

Calling for Commission of Inquiry

16名前政扣者呼吁：设立独立调查委员会

The Ministry of Home Affairs' statement of 23 September 2011 contains the usual rhetoric, inundated with Cold War parlance such as "Communist United Front activities" and "Marxist plot". Its intent is clearly to justify the act of arbitrary arrest under the ISA and instil fear in the people.

新加坡内政部于2011年9月23日所发表的声明，充满了他们在过去的冷战时代所惯用的诸如“共产党统一战线活动”以及“马克思主义者密谋”的说辞。其意图显然是用来证明在内安法之下他们的专制任意的逮捕行动是合法的，并继续让人民对他们心存恐惧和害怕。

The statement fails to address the most important concern of the 16 of us, which is indefinite detention without trial. None of us was brought to trial before a court of law. Our imprisonment was solely based on the statements of ISD officers and statements extracted from us while we were subjected to torture, cold room treatment, deprivation of sleep and the threat of indefinite detention.

内政部声明根本无法回答我们16人声明所涉及的最为重要的无审讯扣留的课题。我们16人之中，没有人曾被提上法庭依法审讯。政府对我们（政扣者）施予关押监禁的根据，仅仅是内部安全局官员的单方面报告，或者是政扣者受到拷打盘问、冷冻虐待、剥夺睡眠等各种折磨以及无限期扣留恐吓，而被迫作出的供词。

Article 9 of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights to which Singapore is a signatory declares: No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

《世界人权宣言》第九条说“任何人不得加以任意逮捕、拘禁或放逐”。新加坡是这个宣言的签字国之一，理应遵守《世界人权宣言》的这项规定。

We reiterate that the ISA is a draconian law that allows the ruling party to arrest and imprison without trial anyone it deems a threat to its power. Its impact on Singapore over the past half a century has been both crippling and pernicious.

我们重申，内安法令是让执政党用来对付那些对其统治权力有所威胁的任何人、进行逮捕与无审讯扣留监禁的一项残酷的法律。它的存在对新加坡造成的影响是使到人民遭遇残废重创和恶毒伤害，已经超过半个世纪了。

We call upon the Government of Singapore to set up an independent Commission of Inquiry to investigate if the allegations made against us as well as all former ISA-detainees are justified. More so when recent publications, memoirs and panel discussions by historians and ex-ISA detainees have given accounts different from the official narrative on the events of those years. We urge the government to have the

moral and political courage to set up such a commission in the interest of truth and transparency.

我们谨此呼吁新加坡政府设立一个独立的调查委员会，以调查政府对我们16人以及所有在内安法令下遭遇逮捕、无审讯扣留监禁的前政治扣留者所作的指控是否有正当理由。尤其是新近有许多历史学家和前政治扣留者所出版的书刊、回忆录和举办的座谈会所揭露的许多事实，跟对当年有关事件的官方论述，是不同的。我们强烈要求新加坡政府应有这样的品格德行和政治勇气，设立一个旨在求取真理与透明运作的调查委员会。

Dated this 28th day of September 2011.

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