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April 2021
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ASIA’S TRANSFORMATION
From Economic Globalization to Regionalization

by
Joergen Oerstroem Moeller

About the AUTHOR

Joergen Oerstroem Moeller is Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore, Adjunct Professor, Singapore Management University and Copenhagen Business School, and Senior Fellow, MFA Diplomatic Academy, Singapore.

About the BOOK

Moeller’s book The Veil of Circumstance, published in 2016, discussed the impact of technology, dehumanization and values on politics and economics. In this book he takes the analysis one step further.

The cocktail of capitalism, globalization and technology has turned toxic causing disruptions and cracks in the global economy and societal structures. Economic globalization is being replaced by a mixture of globalization, regionalization and economic nationalism. Neither the United States nor China will in the mid-2030s possess the strength to be a global leader. Power will mainly rotate around a regional axis instead of globally. The existing political systems and institutions governing the global system see their primogeniture challenged. Social networks open the door to communication for literally everybody. While it links the world to a degree never seen before, it actually divides people mainly according to cultural norms and values. The large data companies possess enormous power, threatening both national governments and the global political and economic infrastructure.

2020 195 pp. BM586
Soft cover 978-981-4881-22-7 S$27.71 (GST inclusive)* / S$25.90 / US$19.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
THE COMPREHENSIVE AND PROGRESSIVE AGREEMENT FOR TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Implications for Southeast Asia

edited by

Cassey Lee and Pritish Bhattacharya

About the EDITORS

Cassey Lee is Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Regional Economic Studies programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

Pritish Bhattacharya is Research Officer at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

About the BOOK

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) is a free trade agreement involving major countries across the Asia Pacific region. The trade pact, which entered into force on 30 December 2018, is considered by many to be the “gold standard”, given its ambitious scope and depth.

This volume offers multi-dimensional insights into the CPTPP and its impact on Southeast Asia. It begins with broad analyses covering the historical, economic and geopolitical aspects of the CPTPP. Subsequent chapters focus on the nature and implications of three key path-breaking provisions in the trade agreement, namely investor-state dispute settlement, intellectual property rights and state-owned enterprises. The effect of the CPTPP on Southeast Asia in terms of regional production networks is also examined from the perspective of Japanese multinational enterprises. The potential economic impact of the agreement is analysed for member countries (Vietnam and Malaysia) as well as countries that aspire to join the CPTPP in the future (Indonesia and Thailand).

2021 318 pp. PIC274

Soft cover 978-981-4818-87-2  S$42.69 (GST inclusive)* / S$39.90 / US$29.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
About the EDITORS
Francis E. Hutchinson is Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Regional Economics Studies Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

Siwage Dharma Negara is Senior Fellow, Co-Coordinator of the Indonesia Studies Programme, and Coordinator for the Singapore APEC Study Centre at the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute.

About the BOOK
To Singapore’s immediate south, Indonesia’s Riau Islands has a population of 2 million and a land area of 8,200 sq km scattered across some 2,000 islands. The better-known islands include: Batam, the province’s economic motor; Bintan, the area’s cultural heartland and site of the provincial capital, Tanjungpinang; and Karimun, a ship-building hub strategically located near the Straits of Malacca.

Leveraging on its proximity to Singapore, the Riau Islands—and particularly Batam—have been a key part of Indonesia’s strategy to develop its manufacturing sector since the 1990s. In addition to generating a large number of formal sector jobs and earning foreign exchange, this reorientation opened the way for a number of far-reaching political and social developments. Key among them has been: large-scale migration from other parts of the country; the secession of the Riau Islands from the larger Riau Province; and the creation of a new provincial government.

Building on earlier work by the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute on the SIJORI Cross-Border Region, spanning Singapore, the Malaysian state of Johor, and the Riau Islands, and a second volume looking specifically at Johor, the third volume in this series explores the key challenges facing this fledgling Indonesian province.

