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*edited by Andrea Acri and Peter Sharrock*

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COVID-19 AND THE STRUCTURAL CRISES OF OUR TIME

by

Lim Mah-Hui and Michael Heng Siam-Heng

About the AUTHORS

Lim Mah-Hui's professional background spans thirty years as an international banker and academician. He has a multi-disciplinary background in economics, sociology and finance.

Michael Heng Siam-Heng is a retired professor of management studies.

About the BOOK

“We live in paradoxical times. Traditionally, the West has led the world in theory and practice. Yet, recent developments, from COVID-19 to the storming of the U.S. Capitol, show how lost the West has become. This loss of direction has deep roots. In his usual thoughtful and incisive fashion, Lim Mah-Hui, with his co-author Michael Heng Siam-Heng, draws out the deeper origins of our current crises and shows us a new way forward. A must read for anyone who wants to understand our strange times.”

Kishore Mahbubani, the founding Dean of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS, is the author of Has China Won?

“A powerful and compelling critique of neoliberal globalization and its potentially devastating, but long underestimated, consequences for financial stability, the environment, social equity and democracy. COVID-19 has laid bare these dysfunctions and stresses. But this is not a pessimistic book. The authors argue, correctly, that we may be on the cusp of another Great Transformation. The choices we make today to make markets more resilient, improve social protection, and preserve our freedoms could lay the foundations for a sustainable globalisation that works for future generations.”

Donald Low, Professor of Practice in Public Policy and Director of the Institute for Emerging Market Studies, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

2022 199 pp. BM614
Soft cover 978-981-4951-80-7 S$35.20 (GST inclusive)* / S$32.90 / US$29.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
AGRICULTURAL TRADE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION COUNTRIES
A Value Chain Analysis

*About the EDITORS*

Jayant Menon is Visiting Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore, following his early retirement from the Asian Development Bank, where he was Lead Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist.

Vathana Roth is Research Fellow and Director of the Centre for Development Economics and Trade, Cambodia Development Resource Institute.

*About the BOOK*

“This book provides new insights into the important and developing agricultural value chains, including on current constraints and the enormity of opportunities, emanating in the dynamic GMS, especially through to their main giant market of China. Analysis in the GMS countries forms comparable case studies of major crops using mappings of their key processes and actors, as well as both qualitative and quantitative data, including primary data collection such as from new surveys. The analysis uses understandable methodologies, such as graphical cross-country comparisons, and established ratios, such as on comparative advantage, to provide useful insights into GMS agricultural value chains. A particular focus in the case studies is better understanding of the role Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) might play in constraining agricultural exports to China and approaches to addressing these that are more inclusive and economically rewarding. I recommend this valuable book to those interested in agricultural trade in GMS countries and China, as well as the characteristics of their agricultural value chains, and their contribution to these countries’ development.”

*Dr Ray Trewin, Former Fellow, ANU and editor of Crucial Agricultural Policy (World Scientific, 2016).*

2022 303 pp. PIC287
Soft cover 978-981-5011-12-8  S$42.70 (GST inclusive)* / S$39.90 / US$32.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
**Forthcoming Title**

**THE DRAGON’S UNDERBELLY**

Dynamics and Dilemmas in Vietnam’s Economy and Politics

*edited by*

Nhu Truong and Tuong Vu

Est. pub. date: Late 2022

**About the EDITORS**

Nhu Truong is Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics and Public Affairs at Denison University and a Mansfield-Luce Asia Scholars Fellow (2021–22).

Tuong Vu is Professor and Head of the Political Science Department at the University of Oregon and has held visiting appointments at Princeton University and the National University of Singapore.

