

# **RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

**April 2025**

## Rights Available

<b>ECONOMICS</b>	<i>Page</i>
<b>Learning from Covid-19 in Southeast Asia: Restriction, Relief, Recovery</b> <i>edited by Lee Hwok Aun, Siwage Dharma Negara and Jayant Menon</i>	<b>5</b>
<b>POLITICS</b>	
Social Media and Political Communities in Malaysia <i>edited by James Chin and Pauline Pooi Yin Leong</i>	7
Praetorian Kingdom: A History of Military Ascendancy in Thailand <i>by Paul Chambers</i>	8
Blue Pawn, Red Pawn and the Communist Party of Vietnam's Gambit for Legitimacy <i>by Nguyen Hoang Thanh Danh</i>	9
Towards the Indonesian Republic: Marxist Lineages in the National Revolution <i>by Geoffrey C. Gunn</i>	10
Putin's Russia and Southeast Asia: The Kremlin's Pivot to Asia and the Impact of the Russia-Ukraine War <i>by Ian Storey</i>	11
Wee Kim Wee: President, Diplomat, Journalist and a True Singaporean <i>by Cheong Suk-Wai</i>	12
The Benjamin Sheares Story: From Pioneering Gynaecologist to Singapore President <i>by K.C. Vijayan</i>	13
The Durian Flavour: India, ASEAN After a Decade of the Act East Policy <i>by Gurjit Singh</i>	14
Malaysia's 2022 General Election: Crafting Power in a Crowded Arena <i>edited by Lee Hwok-Aun and Francis E. Hutchinson</i>	15
Kirpa Ram Vij: The Volunteer Who Launched an Army <i>by Ramachandran Menon</i>	16
My Turbulent Life and 21 Years of Exile in the People's Republic of China <i>by Pridi Banomyong</i>	17
Myanmar: The Making of an Intelligence State <i>by Andrew Selth</i>	18
Plundering Security? The Economic Power of Thailand's Military <i>edited by Paul Chambers</i>	19

## Rights Available

### **SOCIAL ISSUES**

Putting Women Up: Gender Equality and Politics in Myanmar <i>edited by Netina Tan and Meredith L. Weiss</i>	21
Shariah, Society and Stratification: Muslim Lifestyles in Southeast Asia <i>edited by Norshahril Saat and Sharifah Afra Alatas</i>	22
The Power of Sustainable Development in Vietnam: Environmental Narratives, NGOs and the State's Environmental Rule <i>by Julia L. Behrens</i>	23
Energy and Decarbonization in Southeast Asia, volume 2 <i>edited by Mirza Sadaqat Huda, Sharon Seah and Qiu Jiahui</i>	24
China's Culture and Its Transformation in Southeast Asia <i>edited by Leo Suryadinata</i>	25
Melayu, People, Place: Ethnohistories from the Riau-Lingga Islands, Indonesia <i>edited by Vivienne Wee</i>	26

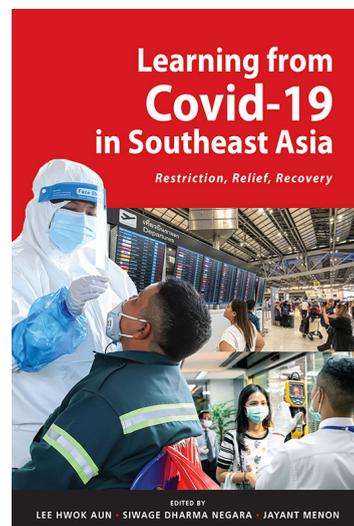
# ECONOMICS

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# LEARNING FROM COVID-19 IN SOUTHEAST ASIA Restriction, Relief, Recovery

*edited by*  
**Lee Hwok Aun, Siwage Dharma Negara  
and Jayant Menon**



### **About the EDITORS**

**Lee Hwok Aun** is Senior Fellow and Co-Coordinator of the Malaysia Studies Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute.

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

**Jayant Menon** is Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute.

### **About the BOOK**

“The Covid-19 pandemic was unprecedented in its impact and repercussions which are still being felt today. The Southeast Asian region is no exception with the loss of hundreds of thousands of lives, economic contraction, and increased poverty. The impact varied across the region. Some countries were more effective than others at implementing lockdowns and delivering public health interventions. Pandemic responses were also differentiated by the efficacy of communication, policy coordination, and leadership. Policy evaluations have highlighted the need to improve institutional capacity as well as global and regional cooperation to respond to future public health crises. This timely and crucial volume, authored by leading regional scholars, thoroughly explores these issues and more. It is indispensable reading for anyone interested in Southeast Asia and broader international development challenges.”

*Mari Pangestu, Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank (2020–23);  
Former Minister of Trade and Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy, Indonesia*

2025

579 pp.

