



Dr Lim at home, surrounded by family photos. He met his wife, who is a kidney specialist, when they were working together at SGH. Their son was only five months old when Dr Lim was detained in 1963. ST PHOTO: AZIZ HUSSIN



BY CAI HAOXIANG

Still dreaming of a socialist Singapore

From student activist and PAP campaigner to Barisan Sosialis leader and second longest-held political detainee, Dr Lim Hock Siew's story mirrors Singapore's tumultuous history. Now 79, he bares his thoughts and feelings about his political past.

IT IS a sweltering day as you walk by the row of repainted shophouses along Balestier Road.

As you push open the glass doors and duck inside for a welcome draught of air-conditioning, you meet a group of elderly patients waiting expectantly to see their family doctor.

The name on the door plate of his office may not ring a bell for the young but to older Singaporeans, it jumps right out of Singapore's turbulent political history: Dr Lim Hock Siew.

Enter his simply furnished room, and you see him at a desk stacked with books, stationery and newspapers. An eye chart is pasted on a glass cabinet displaying photos of him as a dashing young man.

The 79-year-old doctor, in his white long-sleeved shirt, greets you with a soft, occasionally wheezing, yet otherwise firm voice. He is not in the best of health, having suffered kidney failure last year and taken a six-month break to recuperate.

As he is undergoing dialysis three times a week, he would have preferred to extend his break except that his clinic partner, Dr Mohd Abu Bakar, 76, was overwhelmed by the patient load.

So he returned to half-day work last month, seeing around 30 patients every morning, and plans to do so as long as his health permits. "It's kind of an ethical obligation to look after them, and I can keep myself mentally occupied," he says.

The name of his clinic harks back to his socialist days as a political activist, first with the People's Action Party (PAP) and then with its arch rival, Barisan Sosialis. It is called Rakyat, which means "people" in Malay. It was set up by Dr Lim and fellow Barisan Sosialis leader Dr Poh Soo Kai in 1961.

Its consultation fees are no different from other clinics' - \$20 to \$30. But Dr Lim charges a reduced rate for poorer patients and gives free treatment to the neediest. "I don't deny help to those who need it," he says.

Dr Lim's sense of compassion and empathy for the poor is well known. At a time when the unprofessional and unethical practices of some doctors are hogging the headlines, the mere mention of Dr Lim's name evokes hushed respect among his peers.

Even pro-PAP Singaporeans who would be horrified by the prospect of a Barisan Sosialis government admit to having a grudging admiration for Dr Lim as a man who has the courage of his convictions.

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports, once singled out Dr Lim as a politician he admired for his strength of character and ability to sacrifice for his beliefs.

Like many of his former leftist colleagues, Dr Lim feels compelled to give his side of the story before time runs out.

In recent years, a cottage industry has sprung up providing alternative histories of Singapore. Books included memoirs by former communist underground leader Fang Chuang Pi, former Barisan Sosialis leader Fong Swee Suan and former Parti Rakyat Singapura leader Said Zahari. Just three months ago, the Fajar Generation, a book on the University Socialist Club (USC) of the then-University of Malaya, was launched.

In a nutshell, Dr Lim's is a story of how an idealistic student activist joined and campaigned for the PAP in the 1950s and then fought against the ruling party in the 1960s and paid a very heavy price for his beliefs and convictions.

In 1963, he was arrested under Operation Cold Store and detained without trial for nearly 20 years before he was released in 1982.

A Home Affairs Ministry statement on his release had said that he was arrested under the Internal Security Act for his involvement in Communist United Front (CUF) activities.

Dr Lim refused to agree to any conditions that would have granted him early release and ended up in the record book as the second longest-held political prisoner after his leftist colleague Chia Thye Poh, who served 23 years.

Today, 28 years after his release, he still dreams of a socialist Singapore in which there is no exploitation of workers and the oppressed.

Political awakening

BORN in 1931 to a poor family, Dr Lim



Dr Lim's clinic on Balestier Road, which he set up in 1961 with fellow Barisan Sosialis leader Poh Soo Kai. He now works half a day, seeing about 30 patients each morning. ST PHOTO: CAI HAOXIANG

spent the 1942-45 war years helping his father sell fish in the Kandang Kerbau market. Both his parents were illiterate, but they encouraged their 10 children to study.

He was the only English-educated child in his family. As the top boy in Rangoon Road Primary School, he gained entry to Raffles Institution (RI) in 1946.

It was in RI that he picked up a book by the first prime minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru and became inspired by his socialist ideals.

Going on to study medicine at the then-University of Malaya here, Dr Lim lapped up the works of philosopher Karl Marx and economist Adam Smith, and books on the British Labour Party and Mao Zedong's communist struggle in China. His political awakening was height-

ened by the anti-colonial struggles raging around the world.

As he recalls, most of the university students then were indifferent to politics. They were afraid of being arrested and preferred to pursue degrees and jobs.

As one of the best and brightest of his generation, he says he felt a deep, patriotic obligation to do something for Singapore and its people in the struggle against the British colonialists ruling Singapore.

He plunged into campus activism, becoming a founding member of the anti-colonial USC, which was formed in 1953.

In 1953, Dr Lim met the young Cambridge-educated lawyer Lee Kuan Yew, who was helping to defend eight USC students charged by the British for sedition because of an article in the USC's journal, Fajar.