Adopting a multidisciplinary framework, this book explores three issues: what have been the social, political, and environmental effects of the rapid economic change set in motion in the Riau Islands; to what extent can or should the province seek to reconfigure its manufacturing-based economy; and how have the decentralization reforms implemented across Indonesia affected the Riau Islands.

2021 Soft cover 978-981-4951-05-0

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Forthcoming Title
INEQUALITY AND EXCLUSION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA
Old Fractures, New Frontiers
edited by
Lee Hwok Aun and Christopher Choong

Est. pub. date: Late 2021

About the EDITORS
Lee Hwok Aun is Senior Fellow and Co-ordinator of the Malaysia Studies Programme at ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
Christopher Choong is the Deputy Director of Research at Khazanah Research Institute (KRI) and an Atlantic Fellow for Social and Economic Equity at the International Inequalities Institute, London School of Economics.

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2021
Soft cover 978-981-4951-20-3 (price to be confirmed)
POLITICS
HERITAGE AS AID AND DIPLOMACY IN ASIA

edited by
Philippe Peycam, Shu-Li Wang, Hui Yew-Foong and Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao

About the EDITORS
Philippe Peycam is Director, International Institute for Asian Studies.
Shu-Li Wang is Assistant Research Fellow, Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica.
Yew-Foong Hui is Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Hong Kong Shue Yan University; and Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute.
Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao is Adjunct Research Fellow, Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, and Chair Professor of Hakka Studies, National Central University, Taiwan.

About the BOOK
Drawing from eleven rich case studies in Asia, this book is the first to explore how heritage is used as aid and diplomacy by various agencies to produce knowledge, power, values and geopolitics in the global heritage regime. The book also represents an interdisciplinary endeavour to feature a diversity of situations where cultural heritage is invoked or promoted to serve interests or visions that supposedly transcend local or national paradigms. This collection of articles thus not only considers processes of “UNESCO-ization” of heritage (or their equivalents when conducted by other international or national actors) by exploring the diplomatic and developmentalist politics of heritage-making at play and its transformational impact on societies. It also describes how local and outside states often collude with international mechanisms to further their interests at the expense of local communities and of citizens’ rights.

(Co-published with the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) and the Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica.)

2020
336 pp.
PIC275
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AS EMPIRES FELL
The Life and Times of Lee Hau-Shik, the First Finance Minister of Malaya

by
Ooi Kee Beng

About the AUTHOR
Ooi Kee Beng is Executive Director of Penang Institute, before which he was Deputy Director of ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore (2011–17).

About the BOOK
To understand how independence was gained for a politically complex country such as Malaysia, and how its structure took form requires familiarity with the key players involved. More importantly, only by locating these actors within the changing socio-political context in which they specifically lived does their influence both before and after the birth of the country become clear.

Having written potent biographies about Malaysian and Singapore leaders such as Ismail Abdul Rahman, the Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia who died in 1973, Goh Keng Swee, the economic architect and one of the founding fathers of the Republic of Singapore, and Lim Kit Siang, the unwavering opposition leader of Malaysia, Ooi Kee Beng now tells the story of Lee Hau-Shik, based on the latter’s extensive private papers housed at ISEAS Library, Singapore.

Born in Hong Kong to a highly prominent family at a time when the Qing Dynasty was falling, Hau-Shik received degrees in Law and Economics in Cambridge and became a successful tin miner in British Malaya and an influential member of Kuala Lumpur’s colonial society. After the Second World War, his influence in elite circles in China, Britain and Malaya allowed him to play a key role in the gaining of independence for Malaysia. He was one of the founders of the Malayan Chinese Association, and served as the country’s first Minister of Finance.

2020
Soft cover 978-981-4881-44-9

236 pp.