PIC306

Soft cover 978-981-5203-80-6

S\$54.39 (GST inclusive)\* / S\$49.90 / US\$39.90

\* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore

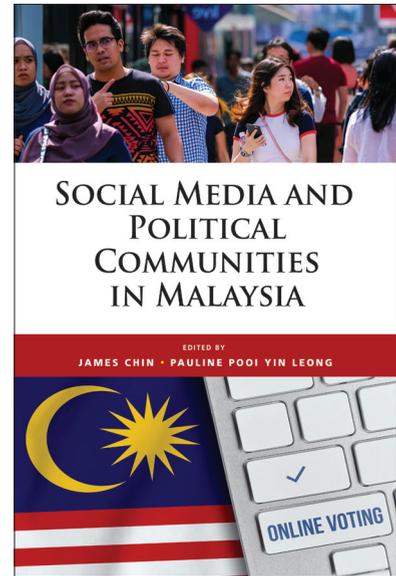
# POLITICS

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# SOCIAL MEDIA AND POLITICAL COMMUNITIES IN MALAYSIA

*edited by*  
**James Chin and**  
**Pauline Pooi Yin Leong**



### **About the EDITORS**

**James Chin** is Senior Fellow and the Director of Governance Studies, Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia, Sunway University, Malaysia.

**Pauline Pooi Yin Leong** is Associate Professor, Department of Communication, School of Arts, Sunway University, Malaysia.

### **About the BOOK**

"By examining the political discourse and social interactions that occur within six different political communities in Malaysia, this volume sheds light on how theories of political communication and social media play out on a granular level. Malaysia, with its interesting amalgam of democratic politics and intractable racial and religious divides, is ripe for a study of how online communication within different political and social groups actually works. With chapters on Malay, Islamic, Chinese, Indian, and Christian online communities, along with those of Sabah and Sarawak, this volume will be of interest to anyone seeking a deeper understanding of how political interaction and digital discourse function on the ground in this important country in Southeast Asia."

*Janet Steele, Professor of Media and Public Affairs and International Affairs  
George Washington University*

2024

248 pp.

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# PRAETORIAN KINGDOM A History of Military Ascendancy in Thailand

by  
**Paul Chambers**

### **About the AUTHOR**

**Paul Chambers** is Lecturer and Special Advisor on International Affairs at the Center of ASEAN Community Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Naresuan University, Thailand.

### **About the BOOK**

"This is one of the most comprehensive studies of contemporary Thai politics seen through the careers of Thai military leaders since 1932 up until now. It is of vital importance if one is to understand present-day Thai politics."

*Kullada Kesboonchoo-Mead, Chulalongkorn University (retired),  
author of The Rise and Decline of Thai Absolutism*

"Paul Chambers has written, arguably, the most comprehensive and detailed book on the evolution of Thailand's military power from the post-World War II era to the present day. This lucid book is a compelling read for anyone seeking to gain insight into the transformation of the country into a praetorian kingdom, where the monarchy and the military are the most powerful institutions. His delicate exploration of the various plots, methods, strategies, twists and betrayals provides readers with valuable perspectives on the inner workings and dynamics of Thailand's praetorian system. One of the book's strengths lies in its use of declassified and leaked documents from the US administrations, adding a sense of excitement and credibility to the analysis."

*Puangthong Pawakapan, Chulalongkorn University,  
author of Infiltrating Society: The Thai Military's Internal Security Affairs*

2024

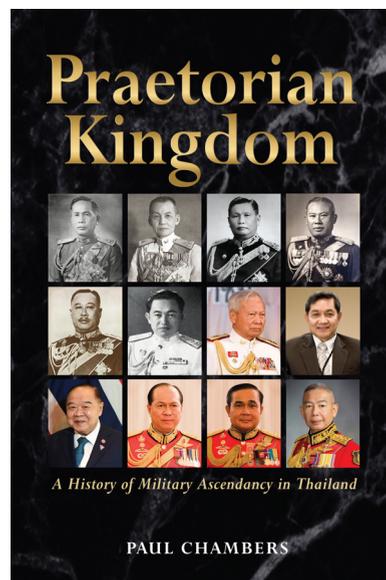
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# Blue Pawn, Red Pawn and the Communist Party of Vietnam's Gambit for Legitimacy

by  
*Nguyen Hoang Thanh Danh*

### *About the AUTHOR*

**Nguyen Hoang Thanh Danh** currently teaches Politics of Southeast Asia at Hosei University and Vietnamese at Showa Women's University, both located in Tokyo, Japan.

### *About the BOOK*

"This is a long-awaited book discussing systematically the political system in Vietnam: why has the present political regime continued for such a long period, and what are the resources of legitimacy concerning the communist rule. The book also covers the recent development in the political scene, including the anti-corruption campaign and the frequent changes in the top leadership."

