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Editors Notes

Here, in *Berita's* limited space, we have extracted

some of the details of Jomo's current professional position and newly published works that he notes in his annual letter. He has joined the UN as Asst Secretary General for Economic Development in the Dept of Economic and Social Affairs. As reported in *Berita* v.29, Jomo notes that Singapore UP published (a) *Malaysian 'bale outs'? Capital controls, restructuring and recovery* which was published in 2005. He adds that Oxford Univ. Press has published the 2 vol. (b&c) *Globalization under hegemony: the changing world economy* and (d) *The great divergence: hegemony, uneven development and global inequality*. Zed Books and Tulika have published (e) *The origins of development economics*, (f) *Pioneers of development economics*, and (g) *The new development economics*. Also, Singapore UP will publish *Industrial Policy in Malaysia* in 2006. Jomo notes that he has made little progress on 'Law and the Malaysian economy', but hopes to complete a new book on 'Privatization in Malaysia' and another on 'Labour market segmentation in Malaysian services', and hopes that the Malay edition of *M Way* will be out in the new year (2006). Meanwhile, IDEAs ... the new network of heterodox development economists critical of the Washington Consensus ... has continued to grow. Please visit the website www.ideaswebsite.org and tell others about it. Jomo's e-mail address is jomoks@yahoo.com.

Another matter... We as a group need to settle our plans on the MSB/SG website at the annual AAS meeting in San Francisco, so that we can have an easily available place to post news of newly published research and professional opportunities in more timely fashion than the quarterly issues of *Berita*. That is, we can post our daily and weekly findings on the web as we assemble each quarterly issue of *Berita*.

Ron Provencher

Corrections

>The source of the bibliographic entry under "Periodicals", "*Harvard review*" on page 3 of *Berita* 29-4 is in error. It should be "*Harvard Asia quarterly*" ... otherwise, the volume

and page numbers are basically correct (Arabic vol. numbers, rather than the original Roman). Thanks to Dr. Paul A. Rodell, Dept. of History, Georgia Southern University, for prompting the correction.

Announcements

>Tun Abdul Razak Distinguished Professor

29 November 2005 (e-mail from Karla Schneider, Asst. Director, Southeast Asian Studies Program, Ohio U.) -- Ohio University's Center for International Studies and Southeast Asian Studies Program announced the arrival of their 12th Tun Abdul Razak Distinguished Professor, Dato' Mohamad Abu Bakar from the Department of International and Strategic Studies at the University of Malaya – A former Asst Secretary in the Malaysian PM's Department and Assoc. Dean at his home institution, his academic specialities are SEA regionalism, contemporary Islam, and globalization. The term of his appointment extends through June 2007. He is available for speaking engagements and participation in conferences during his tenure at Ohio. If you are interested in inviting Dato' Mohamad to your campus, you can contact him directly at abubaka@ohio.edu or contact Karla Schneider at schneidk@ohio.edu or tel. 740-593-1841.

Periodicals (Relevant to M/S/B Studies)

>The National University of Singapore has announced the forthcoming periodical publication of a new scholarly journal: *The Journal of Chinese Overseas*. Anticipate enjoying relevant Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei segments of it in future issue of *Berita*!

>Antiquity: a quarterly review of archaeology

V.79,n.306 - Dec 2005 -- 1) Peter Lape, "Focus on Islam iv: archaeological approaches to the study of Islam in Island Southeast Asia" [From the Abstract -- Island Southeast Asia (inevitably includes the Malay Peninsula) now has the largest Muslim population in the world -- How, when and why did Islam arrive? -- Archaeological investigations show that the conversion process was long and patchy with many forces at work -- Sections on: a) research questions; b) limitations on textual evidence; c) archaeological studies of Southeast Asian Islam; and d) future directions -- 50 plus items in the bibliography], pp 829-836.

Archipel: etudes interdisciplinaires sur le monde insulindien

V.70 - 2005 -- 1) Annabel Teh Gallop, "Camels, seals and the early tin coinage of Brunei" [The *pitis*, an Islamic coin that originated in the Brunei Sultanate, circulated in Southeast Asia from at least the second half of the 17th century to mid-19th century... a continuous period of coin production and circulation from the 12th thru the 17th Sultan of Brunei -- Animal image on one face of the coin... variously described as a camel, bull, buffalo, tiger, ass, elephant or cat... either sitting or standing; while other coins depict a dragon's head or a bird in flight -- The other face of the coin may have an Arabic inscription or a flowery pattern -- Good illustrations of coins -- Comparison with coins of other

Islamic states in Southeast Asia... Brunei coins the most accomplished -- Article provides more than 30 publications regarding the coins], pp 261-280.

