

Centre for Asian Legal Studies – Thammasat University Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative (CATPLI)

4th Workshop “An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore Tort Law”

The Centre for Asian Legal Studies – Thammasat University Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative (“CATPLI”), is pleased to announce its fourth workshop titled “An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore Tort Law”.

The workshop seeks to introduce Thai law students to the basic principles of tort law in Singapore. Organised and conducted by students from the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, this workshop consists of 5 weekly online sessions and two on-site sessions at Faculty of Law, Thammasat University (Tha Prachan Campus).

The poster features a purple gradient background with a faint image of the Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay. At the top, logos for Thammasat University Faculty of Law, NUS, and the Centre for Asian Legal Studies are displayed. The main text is in white and yellow, announcing the opening of registration for the 4th workshop. The workshop details, including dates, times, and topics, are listed in white. A QR code is provided for registration, and a call to action button is at the bottom. A small disclaimer and TUCLS logo are at the very bottom.

 **FACULTY OF LAW
THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY**

in partnership with

 **NUS**
National University of Singapore

Centre for Asian Legal Studies
Faculty of Law

Centre for Asian Legal Studies - Thammasat University Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative ("CATPLI")

**OPEN
REGISTRATION**
for the **4th Workshop**

**An Introduction to the
Basics of Singapore
Tort Law**

6-week workshop: Sunday, March 16, then Saturdays, March 22–April 19

- **16 March 09:00-16:30 (all times are GMT +7):** two onsite sessions on Sunday at the Faculty of Law, Thammasat University (Tha Prachan Campus)
- **22 March onwards 14:00-16:00:** 5 weekly online sessions on Saturdays
- Taught by NUS Law students
- The workshop is open to all Thai law students and anyone interested in learning about Singaporean tort law
- Participation is free of charge; certificates will be given upon completion!



Apply NOW - 7 March

*Please read the full conditions and details in the registration form provided in the QR Code.

 **TUCLS**

CALS-TU Peer Learning Initiative (CATPLI)

PROJECT TEAM - 2025

Project Co-Leads:



**ASSOC PROF MUNIN
PONGSAPAN**
Faculty of Law,
Thammasat University



ASSOC PROF JACLYN NEO
Director, Centre for Asian
Legal Studies, NUS Law



TOH DING JUN
Project Advisor

Project Advisor:

Students (NUS Law):



KHOR JIA WEI
PROJECT DIRECTOR



JONAS GNG RUI SHENG
PROJECT DIRECTOR



**BRANDUA MAH
WEE KIT**
VISITING TUTOR



CHUA LE MIN JOYSLYN
VISITING TUTOR



JOSHUA POON
VISITING TUTOR



**LIN ZHENG HONG
MERVYN**
VISITING TUTOR



QUEK EE ING
VISITING TUTOR



**SHIVANI
MEKAVATHANAN**
VISITING TUTOR



LOK JUN HAO, JUSTIN
VISITING TUTOR



HENG RUO WEI
VISITING TUTOR

Students (TU Law):



**CHAYAPA
PREECHAYANPANICH**
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TUCLS BOARD COMMITTEE



PANALEE CHEEWATAS
TUCLS BOARD COMMITTEE



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SASIRADA WATCHALAYAN
TUCLS BOARD COMMITTEE



**TANYARAT
AMORNSIRIWATANAKUL**
TUCLS BOARD COMMITTEE



WORRAWANTRA NUAM-IN
TUCLS BOARD COMMITTEE



**PEEMAWAT
DUSSADEEPRITIPUN**
PROJECT COORDINATOR



SHANATTHAVIT PERIERA
PROJECT COORDINATOR



SHANE-OMAR HUSSAIN
PROJECT COORDINATOR



TANAWIT HONGCHUVECH
PROJECT COORDINATOR



BUTSAKORN MEEMA
PROJECT COORDINATOR



NANDA AUNG
PROJECT COORDINATOR

**Centre for Asian Legal Studies – Thammasat University
Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative (CATPLI)**

**4th Workshop
“An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore Tort Law”
16 March 2025**

On Sunday, 16 March 2025, the Centre for Asian Legal Studies (CALS) and Thammasat University Faculty of Law (TU) continued their longstanding collaboration on the Centre for Asian Legal Studies – Thammasat University Faculty of Law Peer Learning Initiative (CATPLI) by successfully conducting two in-person sessions at TU’s beautiful Tha Prachan Campus.

These two in-person sessions form a part of CATPLI’s fourth workshop series, consisting of seven sessions, titled “*An Introduction to the Basics of Singapore Tort Law*”. Over the course of two two-hour long sessions, around 30 law students from Thammasat University, Chulalongkorn University, King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi, Mahidol University, and Srinakharinwirot University were introduced to the basic features of Singapore’s legal system and were exposed to the basic rules of negligence liability under Singapore law.

With the lessons designed interactively, the NUS Law students also had the opportunity to exchange views with their Thai counterparts over the functional similarities and differences found in Singapore and Thai tort laws and explored how the tort laws in both jurisdictions responded to the same factual issues.



Joshua Poon '26 (left), CATPLI's Visiting Tutor, engaging his group of Thai participants in a spirited discussion on the common law concept of stare decisis and how it compared to the Thai civil law system.

