



Words of Past Commissioners



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The existence of prisons serves to contain the criminals of the day and by such measures, serves to promote and maintain social peace in the community.
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Quek Shi Lei
Director of Prisons 1973-1987

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If we can change [the inmate's] thinking, values and lifestyle, we would have succeeded. To succeed, one must have the zeal of a missionary.
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Tee Tua Ba
Director of Prisons 1988-1992



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Although the efforts to rehabilitate offenders to prevent them from re-offending appears straightforward, in effect it entails sustained efforts, meticulous planning, relentless selfless dedication.
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Poh Geok Ek
Director of Prisons 1992-1998



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Singapore Prison Service changed me. I thought only 10% of inmates could change, but I now believe that 95% among them can return to society.
”
Chua Chin Kiat
Director of Prisons 1998-2007



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Wardens must be both guard and guardian. If they were merely guards, inmates would be their enemy and that would make prisons places where bad people come to get worse.
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Ng Joo Hee
Director of Prisons 2007-2009



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This is the ripple effect. We're the first drop of water that touches the pond. We influence the people around us, the prisoners and their families, and then we have an effect that persuades through the rest of society.
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Soh Wai Wah
Director of Prisons 2009-2016



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These achievements affirmed the direction we took twenty years ago when our Captains of Lives vision was first articulated – that society can be better protected if we are successful in the rehabilitation of offenders.
”
Desmond Chin
Director of Prisons 2016-2020

