没有封城，紧靠大陆，但为什么新加坡和香港还能防住疫情？（二）

▧ 新加坡政府的严加管控，主要是出于社会文化传统还是制度建设？
▧ 新加坡在疫情面前有多危险？这个国家为什么〝易感〞？
▧ 新加坡采取了哪些措施确保跑在疫情扩散前？为什么这么多人感染时，新加坡并无恐慌？

Tracking the Coronavirus: How Crowded Asian Cities Tackled an Epidemic

扫码听课

听课笔记

讲解正文

By Hannah Beech

"Maybe it's because of our Asian context, but our community is sort of **primed** for this," said Lalitha Kurupatham, the deputy director of the communicable diseases division in Singapore. "We will keep fighting, because isolation and quarantine work."

Rich and orderly, Singapore has spent years building a public health system that includes designated clinics for epidemics and official messaging urging the public to wash their hands or **sneeze** into tissues during flu season. The Infectious Diseases Act gives the city-state wide latitude in prioritizing the common good over privacy concerns.

"During peacetime, we plan for epidemics like this," Ms. Kurupatham said.

As the leader of Singapore's contact tracing program, she has been working 16-hour days for two months, and her depiction of a war against disease is a **function** of its vulnerability to contagion. A tiny red dot on a world map, Singapore is a densely populated island where every flight is international.
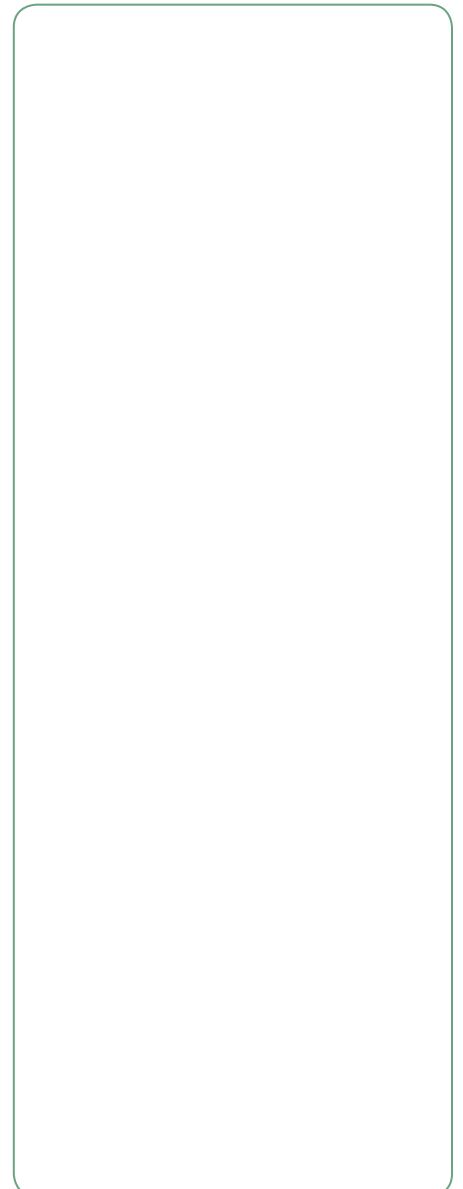
In the early days of the outbreak, Singapore was highly susceptible to a large population of mainland Chinese people arriving during the Lunar New

Year holiday.

The dozens of confirmed cases in Singapore in January reflect widespread and freely available testing. Many were mild cases that would otherwise have gone undiagnosed. Nevertheless Singapore was **sprinting** to **stem** the possibility of runaway local transmission.

"Until Italy, Korea and Iran happened, Singapore was the worst outside China," said Linfa Wang, the director of the emerging infectious diseases program at the Duke-National University of Singapore Medical School. "Why didn't we feel that way? Because the government is very transparent and because that number means we are so effective in tracing and isolating every case."

For all the panic erupting elsewhere, most Singaporeans do not wear masks out, because the government has told them it's not needed for their safety. Most schools are still running, **albeit** with **staggered** lunchtimes to avoid big crowds. There is plenty of toilet paper.

As of Tuesday evening, Singapore had 266 confirmed cases. Only a **fraction** are mysteries, unlinked to recent foreign travel or previously identified local clusters, which include churches and a private dinner.

Nearly 115 patients have been discharged from the hospital. Singapore has recorded no deaths from the coronavirus.

