

PRESS RELEASE

**Banyan Tree Holdings Founder and Executive Chairman Mr Ho Kwon Ping  
Conferred Prestigious HICAP Lifetime Achievement Award**

*An Industry Recognition Which Heightens Banyan Tree Group's 25th Anniversary Celebrations*



*Caption: Banyan Tree Holdings Executive Chairman receiving the HICAP Award. Awaiting Photos from Organiser.*

**Singapore, 30 October 2019** - Founder and Executive Chairman of Banyan Tree Holdings and Laguna Resorts and Hotels, and Executive Chairman of Thai Wah Public Company, **Mr Ho Kwon Ping was conferred the prestigious HICAP Lifetime Achievement Award at the recent 30<sup>th</sup> annual Hotel Investment Conference Asia Pacific (HICAP)** held in Hong Kong. In the conference's 30-year establishment history, this exclusive award had only been awarded 10 times prior to this. **As the 2019's winner and unique in his own right, Mr Ho is the only recipient of both HICAP's Innovation Award (2003) and Lifetime Achievement Award (2019).**

The HICAP Lifetime Achievement Award honours exceptional individuals who have distinguished themselves through their accomplishments and contributions to expanding, enhancing and advancing the hotel industry in the Asia Pacific region and the world. Adding to its special nature, the Award is not given out every year in view of its stringent selection.

"I thank HICAP for this award and particularly for honouring me as the only recipient who has won both the Innovation Award and the Lifetime Achievement Award. These awards show that relatively small, independent players in a global hospitality space can remain innovative and relevant if its people remain passionate and purposeful, which are amongst Banyan Tree's core values," said Mr Ho Kwon Ping.

"This award coming coincidentally on Banyan Tree Group's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary is especially meaningful. It has indeed been a lifetime of large and small achievements – and fortunately, fewer disappointments – for many of us at Banyan Tree who have spent the better part of our adult lives building the company, the brand and its values. This year is an inflection point for us to reflect on what brought us to now, and what we need to steer the journey forward. For me personally, this award is a kind encouragement by my peers to continue to mentor, guide and inspire the next generation of hospitality leaders."

# BANYAN TREE

## HOLDINGS

Mr Ho's accomplishments span beyond his professional endeavours in the hospitality industry. He is the founding and current Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Singapore Management University, Chairman of The Singapore Summit and Board Director of Diageo, the UK-listed spirits company. Educated in Tunghai University, Taiwan; Stanford University, California and University of Singapore, he was the Economics Editor of Far Eastern Economic Review in Hong Kong before joining the Thai Wah family business and then starting his own companies.

Among various awards, Mr. Ho has received the London Business School Entrepreneurship Award; CEO of the Year at the Singapore Corporate Awards; CNBC Travel Business Leader Award; Distinguished Alumnus Award from the National University of Singapore; and Lifetime Achievement Awards from the American Creativity Association, China Hotel Investment Summit and Australia Hotel Investment Summit.

For his services to the country, he has been decorated with the Meritorious Service Medal and the Distinguished Service Order by the Singapore Government. Mr. Ho has also been conferred honorary doctorates by Johnson & Wales University and from Hong Kong Poly University.

He is the author of two books: "Asking Why" reflects his journey in journalism and entrepreneurship over a period of forty years, and includes articles commissioned by The Straits Times; while "The Ocean in a Drop: Singapore in the next Fifty Years" is a compilation of public lectures he gave as the Inaugural Fellow of the SR Nathan Lecture Series, named after the Sixth President of Singapore.

Mr. Ho is married to Claire Chiang, Senior Vice President, Banyan Tree Holdings. They have three children – two sons and a daughter and three grandchildren.

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**For high-resolution images, please download here.** *(using latest version of Chrome browser)*

### ABOUT BANYAN TREE HOLDINGS LIMITED

Banyan Tree Holdings Limited ("Banyan Tree" or the "Group") is a leading international operator and developer of premium resorts, hotels, residences and spas, with 47 hotels and resorts, 64 spas, 75 retail galleries, and three golf courses in 24 countries. Each resort typically has between 75 to 300 rooms and commands room rates at the higher end of each property's particular market.

The Group's primary business is centered on four brands: the award-winning Banyan Tree and Angsana, as well as newly established Cassia and Dhawa. Banyan Tree also operates the leading integrated resort in Thailand – Laguna Phuket – through the Group's subsidiary, Laguna Resorts & Hotels Public Company Limited. Two other integrated resorts – Laguna Bintan in Indonesia and Laguna Lăng Cô in Central Vietnam – complete the status of the Group as the leading operator of integrated resorts in Asia.

As a leading operator of spas in Asia, Banyan Tree's spas are one of the key features in their resorts and hotels. Its retail arm Banyan Tree Gallery complements and reinforces the branding of the resort, hotel and spa operations.

Since the launch of the first Banyan Tree resort, Banyan Tree Phuket, in 1994, Banyan Tree has received over 2,450 awards and accolades for the resorts, hotels and spas that the Group manages. The Group has also received recognition for its commitment to sustainability for environmental protection and emphasis on corporate social responsibility.

In addition to its currently operating hotels, resorts, spas and golf courses, the Group currently has 23 hotels and resorts under construction, and another 37 under development.

[www.banyantree.com](http://www.banyantree.com) [www.angsana.com](http://www.angsana.com) [www.cassia.com](http://www.cassia.com) [www.dhawa.com](http://www.dhawa.com)

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BANYAN TREE



ANGSANA



CASSIA



DHAWA