

200 'BEST UNDER A BILLION': JAPAN JUMPS

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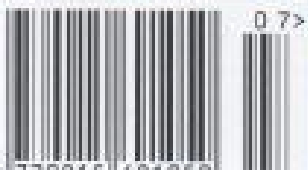
# Forbes Asia

PLUS  
SINGAPORE'S  
**50**  
RICHEST



## 5-STAR STIR

**SONIA CHENG IMPORTS  
ROSEWOOD HOTEL  
BRAND UNDER WING OF  
HER HONG KONG CLAN**



AUSTRALIA	A\$12.00	INDIA	RS 375	KOREA	₩9,500	PAKISTAN	RS 600	TAIWAN	NT\$275
CHINA	RMB 65.00	INDONESIA	RP 77,000	MALAYSIA	RM 24.00	PHILIPPINES	₱ 260	THAILAND	฿ 260
HONGKONG	HK\$80	JAPAN	¥1258 + TAX	NEW ZEALAND	NZ\$10.00	SINGAPORE	S\$ 12.50	UNITED STATES	US\$10.00



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## "I WAS SHOCKED, EVERYBODY WAS SHOCKED."

— Sushi King founder  
**FUMIHIKO KONISHI**  
on Malaysia's large appetite  
for sushi

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Crackdown on North Korea unavoidable now.

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Loo Choon Yong is taking his Raffles hospital brand to China.

BY JANE A. PETERSON

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Choo Chong Ngen woos a different customer to his new inn brands.

BY JESSICA TAN

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Fortunes rise amid a bitter battle in Singapore's first family.

BY NAAZNEEN KARMALI

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Zhang Chunlin gave up a prized state job to hustle for China's burgeoning water industry.

BY JANE HO

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Asset-heavy Indian schooling firms sink after good early marks.

BY ANURADHA RAGHUNATHAN

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Why China's largest ophthalmological chain is focusing on the U.S.

BY ELLEN SHENG

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Sales of our top 200 publicly traded Asia-Pacific companies grew an average 55% last year.

BY CHRISTINA SETTIMI

COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY

VIRGILE SIMON BERTRAND FOR FORBES

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**"PEOPLE THINK HOTEL 81 MEANS GEYLANG. DIFFERENT NAMES CAN CATCH DIFFERENT FISH."**

—CHOO CHONG NGEN, Hotel 81 founder, with daughter Carolyn, CFO

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**"THERE ARE PLENTY OF DOCTORS, IF YOU KNOW HOW TO LOOK FOR THEM."**

—LOO CHOON YONG, cofounder of Raffles Medical Group



## COMPANIES, PEOPLE

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Chinese fintech firms use their big data to extend credit to the smartphone masses.

BY REBECCA FENG

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China is quickly embracing facial-recognition technology, for better and worse.

BY YUE WANG

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Sonia Cheng grew up in New World hotels. Now she's opening new ones for the family empire as her Rosewood Hotel Group keeps expanding.

BY RON GLUCKMAN

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Entrepreneur Fumihiko Konishi is serving up halal sushi for the masses.

BY CHEN MAY YEE

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BY JINSHAN HONG

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BY NATHAN VARDI

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BY WADE SHEPARD

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BY KATHLEEN CHAYKOWSKI

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BY ERIK MATUSZEWSKI

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