>Asian affairs

V.xxxvi,n.iii -- Nov 2005 -- 1) Stephen Choo, "Developing an entrepreneurial culture in Singapore: dream or reality" [A history of a 'dream' of developing an island state that was "weak in industrial bourgeoisie and lacked any significant manufacturing base" -- Sections on: a) "Entrepreneurial culture in Singapore", with sub-sections on 'government-led companies (GLCs)', 'state entrepreneurship', 'financial performance', & 'barriers to creativity'; b) "A risk-averse culture", with subsections on 'the central provident fund', and 'educational system'; and c) "Conclusion and recommendations"], pp 361-373; 2) Robert H. Taylor, review of Andrew C Willford & Kenneth M. George (eds). 2005. *Spirited politics: religion and public life in contemporary Southeast Asia*, pp 210, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Southeast Asia Program. Pb ISBN 0-8772-7737-0. ["... a book about how people practice their religions *in situ*, as it were, rather than a more conventional account of how and why Islam, Theravada Buddhism and Christianity have come to be interpreted and practiced in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines today." "... Andrew Willford's clear and fascinating account of the life and practices of a Malaysian Hindu female spirit medium and how Tamils and Hindus are perceived in contemporary Malaysia is not assisted by a conspiratorial perception of how modernist political and non-political Islamic Malays describe such practices"...], pp 402-403; 3) Nicholas J. White, review of Derek Mackay, 2005, *Eastern customs: the Custom Service in British Malaya and the opium trade*. xviii, 298. London & NY: The Radcliffe Press. Hb ISBN 1-8504-3844-7. [Agrees with author that this is "... not a definitive history of the Customs Service" since his principal sources are former expatriate officers of the service -- Provides historians of British Malaya with a mine of useful information and much food for thought about the nature and efficacy of colonial rule], pp 403-404.

>Asian journal of social science

V.33,n.3 - 2005 -- 1) A.B. Shamsul, "Making sense of the plural-religious past and the modern secular present of the Islamic Malay World and Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- A survey of some fundamental aspects of Islam and Muslims in the Islamic Malay world and Malaysia -- Ethnic, linguistic & cultural variation the norm of the region, which is also heir to Hindu & Buddhist traditions and three European colonial systems -- Islam is but one of these many traditions, and the other traditions have reformulated many aspects of life for Muslims -- To understand Islam in the Malay world and Malaysia, is to begin with data from the area rather than with some Middle Eastern and theological formulations of Islam; but must recognize that Islam is a universal theology

originating in the Arabic Middle East -- Informed analysis and understanding of Islam and Muslims in the contemporary Malay world must be embedded in the historical reality of plurality and current plural society in the region], pp 449-472; 2) Salleh Yaapar, "Negotiating identity in Malaysia: multi-cultural society. Islam, theatre and tourism" [From the Abstract -- Identity is quite stable, but also malleable and flexible; and although often defended, it is also contested & negotiated -- More so the case in multi-ethnic/cultural countries emerging from colonialist regimes -- Focuses on on the negotiation of identity in Malaysia relating to historical and present relations between the Malay majority and the other citizens -- Specific reference to Islam, multi-cultural society, literature/theater and tourism -- Shows that national identity as an assemblage of markers and values is still an elusive notion that is still being negotiated and will continue to be negotiated in different domains of life, including literature, theater and tourism for some time -- It is a painful process involving open and tolerant negotiation among ethnic groups and the authorities], pp 473-485; 3) See also, the "Introduction" for this special focus volume on "Islam between holism and secularism" by special focus editors, Georg Stauth & Sigrid Nokel, pp 355-362; 4) Saroja Dorairajoo, review of Rohan Gunaratna, 2003, *Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific: threat and response*. 259 pp. Singapore: Eastern Universities Press. ISBN 9-812-10246-9 [From the Review -- What is useful about this volume is the details it provides on the violence carried out by Islamist groups in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines -- Joins the ranks of those writings that purport to take a scholarly view on terrorism but end up being advocates of greater oppression under the guise of fighting terrorism], pp 568-569; 5) Toby E. Huff, review of Tim Bunnell, 2004, *Malaysia, modernity and the Multimedia Super Corridor: a critical geography of intelligent landscapes*. xii, 203 pp. London & NY: Routledge. ISBN 0-415-25634-8. [From the Review -- A very workmanlike analysis of the major aspects of Malaysia's MSC], pp 576-578.