2020 236 pp. LH28

S$31.99 (GST inclusive)* / S$29.90 / US$21.90

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SINGAPORE LECTURES
1980–2018
A Selection
edited by
Malcolm Cook and Daljit Singh

About the EDITORS
Malcolm Cook is Visiting Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
Daljit Singh is Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

About the BOOK
Over the last 40 years, the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute has been honoured to partner with the Singapore government in hosting 44 Singapore Lectures. The Singapore Lecture series is a unique public platform for world leaders and experts visiting Singapore that reflects the city-state’s role as a global hub of ideas and diplomacy. The 21 lectures chosen for this 40th anniversary volume chart the fundamental changes in the global economy and the inter-state system that Southeast Asia and Singapore have successfully navigated over these four momentous decades.

“...The Singapore Lectures reflect the city-state’s progress for the past 40 years. This selection skilfully captures the highlights from the way Singapore began to learn to read the world to how it became an open and inclusive site of globalization.

The collection might do more. The leaders from the five continents who spoke at ISEAS had come to share their experiences, their wisdom and, not least, their dreams. Following what they offered gives us a multifaceted picture that is instructive. It gives readers the chance to review an era of intense rivalry during which political conflicts were accompanied by unprecedented economic growth, when lessons were learnt from tragic failures and leaping successes.

Read together, the lectures give us hope in a time of unprecedented global turmoil: there will surely be future leaders who could find ways to rid the world of its demons.”

Wang Gungwu, Professor, National University of Singapore (NUS) and former Chairman of the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute Board of Trustees

2020 316 pp. PIC279
Hard cover 978-981-4881-91-3  S$59.81 (GST inclusive)* / S$55.90 / US$45.90

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ININFILTRATING SOCIETY
The Thai Military’s Internal Security Affairs
by
Puangthong Pawakapan

About the AUTHOR
Puangthong Pawakapan is Associate Professor in the Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University.

About the BOOK
“Thai politics is driven by actors and actions of paradox such as anti-election movements for accountability or independent, partisan organizations. This lucidly written book uncovers the ‘military-led civil affairs’ that earn the armed forces the omnipotent role in Thai society. It enriches our understanding of the Thai military in both empirical and theoretical ways. Empirically, the book illuminates how the soldiers have been intensively involved in supposedly civic activities ranging from forest land management to poverty reduction. Such long-lasting and extensive involvement means the military could mobilize the organized mass of over 500,000 strong when necessary. Theoretically, readers will learn how an ideological discourse (“threats to national security”) has been continuously redefined to serve the military’s evolving political and rent-seeking missions from the Cold War era to the twenty-first century. It also traces the persistence and mutation of this highly adaptable organization, the one that knows when to roar and when to camouflage. Still waters run deep; Thai military operations run deeper and wider.”

— Veerayooth Kanchoochat, Associate Professor of Political Economy, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS), Tokyo

“A truly monumental work about Thailand’s military from the 1960s until today, this solid study focuses upon the armed forces’ internal security role across Thai society, how the military has succeeded in legitimizing itself and boosting its power as a counterinsurgency force, guardian of monarchy and engine of development. The book also valuably looks at the military’s establishment of mass organizations beginning during the Cold War and mobilization of royalists since 2006. The book thus illustrates how the military has been able to enhance and sustain its overwhelming influence and is thus a valuable study for anyone wanting to understand key power-brokers in Thailand.”

— Dr Paul Chambers, Center of ASEAN Community Studies, Naresuan University, Thailand.

2020 182 pp. BM596

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PRAETORIANS, PROFITEERS OR PROFESSIONALS?
Studies on the Militaries of Myanmar and Thailand

edited by
Michael J. Montesano, Terence Chong and Prajak Kongkirati

About the EDITORS
Michael J. Montesano is the Coordinator of the Thailand Studies Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

Terence Chong is Deputy Director and Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

Prajak Kongkirati is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, Bangkok.

About the BOOK
Praetorians, Profiteers or Professionals? contributes to the ongoing renaissance in scholarship on Southeast Asia’s armed forces and their political, social and economic roles. This renaissance comes in an era in which the states of the region, and the societies and economies that they govern, have grown complex beyond all recognition. Nevertheless, understanding those states’ armies remains crucial.