**About the BOOK**

This book shows why Vietnam has not become the dragon it is often touted to be. The team of authors include both long-time observers and junior scholars who present cutting-edge research on the latest trends as well as major challenges facing the country’s economy and political system. As Vietnam seeks to escape from poverty and the legacies of mistaken socialist policies, its economy has become fully integrated into the global economy. Yet, without an effective and far-sighted leadership, it is still occupying a low position in the global value chains and becoming increasingly dependent on China. Politically, after three decades of reform, the Vietnamese Communist Party’s grip on power has adapted well to the market economy but is confronting deep vulnerabilities as observed in its eroding ability to control workers, the media, public universities and state-owned enterprises. The book also includes a section that applies formal and statistical methods to compare Vietnam with China in the two critical areas of political accountability and anti-corruption policy.

2022
Soft cover 978-981-5011-39-5 (price to be confirmed)
STABILITY, GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY
Catalysts for Socio-economic Development in Brunei Darussalam

edited by
Aris Ananta, Chang-Yau Hoon and Mahani Hamdan

Est. pub. date: Early 2023

About the EDITORS

Aris Ananta is an economist-demographer, currently Professor at the Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Indonesia and Visiting Professor at the Centre for Advanced Research (CARE), Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

Chang-Yau Hoon is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Centre for Advanced Research, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, and also an Adjunct Research Fellow at the University of Western Australia.

Mahani Hamdan is an Assistant Professor at UBD School of Business and Economics, and also serves as the Director for the Institute of Policy Studies and Simpur Herbal Café Sdn Bhd in Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

About the BOOK

As in many other oil and gas dependent countries, Brunei Darussalam—a country with a small population but the second highest income per capita in Southeast Asia—has been diversifying its economy in three sectors: from oil and gas to other sectors of export/economic growth; from the dominance of public sector employment to a more balanced public and private sectors employment; and from heavy dependence on foreign labours to development of local talents. This book examines the current socio-economic development in the journey toward a diversified social economy, as targeted in Brunei Vision 2035. By examining the unique context of Brunei, this book fills in the gap on studies focusing on socio-economic diversification. It highlights the importance of the environment, digital technology and human capital in the diversification process. The book culminates with analyses on business, economy, employment and welfare in Brunei toward 2035, with a new face: a digitalized, sustainable and self-reliant society with a highly developed human capital and a flourishing private sector.
About the AUTHOR

Andrew Selth is an Adjunct Professor at the Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, in Brisbane, Australia. He has been studying international security issues and Asian affairs for more than forty-five years, as a diplomat, strategic intelligence analyst and research scholar. Between 1974 and 1986 he was assigned to the Australian missions in Rangoon, Seoul and Wellington, and later held senior positions in both the Defence Intelligence Organisation and Office of National Assessments.

About the BOOK

Updated by popular demand, this is the fourth edition of this important bibliography. It lists a wide selection of works on or about Myanmar published in English and in hard copy since the 1988 pro-democracy uprising, which marked the beginning of a new era in Myanmar’s modern history. There are now 2,727 titles listed. They have been written, edited, translated or compiled by over 2,000 people, from many different backgrounds. These works have been organized into thirty-five subject chapters containing ninety-five discrete sections. There are also four appendices, including a comprehensive reading guide for those unfamiliar with Myanmar or who may be seeking guidance on particular topics. This book is an invaluable aid to officials, scholars, journalists, armchair travellers and others with an interest in this fascinating but deeply troubled country.
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A SOLDIER KING
Monarchy and Military in the Thailand of Rama X
by
Supalak Ganjanakhundee

About the AUTHOR
Supalak Ganjanakhundee was Visiting Fellow in the Thailand Studies Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore. He was the former editor of The Nation newspaper (Bangkok).

About the BOOK
“The book is a significant contribution to understanding the important yet shifting patterns of relationship between the monarchy and military in Thailand. It is widely known that monarchy-military union has played crucial roles in politics throughout modern Thai history. This book: A Soldier King: Monarchy and Military in the Thailand of Rama X offers a comprehensive account and sound analysis about the newly form monarchy-military network, demonstrating clearly how the new king tightens his grip since late 2016 as well as his different style from his late father King Bhumibol.”