> Asian perspectives: the journal of archaeology for Asia and the Pacific

V.44,n.2 - 2005 -- 1) Richard G. Roberts, M.J. Morwood & Kira E. Westaway, "Illuminating Southeast Asian prehistory: new archaeological and paleoanthropological frontiers for luminescence dating" [See especially pp 307-309, the section on 'Early Homo sapiens in Malaysia' relating to applying luminescence dating techniques to archeological sites in the Lenggong Valley in Hulu Perak... the earliest evidence of human habitation in Peninsular Malaysia... includes site of Kota Tampan with stone tools dated to about 74,000 years ago], pp 293-319.

>Asian studies review

V.29,n.2 -- Jun 2005 -- 1) Minako Sakai, review of Geoffrey Benjamin & Cynthia Chou (eds), 2002, *Tribal communities in the Malay world: historical, cultural and social perspectives*. 489 pp. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asia Studies.

[Book presents extensive overview of tribal communities in the Malay World -- Focus on South Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia -- Defines tribality in the the Malay World as relational rather than a primordial quality... 'tribal communities' used broadly in contrast to the dominant Malay Muslim population -- Main theme throughout the collection is inter-group interaction ... each chapter explores this theme -- Benjamin's chapter presents theoretical issues relating to relational and situational tribality in the Malay world in a comparative framework -- All contributors have long fieldwork and provide succinct, in-depth, insightful case studies -- Topics include: a) social change & environment (Chou & Wee, Effendy, Hamilton, Porath); b) construction of tribal identity (Dentan, Edo, Nicholas, Kroes, Howell, Lenhart, Ruiters, Alexander & Alexander); c) Malay perspectives on tribal people (Ali, Persoon, Schefold); and d) tribal experiences of modernity (Tuck-Po, Roseman) -- Points a new way to understand the Malay World], pp 226-227.

>Bijdragen tot de taal, land- en volkenkunde

161.4 – 2005 – 1) Timothy P. Barnard, "Sedih sampai buta: blindness, modernity and tradition in Malay films of the 1950s and 1960s" [Examines, in separate sections, the themes: a) "blindness in the city"; b) "blindness and 'border-crossings'"; c) "imitation and 'moral anxiety'"; d) "Alienation, modernity and mutilation"; and ends with the conclusion that 'blindness' as represented in Malay films changed from being a symbol of sadness to an act of mutilation and alienation], pp 433-453.

>Contemporary Southeast Asia

V.27.n.3 - Dec 2005 -- 1) Kumar Ramakrishna, "Delegitimizing global jihadi ideology in Southeast Asia" [From the Abstract -- Argues that countering radical Islamist ideology is central to any counter-terrorism strategy in Southeast Asia -- Some Malaysia and Singapore content]; pp 343-369; 2) Bernard Fook Weng Loo, "Transforming the strategic landscape of Southeast Asia" [From the Abstract -- Examines the implications for the regional strategic landscape of uneven regional modernization in Southeast Asia -- quite a bit of Malaysia and Singapore content], 388-405; 3) Faizal Yahya, "Challenges of globalization: Malaysia and India engagement" [From the Abstract -- Examines the emerging relations between India and Malaysia in the context of challenges posed by globalization and how these could be overcome by enhancing bilateral and regional linkages], pp 472-498; 4) Nissim Kadosh Otmazgin, "Cultural commodities and regionalization in East Asia" [From the Abstract -- Examines the role that popular culture plays in shaping and regionalizing East Asia -- Some Malaysian content], pp499-523; 5) Anthony S.K. Shome, review of Chin Peng, 2003, *My side of history*, 527 pp. Singapore: Media Masters. Pb. [The reviewer provides a lengthy description of the book, giving Chin Peng good marks as a story teller, although the reviewer complains about the "haphazard chronology" –

Then the reviewer strongly complains about Chin Peng's faults as a "liberator" ... a very interesting review], 524-529.