*Shiraishi Masaya, Emeritus Professor, Waseda University;  
Former Chairman, Japan Society for Vietnamese Studies*

"As a business journalist at Forbes Vietnam, understanding shifts in socioeconomic trends and policymaking processes is crucial for my work. I am pleased to endorse this research book on Vietnam politics and the legitimacy-building of the one-party state's leadership. The book delves into the intricate dynamics of the Communist Party of Vietnam's legitimacy, which are instrumental in understanding the economic policies and reforms that have shaped Vietnam's growth, especially since the Doi Moi era. The exploration of current challenges, including Western influence, corruption, governance issues and territorial disputes, offers a comprehensive understanding of the pressures faced by the CPV. While the book may not be an easy read for the general public, it remains a valuable and rare contribution to the study of Vietnam politics, an area that, in my opinion, has not been covered well or frequently enough."

*Nguyen Trong Nam, Journalist, Forbes Vietnam*

2025

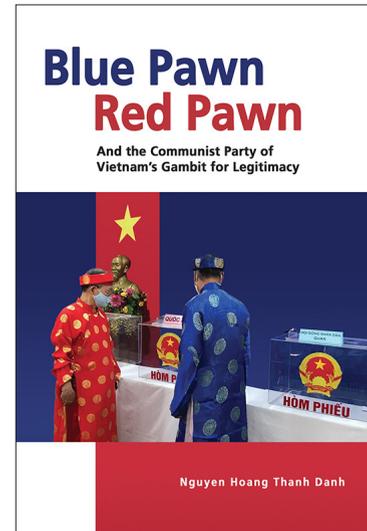
338 pp.

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Soft cover 978-981-5203-95-0

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# TOWARDS THE INDONESIAN REPUBLIC Marxist Lineages in the National Revolution

by  
**Geoffrey C. Gunn**

Est. pub. date: Mid-2025

#### ***About the AUTHOR***

**Geoffrey C. Gunn** is Emeritus Professor at the Nagasaki University, Japan, and Adjunct Professor at the Centre for Macau Studies, University of Macau, China.

#### ***Table of Contents***

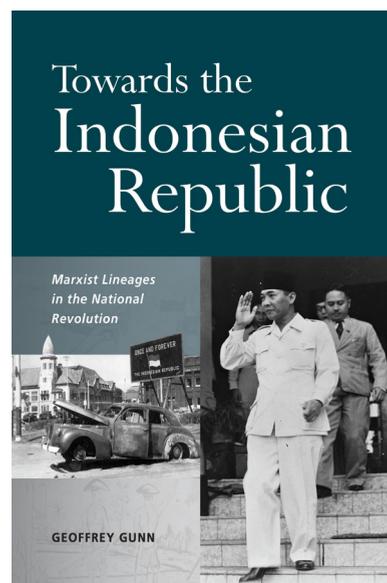
Drawing on little known archival sources, this work brings to the fore the salience of a schism in the Indonesian communist movement between pro-Moscow loyalists and “national-communists” reaching back to the 1920s, which survived even the Japanese occupation and surfaced in the throes of the National Revolution (1945–49). At the heart of the rift lay contrasting visions of revolutionary tactics, the salience of Islam in an Islamic majority society, the vexed question of alliance between leftists and other anti-colonial forces, and even the concept and definition of state and national ideology. As such, we cannot ignore the lineages of Marxism in the National Revolution, which trace their roots to the pioneer actions on Java by Dutch communists, themselves influenced by the Bolshevik Revolution. Contrary to the image of a non-revolutionary peasantry and a nationalist leadership broken or tamed by colonial carceral practices, the picture that emerges is one of acute agency on the part of an awoken population at a critical historical moment at the end of World War II.

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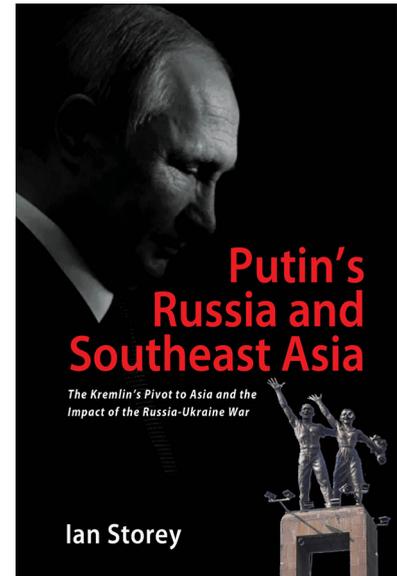
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### *Forthcoming Title*