They won the case and Mr Lee was acclaimed as their champion. The USC rallied behind him and his associates when they set up the PAP several months after the sedition trial.

Noting that the party's original Constitution showed every mark of a socialist, anti-colonial party, Dr Lim recalls that the USC members went around persuading various groups to support the PAP. The 1955 elections saw the 24-year-old Dr Lim stumping for PAP at mass rallies.

PAP was then identified with the working class and Chinese-speaking masses. But the facade of unity maintained by the motley crew of English-educated intellectuals, Chinese-educated socialists, professionals and trade unionists could not last.

The ideological differences began to surface. One episode in 1957 that stuck in Dr Lim's memory was the plot by a group of radical unionists within the party to oust PAP strongman Ong Eng Guan and several others from the PAP leadership. They opposed Mr Ong as they viewed him as anti-left and an opportunist.

He felt then that the move was "most unwise" as it would create party disunity and provoke a crackdown by the colonial government.

As he recollects, he and several USC members tracked down three of the prime movers - Mr Chen Say Jame, Mr Goh Boon Toh and Mr Tan Chong Kin - and sought to dissuade them. They failed. Dr Lim believes that what he did then probably aroused Mr Lee's suspicions that he was in cahoots with the leftists.

The central executive committee (CEC) elections resulted in a deadlock with six seats going to the Lee group and the other six going to the leftists. Shocked by the humiliating defeat of his associates, Mr Lee refused to take office. Dr Lim says he tried to persuade him to do so - to no avail.

As it turned out, five leftist CEC members were arrested by the Lim Yew Hock government in an anti-communist operation - and Mr Lee and company were able to regain control of the party.

In 1958, they introduced a "cadre" system in which only appointed members could vote for the CEC. This marked the beginning of the leftists' disillusionment with Mr Lee, says Dr Lim.

Break over merger

WHEN the 1959 elections came around, Dr Lim says he and Dr Poh offered themselves "in good faith" as PAP candidates. The answer was negative. "He did not trust us," says Dr Lim, referring to Mr Lee.

After the historic elections which swept the PAP to power for the first time,

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In 1978, Dr Lim was released from detention and placed in Pulau Tekong under certain restrictions. He was finally allowed to live on Singapore island in 1982. ST FILE PHOTO

How would Barisan have ruled S'pore?

WHAT if Barisan Sosialis had beaten the People's Action Party (PAP) in the September 1963 General Election? How differently would it have ruled the country?

Barisan gave the ruling party its closest call in Singapore's political history when it garnered 33 per cent of the votes in the polls. It toppled two ministers and nearly knocked out another four ministers.

Although PAP's 47 per cent score was its lowest electoral mark in the record book, the first-past-the-post system awarded the party 37 seats versus Barisan's 13 in the 51-seat legislative assembly.

There had been much speculation that had it not been for Operation Cold Store, which put more than 100 leftist politicians and unionists behind bars just seven months earlier, the opposition party would have swept into power.

Former Barisan leader Lim Hock Siew, who would have stood for the elections if he was not detained, admits that if his party had won, Singapore's gross domestic product growth would have been slower, but believes that there would have been more welfare for the people.

There would be legal safeguards for workers like minimum wage, retrenchment benefits, social welfare and retirement benefits, he says.

Peppering his interview with criticisms of various government policies, the man regarded as one of the "brains" behind Barisan, says that his party would have done more for the poor and working class.

For example, he points out that his party would not have priced flats at a subsidised rate below market rate but would have provided cheap housing at cost. "CPF is meant for pensions, not to tie people down to a housing project," he says.

Turning to more current issues, he argues that the introduction of two integrated resorts here threatens moral standards by making Singapore a playground for the "international filthy rich".

Singapore might eventually be like Las Vegas, where everything has a price but no value. "I don't think this is a society we all like to have. That the Government places such high

hopes on the two casinos shows what a desperate situation the Singapore economy is in."

Instead of attracting big foreign multinational companies, he says, Singapore should have encouraged small and medium enterprises, so that entrepreneurship would flourish as in Hong Kong.

Hitting out at ministerial pay, noting that a symbolic amount of \$10,000 or \$20,000 a month would be enough, Dr Lim says that Barisan leaders were prepared to sacrifice their lives for their political beliefs. "We considered politics a calling, a responsibility, and a privilege to serve our country, not a career."

He believes enough talented young people will come forward to serve the country. "Leaders should not be discovered by inviting and enticing them with high pay and high office... you harness the people, let them decide. They'll do wonders."

He feels that the Government cannot inspire the young to participate because it is alienated from the people and is afraid of "letting go".

Criticising the various restrictions on freedom of speech, assembly and organisation, like the Internal Security Act and the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act, he notes: "When Lee Hsien Loong came to power, he promised to leave no stones unturned to remake Singapore."

"But what we see is just the little stones and pebbles being merrily kicked about, raising so much dust and din, but the big boulders of repression are still very much in place."

He calls for a public inquiry into past and present human rights abuses in Singapore, under an internationally-renowned judge, with immunity provided for former detainees to give evidence.

The young will feel for Singapore, he says, when they feel they can speak out and decide their own future.

Given his strong anti-government views, it is no surprise that the 79-year-old doctor is much sought after by the opposition parties.

