

Lee Khoon Choy was a Member of Parliament of the Republic of Singapore for 25 years starting from 1959. He was Senior Minister of State (Foreign Affairs) from 1974 to 1976, then Senior Minister of State (Prime Minister's Office) from 1976 to 1984 and also served as Singapore's Ambassador to eight countries: Egypt, Yugoslavia, Pakistan, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Indonesia, Japan and Korea. He came into contact with China in 1975 when he was Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and met many PRC leaders in the capacity of a Minister. Since then, he has traveled to China more than 50 times.

With his Chinese educational background, he understands Chinese history and being able to speak various dialects, he is able to communicate with the people from the various provinces. With his journalistic experience and keen observation, he is in a position to better fathom the psyche of the Chinese people. Endowed with a passion for all things cultural, he has made friends with Chinese who are leaders in different fields, such as authors, painters as well as *kungfu* experts. This makes him a natural commentator on "Understanding the Inscrutable Chinese". He was awarded "Honorary Academic Member" by the Chinese Academy of Social Science for his contributions to the promotion of knowledge by giving lectures to various Chinese institutions.