

The Civil Society Award 公民社会奖

Upholding Civil Rights, Opening Up Democratic Space

捍卫公民权益，开拓民主空间

Civil Society Award's Regulations and Conditions

(Second revised on 19th, May 2015)

1. Overview

The promotion and strengthening of freedom and democracy depend on the growth of civil society. Civil society refers to the domain of associations between the state and the family. It is dominated by organizations that are independent from the state and it consists of social members who participate on a voluntary basis in order to defend their interests or values.

The independence of Malaya in 1957 is the result of the efforts of people from various backgrounds and civil groups, which demonstrated the spirit of political and social participation. From its inception to the flourishing growth, our civil society has long been promoting freedom and democracy.

The Kuala Lumpur and Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (KLSCAH) is formerly known as Selangor Chinese Assembly Hall (SCAH). Formed in 1923, the KLSCAH has always been actively participating in social movement in order to defend the well-being and interests of the nation and country, with a view to promoting social progress as well. The KLSCAH has played an important role in fighting for citizenship, as well as in drafting and implementing the Manifesto of Chinese Organisations, Joint Memorandum on National Culture, and Malaysian Chinese Organisations' Election Appeals Committee (better known as Suqiu).

In the mid-1980s, fifteen Chinese organisations led by the SCAH put forward the Manifesto of Chinese Organisations with the aim to promote civil rights movement. Since then, the Chinese organisations has been actively participating in public affairs in order to establish a civil society.

In 1995, the Centre for Malaysian Chinese Resources and Studies, predecessor of the Centre for Malaysian Chinese Studies, organised an academic conference entitled "State Agency and Civil Society", the goal of which was to introduce the concept of civil society and to initiate discussion on the issue.

During the 22nd National Chinese Cultural Festival in 2005, the SCAH again organised an academic conference, under the theme of "State Agency and Civil Society", together with the New Era College and the Southern College to study the power and revolution of people's autonomy, as well as to look for the new prospects for social reconstruction.

In view of this, the KLSCAH has set up the Civil Society Award with the aim to further promote the tradition of people's autonomy. We hope that this initiative will encourage

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more individuals and organisations to participate in pushing for social progress and to establish a civil society.

2. Objectives

- (a) To acknowledge individuals and organisations on their contributions to civil society;
- (b) To encourage more individuals and organisations to participate in pushing for social reform, defending their civil rights, and opening up more space for democracy in order to strengthen the forces of civil society;
- (c) To promote multiculturalism and multiethnicism with the hope of improving the communication and interaction among different ethnic groups;
- (d) To promote the participation of Chinese organisations in public affairs and establishing a civil society.

3. The Award

The Award is given twice a year, which can be conferred on up to three individuals or organisations in no particular order.

4. Eligibility and Nominations

(1) Eligibility

Malaysian citizens and Malaysia-based organisations (irrespective of official registration status) are eligible for nomination.

(2) Nomination Process

- (a) Nominations for individuals must be made by other individuals or organisations. Nominations for organisations can be made by the organizations concerned or other individuals or organisations.
- (b) Nomination of groups which are subsidiary bodies of some other groups must be approved by their parent body.
- (c) The Award Committee shall have the rights to recommend and nominate individuals or organisations.

5. The Selection Committee

- (a) A seven-member Selection Committee shall be formed by prominent scholars and community leaders. The committee will verify the eligibility of nominees and select recipients of the award.
- (b) All decisions by the committee are final.

6. Criteria for Selection

The committee will select recipients of the award according to the following criteria:

- (a) Playing an important role in defending freedom of political participation and fighting for greater space for social freedom and democracy;

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- (b) Actively promoting the cooperation of civil groups from different background and areas;
- (c) Initiating and pioneering social reforms;
- (d) Promoting communications and interactions among different ethnic groups.

7. Award Announcement

The list of award recipients will be announced by the award committee and the award will be conferred later by the KLSCAH.

8. Amount of Award

- (a) Each recipient will be awarded RM 5000, a trophy and a certificate;
- (b) Each accepted nominee will be awarded a certificate.

9. Amendment

The KLSCAH reserves the rights to amend any of the award's regulations or conditions.