Emphasizing the ideologies and economic activities of the militaries of two large Mainland Southeast Asian neighbours, this volume transcends clichés about coups, coercion, caudillos and kings. Its findings will challenge the thinking of even long-time observers of the region, not least through its comparative perspective and the fresh understanding of the roles and orientations of the armed forces of Myanmar and Thailand that that perspective suggests.

2020
177 pp. BM597
Soft cover 978-981-4881-75-3
S$27.71 (GST inclusive)* / S$25.90 / US$19.90
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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nguyen Vu Tung is a professor at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam. He gained a PhD degree in Political Science from Columbia University (New York, USA) and serves as Vietnamese diplomat in the United States of America and the Republic of Korea.

ABOUT THE BOOK

This book discusses Vietnam’s relations with ASEAN in the period from the early 1970s to mid-1990s. It focuses on the evolution of Hanoi’s view on ASEAN, from denial to integration in the organization. Further, it reveals the reasons behind Hanoi’s decision to join ASEAN in 1995 in the context of the transformation of the overall Vietnam’s foreign policy when the Cold War ended. Relaxation of the Cold War conditions allowed Hanoi to improve understanding of ASEAN that resulted in better Vietnam-ASEAN relations and subsequent Vietnam’s membership in ASEAN.

The author has had access to documents and interviewees that few other researchers can rival. And the richness of the empirical evidence of this book makes a significant contribution to the studies of Vietnam foreign relations in specific and Southeast Asian international relations in general.

“This is a uniquely well-informed account of Vietnam’s serious internal debates leading to the decision to join ASEAN in 1995. The story starts with a probing analysis of Hanoi’s regional diplomacy and relations with the Soviet Union, China, and the United States from the 1970s onward. Entering the 1990s, the narrative shows how Vietnamese policymakers struggled to reconcile ideological and pragmatic considerations as they navigated complex great-power and regional environments. Professor Tung dispels conventional balance-of-power explanations for Hanoi’s embrace of ASEAN, and argues persuasively that the decision to join grew out of a shift from a revolutionary national identity to an identity centered on developmental state model of the Southeast Asian type. This honest and close-up view of policy debates offers a rare opportunity for readers to understand the logic of policymaking in one of the world’s most complex diplomatic environments.”

— Andrew J. Nathan, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Columbia University

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S$38.41 (GST inclusive)* / S$35.90 / US$29.90

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Forthcoming Title
YOUNG SOEHARTO
The Making of a Soldier, 1921–1945
by
David Jenkins
Est. pub. date: Mid-2021

About the AUTHOR
David Jenkins, who graduated in Law (1965) and Arts (1967) from Melbourne University, was a foreign correspondent in Southeast Asia for many years. He was a co-winner of a Walkley Award, Australia’s most prestigious journalism prize, for his contribution to the Herald’s coverage from East Timor during the violent 1999 referendum on independence.

About the BOOK
When a reluctant President Sukarno gave Lt Gen Soeharto full executive authority in March 1966, Indonesia was a broken-back state, fractured along class, religious and ethnic lines. Soeharto took a nation in chaos, the largest in Southeast Asia, and transformed it into one of the “Asian miracle” economies—only to leave it back on the brink of ruin when he was forced from office thirty-two years later.

Drawing on his astonishing range of interviews with leading Indonesian generals, former Imperial Japanese Army officers and men who served in the Dutch colonial army, as well as years of patient research in Dutch, Japanese, British, Indonesian and US archives, David Jenkins brings vividly to life the story of how a socially reticent but exceptionally determined young man from rural Java began his rise to power—an ascent which would be capped by thirty years (1968–98) as President of Indonesia, the fourth most populous nation on earth.

Soeharto was one of Asia’s most brutal, most durable, most avaricious and most successful dictators. In the course of examining those aspects of his character, this book provides an accessible, highly readable introduction to the complex, but dramatic and utterly absorbing, social, political, religious, economic and military factors that have shaped, and which continue to shape, Indonesia.