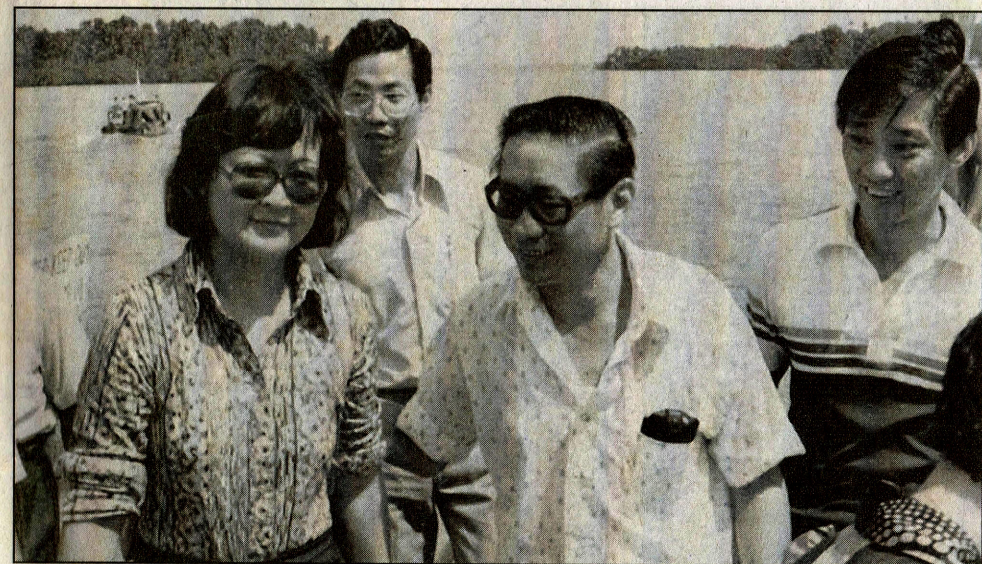
He reveals that two parties wanted to recruit him but he declined, citing old age.

Dr Lim discovered that his party membership was not renewed.

From the sidelines, the government doctor witnessed the increasing acrimony between Mr Lee's group and the leftists which was to lead to what is called the Big Split of 1961.

The two factions were locked in a monumental struggle over the issues of merger with Malaya, Chinese education and the continuing detention of students and unionists.

Racked by dissension, the PAP was on the brink of collapse after losing two by-elections in Anson and Hong Lim in 1961.



Dr Lim (second from right) greeting his wife and family members at Pulau Tekong pier in 1978. He spent four years on the island before it became an army training area. ST FILE PHOTO

Concerned over the leftist challenge within his party, Mr Lee moved a motion of confidence in the 51-seat legislative assembly. The PAP survived when 27 voted aye but 13 dissident assemblymen abstained.

Expelled from the party, the dissidents formed Barisan Sosialis with other defectors from the PAP in August 1961. The party was led by Mr Lim Chin Siong.

It was at this juncture that Dr Lim joined the new party. He had to give up a scholarship for further study and quit the civil service.

The Barisan Sosialis then, he recalls, was a very formidable organisation filled with thousands of dedicated people and "scores upon scores of university graduates", ready to form an alternative government.

As a CEC member, Dr Lim helped to run a "brain trust" which consulted a group of more than 50 graduates from the then-Nanyang University and University of Malaya and prepared position papers.

"We didn't have a lack of talent. We had more talent than we wanted," he says.

In his recollection, the biggest issue that divided PAP and Barisan was merger with Malaya to form Malaysia.

Fearing that Singapore would fall to the communists, Malayan Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman had proposed on May 27, 1961 that Singapore, Sabah, Sarawak and Brunei merge with Malaya to form the federation of Malaysia.

Singapore would have 15 seats in the federal house of representatives, less than what it was entitled to on the basis of population ratios, but a debatable trade-off for Singapore's exclusive autonomy over labour and education.

Although the leftists were committed to the ultimate goal of unification between the peninsula and the island, they argued that these terms for merger would make Singaporeans "second-class citizens".

The main sticking point, as Dr Lim points out, was that there were "two sets of citizenship: one for Malaysians and one for Singaporeans. Singaporean citizens could not participate in Malaysian politics, much less be proportionally represented in the federation".

The battle between both parties reached its culmination during the referendum on Sept 1, 1962, in which the PAP Government cleverly devised three alternatives for merger on varying terms with no option to say no.

PAP won by a large margin, with 71 per cent of votes in favour of its "Alternative A" against just over 25 per cent who cast blank votes, which the Barisan called for to protest against the "sham referendum".

Imprisonment

THEN came the big crackdown. On Feb 2, 1963, more than 100 leftists and unionists were arrested in a massive security exercise known as Operation Cold Store, aimed at putting communists and suspected communists out of circulation.

On the mass arrests which changed the power balance in Singapore irrevocably, Dr Lim reflects: "We lost not to Lee but to the British, who crushed the leftists for strategic, not security reasons."

When he speaks about his nearly 20 years in detention, there is an edge to his otherwise calm voice.

Year after year, he recounts, attempts were made to break the spirit of prisoners through solitary confinement and interrogations, to make them confess their involvement in communist activities.

Dr Lim became a counsellor of sorts to the prisoners, encouraging them to talk about the physical and psychological abuse they faced during their interrogations. Some broke down in tears as they relived their experiences.

