

Lee Kuan Yew Quotes

*Inspiring, People, Thinking, Believe, Men, Government, Country, Years, Jobs,
Leader, Law, Mind, Integrity, Chinese, School, Writing, Way, Done, Ifs, Wife*

If you want to reach your goals and dreams, you cannot do it without discipline

~Lee Kuan Yew

If you deprive yourself of outsourcing and your competitors do not, you're putting yourself out of business.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Life is not just eating, drinking, television and cinema...The human mind must be creative, must be self-generating ; it cannot depend on just gadgets to amuse itself.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I knew that my niece was working nearby with some bank, so my wife rang up the mother and the mother called back to say that shes just called up to say she was alright.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I'm very determined. If I decide that something is worth doing, then I'll put my heart and soul to it. The whole ground can be against me, but if I know it is right, I'll do it.

~Lee Kuan Yew

If there was one formula for our success,it was that we were constantly studying how to make things work,or how to make them work better.

~Lee Kuan Yew

A leader without the vision, to strive to improve things, is no good. Then you will just stay put, you won't progress.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Having an education is one thing, being educated is another.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I'm not saying that everything I did was right, but everything I did was for an honourable purpose.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Please do not assume that you can change governments. Young people don't understand this.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Between being loved and being feared, I have always believed Machiavelli was right. If nobody is afraid of me, I'm meaningless.

~Lee Kuan Yew

If you can't think because you can't chew, try a banana.

~Lee Kuan Yew

If you can't force or are unwilling to force your people to follow you, with or without threats, you are not a leader.

~Lee Kuan Yew

What I fear is complacency. When things always become better, people tend to want more for less work.

~Lee Kuan Yew

If Singapore is a nanny state, then I am proud to have fostered one.

~Lee Kuan Yew

The big nest was in Afghanistan, that's not quite cleared, then there are nests in the Philippines, there are nests in Indonesia, the Malaysians are clearing up their nests.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I was a product of the times, the war, the occupation, the reoccupation, my 4 years in Britain, admiring but at the same time questioning whether they are able to do a better job than we can.

~Lee Kuan Yew

At the end of the day, what have I got? A successful Singapore. What have I given up? My life.

~Lee Kuan Yew

We decide what is right. Never mind what the people think.

~Lee Kuan Yew

What are our priorities? First, the welfare, the survival of the people. Then, democratic norms and processes which from time to time we have to suspend.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Freedom of the press, freedom of the news media, must be subordinated to the overriding needs of the integrity of Singapore, and to the primacy of purpose of an elected government.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I don't believe in love at first sight. I think it's a grave mistake.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Nine holes of golf will take you one-and-a-half, two hours. I run in 20 minutes, I feel better off. So the cost benefit made me drop golf.

~Lee Kuan Yew

The human being needs a challenge, and my advice to every person in Singapore and elsewhere: Keep yourself interested, have a challenge.

~Lee Kuan Yew

As you solve one set of problems, new ones appear. That is part of the nature of life.

~Lee Kuan Yew

If I have to shoot 200,000 students to save China from another 100 years of disorder, so be it.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I always tried to be correct, not politically correct.

~Lee Kuan Yew

The task of the leaders must be to provide or create for them a strong framework within which they can learn, work hard, be productive and be rewarded accordingly. And this is not easy to achieve.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Even from my sick bed, even if you are going to lower me into the grave and I feel something is going wrong, I will get up.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Anybody who decides to take me on needs to put on knuckle-dusters. If you think you can hurt me more than I can hurt you, try. There is no way you can govern a Chinese society.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Usually I read biographies of interesting people. I am not attracted to novels - make-believe, or recreations of what people think life should be.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I started off believing all men were equal. I now know that's the most unlikely thing ever to have been... But by observation, reading, watching, arguing, asking, that is the conclusion I've come to.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I do not yet know of a man who became a leader as a result of having undergone a leadership course.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Without the elected president and if there is a freak result, within two or three years, the army would have to come in and stop it.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I have decided that we shall make and build and never give way.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Every person, genius or moron, has a right to reproduce himself.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Whoever governs Singapore must have that iron in him. Or give it up. This is not a game of cards.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I am often accused of interfering in the private lives of citizens. Yes, if I did not, had I not done that, we wouldn't be here today.

~Lee Kuan Yew

You marry a non-graduate, then you are going to worry if your son or daughter is going to make it to the university.

~Lee Kuan Yew

The same law applies to me. Nobody has sued me for libel because I do not defame my enemies.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I feel sanguine enough to say that there has never been a better set of conditions for open democratic politics because there is no need for unified front politics.

~Lee Kuan Yew

If nobody is afraid of me, I'm meaningless.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Now if democracy will not work for the Russians, a white Christian people, can we assume that it will naturally work with Asians?

~Lee Kuan Yew

I am ... a realist. The magnitude of what one terms license or civil liberties or personal freedom has got to be adjusted to the circumstances.

~Lee Kuan Yew

What is of consequence is I did my best.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I have been accused of many things in my life, but not even my worst enemy has ever accused me of being afraid to speak my mind.

~Lee Kuan Yew

India is scared of the competition... because Chinese goods will go into India and compete.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I make no apologies that the PAP is the Government and the Government is the PAP.

~Lee Kuan Yew

If Aljunied decides to go that way, well Aljunied has five years to live and repent.

~Lee Kuan Yew

One-man-one-vote is a most difficult form of government.. Results can be erratic.

~Lee Kuan Yew

Rest on laurels? I wish I could do that. No, you rest when you're dead

~Lee Kuan Yew

I wish I can meet my wife in the hereafter, but I don't think I will. I just cease to exist just as she has ceased to exist.

~Lee Kuan Yew

That was the year the British decided to get out and sell everything. So I immediately held an election. I knew the people will be dead scared. And I won my bet big-time. The gullible fools!

~Lee Kuan Yew

You take a poll of any people. What is it they want? The right to write an editorial as you like? They want homes, medicine, jobs, schools.

~Lee Kuan Yew

I'm not intellectually convinced that one-man, one-vote is the best. We practise it because that's what the British bequeathed us

~Lee Kuan Yew

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