2021 Soft cover 978-981-4881-00-5
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BM588
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Forthcoming Title

ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENTS AND POLITICS OF THE ASIAN ANTHROPOCENE

edited by
Paul Jobin, Ming-sho Ho and Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao

Est. pub. date: Mid-2021

About the EDITORS
Paul Jobin is Associate Research Fellow and convener of the Asian Social Transformation Thematic Research Team, at the Institute of Sociology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan.
Ming-sho Ho is Professor of Sociology at National Taiwan University and currently a visiting scholar at Harvard University’s Yenching Institute.
Hsin-Huang Michael Hsiao is Chairman of the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation, Chairman of the executive committee of the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, National Cheng-Chi University, and Chair Professor of Hakka Studies, National Central University.

About the BOOK
“This collection provides a powerful and sophisticated analysis of how environmental movements influence politics in Asia, and how politics influences movements.”
John S. Dryzek, Centenary Professor, University of Canberra

“This important book reflects the challenges and questions currently foremost in scholars: activists’ and policy-makers’ minds - the Anthropocene, environmental justice, China’s Belt and Road Initiative, and post-politics - all addressed through the lens of environmental movements in Asia.”
Jonathan Rigg, Professor at the School of Geographical Sciences, University of Bristol

“How have authoritarianism, democratization and political change affected environmentalism in East and Southeast Asia? How have environmental mobilization and demands for environmental justice at the grassroots influenced politics there? These are among the vital questions answered by this insightful and well-crafted volume.”
Paul G. Harris, Chair Professor of Global and Environmental Studies, Education University of Hong Kong

2021
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Forthcoming Title

THE FORESTS FOR THE PALMS
Essays on Politics of Haze and the Environment in Southeast Asia
by Helena Varkkey

Est. pub. date: Mid-2021

About the AUTHOR
Helena Varkkey is Senior Lecturer in the Department of International and Strategic Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya.

About the BOOK
Transboundary haze has been a recurring problem in the Southeast Asian region since at least 1982. Why does this toxic form of air pollution still persist? Helena Varkkey, a Malaysian political scientist, has been studying this multifaceted problem for more than fifteen years. This book provides an ideal collection for those who want a clear but concise introduction to this complex issue. Its commentaries explore how often sensitive matters of ASEAN diplomacy, national interest or political patronage continue to stand in the way of clear skies in the region.

"The Forests for the Palms is a valuable collection that informs, provokes and urges us to pay attention to the processes behind the production of a commodity that has become both hard to avoid and deeply controversial. Dr Helena Varkkey is a leading expert on Southeast Asia’s palm oil industry. She conveys a wealth of scholarly expertise and research-informed analysis in an accessible format."

—Natasha Hamilton-Hart, Professor and Director of the New Zealand Asia Institute

The University of Auckland Business School

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BM599
(price to be confirmed)
Forthcoming Title

CAPITALISM MAGIC THAILAND
Global Modernity and the Making of Enchantment

by

Peter A. Jackson

Est. pub. date: Mid-2021

About the AUTHOR

Peter A. Jackson is Emeritus Professor in the School of Culture, History & Language, College of Asia and the Pacific, The Australian National University.

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2021
Soft cover 978-981-4951-09-8

(price to be confirmed)
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Forthcoming Title

ASEAN CENTRALITY
An Autoethnographic Account by a Philippine Diplomat

by

Elizabeth Buensuceso

Est. pub. date: Late 2021

About the AUTHOR

Elizabeth Buensuceso is the Officer-in-Charge, Undersecretary for Policy, Department of Foreign Affairs, Republic of the Philippines. She is also the Philippines’ ASEAN SOM (Senior Officials Meeting) Leader and the Philippine Representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR).