# PUTIN'S RUSSIA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA The Kremlin's Pivot to Asia and the Impact of the Russia-Ukraine War

by  
*Ian Storey*

Est. pub. date: Mid-2025



#### **About the AUTHOR**

**Ian Storey** is Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

#### **Table of Contents**

1. Introduction
2. Russia's Post-Soviet Foreign Policy and the Kremlin's "Turn to the East"
3. Russia's Relations with East, South and Southeast Asia
4. Russia's Economic Engagement with Southeast Asia: A Minnow Among Whales
5. Russia and ASEAN: Unfulfilled Potential, Unmet Expectations
6. Russia's Defence Diplomacy in Southeast Asia: A Farewell to Arms?
7. Russia's Relations with Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
8. Russia's Relations with Thailand and Myanmar
9. Russia's Relations with Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei
10. Russia's Relations with Singapore, the Philippines and Timor-Leste
11. Conclusion: The Past, Present and Future of Russia-Southeast Asia Relations

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### *Forthcoming Title*

## WEE KIM WEE President, Diplomat, Journalist and a True Singaporean

by  
*Cheong Suk-Wai*

Est. pub. date: End-2025

#### ***About the AUTHOR***

**Cheong Suk-Wai** is a lawyer by training, and a writer by choice. A former ASEAN Scholar and Thomson Foundation Scholar, she has been a construction litigator, a journalist and a public servant.

#### ***About the BOOK***

Dr Wee Kim Wee was a pioneering Singaporean journalist and diplomat with a most improbable rise and rise in life. Among his many other accomplishments, he helped end a regional war; kept one of the world's oldest newspapers alive till today; and rescued the presidency of the Republic of Singapore from a spell in the gutter. Just as water softens stone, he overcame the grimmest odds with his winsome ways and unimpeachable character.

This meticulously researched book brims with fresh insights about the man most Singaporeans claimed as "my President". They include telling facets from the author's interviews with more than 30 people who knew Dr Wee best in every decade of his storied life. Dr Wee started out being too poor to complete secondary school to holding Singapore's highest office. His lightly worn shrewdness and genuine regard for all living things plucked him out of obscurity and thrust him into moments that shook Singapore, eventually making him a beloved household name.

Dr Wee was the embodiment of Singapore exceptionalism and this biography is the last word on a sort of man that Singapore will rarely, if ever, encounter again.

2025

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# THE BENJAMIN SHEARES STORY From Pioneering Gynaecologist to Singapore President

by  
*K.C. Vijayan*

Est. pub. date: End 2025

#### **About the AUTHOR**

**K.C. Vijayan** served as Senior Law Correspondent with the *Straits Times* where he garnered several awards over a twenty-year career.

#### **Table of Contents**

1. The Early Years
  2. The War Years
  3. The Best Years
  4. The Happy Hours
  5. Sheares' Better Half
  6. The Sheares Nomination
  7. The Finest Years
  8. The Final Days
- Postscript  
Bibliography

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(price to be confirmed)

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# THE DURIAN FLAVOUR India, ASEAN after a Decade of the Act East Policy

by  
*Gurjit Singh*

Est. pub. date: Mid-2025

#### **About the AUTHOR**

**Gurjit Singh** was India's ambassador to Indonesia and ASEAN from 2012 to 2015.

#### **Table of Contents**

1. Introduction
2. From Look East to Act East Policy
3. The Act East Policy
4. Engaging then PSC Pillar
5. The Crucial Pillar of Economic Cooperation
6. The Broadening Sociocultural Basis of India-ASEAN Partnership
7. Revitalizing Post-pandemic Functional Engagement
8. The Aroma of ASEAN Centrality
9. The Bridging of Uneven Linkages
10. Improving Understanding to Strengthen ASEAN-India Relations
11. Regional Integration and the AEP
12. What Unites and What Divides Us
13. Achieving Development Together
14. Exceeding Expectations

#### *Survey Results*

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# MALAYSIA'S 2022 GENERAL ELECTION Crafting Power in a Crowded Arena

*edited by*  
**Lee Hwok-Aun and Francis E. Hutchinson**

Est. pub. date: End 2025

#### **About the EDITORS**

**Lee Hwok Aun** is Senior Fellow and Co-coordinator of the Malaysia Studies Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

**Francis E. Hutchinson** is Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Malaysia Studies Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

#### **Table of Contents**

##### INTRODUCTION

1. GE2022 In Perspective: The Context of the Contest, *by Lee Hwok Aun and Francis E. Hutchinson*

##### PART I: CAMPAIGN DYNAMICS

2. Malaysia's Coalitions Before and After GE2022: Fragmentation and Unity, *by Kai Ostwald*
3. Do Manifestos Matter? Policy Convergence and Institutional Reforms in Malaysia, *by Ooi Kok Hin*
4. Politics, Pandemics and Economics: Malaysia's Post-Covid Election, *by Cassey Lee*
5. Scroll, Taps, And Votes: The Digital Battlefield of Malaysia's GE2022, *by Nuurrianti Jalli*
6. Learning Democracy: Competing Coalition Logos, Manifestoes, and Anti-Corruption Campaigning in GE2022, *by Elvin Ong and Chan Xin Ying*