>Critical Asian studies (*Bulletin of concerned Asian scholars*)

V.37.n.4 -- Dec 2005 -- 1) Terence Chong, "From global to local: Singapore's cultural policy and its consequences" [From the Abstract -- Explores the effects of Singapore's 'Global city for the arts' project regarding the local theater industry -- Describes the character of the Singapore state and its ability to meet the challenges of globalization -- Shows that while historically global in orientation, its early cultural policies were very local and insular before the economic depression of 1985, after which local arts & culture was driven by economic rationality, culminating in the birth of a global-oriented national cultural policy... the Global City for the Arts project -- Contends that the project has pressured the state into shedding some of its authoritarian practices in order to conform to international norms, but some theatre companies with the requisite cultural capital have benefited from Singapore's cultural policies while others lacking such capital are marginalized], pp 553-568.

>Crossroads: an interdisciplinary journal of Southeast Asian studies

V.17.n.2 – 1) Sean-Guan Yeoh, "House, *kampung* and *tamun*: spatial hegemony and the politics and poetics of space in urban Malaysia" [From the Fall 2005 issue of the *NIU Mandala*].

>English world-wide: a journal of varieties of English

V.26.n.3 -- 2005 -- 1) Edgar W. Schneider, review of Low Ee Ling & Adam Brown. 2005. *English in Singapore: an introduction*. xii, 243 pp. Singapore: McGraw Hill. Pb ISBN 007-123975-8. [An introduction to the properties and uses of English as spoken in present-day Singapore in 14 chapters, meant primarily for Singaporeans ... but much of interest to the specialist as well -- Deals with Standard Singapore English, other varieties such as "Singlish", multilingualism, and with linguistic properties of Singapore English -- The last two chapters treat Singapore English in creative literature and implications for teaching -- A very positive review], pp 359-360.

>Environment and planning

V.37.n.10 -- Oct 2005 -- Theme issue: "Topics in economic geography: a dialogue between economists and geographers" -- 1) Javier Revilla Diez & Martin Berger, "The role of multinational corporations in metropolitan innovation systems: empirical evidence from Europe and Southeast Asia" [From the Abstract -- Using firm-level survey data from Barcelona, Stockholm and Vienna (Europe), and from Singapore, Penang and Bangkok (Southeast Asia), researchers made enquiries about R&D and innovation behavior of multinational and local companies in their metropolitan regions, scrutinizing a set of input, throughput and output indicators, and cooperation characteristics to evaluate: a) if the spatial pattern of more intense activity in Europe compared to Southeast Asia is still valid; and b) if there is reason to believe that R&D units of multinational

corporations in Europe are concerned mainly with enhancement of the knowledge base and the development of future competitiveness by tapping into localized knowledge and using the particular host regions' innovation systems ... whereas multinational corporations in Southeast Asia use R&D to support existing production facilities in order to exploit an existing competitive advantage -- Authors able to show that there is still a large gap in innovation performance between SEA and Europe... plus indications that R&D units in Europe are oriented more towards augmentation of company's knowledge base], pp 1813-1835.

Ethnos

V.70,n.3 -- Sep 2005 -- 1) Danilyn Rutherford, "Frontiers of the lingua franca: ideologies of the linguistic contact zone in Dutch New Guinea" [From the Abstract -- Explores ideologies of the linguistic contact zone in a region that was once a colonial backwater, but, as the Indonesian province of Papua, is a now host to a separatist movement -- Analysis focuses on efforts of colonial missionaries to draw firm boundaries between Malay, the Dutch colonial lingua franca, and Mesfoorsch, a Papuan language -- Failure of these efforts reveals shortcomings of analyses that present 'heteroglossia' as a feature of Indies society that Dutch colonials 'discovered', then mastered by creating standard versions of the archipelago's many languages -- Divergent ideologies, not unlike those that thwarted previous generations of Protestant reformers, confront today's Papuan nationalist leaders, who share a single language unity with their foes, yet dream of making Papua into a linguistically 'purified' space], pp 387-412