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2021 ASC16
Soft cover 978-981-4951-64-7 (price to be confirmed)
SOCIAL ISSUES
ISLAM AND RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION IN MALAYSIA

by
Azizuddin Mohd Sani

About the AUTHOR
Azizuddin Mohd Sani is Professor of Politics and International Relations from School of International Studies (SoIS), Universiti Utara Malaysia.

About the BOOK
This book attempts to analyse the concept of religious expression vis-à-vis freedom of speech in Malaysia from the philosophical, political and theoretical perspectives. It begins by discussing the major sources of religious expression that are firmly rooted in the societal and religious beliefs, constitution and legislation of the country. It also examines multiple facets of the Islamization policy in the country and to what extent such policy affects the exercise of domestic religious expression. The problems and challenges of domestic religious expression, theoretically and practically, will also be examined including the issues of radicalization and terrorism. After a change of power from the Barisan Nasional (BN) to Pakatan Harapan (PH) in 2018, this book attempts to explain PH’s approach in dealing with the issue of Islam and religious expression in Malaysia. Lastly, this book intends to identify and observe how Malaysian society and the state react to the issue of religious expression.

“Prof. Azizuddin makes an eloquent case for robust freedom of expression that is consistent with Malaysian conditions. This is a most welcome and important book that could and should have a major impact. It is a timely and thoughtful examination of the complex and serious issue of Islam vis-à-vis religious expression in Malaysia. It also illustrates the transition from the restrictive-stability approach of the past Barisan Nasional administration to an open-freedom approach of the current Pakatan Harapan administration.”

Dato’ Saifuddin Abdullah
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia

2020  225 pp.  BM593
Soft cover 978-981-4881-35-7  S$35.20 (GST inclusive)* / S$32.90/ US$29.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
THE NEW SANTRI
Challenges to Traditional
Religious Authority
in Indonesia

edited by
Norshahril Saat and
Ahmad Najib Burhani

About the EDITORS
Norshahril Saat is Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
Ahmad Najib Burhani is Senior Researcher at the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Jakarta.

About the BOOK
The decentralization of Islamic religious authority in Indonesia is known to many. Historically, the ulama—Islamic religious Threads of the Unfolding Web: The Old Javanese Tantu Panggelaran scholars—has not only acted as gatekeepers of faith, symbols of morality, and custodians of the Prophet Muhammad, but have also fought alongside national heroes against Dutch colonialism and checked wrongdoings of post-independence Indonesia. Yet, they have never been united to represent a single class. In the early 20th century, the ulama have organized themselves into grassroots-based movements such Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) and Muhammadiyah. Other groups that have made significant contributions to the dissemination of Islam to the masses are the Sufi tariqah leaders and the Sayyids (Hadramis of Yemeni descent).

Lately, new actors have asserted their Islamic identity to gain popular following. The New Santri explains the emergence of new forms of religious authority and contestations within the group. It also examines the role of transnational movements in shaping the religious discourse in Indonesia. Some of the questions it seeks to address are: How was Islamic authority defined in the past and is it reconstructed recently? Which are the dominant groups today? Social media platforms Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have become integrated into the religious discourse today, but are we missing other mediums? Readers will be able to understand contemporary issues, players, and dynamics affecting Islam in Indonesia.

2020
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S$38.41 (GST inclusive)* / S$35.90/ US$29.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
FROM GRASSROOTS ACTIVISM TO DISINFORMATION
Social Media in Southeast Asia

edited by
Aim Sinpeng and Ross Tapsell

About the EDITORS
Aim Sinpeng is Lecturer, Government and International Relations, University of Sydney, Australia.
Ross Tapsell is Senior Lecturer, College of Asia and the Pacific, The Australian National University.

About the BOOK
This book reflects on the role of social media in the past two decades in Southeast Asia. It traces the emergence of social media discourse in Southeast Asia, and its potential as a “liberation technology” in both democratizing and authoritarian states. It explains the growing decline in internet freedom and increasingly repressive and manipulative use of social media tools by governments, and argues that social media is now an essential platform for control. The contributors detail the increasing role of “disinformation” and “fake news” production in Southeast Asia, and how national governments are creating laws which attempt to address this trend, but which often exacerbate the situation of state control.

