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Global Indian International School sets a new Singapore record with over 3260 handprints on a hand-crafted 2.7 metres high octagonal Chinese lantern*

Spirit of Asia Carnival for Integration salutes Singapore's spirit of cultural harmony and offers a platform to draw students and the Singaporean community closer



Singapore, 14 August 2011 – The Global Indian International School's annual **Spirit of Asia – Carnival for Integration 2011** was back this year to celebrate Singapore's multicultural heritage. Held on a sunny Sunday at GIIIS Queenstown, it was a day of entertaining and fun-filled activities for the school students, teachers, their families, friends and visitors from all walks of life. Besides indulging in a variety of activities which reflect the spirit of communal harmony such as cultural performances, games, multi-lingual song and dance contests with attractive prizes, over 3,000 carnival goers were also able to feast on a delectable spread of mouthwatering local delights such as traditional nonya kueh, bee hoon and Indian cuisine such as tasty Indian chaats.

*size of lantern
measures 2.5m (H)



Guest-of-Honour Mr. Charles Chong, Member of Parliament from Joo Chiat GRC was present to officiate the event and together with the help of all GIIS students and teachers, he added the finishing handprint on the Chinese lantern to enable GIIS make its maiden entry into the Singapore Book of Records with the most number of handprints on a lantern made up of flags of 52 nations – home countries of GIIS students worldwide. It was a joyous moment for the students and teachers when the audience broke into rapturous applause once the lantern was lit, bathing the darkened school hall with a sea of warm lighting.

During the event, Mr Chong was invited to open a unique exhibition titled **GIIS: A 9-Year Journey through Integration**, a pictorial exhibition showcasing GIIS's commitment to integration in the form of serving the less privileged in Singapore, participation in Singapore national events such as President's Star Charity and the Chingay Parade, student exchange programmes with local and overseas schools, regular academic interactions with local schools etc

Mr Chong also distributed goodie bags to guests from Lion Befrienders and Sree Narayana Mission, who were specially invited to enjoy the festivities with GIIS.

For the first time, the People's Association was invited to be part of the celebrations at GIIS, bringing all a step closer under one roof with a multi-cultural theme underlying all the exciting and breathtaking performances. Other exciting shows include traditional dance performances by GIIS students and lion dance performances.

Said Mr Rajiv Vasudeva, GIIS Singapore Country Director, "The theme of this year's carnival is Integration and the carnival celebrates the unity among diverse cultures in a Singaporean spirit with a wide variety of events. We welcome one and all to join us in sharing the joy with the community. Our students and teachers participate in various exchange programmes and activities with the neighbourhood schools all year round, and so this carnival gives us all a platform to share that spirit of community sharing."

The carnival was held to celebrate Singapore's multi-cultural diversity and to commemorate India's Independence Day on 15 August.

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About Global Schools Foundation (GSF)

Global Schools Foundation offers education through the six leading curricula in the world, including International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge IGCSE, CBSE, CBSE-I, ICSE and Global Montessori Programme. Now entering its 10th year, the GSF's mission is to cultivate and nurture its students into global leaders of the future. The school provides a wide range of quality-assured and globally recognised curricula on top of a varied roster of extra-curricular activities that students can engage in.

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