When rumors of a mysterious respiratory virus began circulating in China at the beginning of the year, Singapore moved quickly. It was one of the first countries to ban all travelers from mainland China, starting in late January. Thermal scanners measured the temperatures of all who came into the country.

In a nation of 5.7 million residents, Singapore rapidly developed the capacity to test more than 2,000 people a day for the coronavirus. In Washington State, one of the hardest hit places in the United States, public labs are aiming to process 400 samples a day.

Testing is free in Singapore, as is medical treatment for all locals. Singapore has 140 contact tracers outlining each patient's case history, along with the police and security services doing the **shoe-leather** work.

After weeks of investigation and the use of a new antibody test that can detect people who have recovered, health officials were able to tie two church clusters of 33 people to a Lunar New Year dinner attended by members of both **congregations**. The people who transmitted the disease between the two churches had never shown serious symptoms.

Close contacts of patients are put into mandatory quarantine to stop further contagion. Nearly 5,000 have been isolated. Those who dodge quarantine orders can face criminal charges.

All pneumonia patients in Singapore are tested for coronavirus. So are people who are seriously ill. Positive cases have been identified at the airport, at government clinics and, most frequently, through contact tracing.

词汇

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prime /praɪm/ v. 把（事物）准备好
○ to make sth. ready for use or action
○ e.g. He had a shower and primed himself for action. 他冲了个淋浴准备行动。

sneeze /sni:z/ v. 打喷嚏
○ if you sneeze, air suddenly comes from your nose, making a noise, for exemple when you have a cold
○ e.g. I've been sneezing all morning. 我一上午直打喷嚏。

function /ˈfʌŋkʃn/ n. 应变量；随他物变化而变化的事物
○ a quantity or quality whose value changes according to another quantity or quality that is related to it
○ e.g. Investment is a function of the interest rate. 投资随着利率的变化而变。

sprint /sprɪnt/ v. 冲刺
○ to run or swim a short distance very fast
○ e.g. He sprinted for the line. 他向终点线冲去。

stem /stem/ v. 遏止
○ to stop sth that is flowing from spreading or increasing
○ e.g. They discussed ways of stemming the flow of smuggled drugs. 他们讨论了遏制走私毒品流通的办法。

albeit /ˌɔːlˈbiːɪt/ conj. 尽管
○ (formal) although
○ used to add information that reduces the forces or importance of what you have just said
○ e.g. He finally agreed, albeit reluctantly, to help us. 尽管勉强，他最后还是同意帮助我们。

staggered /ˈstægəd/ adj. 错开的
○ arranged in such a way that not everything happens at the same time
○ e.g. The company encourages staggered working hours. 公司鼓励错时工作。

fraction /ˈfrækʃn/ n. 小部分
○ a small part or amount of sth
○ e.g. Only a small fraction of a bank's total deposits will be withdrawn at any one time. 任何时候，一家银行的总存款只有少量会被提取。

shoe-leather /ʃuː ˈleðə(r)/ adj. 四处走动的；实地走访
○ specifically shoe-leather journalism: journalism involving walking from place to place observing things and speaking to people, rather than sitting indoors at desk
○ e.g. It's basic shoe-leather reporting, hunting down sources and documents and confirming authenticity. 这是最基本的报道方式，搜寻资料和文献，并确认真实性。

congregation /ˌkɒŋgrɪˈgeɪʃn/ n.（教堂的）会众
○ a group of people gathered together in a church
○ e.g. The congregation stood to sing the hymn. 会众站起来唱圣歌。

1. 根据英文释义写出文中出现的对应单词

_____: to make sth. ready for use or action

_____: arranged in such a way that not everything happens at the same time

2. 一词多义

Which of the following is closest in meaning to the underlined part in "As the leader of Singapore's contact tracing program, she has been working 16-hour days for two months, and her depiction of a war against disease is a <u>function</u> of its vulnerability to contagion." ? _____

A. The hall provided a venue for weddings and other <u>functions</u>.
B. The <u>function</u> of the heart is to pump blood through the body.
C. Conservation programs cannot <u>function</u> without local support.
D. Salary is a <u>function</u> of age and experience.

3. 翻译：根据给定中文回译英文

疫情爆发初期，新加坡极易受大批中国大陆民众在农历新年假期抵达的影响。

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3. In the early days of the outbreak, Singapore was highly susceptible to a large population of mainland Chinese people arriving during the Lunar New Year holiday.

2. D

1. prime; staggered

编辑丨 Stephanie