In March 1972, Dr Lim released a statement about his detention and his experience in being taken to the Internal Security Department (ISD) headquarters on Robinson Road two months earlier. He had insisted on being released, saying that "history had vindicated my stand" that the 1963 merger would not work.

He says that ISD officers wanted him to issue a public statement that he was prepared to give up politics and devote his time to medical practice, and to express support for parliamentary democracy.

Dr Lim demanded to be released unconditionally, saying that he should not need to give up politics if there was parliamentary democracy.

He says that he was asked to "concede something" so that his long detention could be justified. He replied that he was not interested in "saving Mr Lee's face", and would not issue any statement to condemn his past political activities, which he said were "legitimate and proper".

When asked for the Government's response, a Ministry of Home Affairs spokesman says: "Contrary to Lim Hock Siew's claims that he was an opposition politician carrying out 'legitimate and proper' activities through the democratic process, Dr Lim was in fact a prominent Communist United Front leader who, along with other CUF leaders, had planned and organised pro-communist activities in support of the Communist Party of Malaya, which employed terror and violence in their attempt to overthrow the elected governments of Singapore and Malaysia."

In 1978, Dr Lim was released from detention and placed in Pulau Tekong under certain restrictions. A government statement had described him as a CUF member who refused to give a written undertaking that he would not be involved in communist activities and renounce the use of force to change government.

Dr Lim's view was that since he had never advocated violence, he should not have to renounce it. "It's like making me sign a statement that I would not beat my wife," he says.

He spent four years on Pulau Tekong before it became an army training area. There, he read medical books and became the only doctor for the few thousand villagers on the island. In appreciation, grateful villagers would ply him and his wife with durians, prawns and fish.

Release

FINALLY, on Sept 6, 1982, the Government allowed him to live on Singapore island, on the understanding that he would concentrate on his medical practice and abide by various conditions.

Asked how he coped with the long incarceration, he puts it down to an unshakeable conviction that his political stance is right.

"We were the leaders of the main opposition party, supported by the workers in Singapore, and we cannot betray our supporters. So we stuck to the bitter end. It's a matter of intellectual integrity."

Would he shake hands with Mr Lee? His reply: "It is for the oppressed to be magnanimous, not the oppressor. I'll forgive him and shake hands with him if he admits to his error and apologises to me and my wife."

Dr Lim's wife Beatrice Chen, who is a nephrologist or kidney specialist, helps to treat her husband. She declines to be interviewed as she shuns publicity.

They met in 1958 when they were working together at the Singapore General Hospital, and married in 1961.

Dr Lim was detained two years later. For the next 15 years, they saw each other for half an hour each week, separated by a glass panel, and spoke by telephone.

"The fact that we can see each other is a relief," he says. "Our common struggle was a unifying force. We understood each other. She kept on encouraging me, giving me moral support...it was very hard for her. She's a great woman."

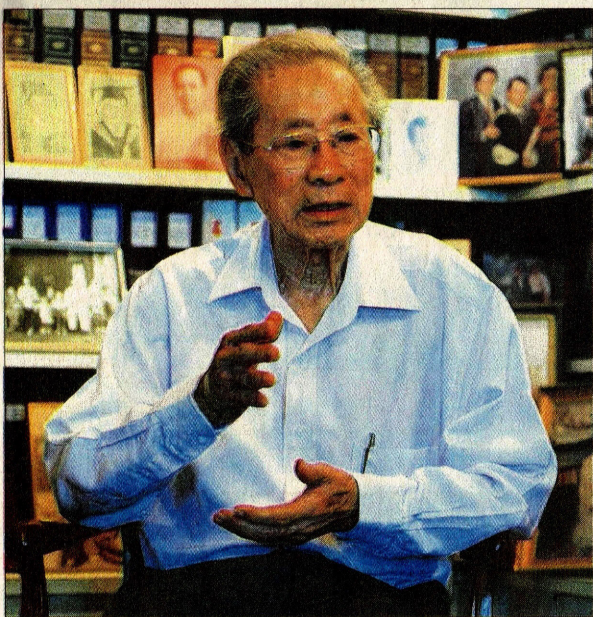
The couple have one son, who is now working in the National University of Singapore. "He was five months old when I was arrested. When I came out, my wife was in menopause. I missed the joy of bringing up my own son."

When Dr Lim is not seeing patients, he catches up on current affairs, surfs the Internet, and reads political philosophy - currently, Bertrand Russell's *A History Of Western Philosophy*. He also paints as a hobby.

Step into his condominium home off Mountbatten Road, and you will be greeted by a visual feast of paintings - of scenery, flowers and women - all strictly non-political.

But one has a Chinese couplet which reads: Befriend a thousand books, and have the spine to stand by your beliefs.

haoxiang@sph.com.sg



林福寿医生指《1959-2009：新加坡编年史——50年的头条新闻》里有关他的内容与事实不符。

(档案照片)

林福寿起诉²⁰¹¹⁰²⁰⁶《新加坡编年史》主编等人诽谤

郑靖豫 报道

曾被拘留近20年的前政治犯林福寿医生起诉《1959-2009：新加坡编年史——50年的头条新闻》的主编、出版社和印刷商诽谤，要求辩方赔偿他和不得重复与他有关的不实内容。

林福寿医生（80岁）通过周帝律师（R. Joethy）在上周入禀地庭，指《1959-2009：新加坡编年史——50年的头条新闻》（1959-2009: Chronicle of Singapore — Fifty Years of Headline News）收录有关他的不实著述，起诉这本书的主编林廷龙（73岁）、出版商 Editions Didier Millet 和印刷公司天华印务（Tien Wah Press）诽谤。