##### PART II: INTEREST GROUPS

7. The "Green Voters": What They Want, Really Really Want? *by Mohd Faizal Musa*
8. The Rural Malay Battleground – Change of Heart, Change of Ground? *by Serina Rahman*
9. Minorities Under the Microscope: Chinese, Indian and Indigenous Voters, *by Danesh Chacko*
10. Newfound Voices, Surprising Choices: How Malaysia's Young Voters are Shaping Politics, *by James Chai*

##### PART III: STATES

11. Fortress Cracked: Pakatan's Defense of Selangor and KL, *by Lee Hwok Aun and Adib Zalkapli*
12. Johor in GE2022: Same Same and Different, *by Francis E. Hutchinson and Kevin Zhang*
13. The Green Wave in Kelantan: A Clean Sweep, *by Azmil Tayeb*
14. Sarawak in GE-2022: Gabungan Parti Sarawak Consolidated, Pakatan Harapan Consoled, *by Lee Poh Onn*
15. From Friend to Foe and Back Again: Inter- and Intra-Party Relations in Sabah, *by Tony Paridi and Arnold Puyok*

##### IV: PERSONAL PERSPECTIVES

16. New Heights for PAS, New Norms for Malaysia? Bachok in GE2022, *by Mohd Syahir Che Sulaiman*
17. Evolving Malaysian Polity: From the Ipoh Timor Vantage Point, *by Howard Lee*
18. Setiawangsa: Keeping the Faith in Keadilan and Reformasi, *by Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad*
19. Being Human and Traversing the Spectrum of Emotions: How We Fell Short in Alor Gajah, *by Shahril Hamdan*
20. Reaching Parliament, Slowly but Surely: Sri Aman's Breakthrough for Dayak Women, *by Doris Sophia Brodie*

##### CONCLUSION

21. Crafting Power in Post-2022 Malaysia, *by Francis E. Hutchinson and Lee Hwok Aun*

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PIC309

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### *Forthcoming Title*

## KIRPA RAM VIJ The Volunteer Who Launched an Army

by  
*Ramachandran Menon*

Est. pub. date: End 2025

#### ***About the AUTHOR***

**Ramachandran Menon** was an infantry officer of the inaugural cohort commissioned at the Singapore Armed Forces Training Institute (SAFTI) in 1967 when Kirpa Ram Vij was the director.

#### ***About the BOOK***

For the first ten years of its history, one soldier dominated the build-up of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF). Mobilized by Defence Minister Dr Goh Keng Swee after Singapore's expulsion from Malaysia on 9 August 1965, Kirpa Ram Vij, then a captain in the Singapore Volunteer Artillery, established the Singapore Armed Forces Training Institute (SAFTI) with Israeli Defence Force advisors. Together with them, he also formulated many SAF operational doctrines that still underlie SAF land forces' training. He launched advanced leadership training establishments including the School of Advanced Training for Officers (SATO) and the Dr Goh Keng Swee Command and Staff College (CSC). He attained the then top uniformed appointment of Director, General Staff, as a Brigadier General. Overtaken by numerous cohorts of younger administrative service officers for senior civil service posts while in the SAF, he quit government service to join Neptune Orient Lines (NOL) where he mastered computer freight services as General Manager, Administration among other top management jobs. On retirement from NOL, he was initially appointed Consultant, and later Chief Executive Officer of Gateway Distriparks Limited (GDL, a Singapore consortium, and installed India's first foreign-owned computer freight service terminal in Navi Mumbai, later to be listed in both India and New York with great success).

Kirpa Ram passed away on 29 October 2022. This account traces his life story and his contributions to the SAF and Singapore.

2025

Soft cover 978-981-5306-31-6

BM641

(price to be confirmed)

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# MY TURBULENT LIFE AND 21 YEARS OF EXILE IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