-- Charnvit Kasetsiri, Thammasat University, Bangkok

2022  216 pp.  BM610
Soft cover 978-981-4951-54-8  S$27.71 (GST inclusive)* / S$25.90 / US$19.90

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THAILAND
A Struggle for the Nation

by
Charnvit Kasetsiri

About the AUTHOR
Charnvit Kasetsiri is Professor Emeritus of Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand. He is a prominent historian and Thai Studies scholar.

About the BOOK
“As a historian, Charnvit Kasetsiri is not satisfied simply to have found an instructive angle from which to explore the mysteries in a modern experimental monarchy. His keen sense of time has filled his narrative with insights that only a few people could have identified. To me, that is a mark of one with a fine sense of what the past can mean. I thank him for the chance to see this mature and thoughtful Charnvit at work and commend this book to everyone who wants to understand Thailand better.”

Wang Gungwu, National University of Singapore

“Charnvit makes clear in the final pages of Thailand: A Struggle for the Nation that he is not very sanguine about the country’s future. During Thailand’s democratic spring in 1974, the Thai constitution was changed to allow female succession. This apparent loosening of male prerogative had no effect on the reign change in 2016 when the designated male heir, Prince Vajiralongkorn, succeeded without challenge to become the tenth Bangkok king. Communism, long gone as the spectre that once haunted Thailand’s political order, has been replaced by another. The spectre now haunting Thailand is authoritarianism.”

Craig J. Reynolds, Australian National University

2022 264 pp. BM616
Soft cover 978-981-5011-24-1 S$38.40 (GST inclusive)* / S$35.90 / US$29.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
About the EDITORS

Made Supriatma is Visiting Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

Hui Yew-Foong is Visiting Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Indonesia Studies Programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

About the BOOK

On 17 April 2019, Indonesians marched to the polls to elect their president and vice president directly for the fourth time since 2004. The main contenders for the presidency—Joko “Jokowi” Widodo and Prabowo Subianto—were the same as when they first clashed in 2014, and the result was the same. Some of the issues raised in 2014 were rehashed in 2019, and the geographical polarization of voters had deepened along the same fault lines. There is a case for arguing that 2019 was a replay of the 2014 elections, hence the title of this book. But “2.0” also signifies progression, since nothing is ever exactly the same. 2019 has seen the intensification of cyber-politics, and the curious outcome where former opponents on the electoral battlefield, as featured on the cover of this book, ended up as colleagues in the same cabinet. This volume provides incisive analyses of the dynamics of the elections from multiple perspectives, from what is new (cyber-politics) to what persists (identity politics), from the constituencies that cut across national demographics to the regions and their peculiarities. The insights drawn out in this volume will serve as a guide for understanding the next presidential and parliamentary elections in 2024 and beyond.

2022
Soft cover 978-981-5011-36-4
(price to be confirmed)
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Forthcoming Title
RISING CHINA AND NEW CHINESE MIGRANTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

edited by
Leo Suryadinata and Benjamin Loh

Est. pub. date: Late 2022

About the EDITORS
Leo Suryadinata is Visiting Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
Benjamin Loh is Senior Lecturer (School of Media and Communication) at Taylor’s University, Malaysia, and an associate with the Asia Centre in Bangkok.

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PART III: NEW CHINESE MIGRANTS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES
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11. Indonesian Elites’ Perception of the Chinese New Migrants during the Joko Widodo Presidency, by Johannes Herlijanto

PART IV: NEW CHINESE MIGRANTS AND LOCAL ECONOMY
15. ‘Old’ and ‘New’ Chinese Business in Cambodia’s Capital, by Michiel Verver
16. Entrepreneurial Excursions: Short-Hop Chinese Migration at the Peripheries of Myanmar, by Andrew Ong

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

by
Norshahril Saat, Azhar Ibrahim and Noor Aisha Abdul Rahman

About the AUTHORS
Norshahril Saat is Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
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).