此外，林福寿医生也指国家图书馆与 Editions Didier Millet 联合出版此书，

所以把它也列为答辩人。

林福寿医生早年离开人民行动党后，成为前社会主义阵线の中委。他在1963年2月被政府援引内部安全法令拘留了近20年。

根据起诉状，林福寿医生指编年史第77页以“Lim Chin Siong hurt in prison fight”（林清祥在监狱打斗中受伤）为题的文章中与他有关的内容不实，导致他“名誉严重受损”，让他受到伤害、感到痛苦和难堪。

林福寿医生和林清祥是好友。后者曾为行动党立法议员，后成为前社会主义阵线领袖。

林福寿医生声称，他在1966年曾与媒体就有关上述不实的新闻报道打官司，获得赔偿7000元。

新加坡编年史是曾担任《海峡时

报》总编辑的林廷龙以新闻报道为基础，从新闻工作者的角度记录过去50年所发生的2270起重大和有意义新闻事件的一本书。这本书在2009年出版，去年再版。

林福寿医生在去年12月给四个答辩人发律师信，要求辩方马上和毫无保留地删除与他有关的不实内容、根据他的要求刊登正式的书面道歉、赔偿他的损失和承担他的律师费。

索偿额介于6万至25万元

起诉状披露，Editions Didier Millet 的律师在上个月回应林福寿医生的律师信时曾致歉，可是那达不到林福寿医生的要求。至于其他三个答辩人，被指至今未道歉或提议补偿。

林福寿医生因此要求地庭裁定辩

方须对他作出赔偿，包括加重性赔偿（aggravated damages）。他没有提出确切的索偿额，但入禀地庭的官司，索偿额介于6万元至25万元。此外，他也申请禁制令，不准答辩人重复该段不实的内容。

辩方有八天的时间就起诉作出回应，并在之后14天里提呈抗辩书。

本报向 Editions Didier Millet 询问它是否会答辩，其总经理说他不愿向媒体披露。林廷龙受询时说，因为事件进入司法程序而不得公开评论，所以他不能置评。

天华印务则说它身为印刷商，角色是根据指示印刷。此外，它以目前没有其它有关此诉讼的资料为由，所以无法置评。至于国家图书馆，它在截稿时未能来得及回应。

Barisan Sosialis leader dies



Dr Beatrice Chen (left), wife of former political detainee Lim Hock Siew, being comforted by Mrs Lim Poh Geok, wife of Prof Arthur Lim, at the wake.



Dr Lim used to argue on behalf of the poor as a politician and treat them at special rates or for free as a doctor. ST PHOTOS: KEVIN LIM

Former ISA detainee is widely known for his commitment to socialist principles

By ANDREA ONG

A FOUNDING member of Barisan Sosialis and one of Singapore's longest-held political detainees has died.

Dr Lim Hock Siew died from heart failure in Parkway East Hospital at close to 10.30pm on Monday. He was 81.

While he had been suffering from kidney failure for the past three years, his family said he was fine until he fell and bumped his head at home about a week ago.

He was hospitalised but was in a stable condition until Monday night, when he had a heart attack and could not be resuscitated, said his wife Beatrice Chen, 80, a kidney specialist.

At the wake held in his home at 135 Joo Chiat Terrace last night, dozens of friends, fellow former detainees and colleagues from the medical fraternity streamed in to pay their respects. They remembered him as a principled man who stood by his beliefs to his last breath.

They also praised his commitment to socialist principles and helping the poor, recounting how he had argued on their behalf as a politician and treated them at special rates or for free as a doctor.

Dr Lim was detained without trial under the Internal Security Act from 1963 to 1982. He was the longest-held political detainee after Dr Chia Thye Poh.

Fellow Barisan founding member Poh Soo Kai, a close friend from their days in medical school, said: "We've lost someone who stood firmly for democracy and human rights. He was imprisoned for so long and even though he couldn't be with his child, he stuck to his beliefs."

Dr Lim was awakened to politics at a young age. The son of a poor fishmonger, he made it to medical school at the then-University of Malaya, where he plunged himself into campus activism.

He was a founding member of the anti-colonial University Socialist Club (USC) and a leader of the university's student union.

In 1953, he met former Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, then a young lawyer helping to defend eight USC students charged for sedition by the British.

They won the case and the USC rallied behind Mr Lee and his associates when they formed the PAP in 1954. However, ideological differences in the PAP resulted in the "big split" of 1961, when 13 PAP assemblymen were expelled from the party.

They formed the leftist Barisan Sosialis with other PAP defectors and Dr Lim joined the party with Dr Poh.

Both men resigned from the government medical service to start Rakyat Clinic (rakyat is "people" in Malay), which still remains in Balestier Road.

In Barisan, Dr Lim was a key player in the leftists' battle with the PAP over the proposed merger with Malaya.

But on Feb 2, 1963, Dr Lim was among more than 110 leftists and unionists detained under Operation Cold Store, a government security exercise aimed at communists and suspected communists.

He was freed on Sept 6, 1982, and returned to medical practice.

Fellow ex-detainees and Barisan members such as Mr Tan Mui Hua, 70, and Mr Wee Toon Lip, 76, yesterday recalled that Dr Lim had been a natural leader even in detention.

