

The Christian Role in a Pluralistic Society, with Specific Reference to Singapore
以新加坡为例来看基督徒在多元社会中的角色

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Abstract 内容摘要

In this paper, Judge Richard Magnus reiterates the fact that Singapore is a pluralistic secular society; and that Singapore separates religion from politics. The Singapore Christian welcomes this pluralism because he is equipped with a unique and a full revelatory doctrine. There is generally a constructive and evolving respectful interchange of the secular state of Singapore and the practice of Christianity here. Though a minority religion, the Singapore Church's history and involvement is very much part of Singapore's history and Singapore's efforts in nation building, contributing significantly to the development of the Rule of Law, community policies, education, the sciences, social and welfare programmes. The Singapore Christians have established top schools, much needed hospitals, sensitive community and social services, expert family service centres, unique halfway houses, common tuition centres, special prison rehabilitation programmes, downstream care centres for the mentally handicapped and the elderly and the destitute, felt-need refuge centres for the estranged families, leprosy centres; and care for the blind and the deaf, the orphaned and the widow, the sick, the distressed, the suffering, the lonely and the dying. They get alongside drug takers and stay alongside them during their recovery. They get involved in heartlands of our housing estates.

新加坡是个多元化和政教分离的世俗社会，这是李察·麦纳斯法官在本文所重申的一项事实。拥有独特且具启示的信仰教义，新加坡基督徒乐于接受多元主义。新加坡这世俗国家与其基督教社体之间一般上都维持具建设性和彼此尊重的关系。虽然是属于少数人的宗教，新加坡教会的历史与社会参与是国家历史与国家建设过程中重要的一部分，基督徒对国家法制的发展、社会群体政策、教育、科学、社会福利计划方面都有着显著的贡献。新加坡的基督徒建立了优秀的学校、完善的医院、触觉敏锐的社会服务、专门的家庭服务中心、特殊的中途之家、普遍的补习中心、监狱中的改造计划、为精神有障碍、年老或贫困者而设的援助中心、为破碎家庭而设的收容所、麻风病人中心，以及为瞎眼、耳聋、孤儿寡妇、贫病交迫和流离失所的人们提供关怀和援助。他们关心吸毒者，伴他们度过戒毒时期的煎熬，并积极投入组屋区内的活动。