by  
*Pridi Banomyong*

Est. pub. date: End 2025

#### **About the AUTHOR**

**Pridi Banomyong** (Luang Praditmanutham) was the Former Regent and Prime Minister of Siam (Thailand).

#### **Table of Contents**

1. My Farewell to the People's Republic of China
  2. My Revolutionary Youth
  3. My Meetings with Mussolini, Pierre Laval, Sir Samuel Hoare, Hjalmar Schacht, Cordell Hull, and Japanese Emperor Hirohito
  4. The Underground Kingdom of Siam
  5. The Southeast Asian League
  6. My Meeting with President Chiang Kai-Shek and His Vice President Li Zongren, President Roxas, President Truman, King George VI, and President Léon Blum
  7. The Reactionary Coup D'état and My First Escape from Siam to Singapore and China
  8. The Defeat of the Grand Palace Insurrection (26 February 1949)
  9. The Adventure of My Second Escape from Siam to the People's Republic of China
  10. Hospitality of the People's Republic
  11. Present at the Creation of the People's Republic of China on 1 October 1949
  12. Factors, the Process to Victory, and Progress of the Chinese People
  13. The Peoples of China
  14. Special Features of the Chinese Communist Party and Vital Skills of Its Leader
  15. The United Front Strategy
  16. The People's Army Without Ranks or Stripes
  17. The Socialist and Communist System in the People's Republic of China
  18. State Power Before Its Decline in the People's Republic of China
  19. Continuous Revolution for Economic Transformation in the People's Republic of China
  20. People's Communes in China
  21. The Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution and Socialist Ideological Education in the People's Republic of China
  22. The Red Guard and Youth During the Great Revolution
  23. A New Type of Chinese Person and the New Teaching System
  24. Potential Economic Power of the People's Republic of China and Economic Planning Systems
  25. International Policies of the People's Republic of China
  26. The Problem of Overseas Chinese People
  27. Methods for Liberating Chinese Provinces Since the Founding of the People's Republic
  28. Mao Zedong's Real Conception of Paper Tigers
  29. Issues of Pollution and Automobile Accidents in the People's Republic of China
  30. The Former Chinese Emperor Who Became a New Citizen of the People's Republic
- Conclusion

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### *Forthcoming Title*

**MYANMAR**

**The Making of an Intelligence State**

*by*  
**Andrew Selth**

Est. pub. date: End 2025

#### **About the AUTHOR**

**Andrew Selth** is Adjunct Professor at Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia.

#### **Table of Contents**

Preamble

1. Introduction
2. Intelligence Under Burma's Kings
3. Political Intelligence in British Burma
4. Military Intelligence in British Burma
5. Intelligence Before the 1962 Coup
6. Intelligence Under General Ne Win
7. Intelligence Under the SLORC and SPDC: 1
8. Intelligence Under the SLORC and SPDC: 2
9. The Fall of General Khin Nyunt
10. Power Shifts and Structural Changes
11. Intelligence in a "Disciplined Democracy"
12. Intelligence Since the 2021 Coup
13. Intelligence and the Opposition Movement
14. Counter-Intelligence Challenges
15. Looking Beyond Myanmar
16. Intelligence Failures
17. Questions of Accountability
18. Conclusion

Appendices

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# PLUNDERING SECURITY? The Economic Power of Thailand's Military

*edited by*  
**Paul Chambers**

Est. pub. date: Early 2026

#### **About the AUTHOR**

**Paul Chambers** is Lecturer and Special Advisor on International Affairs at the Center of ASEAN Community Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Naresuan University Thailand.

#### **Table of Contents**

Introduction: *Plundering Security?* by *Paul Chambers and Ukrist Pathmanand*

1. Khaki Capital and Historical Institutionalism in Thailand, by *Paul Chambers and Napisa Waitoolkiat*
2. Thailand's Defense Spending: An Economic and Institutional Analysis, by *Anders Engvall*
3. Khaki Capitalism in State Enterprises, by *Paul Chambers*
4. The Military Land of Smiles, by *Kanda Naknoi and Paul Chambers*
5. The Royal Court, Generals, Business Tycoons, Politicians and Horse Racing in Thailand, by *Ukrist Pathmanand*
6. A War with "Benefits"? Thailand's Deep South Counterinsurgency and Security Sector Dividends, by *Srisompob Jitpiromsri and Paul Chambers*
7. Thailand's Khaki Welfare State: Needs, Privileges and Bureaucratic Survival, by *Paul Chambers*
8. Conscription as Khaki Capital in Thailand, by *Elin Bjarnegård, Rungrawee Chalermripinyorat, Anders Engvall, Srisompob Jitpiromsri, and Erik Melander*

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# **SOCIAL ISSUES**

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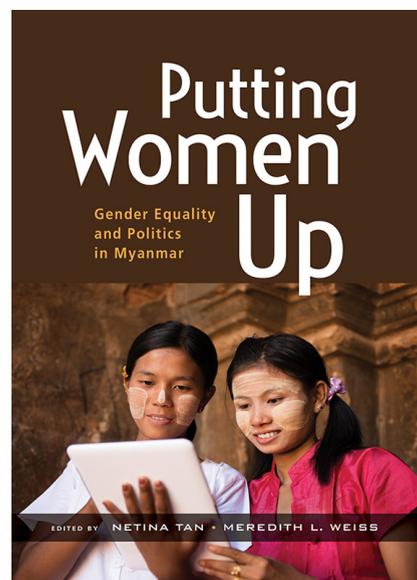
### PUTTING WOMEN UP Gender Equality and Politics in Myanmar

*edited by*  
**Netina Tan and Meredith L. Weiss**

#### **About the EDITORS**

**Netina Tan** is University Fellow and Associate Professor of Political Science at McMaster University, Canada.

**Meredith L. Weiss** is Professor and Chair of Political Science in the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy at the University at Albany, State University of New York, USA.