In the Changi "E Dormitory" which housed more than 100 detainees at its peak, Dr Lim provided medical care to those who fell ill, they said.

His son Yue Wen, 50, a senior administrator at National University of Singapore, told The Straits Times last night: "When I was growing up, my memories of my father were more of me visiting him (in prison) and getting to know him. It was tough - kids can be quite cruel and I didn't know how to explain his absence."

He only got to know who his father was "in my adult-years... when I asked him questions and read his oral history transcript".

Dr Lim's detention was raised by several people yesterday as an unresolved issue.

Fellow detainee Fong Swee Suan said: "He really served the cause. Actually, he never did anything that broke the law, everything he did was according to the Constitution."

Asked what he last talked about with Dr Lim, Mr Fong said: "We are so old, whatever we can do we already have done. What is there to say?"

Top eye surgeon Arthur Lim, who was his medical school classmate and had visited Dr Lim in prison, said: "He was arrested without trial and what he did wrong is not clear up to now. Maybe someone should clarify that."

Historian Goh Geok Yian from the Nanyang Technological University said Dr Lim's role in Singapore's political history "warrants him a place in the country's historical narrative".

She added: "Future generations of Singaporeans will likely hold diverse views about Dr Lim's contribution to the country's past and politics."

Minister of the Environment and Water Resources Vivian Balakrishnan, who was at the wake, described Dr Lim as a "good and honourable man".

Dr Lim is survived by his wife, son, daughter-in-law and a 17-year-old grandson, both of whom declined to be named.

✉ andrea@sph.com.sg

Additional reporting by Matthias Chew and Phua Mei Pin

前社阵领袖林福寿逝世



林福寿医生好友昨晚到灵堂吊唁，左一是林医生遗孀陈宗孟医生，右起林清如、林少明医生、傅树川医生、傅树川太太和林少明太太。(郭福梁摄)

林福寿医生在1963年2月2日的“冷藏行动”中遭扣留，1978年被转移到德光岛受限制居留，成为岛上唯一的医生。他在1982年9月获释后回返本岛，重新回到人民药房工作。

谢燕燕 陈能端 报道
chiayy@sph.com.sg
nengduan@sph.com.sg

前社会主义阵线领袖林福寿医生前晚因心脏病与世长辞，享年81。林医生是上世纪五六十年代本地著名左翼人士，曾于1963年的“冷藏行动”中被逮捕，被囚禁将近20年。

他遗下妻子陈宗孟医生（80岁）、儿子林毓文（50岁）、儿媳妇和一名17岁孙子。陈宗孟医生是肾脏专科医生，林毓文是国大高级

行政人员。

林福寿医生1931年2月出生在一个贫苦大家庭，父亲是竹脚巴刹的一名鱼贩，家中共有10名孩子，他排行老三。

参与筹建人民行动党

早年毕业于莱佛士书院和马来亚大学的林医生，是马来亚大学社会主义俱乐部（University Socialist Club）创办人之一，也当过学生理事会主席。

1954年5月，马大社会主义俱乐部刊物《华惹》（Fajar）编辑部被控煽动罪，林福寿成为《华惹》辩护基金会主席，并在那时候认识了担任辩护律师的建国总理李光耀。人民行动党1954年11月创立时，林福寿曾参与筹建工作，但在1958年被开除党籍。

林医生大学毕业后曾在陈笃生医院工作数年，之后创立私人诊所人民药房。他在1961年加入社会主义阵线，并当选为社阵中委。

他在1963年2月2日的“冷藏行动”中遭扣留，1978年被转移到德光岛受限制居留，成为岛上唯一医生。他在1982年9月获释后回返本

岛，重新回到人民药房工作。

晚年患有肾病的林医生九天前在家中摔倒后被送入百汇东岸医院（Parkway East Hospital）。他前晚10时30分左右，因心脏病发作与世长辞，和他结婚超过半个世纪的妻子陈宗孟医生一直守在他身边。

陈医生受访时说，直到一个月前，只要健康许可，林医生都会如常到位于马里士他路的人民药房上班。患有高血压的林医生曾于1989年切除一个肾脏，原因是患上肾癌。剩下的肾脏后来因衰竭需定期洗肾。

林医生的灵堂设在如切台住家，遗体将在星期五出殡，并于当天下午3时在光明山火化。

1963年在监牢认识林福寿医生的林清如形容他是位无私、乐于助人、理念坚定的人，被牢友视为楷模。林清如说：“他虽然是纯受英文教育者，却和受华文教育者毫无隔阂。他有一个宽大的胸怀，为人乐观与幽默，是非分明，散播的是友情，不是仇恨，他没有个人敌人。”

林清如还说他具备了作为政治领袖、社会改革者应有的才华和优良品质，并为捍卫自身理念与尊严付出巨大代价。

另一位前社阵领袖傅树楷医生接受本报电话访问时说：“我们在一起很多年，他曾那么坚定地捍卫民主与人权，一生坚守信念。”

早期左翼人士方水双（81岁）

形容林福寿医生是一位非常善良和有爱心的医生，遇到家境贫困的病人就不收费或收得很少。林医生是他的家庭医生，他还说林医生有坚定信念，从学生时代就开始为自己的信念奉献一生。

