ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Richard Borsuk, a graduate in Asian Studies from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, has worked as a journalist in Asia for more than forty years. He was the Asian Wall Street Journal’s Thailand correspondent from 1982 to 1986 and its Indonesia correspondent from 1987 to 1998. After Suharto’s fall in May that year, Richard moved to Singapore, where he held regional reporting and editing positions for the newspaper. In 2011, he joined Reuters as a news editor. A presentation he made at the Australian National University’s 1998 Indonesia Update conference in Canberra became a chapter titled “Reforming business in Indonesia” in the book Post-Soeharto Indonesia: Renewal or Chaos?, published in 1999 by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. He also wrote a chapter, “The Limits of Reform”, in Indonesia Beyond Suharto, published by M.E. Sharpe and The Asia Society the same year.

Nancy Chng is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley. She co-founded Select Books, a Singapore bookshop and publisher specializing in Southeast Asia. In 1991, Select published the English translation of Gadis Pantai (The Girl from the Coast) by famed Indonesian author Pramoedya Ananta Toer, whose books were banned by Suharto. Nancy contributed a chapter and edited a book called Questioning Development in Southeast Asia. In 1979, she joined the Straits Times (Singapore) as a feature writer and became the newspaper’s correspondent in Thailand from 1982 to 1986. She moved to Jakarta in 1987. Her interest in Indonesia had roots in the 1970s, when she was part of an informal study group on Southeast Asia whose members included some of Indonesia’s most respected intellectuals: the diplomat Soedjatmoko, journalists Goenawan Mohamad and Mochtar Lubis as well as cleric Abdurrahman Wahid, who later became the country’s president. Nancy, who had been a political analyst at a Jakarta securities firm, was a visiting research fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, from 2006 to 2007.