

SINGAPORE HERITAGE SOCIETY  
Together with The National Library Board  
is proud to present:

# SHOPPING IN ANCIENT SINGAPORE:

*What the Archaeology of Victoria Concert Hall & Victoria Theatre Tells Us*

a talk by **Lim Chen Sian**



venue	Possibility Room Level 5, National Library Building 100 Victoria Street
date   time	Saturday, 3 December 3.00 – 5.00 pm
admission	Free and open to the public
enquiries	Wendy Chua (shs.secretary@gmail.com)

**S**ingapore prides itself as a Mecca for shopping, and tourists from all over Southeast Asia fly in for the weekend to indulge in retail therapy. As a port settlement, Singapore is not primarily a production centre but rather a centre of procurement - importing and exporting produce and goods from the region and beyond. Over the years, the island has expanded its ability to effectively procure, if not monopolize, merchandize, redistribute, and retail these produce and goods. So how was shopping like in the past? What did people buy? What was considered trendy and at the height of fashion?

The Singapore Heritage Society recently partnered with archaeologists from the National University of Singapore to conduct a salvage excavation project at

the Victoria Concert Hall and Victoria Theatre, where significant varieties of artifacts were recovered from the dig. What can archaeology tell us about the material culture of the past? Join us for an afternoon of "shopping" in ancient Singapore.



LIM CHEN SIAN majored in finance and archaeology at Boston University and received his MA from the National University of Singapore. Since 2002 he has led many excavations in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia. He is currently a Visiting Research Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre's Archaeology Unit, as well as a Visiting Affiliate with the Southeast Asian Studies Programme National University of Singapore.