林福寿医生的老同学林少明医生则表示，新加坡失去一位重要的政治领袖，并说林医生在帮助穷人方面不遗余力。

兴艺画廊艺术顾问谢声远则说，林医生在20年前开始寄情于绘画，喜欢收藏水墨画、油画和雕塑，还和太太一起去学绘画。他也喜欢约朋友一起旅行和游山玩水。

历史研究者林增如：愿为理想牺牲的英校生

因研究历史而与林福寿医生有所接触的本地历史研究者林增如说：“林医生是为新加坡争取独立那一代人中的巨人，他虽不曾进入国会，却在人民行动党和社阵的创立过程中扮演重要角色。他和去年6月逝世的陈仁贵一样，是愿意为理想而牺牲自己的早期英校生。”

林增如、罗家成、廖波伦和成国泉一起撰写的新书《马大社会主义俱乐部与马来亚的争夺战——现代化的纠结》（The University Socialist Club and the Contest for Malaya - Tangled Strands of Modernity）刚刚出版。

昨晚有不少早期左翼人士、林医生亲友及同学到他灵堂吊唁。

林福寿追悼会 林清如：他是优秀政治领袖

周文龙 报道

chewbl@sph.com.sg

去年8月，前社会主义阵线领袖林福寿医生在中华总商会礼堂参加前社阵领袖陈仁贵的追悼会，并致悼词。昨天下午，同样是中华总商会礼堂，林福寿的亲友、同学，以及上世纪五六十年代左翼人士等约500人一起追思于6月4日逝世的林福寿医生。

追悼会于昨午4时举行，现场座无虚席，礼堂后面和两侧也站满了人，白发者居多。此外，一些在去年大选中代表反对党参选的人士也参加追悼会。

与会者首先一起为林福寿默哀一分钟。之后，九名林福寿的挚友与家人轮流上台以华英语悼念他。悼念者包括林福寿的弟弟林福坤、1963年在监牢认识林福寿的林清如，以及曾与林福寿一同担任社会主义阵线领导并被捕的傅树介医生等人。

首名上台致词的是林福寿的弟弟林福坤。他诉说了自己痛失哥哥的伤痛心情，表示自己至今仍不能接受“为自由付出代价的善良亲人”的离世。

与林福寿一起坐过监牢的林清如，则形容林福寿为“上世纪50年代一位充满理想，意志坚定的优秀政治领袖”，其理想就是要“当人民的桥梁，建立一个民主、自由的国家”。

林清如也是已故社阵领袖林清祥的胞弟。他认为，林福寿和林清祥等人在上世纪50年代为反殖民主义奋斗过，在争取国家独立、民主自由与基本人权的斗争中作出了不少贡献与牺牲，新加坡人应该正面向去肯定这些人的贡献，让他们的精神财富可以延续下去。

林清如说：“人的长短不一，



社会主义阵线领袖林福寿医生的追悼会昨天举行，约500人出席，其中大多数是白发苍苍，见证过上世纪五六十年代新加坡政治运动的年长者。（陈渊庄摄）

不过一个人只要为世人做出贡献，他的一生就是有意义的斗争。”

另一位前社阵领袖傅树介医生，是林福寿多年挚友，认识林福寿已有60多年。两人是莱佛士书院和马来亚大学医学院的同学。傅树介医生对林福寿所经历的事有深切感受。他说：“林福寿被扣留时，他的儿子才5个月大。等到他被释放时，儿子已经长大成人。他所经历痛苦可想而知。他对他的太太陈宗孟医生必须只身把孩子带大所感受到的痛苦，谁能体验得到？”

林福寿在1950年代和志同道合的大学同学成立社会主义俱乐部，

并获选担任会长。该俱乐部出版的《华惹》曾在1954年被殖民地政府以煽动罪名起诉，林福寿当时成为《华惹》辩护基金会主席，并认识了担任辩护律师的建国总理李光耀。人民行动党成立时，他加入成为党员，1961年他和一些左派人士发起成立社会主义阵线，并当选为社阵中委。1963年2月2日，林福寿在“冷藏行动”中遭扣留，被拘禁将近20年，至1982年9月获释放。

他于上月4日因心脏病与世长辞，享年81岁。

昨天的追悼会是由林福寿的一些朋友筹办，除了追思会，筹办

者也将悼念林福寿的文章结集成书《向坚定的自由展示林福寿敬礼》，送给与会者。

好友计划为林福寿出书

筹办者之一陈国防受访时说：“林福寿一生坚持他的信念和原则，在我们朋友心中他是一个伟大的人。而从今天500多人出席他的追悼会的反应来看，他也是活在人们心里的。”