About the BOOK
Islamic religious teachers (asatizah) and scholars (ulama) play a significant role in providing spiritual leadership for the Singapore Malay/Muslim community. Lately, the group has been cast under the spotlight over a range of issues, from underperformance in the national examination, their ability to integrate into the broader society, exposure to radical and conservative ideas such as Salafism from the Middle East, and unemployment. Reaching for the Crescent examines a growing segment within the group, namely Islamic studies graduates, who obtained their degrees from universities in the Middle East and neighbouring Malaysia and Indonesia. It identifies factors that condition the proliferation of Islamic studies graduates in Singapore, examine the dominant religious institutions they attend, the nature of Islamic education they received, and their challenges. It tackles the impact of their religious education on the spiritual life and well-being of the community. Based on qualitative and quantitative data collected, the book calls for a rethinking of a prevailing discourse of Arabization of Singapore Muslims and academic approaches that focus on madrasah education and Islam through the security lens.

2021
224 pp.
BM607
Hard cover 978-981-4951-37-1
S$38.41 (GST inclusive)* / S$35.90 / US$29.90

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
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.

About the BOOK
By studying intersections among new cults of wealth, ritually empowered amulets and professional spirit mediumship—which have emerged together in Thailand’s dynamic religious field in recent decades—Capitalism Magic Thailand explores the conditions under which global modernity produces new varieties of enchantment. Bruno Latour’s account of modernity as a condition fractured between rationalizing ideology and hybridizing practice is expanded to explain the apparent paradox of new forms of magical ritual emerging alongside religious fundamentalism across a wide range of Asian societies. In Thailand, novel and increasingly popular varieties of ritual now form a symbolic complex in which originally distinct cults centred on Indian deities, Chinese gods and Thai religious and royal figures have merged in commercial spaces and media sites to sacralize the market and wealth production. Emerging within popular culture, this complex of cults of wealth, amulets and spirit mediumship is supported by all levels of Thai society, including those at the acme of economic and political power. New theoretical frameworks are presented in analyses that challenge the view that magic is a residue of premodernity, placing the dramatic transformations of cultic ritual centre stage in modern Thai history. It is concluded that modern enchantment arises at the confluence of three processes: neoliberal capitalism’s production of occult economies, the auraticizing effects of technologies of mass mediatization, and the performative force of ritual in religious fields where practice takes precedence over doctrine.

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PERANAKAN CHINESE IDENTITIES IN THE GLOBALIZING MALAY ARCHIPELAGO

by
Leo Suryadinata

About the AUTHOR
Leo Suryadinata is Visiting Senior Fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore and Professor (Adj.) at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

About the BOOK
Peranakan Chinese communities and their “hybrid” culture have fascinated many observers. This book, comprising fourteen chapters, is mainly based on my papers written in the last two decades. They address Peranakan Chinese identities in the globalizing Malay Archipelago. Issues discussed in these chapters include Peranakan Chinese cultural, national and political identities in the Malay Archipelago, i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore (IMS). Based on the coverage of the chapters, the book is divided into two parts. Part I is on the regional dimension, which contains nine chapters that discuss the three countries and beyond. Part II consists of five chapters which focus on one country, i.e., Indonesia. This book not only discusses the past and the present but also the future of the Peranakan Chinese.

2022 289 pp.  BM615
Soft cover 978-981-4951-67-8  S$42.69 (GST inclusive)* / S$39.90 / US$32.90

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THE CREATIVE SOUTH
Buddhist and Hindu Art in Mediaeval Maritime Asia, vol. 1

edited by
Andrea Acri and Peter Sharrock

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).

About the BOOK

This edited volume programmatically reconsiders the creative contribution of the littoral and insular regions of Maritime Asia to shaping new paradigms in the Buddhist and Hindu art and architecture of the medieval Asian world. Far from being a mere southern conduit for the maritime circulation of Indic religions, in the period from ca. the 7th to the 14th century those regions transformed across mainland and island polities the rituals, icons, and architecture that embodied these religious insights with a dynamism that often eclipsed the established cultural centres in Northern India, Central Asia, and mainland China. This collective body of work brings together new research aiming to recalibrate the importance of these innovations in art and architecture, thereby highlighting the cultural creativity of the monsoon-influenced Southern rim of the Asian landmass.

