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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Penang Story Lectures: Komtar and the Buckminster Fuller Connection**

#### ***A Talk by Datuk Seri Lim Chong Keat***

DGPN, DSPN, BBM, APAM. FASc B.A. Hons. Arch. (Manchester), M.Arch. (M.I.T.),  
LL.D. honoris causa (Manchester)

#### ***Organized by Penang Heritage Trust and Think City***

**George Town** - The eminent Datuk Lim Chong Keat DGPN, DSPN, BBM, APAM. FASc B.A. Hons. Arch. (Manchester), M.Arch. (M.I.T.), LL.D. honoris causa (Manchester) will be speaking on his experience and contributions on Urban Planning for George Town, (prior to the Planning Act); under the Central Area Planning Unit (CAPU) from 1971 to 1973, which pioneered recommendations for Urban revitalization and Conservation. These plans lead to the proposals for the development of a Penang Urban Centre, later to be named KOMTAR, towards the revitalization of the city. The talk is set to be at Komtar, Auditorium A, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2014. It includes an Exhibition and Tour of the Dewan Tunku Geodesic Dome.

The saga of the building of Komtar (from 1974 to 1985) will be recounted, including the geodesic dome called Dewan Tunku, which involved the participation of R. Buckminster Fuller, the world renowned 20<sup>th</sup> century designer, inventor, philosopher and visionary. Fuller made frequent visits to Penang for the Campuan Meetings on World Affairs at the Bellevue on Penang Hill (co-organized by Fuller and Lim) which transmigrated from Bali, notably in 1981 and 1983.

Datuk Seri Lim's connections with 'Bucky' internationally included events in the US and UK and notably after Bucky's death, he has lectured extensively on the importance of the work and philosophy of Fuller, who was regarded as the "Leonardo da Vinci of our times". Richard Buckminster Fuller had memorable relationships with S.E. Asia, particularly with Penang, where the Komtar Dome is perhaps his last significant building that should be recognised worldwide - as also his universal philosophy for Integrity and "The World for You and Me"

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For more information, please contact: Mary Tan-Hooper on 04-2642631 or email: [info@pht.org.my](mailto:info@pht.org.my)

## **ABOUT PENANG STORY LECTURES**

The Penang Story Lecture Series aims to create awareness about Penang's history and heritage. The theme this year is "Penang in Global History" focusing on the role the people of Penang played in local, regional and global histories. Equally fascinating is Penang as a place, a refuge and centre for knowledge development and intellectual movements.

The lecture series also aims to explore Penang's unique "place-identity" and strengthen the enabling factors that continue to make Penang attractive to talent. These public lectures examine a particular theme from a multidisciplinary perspective.

## **JOINT ORGANISERS**

THE PENANG HERITAGE TRUST (PHT) is one of Malaysia's most successful non-governmental organizations championing the heritage conservation with special emphasis on Penang and Georgetown. PHT played a pivotal role in the nomination of George Town as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was also a key partner in the 2001/02 Penang Story Project bringing together local communities through a celebration of cultural diversity.

[www.pht.org.my](http://www.pht.org.my)

THINK CITY SDN BHD (TCSB) is a subsidiary of Khazanah Nasional Berhad, the investment arm of the Malaysian government and an urban regeneration agency operating in the historic city of Georgetown. It manages the Georgetown Grants Programme (GTGP), which is a public grants programme designed to protect and preserve Georgetown's Outstanding Universal Values. These include the city's multi-ethnic and multi-cultural living heritage, architectural legacy and intangible heritage as a historic port city in the Straits of Malacca. Think City's involvement in this project provides focus on the cultural mapping process (documentation and outreach activities involving local histories and heritage) and the intangible heritage of the city.

[www.thinkcity.com](http://www.thinkcity.com)