#### **About the BOOK**

For the duration of Myanmar's experiment with electoral democracy, why did some women run for political office, and not others? What role did gatekeepers such as party leaders play in those decisions, and using what criteria in selecting candidates? How did experience of domestic violence or harassment affect women's likelihood to participate in politics, especially beyond the local level? And what implications might these earlier patterns have for a post-coup Myanmar, should meaningful elections be restored?

The contributors to *Putting Women Up: Gender Equality and Politics in Myanmar* answer these questions by examining the internal politics of nine political parties in Myanmar and both men's and women's attitudes towards and experiences of political leadership. Drawing on extensive interview, survey, and focus-group discussion data collected from across Myanmar in 2017 and 2020, this book offers a mixed-methods approach to explain how factors from party rules to formative personal trauma to patriarchal biases to ethno-religious context shape women's and men's likelihood to join local and national politics. The findings expand on culturalist insights on gender inequality to provide context-sensitive, evidence-backed policy recommendations to promote women's political leadership, despite militarization and violence in post-coup Myanmar.

2024

206 pp.

PIC298

Soft cover 978-981-5104-41-7

S\$35.86 (GST inclusive)\* / S\$32.90 / US\$29.90

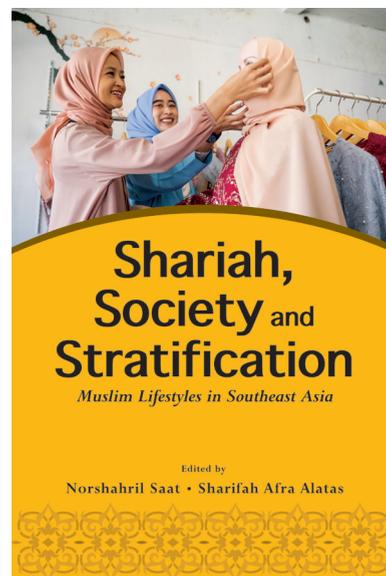
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# SHARIAH, SOCIETY AND STRATIFICATION Muslim Lifestyles in Southeast Asia

*edited by*  
**Norshahril Saat and  
Sharifah Afra Alatas**



### **About the EDITORS**

**Norshahril Saat** is Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Regional Social and Cultural Studies Programme, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

**Sharifah Afra Alatas** is Research Officer in the Regional Social and Cultural Studies Programme, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

### **About the BOOK**

Since the Islamic resurgence hit Southeast Asia in the 1980s, Muslim societies now have greater aspirations for adhering to the Shariah, the body of laws meant to govern Muslims' day-to-day lives. At the institutional level, the desire for this compliance manifested in the establishment of various institutions such as Islamic banking and financial programmes. At the personal and societal levels, there are increasing demands for the provision of halal-certified goods and services, most commonly in the food and beverage industry. However, increasingly, compliance to the Shariah is no longer limited to laws or ensuring that food and beverages are halal, but has become an entire lifestyle. The rise of the Muslim middle class in Southeast Asia has catalysed this preference. Muslim consumers now demand that products in other industries, such as fashion, sports, tourism, medicine and personal hygiene, should also be Shariah-compliant and even reminiscent of the time in which Prophet Muhammad lived. This book analyses the various social, economic, and political forces that have contributed to such trends across many countries in Southeast Asia. In identifying these trends and the forces that shape them, it discusses the potential consequences of such a lifestyle on society, specifically in entrenching various forms of stratification.

2024

230 pp.

PIC301

Soft cover 978-981-5104-94-3

S\$39.13 (GST inclusive)\* / S\$35.90 / US\$29.90

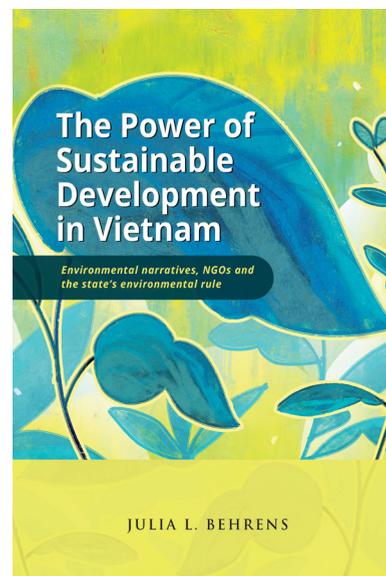
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# THE POWER OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN VIETNAM Environmental Narratives, NGOs and the State's Environmental Rule

by  
*Julia L. Behrens*



### **About the AUTHOR**

**Julia L. Behrens** is a postdoctoral fellow at the Department for Social Anthropology at Bielefeld University, Germany. She holds a PhD in Southeast Asian Studies from Humboldt University, Berlin.

