caused public panic and social disorder. Vast resources are often

wasted in undoing its damage. Fake news also has the potential to destroy the reputation of individuals and organisations. Likewise, it can undermine trust in institutions, sow racial or religious discord, and instigate political unrest.

The interactive quiz here is based on specific cases of falsehood from both Singapore and abroad, and is designed to offer key learning points about fake news, its impact and what we can do to curb its spread.

STUFFED BY TURKEY More than 700,000 Turks 'will flock to live and work in Britain after country joins EU'

Migration Watch said that if Brits vote to Remain our population will soar towards 80 million

12 Jun 2016, 22:30 | Updated 13 Jun 2016, 0:31

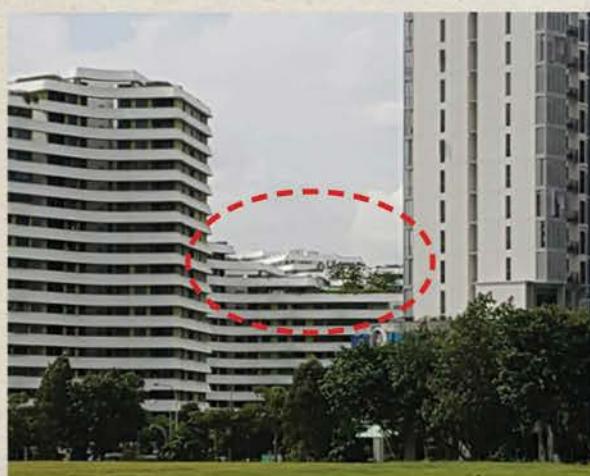
[Comment now](#)

MORE THAN 700,000 Turks could come to live and work in Britain by 2035 – a think tank claims today in a dramatic EU Referendum “wake up call”.

Migration Watch says 100,000 Turkish migrants will be coming to the UK every year once the country becomes a full EU member.

Anti-immigrant disinformation during the Brexit referendum

An investigation following the 2016 Brexit referendum in the UK revealed that there had been a series of advertisements on Facebook containing disinformation aiming to influence voters to support Brexit. The ads focused on hot button issues such as immigration and animal rights. These ads fed into fears such as the loss of employment, with one ad even suggesting that Turkey was about to join the European Union, and that Britain would experience an influx of 700,000 Turkish immigrants.



Fake news on Punggol Waterway Terraces collapse

In November 2016, an alternative news site published an article claiming that the top floor of a Housing Development Board (HDB) Built-to-Order flat in Punggol Waterway Terraces had collapsed, accompanied by an image of the supposedly damaged building. The article went viral on social media. The Singapore Civil Defence Force and HDB deployed resources to investigate, and clarified that the report was a hoax.



WhatsApp lynching in India

India has the highest number of WhatsApp users in the world. From 2017 to 2018, it was the channel through which falsehoods about beggars and labourers – that they were criminals – were spread, causing them to be targeted and attacked by lynch mobs, often with fatalities. In response, WhatsApp launched an advertising campaign against fake news in India and restricted the number of recipients of forwarded messages to five.

Tharman Shanmugaratnam Invests \$1 Billion for All Singapore Residents. Use HIS Method To Become Rich In Just 7 Days!

AS SEEN ON

FALSE



Tharman Shanmugaratnam promises \$1 billion for all Singapore residents

Tuesday, September 18, 2018 - The deputy prime minister of Singapore and president of the Monetary Authority of Singapore, Tharman Shanmugaratnam promises \$1.Billion for all singapore residents.

Investment scams

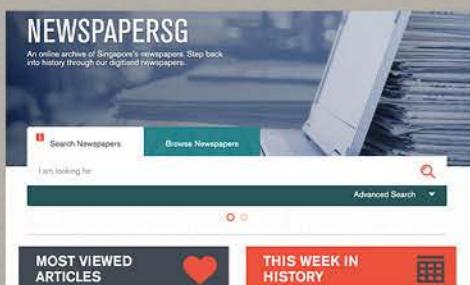
In recent years, several prominent Singaporeans, including government ministers, billionaires and celebrities, have been featured in fabricated news articles to solicit bitcoin investments. Apart from featuring their photographs and logos of local mainstream media agencies, these reports also included sensational headlines and fake quotes. Despite media coverage and alerts issued by the Monetary Authority of Singapore and the Singapore Police Force, some Singaporeans still fell victim to these scams.

Extra! Extra!



Newspapers offer much more than news – they are filled with advertisements, comics and puzzles, food and media reviews, photo features, travel articles, recipes, aunt agony columns and more. This section showcases the various segments of newspapers, exploring different facets of the fascinating world of media. This display will be updated from time to time.

Read All About It



Read all about the latest breaking news and stories of yesteryear in the National Library's digital collection of historical and current newspapers. Discover a rich and growing online archive of Singapore newspapers published since 1827 on NewspaperSG, as well as current newspapers from Singapore and around the world in PressReader.

Make Headline News!



Make your dream of appearing on the front page of a newspaper a reality! Take home a digital souvenir of your visit by creating headline news with your photograph at this interactive kiosk.

Thank you for visiting the exhibition!



Visit **go.gov.sg/tng-exh**
for information on upcoming programmes.



Visit **NewspaperSG** for our rich archive
of Singapore newspapers since 1827.

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