From Grassroots Activism to Disinformation explores three main questions: How did social media begin as a vibrant space for grassroots activism to becoming a tool for disinformation? Who were the main actors in this transition: governments, citizens or the platforms themselves? Can reformists “reclaim” the digital public sphere? And if so, how?

2020 225 pp. PIC280
Soft cover 978-981-4951-02-9  S$35.20 (GST inclusive)* / S$32.90/ US$29.90

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THREADS OF THE UNFOLDING WEB
The Old Javanese Tantu Panggelaran

translated by
Stuart Robson

with a commentary by Hadi Sidomulyo

About the TRANSLATOR

Stuart Robson is a leading specialist in the fields of Old Javanese Language and Literature. He has occupied the position of Senior Lecturer in Javanese at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands (1979-91), Associate Professor of Indonesian at Monash University, Melbourne, Australia (1991-2001), as well as Visiting Professor at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (2014-15).

About the BOOK

"Threads of the Unfolding Web is essential reading for scholars, students and the general reader interested in Javanese history of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. Little is known about the history of Java in this period, which witnessed the beginnings of major global economic, political, cultural and religious change. It was a time when Java saw the decline of the once powerful eastern Javanese kingdom of Majapahit, the rise of Muslim kingdoms on Java’s northern coast and the arrival of the first Europeans in the person of the Portuguese Tomé Pires in Java’s cosmopolitan ports.

Stuart Robson’s expert English translation of the Tantu Panggĕlaran gives his readers ready access to this important work, which provides insight into how the author and his contemporary Javanese readers imagined the realities of the world in which they lived. We learn how they conceived the creation of this world and understood the relationship between the gods and men. Important to us is also how they conceived a history of the foundation and spread of Bhairava Śivaite hermitages, shrines and temples. The work traces the history of this network from its origins in the vicinity of the Dieng plateau and the northern plains of Batang and Pekalongan to its subsequent expansion to the Tengger and Hyang Massifs of eastern Java. Hadi Sidomulyo’s impressive commentary, an amalgam of textual analysis and the survey of archaeological sites, is a model for the way in which further research of this sort might be conducted and underlines the urgent need for further archaeological surveys and the future excavation of archaeological sites."

Professor Emeritus Peter Worsley, Indonesian Studies, University of Sydney

2021
Soft cover 978-981-4881-99-9

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PATTERNED SPLENDOUR
Textiles Presented on Javanese Metal and Stone Sculptures; Eighth to Fifteenth Centuries

by
Lesley S. Pullen
(Drawings by Yiran Huang)

About the AUTHOR
Lesley S. Pullen is a Post-Doctoral Research Associate in the School of Arts, SOAS University of London.

About the BOOK
There exist numerous free-standing figurative sculptures produced in Java between the eighth and fifteenth centuries whose dress displays detailed textile patterns. This surviving body of sculpture, carved in stone and cast in metal, varying in both size and condition, remain in archaeological sites and museums in Indonesia and worldwide. The equatorial climate of Java has precluded any textiles from this period surviving. Therefore this book argues the textiles represented on these sculptures offer a unique insight into the patterned splendour of the textiles in circulation during this period. Hence this publication will contribute to our knowledge of the textiles in circulation at that time by including the first comprehensive record of this body of sculpture, together with their textile patterns classified into a typology of styles within each chapter.

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1819 & BEFORE
Singapore’s Pasts

edited by
Kwa Chong Guan

About the EDITOR
Kwa Chong Guan is Senior Fellow at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Associate Fellow at the Temasek History Research Centre, and Adjunct (Hon.) Associate Professor at the History Department, National University of Singapore. He chairs the Archaeology Advisory Panel established by the National Heritage Board in August 2019.

