



**INTERNATIONAL SCOUT AND GUIDE FELLOWSHIP
ASIA PACIFIC REGION COMMITTEE**

Founders' Day | World Thinking Day 2022

MESSAGE FROM ASIA PACIFIC REGION SGF

Greetings to all NSGF's and to all the Scout/Guide members in Asia Pacific region and in the world as we mark Founders Day/Thinking Day.

Every year on 22nd February, Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world mark Founders Day/Thinking day; united firmly with shared philosophies, ideologies and ethics irrespective of race, colour or creed in the spirit of creating a world where we all live and prosper in harmony and in peace. The past couple of years has brought us numerous and unprecedented challenges due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. But it was heart-warming to see Guides and Scouts within their capacity and limited means, despite restrictions of mobility and face to face meetings, striving to help contributing to the betterment of their communities and to the world, using various technological and media platforms spreading messages of hope and inspiration.

Let us all recall Lord Baden-Powell's last message to Scouters and Guiders that was released after his death in 194, stating the purpose of Scouting and Guiding. He wrote, *"Its aim is to produce healthy, happy, helpful citizens, of both sexes, to eradicate the prevailing narrow self-interest; personal, political, sectarian and national, and to substitute for it a broader spirit of self-sacrifice and service in the cause of humanity; and thus to develop mutual goodwill and cooperation not only within our own country but abroad, between all countries."* This message remains as relevant today as it was when it was written.

Therefore, as we mark Founders Day and Thinking Day in 2022, let us reaffirm to work together as Guides and Scouts, to create a generation of selfless, resilient, and determined youth who look at the needs of the wider community rather than their own, and empower them to actively contribute towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) as a solution to the global challenges such as climate change, hunger, poverty, war and conflict etc. that are ravaging our nations and the whole world. May the Scouting and Guiding movement grow from strength to strength in Asia Pacific Region and in the world.

Thanking all the NSGF's in all ASIA PACIFIC REGION the very best to work within Scouting and Guiding Spirit towards a sustainable world.

**Dr Mariyam Shakeela
(Chair Asia Pacific Region SGF)**