陈国防也透露，林福寿的好友计划将林福寿的生平故事、撰写文章和演讲稿编辑成书，在不久的将来出版。

悼念我所敬佩的林福寿医生（陈新嵘）

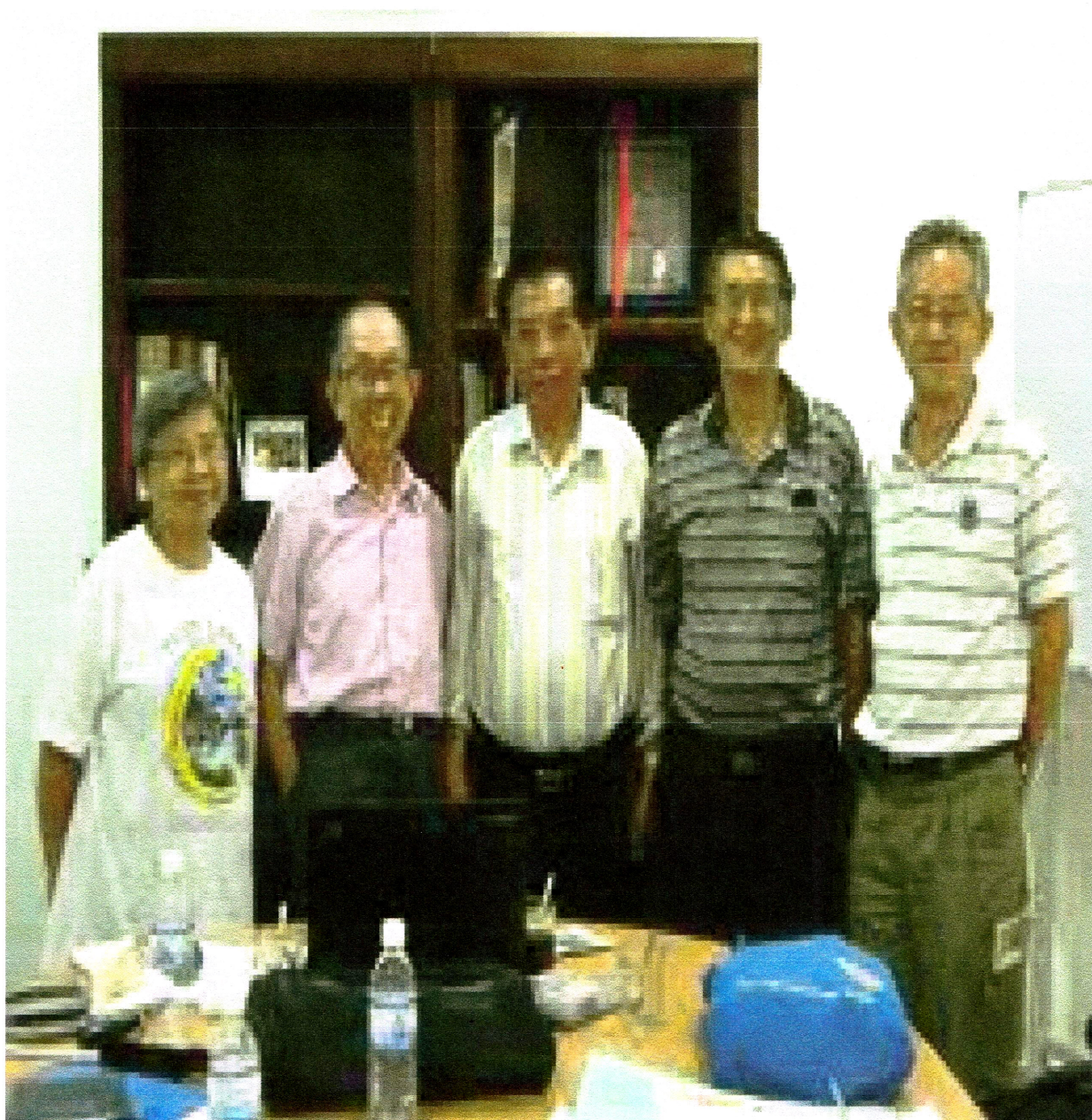
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陈新嵘：他们（谢太宝，另一个就是今天大家为他举行悼念会的林福寿）两个都意志坚毅，不屈从于当权者的迫害利诱，坚持自己为社会正义、为受压迫人民大众谋福利的信仰。他们两人都经受住超过 20 年或将近 20 年政治牢狱的折磨，忍受住对他们和家人身心的严重伤害。这不是每一个有志于改革不合理社会的仁人志士能做得到的。因此，我对他们两人特别敬佩。



悼念我所敬佩的林福寿医生



陈新嵘（上圖 左 2）

文：陈新嵘 2012 年 7 月 20 日

和我生活在同一个时代同一个国家的人当中，有两个令我特别敬佩的在当地受过大学教育的知识分子。他们两人都出生在并不富裕的家庭，一个受华文教育，一个受英文教育，都是上个世纪五六十年代求知欲强，热衷于探索人类社会发展前景的同辈人中才华出众的人物。他们一个

是毕业于南洋大学的谢太宝，另一个就是今天大家为他举行悼念会的林福寿医生。

谢太宝

他们两个都意志坚毅，不屈从于当权者的迫害利诱，坚持自己为社会正义、为受压迫人民大众谋福利的信仰。他们两人都经受住超过 20 年或将近 20 年政治牢狱的折磨，忍受住对他们和家人身心的严重伤害。这不是每一个有志于改革不合理社会的仁人志士能做得到的。因此，我对他们两人特别敬佩。

我和他们两人没有个人方面的深交。我曾经先后和他们两人并肩协助和反对过执政后便变质的新加坡执政党。这个政党从反对殖民统治和为劳苦大众服务，沦为借殖民势力之手扼杀反殖进步力量，沦为劳苦大众受一小撮有权有势力的社会上层“菁英”驱使的政党，专志于为国际垄断财团服务。据说，这个政党早已沦为听命于某个家族。我对自己曾有机会和这两个大学毕业生在一起为社会主义理想奋斗，感到自豪和荣幸。

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