2021 375 pp. BM608

* GST inclusive price is for customers in Singapore
THE CREATIVE SOUTH
Buddhist and Hindu Art in Mediaeval Maritime Asia, vol. 2

edited by
Andrea Acri and Peter Sharrock

Est. pub. date: Late 2022

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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2022
Soft cover 978-981-4951-51-7

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Forthcoming Title
EXTRACTING DEVELOPMENT
Contested Resource Frontiers in Mainland Southeast Asia
edited by Oliver Tappe and Simon Rowedder
Est. pub. date: Late 2022

About the EDITORS
Oliver Tappe is senior researcher at the Institute of Anthropology, University of Heidelberg (Germany), and associated fellow at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
Simon Rowedder is Assistant Professor at the Chair of Development Politics, University of Passau.

About the BOOK
Resource extraction is currently shaping Southeast Asian landscapes and people’s lives to an unprecedented degree. This volume explores old and new resource frontiers, their effect on local economies and social relations, and questions of (contested) resource control and governance. Case studies from Laos, Thailand, Myanmar, and Cambodia illustrate the predicament of globalized extractivism processes in the region, particularly (but not only) with regard to China’s rising geopolitical and -economic influence, most prominently expressed by the Belt and Road Initiative.

Discussing transboundary investments in land and water reserves, and localized commodification processes of agrarian resources, this volume not only investigates the competing actors and discourses of resource extraction in Southeast Asia. What is more, the different case studies shed light on the contingent outcomes on the ground of transregional economic dynamics and related socio-ecological transformations. Combining macro perspectives with fine-grained micro-scale studies, this volume offers a multi-faceted picture of extractivism in contemporary Southeast Asia.

2022
Soft cover 978-981-5011-19-7
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Forthcoming Title
WIDER BAGAN
Ancient and Living Buddhist Traditions
by
Elizabeth H. Moore

Est. pub. date: Late 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)
Forthcoming Title
THE STRAITS PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY AND COLONIAL ELITES IN MALAYA
Selected Papers on Race, Identity and Social Order 1893–1915

*edited by*
*Lim Teck Ghee and Charles Brophy*

Est. pub. date: Late 2022

About the EDITORS

**Lim Teck Ghee** is a Malaysian economic historian, author and public intellectual, whose career has straddled academia, civil society organizations and international development agencies. **Charles Brophy** writes on Malaysian and Southeast Asian politics with a particular focus upon development, welfare and non-liberal capitalisms.

About the BOOK

Founded in Singapore in 1893, the Straits Philosophical Society was a society for the “critical discussion of questions in Philosophy, History, Theology, Literature, Science and Art”. Its membership was restricted to graduates of British and European universities, fellows of British or European learned societies and those with “distinguished merit in the opinion of the Society in any branch of knowledge”. Its closed door meetings were an important gathering place for the educated elite of the colony, comprising colonial civil servants, soldiers, missionaries, businessmen, as well as prominent Straits Chinese members. Notable members included the botanist Henry Ridley, the missionary W.G. Shellabear and Straits Chinese reformers like Lim Boon Keng and Tan Teck Soon.

Throughout its years of operation the Society left behind a collection of papers presented by its members, the vast majority of which conformed to the Society’s founding rule that its geographical position should influence its work. This produced a large corpus of literature on colonial Malaya which provides important insights into the logic and dynamics of colonial thought in the period before the First World War. In reproducing a collection of these papers this volume highlights the role of the Society in the development of ideas of race, Malayness, colonial modernization, urban government and debates over the political and socio-economic future of the colony.

2022
Soft cover 978-981-5011-33-3
(price to be confirmed)
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Est. pub. date: Early 2023
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by
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Est. pub. date: Early 2023

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