

SINGAPORE: PATH TO INDEPENDENCE

# Singapore: Path to Independence

V. SURYANARAYAN

*Foreword*

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Perpustakaan Negara  
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To  
*MY FATHER*

## Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to commend this book both to research workers and the general reader as a very competent, informative and scholarly piece of writing by my colleague, Dr. V. Suryanarayan, who has been mainly instrumental in building up a good Department of History in our School of Social Sciences. Though not a scholar myself in this field I have visited the fascinating mini-State of Singapore often enough to recognize the merit and the value of the work done by Dr. Suryanarayan.

While we can take a legitimate pride in the great contributions in the fields of religion and general culture made by our country to the development of Asia in the past our present knowledge of the new Asia which has arisen from the still warm ashes of the recent colonial and imperial past dominated by the West is still inadequate. The process initiated by Sardar K. M. Panikkar with his study entitled *Asia and Western Dominance* has to be carried much further not only to dispel ignorance but also to promote greater understanding and co-operation between Asian countries. Asia is a divided continent and the visible common threads of culture are not strong enough as yet to engender a greater degree of political and economic inter-action for their mutual benefit between the countries of the continent.

The root causes for rivalry and competition including factors like ethnic, linguistic and religious diversity,