About the BOOK
The essays published here began as a series of lectures commemorating the bicentennial of Thomas Stamford Raffles’s establishment of a British Station in 1819. The essays draw on thirty-five years of archaeological investigations on and around Fort Canning, new readings of the Malay Annals, early Chinese records reporting Singapore, and the Portuguese and Dutch records to probe and challenge our understanding of Singapore’s history before Raffles. Altogether, these essays suggest that Singapore had a pre-1819 past that was deeply connected to the millennium-long maritime history of the Straits of Melaka and its links to the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean.

2021
Hard cover 978-981-4951-11-1

S$31.99(GST inclusive)* / S$29.90 US$25.90

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Forthcoming Title

REACHING FOR THE CRESCENT
Aspirations of Singapore Islamic Studies
Graduates and the Challenges

by
Norshahril Saat, Azhar Ibrahim and
Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman

Est. pub. date: Mid-2021

About the AUTHORS
Norshahril Saat is Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute.
Azhar Ibrahim is Lecturer at the Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS).
Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman is Associate Professor at the Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore (NUS).

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2021
Soft cover 978-981-4951-37-1

BM607
(price to be confirmed)
Forthcoming Title
THE CREATIVE SOUTH
Buddhist and Hindu Art in Mediaeval Maritime Asia, vol. 1
edited by
Andrea Acri and Peter Sharrock
Est. pub. date: Late 2021

About the EDITORS
Andrea Acri (PhD Leiden University, 2011) is Maître de conférences/Assistant Professor in Tantric Studies at the École Pratique des Hautes Études (EPHE, PSL University) in Paris.

Peter D. Sharrock researches the art history of the Angkorian Khmer Empire and the Esoteric Buddhist and Hindu art of Maritime Asia from AD800 to 1400. He lectures at London University’s School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), where he is a Project Board member of the School’s growing Southeast Asian Academic Art Programme (SAAAP).

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2021
Soft cover 978-981-4951-48-7 (price to be confirmed)
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Forthcoming Title
THE CREATIVE SOUTH
Buddhist and Hindu Art in Mediaeval Maritime Asia, vol. 2
edited by
Andrea Acri and Peter Sharrock
Est. pub. date: Early 2022

About the EDITORS
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2022 BM609 Soft cover 978-981-4951-51-7 (price to be confirmed)
Forthcoming Title

BAGAN
Ancient and Living Buddhist Traditions

by
Elizabeth H. Moore

Est. pub. date: Early 2022

About the AUTHOR
Elizabeth Moore is Professor in the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London and Visiting Researcher at the Nalanda-Sriwijaya Centre, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

About the BOOK
Wider Bagan is the area outside the renowned Buddhist capital, places with vestiges of the eleventh to thirteenth century CE cultural tradition of Bagan. Tangible factors or attributes of the Bagan era in these places are found in the major river valleys of Myanmar: inscriptions, walls, water management features, temples and images. Collectively, these attributes record the spread of Buddhist properties and features supporting their associated lay communities. Many connect to earlier remains, and some have sustained their Bagan-period heritage to the present. From nearly six hundred attributes inventoried in Wider Bagan, nine nodal places are identified, places of interchange with each other, with the capital and with neighbouring regions. In assessing the evidence, an interdisciplinary approach is applied to incorporate field survey and local knowledge as well as published literature on archaeology, art history, geography and anthropology. Thematic and geographical analysis of the Wider Bagan data shows a related but different trajectory from that of eleventh to thirteenth century heyday of the capital. Bagan was a “purpose-built” religious and political centre, but in villages and towns of Wider Bagan, the styles of art and architecture and patronage from the capital were one within many earlier and later phases and capitals. While much has been written about Bagan, little on-the-ground attention has been devoted to areas beyond the capital. They have stories to tell, ones of the past and of the present, that are narrated in this book.

2022
Soft cover 978-981-4951-19-7

BM606
(price to be confirmed)