

I stand before you today with a heart full of gratitude and immense appreciation as we come to the end of our enlightening study tour of the remarkable libraries of Singapore. It is an honour and a privilege to extend my heartfelt thanks on behalf of our entire group.

Our visit to Singapore's libraries has been nothing short of awe-inspiring. We have had the opportunity to explore world-class facilities, innovative technologies, and a commitment to lifelong learning that is truly commendable. Each library we visited was a testament to the dedication of the staff, their passion for education, and their desire to create an environment that fosters knowledge and creativity.

I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the librarians and staff at each of the libraries we visited. Their warm welcome, willingness to share their knowledge, and their dedication to their craft, left an indelible mark on our hearts. We have learned valuable lessons in library management, community engagement, and the use of cutting-edge technologies that will undoubtedly benefit us in our academic and professional pursuits.

First and foremost, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our distinguished guest who has honoured us with her presence. It is with immense pride and gratitude that I extend a sincere vote of thanks to her excellency, Minister of Arts, Culture and Heritage, Hon Yumna Maumoon for gracing us with your presence and making this ceremony truly special.

Second, our gratitude extends to Dr Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya, former head of the library at the Singapore Institute of Management. Your warm hospitality and kindness we received throughout our stay made us feel comfortable and welcome in Singapore. From coordinating our itinerary to arranging transportation and accommodations, your organizational skills have been nothing short of exceptional. Your commitment to providing us with a rich and educational experience was evident in every step of our journey. From the moment we landed in Singapore to our visits to the various libraries, your guidance and expertise were invaluable. You ensured that we had access to the most relevant and enlightening resources, and for that, we are truly grateful.

I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Maldives Library Association. Your generous support has made this study tour a success. Your financial support and belief in our professional development tour have turned what once seemed like an unattainable dream into a tangible reality for us. It is because of MLA affiliation that the workshop was made possible to other librarians outside of BALIM group. Thank you, MLA Council members! A special vote of thanks to Ms Fathimath Nashath in her role as MLA Training Officer.

It is with great honour that I extend a heartfelt vote of thanks to our esteemed Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Mr. Asim, for his outstanding leadership and unwavering commitment to helping us throughout this study tour. Your approachability and willingness to engage with students have created an environment where we feel heard and valued.

We also want to recognize the faculty members and administrative team who have worked tirelessly alongside to ensure the smooth arrangements that led to a successful study tour. Thank you.

Our study tour has been a remarkable journey of discovery and learning, and it would not have been possible without the meticulous planning and tireless dedication of the organizing committee. Each member of this committee has played a crucial role in orchestrating every aspect of our tour, from its inception to its triumphant conclusion. We also want to acknowledge the countless hours and personal sacrifices made by each member of the committee. Their selfless dedication, late-night meetings, and hard work behind the scenes have made our tour a resounding success. They have not only organized an unforgettable experience but have also set an example of dedication and teamwork for all of us to admire. A big thank you to all organizing committee! Classmates Nashfa, Thuzhath, Ajra, Rishfa, & Nasiha!

Last but not least, I would like to express our deepest gratitude to our esteemed Miss, Dr. Aminath Riyaz, who also is our lecturer and course coordinator for the Bachelor of Arts in Library and Information Management. Your patience, meticulous planning, and execution of this study tour with the organizing committee, along with months of organizing fund-raising events and other activities led to each aspect of our journey being executed with precision and excellence, leaving us with nothing but admiration and gratitude. Long before the trip, we were looking forward to the study tour. You motivated and guided us throughout the process. Your unwavering dedication has made this tour a resounding success. Most importantly, your belief in our cause and your willingness to invest in our vision of highly trained and experienced librarians who can transform libraries in the Maldives are truly valued. We will be forever indebted to you.

Our journey to the libraries of Singapore has been a transformative experience that has expanded our horizons and deepened our appreciation for the world of knowledge. We are profoundly thankful for this opportunity, and we leave with hearts full of inspiration and a commitment to continue our pursuit of excellence in the world of education and libraries.

Thank you once again to everyone who made this study tour possible. We are forever grateful, and the memories of our time in Singapore will stay with us for a lifetime. Thank you.