

## A simple guide to S'pore Constitution

BY DARREN TANG

LIBRARY patrons and secondary-school students can soon get their hands on a book explaining Singapore's Constitution and political system in a simple way.

The slim 41-page volume was launched by Speaker of Parliament Halimah Jacob yesterday at Singapore Management University (SMU).

Copies of the book will be placed in all public libraries. The book will also be made available to all secondary schools by the end of the month.

The primer, titled *The Singapore Constitution: A Brief Introduction*, is a project by seven SMU undergraduates from the university's political society, called SMU Apolitical.

It may be a dry topic for secondary-school students to plough through, but it is important for young people to know about the Constitution from an early age, said the book's writers.

"The Constitution provides the structure of the Government and secures our fundamental liberties, hence affecting each and every one of us," said editor Dierdre Morgan.

The book aims to explain the

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Singapore Constitution in an objective and easily understandable way, as well as debunk misconceptions and explain the roles of government institutions that can be misunderstood, such as the role of the President.

Madam Halimah, who penned the foreword, noted that few people understand or even know that Singapore has a Constitution.

She said: "Ground-up initiatives such as these, which aim to inform the public and inform political discourse, are praiseworthy."

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