### **About the BOOK**

Sustainable development is present everywhere in Vietnam. This book analyses the Sustainable Development narrative and its use by different actors in Vietnam. It examines how narratives are used to establish environmental rule in the socialist state. By focusing on NGOs and their positions in the Vietnamese context, the book illustrates how different actors use the Sustainable Development narrative to navigate power relations with the authoritarian state and the international donors, and how the narrative differs from theory to the actual practices on the ground. The book will be of interest to scholars of Vietnam who wish to understand development and state-society relations in environmental governance. It is an important read for development practitioners.

2025

189 pp.

IU41

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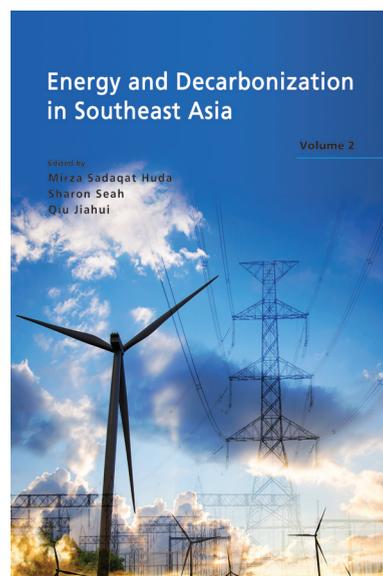
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### *Forthcoming Title*

# ENERGY AND DECARBONIZATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, volume 2

*edited by*  
**Mirza Sadaqat Huda, Sharon Seah  
and Qiu Jiahui**

Est. pub. date: Mid-2025



#### **About the EDITORS**

**Mirza Sadaqat Huda** is Lead Researcher at the Climate Change in Southeast Asia Programme (CCSEAP) of the ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

**Sharon Seah** is Senior Fellow and concurrent Coordinator of the ASEAN Studies Centre and the Climate Change in Southeast Asia Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

**Qiu Jiahui** is a Research Officer in the Climate Change in Southeast Asia Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

#### **About the BOOK**

“Southeast Asia is poised to play a pivotal role in global energy decarbonization, driven by its rapidly expanding economies and growing populations. However, the region remains heavily reliant on fossil fuels to meet its energy demands. *Energy and Decarbonization in Southeast Asia* delves into the critical research topics shaping the region’s path towards sustainable energy transformation. From regional interconnectivity via the ASEAN Power Grid to advancements in solar and wind energy, carbon capture and storage, low-carbon hydrogen, and green financing, this book provides a comprehensive exploration of innovative strategies and pressing challenges.

Featuring contemporary case studies across three key themes—socio-economic and environmental challenges, technological and political pathways, and strategies to foster regional cooperation—this volume offers actionable insights for Southeast Asian policymakers, researchers and practitioners. By addressing fundamental questions surrounding the region’s evolving climate priorities, the authors present a forward-looking analysis of the energy sector’s transition and its implications for the future.”

*Beni Suryadi, Acting Executive Director, ASEAN Centre for Energy*

2025

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# RISING CHINA China's Culture and Its Transformation in Southeast Asia

*edited by*  
**Leo Suryadinata**

**Est. pub. date: End 2025**

#### **About the EDITOR**

**Leo Suryadinata** is Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore; formerly Professor, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore.

#### **About the BOOK**

1. Chinese Cultures and Their Transformation in Southeast Asia *by Tan Chee-Beng*
2. Historical Trajectories of Chinese Culture to Southeast Asia *by Leo Suryadinata*
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PIC307

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### *Forthcoming Title*

# MELAYU, PEOPLE, PLACE Ethnohistories from the Riau-Lingga Islands, Indonesia

by  
**Vivienne Wee**

Est. pub. date: Early 2026

#### ***About the AUTHOR***

**Vivienne Wee** is an anthropologist who has done extensive field research in the Riau Archipelago and other parts of Sumatra since 1979.

#### ***Table of Contents***

Chapter 1: What This Study Is About  
Chapter 2: Usages of the Name "Melayu"  
Chapter 3: What Happened to the Sultanate?  
Chapter 4: Power Relations in Context  
Chapter 5: Varieties of Melayu People in This Study  
Chapter 6: Orang Laut (Sea People)  
Chapter 7: Orang Karas (People of Karas)  
Chapter 8: Orang Penyengat (People of Penyengat)  
Chapter 9: Melayu Citizens in the Republic of Indonesia

2026

Soft cover 978-981-5306-21-7

BM639

(price to be confirmed)