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Editorial Note

SOJOURN was inaugurated in February 1986 following the establishment of the Social Issues in Southeast Asia programme at ISEAS. Since its launch ten years ago, it has gradually succeeded in establishing itself as an important journal in the region concerned with pertinent social and cultural issues faced by the rapidly developing Southeast Asian countries. The present editorial team aspires to continue the development and consolidation of the journal.

In the last ten years, *SOJOURN* has moved to the status of a refereed journal. In order to ensure high standards, articles considered for publication are subjected to a rigorous review process by specialists in the relevant fields. Scholars from within and beyond the region have been invited to guest edit our special focus issues. To date, we have published six Special Focus issues on various topics, including gender studies, ethnicity, religious revival, and the role of the mass media. The Special Focus issues, as well as the articles and research notes published in *SOJOURN*, reflect the current concern and discourse on important development issues, and social and cultural trends in the region.

SOJOURN has also seen some departures from past practice. The new cover and format made its appearance with the publication of Volume 9, No. 1. It was also deemed timely after ten years to streamline and rationalize the advisory committee structure. The previous Committee Members have been incorporated into the Regional Advisory Committee. As a result of the amalgamation, we have had to forgo the services of a number of existing members and would like to thank these members for their past contributions. Six new members have been appointed to the new committee, which comes into effect with this issue; two to the Regional Advisory Committee — Professor Taufik Abdullah and Dr Chua Beng Huat; and four as International Corresponding Members — Professors Rodolphe De Koninck, James Fox,

Joel Kahn, and Victor King. These changes, however, do not signal a shift in the journal's editorial mandate. *SOJOURN* will continue to be an academic journal committed to the promotion of scholarship on Southeast Asia, responsive to the contemporary changing realities of the region, as well as theoretical currents in the social sciences.

We would like to use this opportunity to encourage more Southeast Asian scholars to contribute articles. *SOJOURN* should be seen as a vehicle for scholars from the region to offer their analysis on challenging and complex issues affecting their individual countries or the region as a whole. The editors hope that the dialogue between scholars in Southeast Asia and their colleagues from outside the region would be strengthened and deepened through *SOJOURN*.

Our programme at ISEAS has recently been renamed Regional Social and Cultural Studies. It continues to focus its research on key socio-cultural issues in the region, particularly urbanization, migration, ethnicity, and religion. Some of the projects currently undertaken by its core research staff include labour migration in ASEAN, the impact of religious revival, and Chinese business entrepreneurship in the region.

An index of articles, research notes, and book reviews published in the last ten years will accompany this tenth anniversary issue.

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