



**National
Heritage
Board**



MEDIA RELEASE

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INAUGURAL STAMP EXHIBITION ON DR SUN YAT SEN IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 1911 REVOLUTION

SINGAPORE, 7 July 2011 – For the first time in Singapore, rare stamps and philatelic materials depicting Dr Sun Yat Sen (孙中山) and his contributions to the 1911 Revolution (辛亥革命) will be exhibited at the Singapore Philatelic Museum (SPM, 新加坡集邮馆) as part of the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall's (SYSNMH, 晚晴园) activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1911 Revolution.

2 The stamp exhibition, titled *Dr. Sun Yat Sen: The Man Who Changed China* (珍邮记忆 – 孙中山与辛亥革命), is jointly organised by the SYSNMH and SPM. Visitors will be able to view more than 300 historic philatelic materials, including first-day covers and postcards, dating back to 1912.

3 The philatelic materials are on loan from Mr Meng Zhao Long (孟昭隆), a 55-year-old Beijing philatelist, who is an avid collector of philatelic materials related to Dr Sun. Mr Meng is particularly interested in the 1911 Revolution, and regards Dr Sun as a great revolutionary leader and a personal hero. The collection of philatelic materials, which come from all over the world, including Western countries, took Mr Meng some 25 years to amass.

4 A highlight of the exhibition includes a stamp (光复纪念邮票) issued in December 1912 to commemorate the 1911 Revolution. This stamp was the first official stamp designed and issued by the Chinese government then, as well as the first stamp to bear the portrait of Dr Sun. It is also the only stamp that depicted Dr Sun before his death.

5 Another notable exhibit is a stamp issued by America in July 1942 in support of China's resistance against the Japanese in the Second Sino-Japanese War. It depicted Dr Sun, the *Three Principles of the People* and Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. It is the first time that America had featured an important Chinese figure on its stamp.

Please refer to the annex for pictures of the stamps.

6 According to Mr Wei Wei (魏苇), the People's Republic of China's Ambassador to Singapore: "The 1911 Revolution is an important milestone in China's history. Being the 100th year since Dr Sun Yat Sen achieved victory in establishing modern China, I am pleased that Singapore is joining Chinese all around the world in commemorating this event."

7 Mr Daniel Teo (张东孝), Chairman of SPM said: "Stamps are a window to the world. We hope that visitors can have a better understanding of the modern history of China through the exhibition as significant events and figures are captured on the stamps displayed."

8 As a preview to the re-opening of SYSNMH on 8 October, the exhibition will also feature a calligraphy scroll, handwritten by Dr Sun, that bears the Chinese characters "Bo Ai" (博爱), meaning "universal love", and currency notes with the portrait of Dr Sun that were used in China during the early 20th century.

9 Mr Zhong Sheng Jian (钟声坚), Chairman of SYSNMH said: "This stamp exhibition is just one example of SYSNMH's efforts in proactively reaching out to the public through educational exhibitions and programmes. Visitors to the SPM will learn about the 1911 Revolution and the life of Dr Sun Yat Sen through this specially curated exhibition of rare stamps and philatelic materials."

10 When SYSNMH re-opens its doors to the public, visitors can expect a transformation of the hall into a modern, multimedia boutique heritage institution that will present an idea of how the villa might have looked like when Dr Sun stayed there. The revamped SYSNMH will also feature audio-visual devices and updated storylines to raise the profile of local supporters of Dr Sun. SYSNMH will also hold a three-week Cultural Festival featuring local and overseas performances to mark both the re-opening of SYSNMH and the centennial anniversary of the 1911 Revolution.

11 *Dr Sun Yat Sen: The Man Who Changed China* exhibition will be on display at the SPM from 9 July to 18 September 2011. SPM has also developed a children's exhibition entitled *The Story of Dr. Sun Yat Sen* where children (aged 7 years and above) can explore a recreation of Dr Sun's room and discover little known facts about him. They can also bring home a free activity book. The children's exhibition will end on 16 October 2011.

- End -

Details of *Dr. Sun Yat Sen: The Man Who Changed China*

Venue:	Singapore Philatelic Museum 23-B Coleman Street, Singapore 179807
Date:	9 July to 18 September 2011
Opening hours:	Monday (1.00pm - 7.00pm) Tuesday - Sunday (9.00am - 7.00pm)
Admission charge:	\$5 for adults <i>Free admission for students, children and senior citizens who are Singaporeans and Permanent Residents</i> \$4 for children (3 - 12 years) and senior citizens (60 years and above) who are foreigners
Tel:	6337 3888
Website:	www.spm.org.sg



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About the National Heritage Board

The National Heritage Board (NHB) champions the development and promotion of a vibrant cultural and heritage sector in Singapore. It makes heritage enriching, relevant and accessible to all through staging innovative programmes and forging partnerships with both private and people sector counterparts. NHB leverages on state-of-the-art technology and refreshing new approaches to make heritage more dynamic, alive and exciting for different audiences. It also manages both national and public museums, the National Archives of Singapore, the Preservation of Monuments Board and the Heritage Conservation Centre. NHB was formed on 1 August 1993 as a statutory board under the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA). Please visit www.nhb.gov.sg for more information.

About the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall

The Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall (SYSNMH), a heritage institution under the National Heritage Board, traces Dr Sun Yat Sen's revolutionary activities in the Southeast Asian region and highlights the impact of the 1911 Chinese Revolution on Singapore as well as Singapore's contributions to the Revolution. It is currently under renovation and will re-open on 8 October 2011, where it will house a collection of interesting artefacts including original photos, paintings, calligraphy works handwritten by Dr Sun and sculptures.

About the Singapore Philatelic Museum

Singapore Philatelic Museum showcases Singapore's philatelic heritage and postal artefacts since the Straits Settlements era. Throughout the year, the museum organises changing exhibitions that feature rare collections of world-class philatelists, and contemporary collections that explore heritage and cultures of Singapore and beyond.

The museum also hosts a range of educational activities including guided tours, camps, talks and workshops. The mission of the Singapore Philatelic Museum is to stimulate interest in philately. The museum is a fully-owned subsidiary of National Heritage Board.

For media queries, please contact:

*Rachel Lo
Senior Account Manager, Fulford Public Relations
DID: (65) 6327 6177
HP: (65) 9847 8839
Email: rlo@fulfordpr.com*