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Particulars of Nominee

1. Particulars of Nominee

The nominee is required to submit the following information:

Individual Nominee

- Brief biography of the nominee (not less than 800 words).
- Speeches, articles, and any audio-visual information by or of the nominee.
- Introductory articles, news, internet information and any other audio-visual information about or related to the nominee.
- Awards and honours received by the nominee
- Nomination Form

Organizational Nominee

- Introduction of the nominee organization (not less than 800 words).
- Information (articles, books, websites, reports, any other audio-visual records) published by the nominee organization
- Introductory articles, news, internet information, audio visual information about or related to the nominee organization.
- Awards and honours received by the nominee organization.
- Agenda and annual planning of activities of the nominee organization
- Social activities participated by the nominee organization
- Nomination Form

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《公民社会奖简章》

(2015年5月18日第二次修订)

1. 缘起

自由民主的推进与巩固系于公民社会的壮大。所谓公民社会，是指国家与家庭之间的中介社团领域，这领域由自主、与国家相分离的组织所占据，并由社会成员自愿结合而成，以保护其利益或价值。

马来亚 1957 独立，乃是各社会阶层与公民团体协同努力的成果，彰显了独立议政、参与社会的公共精神。公民社会从萌芽，直到成长与茁壮，推动着国家的自由民主进步。

吉隆坡暨雪兰莪中华大会堂（简称隆雪华堂）的前身是雪兰莪中华大会堂（简称雪华堂），成立于 1923 年，从公民权之争取，至建言国是；草拟及贯彻《华团宣言》、《国家文化备忘录》、《马来西亚华人社团大选诉求》，隆雪华堂都秉持立足民间，维护族群与国家利益，以及关注公共时政的精神，推动社会开放进步。

1980 年代中期，雪华堂领导的全国十五华团机构提出了《华团宣言》，倡导民权运动，标志华团开启转型之路，积极介入国家政经文教事务，形塑公民社会。1995 年华社资料与研究中心（今华社研究中心之前身）举办了“国家机关与公民社会”学术研讨会，引介公民社会概念，引领舆论风潮。

2005 年第 22 届全国华人文化节，雪华堂再与新纪元、南方学院举办“国家机关与公民社会”学术研讨会，进一步探寻公民自主的力量及其变革，寻找社会改造的新图景。

隆雪华堂而今筹设公民社会奖，乃是秉持继往开来的精神，进一步发扬公民自主的传统，希望以此鼓励社会团体与个人参与推动社会进步，共同打造公民社会。

2. 宗旨

- (a) 表扬团体及个人对公民社会的贡献；
- (b) 鼓励团体及个人参与推动社会改革，捍卫公民权益，开拓自由民主空间，以壮大公民社会力量；
- (c) 提倡多元文化、多元族群主义，鼓励社会推动族群间的交流与互动；
- (d) 推动华团独立参与公共事务，打造公民社会。

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3. 奖项

每两年颁发一次，每一次可表扬最多三个团体或个人，奖项不分排名先后。

4. 提名资格及提名办法

(1) 提名资格

举凡马来西亚公民或国内团体（包括未注册）皆有资格提名或被提名。

(2) 提名办法

(a) 个人方面，须获个人或团体提名；团体则可以自行提名，或由其他个人或团体提名。

(b) 附属团体必须获得母会核准。

(c) 遴选委员会有权推荐及提名个人或团体。

5. 遴选委员会

(1) 隆雪华堂将邀请专家学者与社会贤达，共同组成的“公民社会奖遴选委员会”，负责审核提名与遴选有资格获表扬者。

(2) 遴选委员会的决定将是最后的决定。

6. 评审标准

遴选委员会将根据以下评审标准遴选：

(a) 坚守公民独立议政之角色，拓展社会自由民主之空间；

(b) 发挥结社之力量，推进公民团体之结盟，以及跨领域的合作；

(c) 启发与引领社会创造性的改革实践；

(d) 推动族群交流与互动。

7. 公告与颁奖时间

得奖名单由公民社会奖遴选委员会公告，并择日由隆雪华堂颁发。

8. 奖励

(a) 不论团体或个人，得奖者将获颁发 5000 令吉奖励金、奖杯及奖状；

(b) 所有获得提名并入围者，将获颁发奖状。

9. 备注

本准则若有未完善之处，隆雪华堂有权增删之。

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《被提名人呈报资料》

1. 被提名人资料

被提名者须呈上以下资料：

个人

- 自传（至少 800 字）；
- 被提名者曾经发表的演讲记录、文章、影像资料；
- 有关被提名者的介绍文章、新闻、网路资料、影像资料；
- 曾经获得的奖项与荣誉；
- 提名表格。

团体

- 团体介绍（至少 800 字）；
- 被提名者出版的资料（文章、书籍、网站、报告、影像纪录等）；
- 有关被提名者的介绍文章、新闻、网路资料、影像资料；
- 曾进行的活动议程和年度计划；
- 曾参与的社会活动；
- 曾经获得的奖项与荣誉；
- 提名表格。