The success of the in-person sessions underscores the deep institutional relationship between both NUS Law and TU Law. Indeed, as As/P Amnart Tangkiriphimarn, Vice-Dean of International Affairs at TU Law, noted in his opening remarks, the origins of CATPLI stemmed from the strong personal relationships between senior faculty members of both institutions. As/P Tangkiriphimarn further noted that the long-term success of CATPLI can be attributed to the student leaders and tutors from both NUS Law and TU Law, observing that much of the programme is effectively student-run.

Such sentiments were echoed by his counterpart As/P Dian Shah, Deputy Director of CALS. In her opening remarks, As/P Shah acknowledged the dedicated support from TU Law's management and the efforts of students from both institutions that has allowed CATPLI to be sustained over the past four years. Looking ahead, she was also optimistic about the potential of the project for future expansion.



CALS Deputy Director As/P Dian Shah exchanging tokens of appreciation with TU Law's Vice-Dean As/P Amnart Tangkiriphimarn.

The fourth edition of CATPLI marked the first time where TU Law and NUS Law students had the opportunity to conduct both the Thai law and Singapore law workshops in person. Earlier in January, the NUS students had successfully hosted TU Law's Visiting Tutors for their inaugural reciprocal workshop on Thai tort law.

The shift from the fully virtual format that characterised the early editions of CATPLI emphasised the importance of physical interaction to augment international relationships in an increasingly volatile, post-pandemic socio-politico-economic environment. As Khor Jia Wei '25, CATPLI's Project Director, observed in his introductory remarks, the physical sessions *"marked a significant milestone in CATPLI as it enhanced opportunities to learn, engage and interact amongst like-minded peers"*. Indeed, as he noted, this could prove to be crucial considering the *"increasingly integrated commercial environment and our close proximity as neighbours in Southeast Asia"*.

Reflecting on his experience sharing on the tort of negligence under Singapore law with the Thai law students, Justin Lok '26 noted that *"it was just as much a learning experience for [himself]"* that deepened his *"understanding of the intricacies of teaching, from fostering engagement and adaptability to honing strong and effective communication"*. In that regard, he thanked the Thai participants for a *"fulfilling and rewarding experience"*.

Similarly, Punyavee Somcharoen, Board Member of the TU Comparative Legal Studies (TUCLS), appreciated how the programme allowed her to simultaneously *"gain a deeper understanding of comparative law between Thai and Singapore"* while *"connecting with NUS Law students"*. Indeed, she found it to be *"one of the most unforgettable experiences of [her] four years"* in law school.



CATPLI Project Directors Jonas Gng '25 and Khor Jia Wei '25 present tokens of appreciation to Mr Sivapong Viriyabusaya and his team of lawyers for their presentation to the law students of NUS and TU.

As part of their cross-border legal exchange, NUS Law and TU Law students visited Baker McKenzie Thailand, one of the biggest law firms in Thailand, at their new One Bangkok office. Here, students had the opportunity to engage with senior partners and lawyers across various departments in the firm ranging from the Corporate and Commercial Practice Group to the Intellectual Property and Technology Practice Group. The engagement session was led by Mr Sivapong Viriyabusaya (Partner, Corporate and Commercial Group) and his team of lawyers who introduced the firm's operations in Thailand and the scope of work that each department handled.

Separately, students also benefitted from a deep dive into the field of arbitration law through a presentation led by Mr Aphirak Maneekul NUS LLM '24 and Mr Kosit Prasitveroj. Here, both lawyers explored the cost and benefits of arbitration, with a focus on the oft-cited benefit of cost effectiveness. In particular, the lawyers highlighted the issue of hidden costs arising from the employment of third-party services that handled matters of transcription and documentation and explored the concept of the "chess-clock" system. Throughout the presentation, students were also made aware of the differences between the Singapore and Thai arbitration model, further aiding their understanding of the legal nuances present in each of their respective countries.



NUS Law students at Assumption Cathedral, Bangkok.

The cultural exchange between the NUS Law and TU Law students would not be complete without a visit to Bangkok's key cultural landmarks. NUS Law and TU Law students visited the Assumption Cathedral, the principal and oldest Catholic church of Thailand, where students gained a greater understanding of how the Catholic faith grew and is currently practiced in Thailand. The team also visited the Grand Postal Building, a historic building in the Bang Rak District, where they learnt about Bangkok's urban design challenges as part of an interactive exhibition. As CATPLI's Project Director, Jonas Gng '25, puts it:

The opportunity to experience Thai culture and history firsthand was eye-opening. I am also deeply appreciative of the TUCLS members, who eagerly took on the role of our guides. Their enthusiasm in sharing their heritage with us made the experience more meaningful, and we truly enjoyed learning from them.



NUS Law students exploring the beautiful Tha Prachan Campus.

Since its launch during the pandemic in 2022, CATPLI has organised five workshops introducing Singapore contract and company laws to Thai law students, as well as two reciprocal workshops introducing Thai contract and tort laws to Singapore law students. As CATPLI heads into its fifth anniversary in 2026, there is much potential for it to achieve greater heights. Do watch this space!