European journal of East Asian studies

V.4,n.2 -- 2005 -- 1) Jurgen Ruland, "East Asian regionalism: from stagnation to re-invention?" [From Abstract & article -- Provides a thematic and theoretically informed introduction to East Asian regionalism -- Point of departure is the paralysis of East Asian regionalism during and after the Asian financial crisis -- Examines more recent literature and notes that despite the crisis the trend toward institutionalist and constructivist theoretical approaches continues -- More than a third of the content is about ASEAN with a few specific references to Singapore and Malaysia], pp 149-176; **2)** Katja Freistein, "ASEAN after the Bali summit 2003: from paralysis to new life?" [From the Abstract & article -- Question regarding whether ASEAN has managed to recover from the Asian crisis... an analysis of the prospects for change, in the direction of enforcing stronger cohesion of ASEAN -- The summit proclaimed the goal to become an 'economic and security community' ... the reforms mainly about the economy rather than security -- Fair amount of Singapore and Malaysian content], pp 177-203; **3)** Christopher M. Dent, "Bilateral free trade agreements: boon or bane for regionalism in East Asia and the Asia-Pacific" [A few bits relevant to Malaysia, Singapore and even Brunei among

many others... an interesting map/chart showing trade connections in this large region], pp 287-314; **4)** Morten Laugesen, review of Claudia Derichs, Thomas Heberer & Nora Sausmikal, 2004, *Why ideas matter: ideen und diskurse in der politik Chinas, Japans and Malaysias*. 394 pp. Hamburg: Mitteilungen des instituts fur Asienkunde (#379) ISBN 3-88910-305-7 [Presents findings of a 3-year research project (2001-2003) on the influence of intellectuals on the design of politics in China, Japan and Malaysia, especially after the Asian Crisis of the 1990s], pp 315-317.

>Far eastern economic review

V.168,n.10 -- Nov 2005 -- 1) Bernard K. Gordon, "Asia's trade blocs imperil the WTO" [Charlene Barshefsky (former trade representative for the Clinton administration) warned in September that China is rapidly creating an 'informal trade union' with ASEAN -- Some specific references to Singapore and Malaysia... particularly regarding a Mahathir proposal pointedly excluding Australia and New Zealand, and Singapore's endorsement], pp 5-10; **2)** Colum Murphy, "Friction along the Thai-Malay divide" [Malaysia-Thailand relations have deteriorated so rapidly in recent months as to resemble those of 'two clashing teenagers' -- The conflict between Thai government officials and Malay residents in southern Thailand is literally spilling over into neighboring Malaysian territory, with 131 Thai Muslims fleeing across the border to seek refuge in Malaysia -- A first step for reconciliation could come soon, when former Malaysian PM Mahathir Mohamad meets with Thai PM Thaksin Shinawatra in Bangkok, although it is not clear in what capacity Mahathir will be acting -- A condensed history of the problem(s)], pp 21-25; **3)** Colum Murphy, "Interview" [Colum Murphy's interview of Gothom Arya, secretary-general of Thailand's National Reconciliation Commission (NRC), for finding a peaceful solution to conflict between Malays and Thai government officials in southern Thailand [Gothom Arya (GA) a bit ambivalent about the PM's directives in the South -- GA wants to address the issue of identity, suggests more democracy and some self rule in the South ... recognition of 'local majority rule' -- Would rule out South joining Malaysia -- Recognizes that the 131 people who fled from Thailand to Malaysia should not lose their human rights and well-being no matter which country will provide that], pp 56-57; **4)** "From the Archives" (of *FEer*) [A reprint of an interesting article, "A more peaceful South" by Rodney Tasker in V.126,n.41, Oct 11, 1984, p 28, that echos the present], pp 78-79.

V.168,n.11 - Dec 2005 -- 1) Phar Kim Beng, review of Ken Conby's *The second front: inside Asia's most dangerous terrorist network*, 256 pp. Equinox Publishing [Book goes straight to the heart of how political Islam has tried to entrench itself in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and parts of the Philippines and Thailand... a possible 'regional Islamic super state' through the auspices of Jemaah Islamiyah -- Provides details on networks and exchanges fostered by JI with other militant groups, and of military training in

Afghanistan and Mindanao, etc.], pp 70-72.

>Global change: peace & security

V.17.n.3 -- Oct 2005 -- Issue title: "Security and co-operation in Asia Pacific: Chinese and Australian perspectives, a symposium" -- 1) Mark Beeson, review of Ho Khai Leong & Samuel C.Y. Ku (eds), 2005, *China and Southeast Asia: global changes and regional challenges*, 327 pp. Singapore: IEAS, [Notes that "... two chapters on China-Taiwan-Southeast Asian relations, as well as specific considerations of China-Malaysia and China-Singapore relations... while both interesting and useful, would seem less important than China's relations with Indonesia and the Philippines ... nonetheless Liow's study of Malaysian foreign policy suggests that smaller countries (in the region) do have a capacity to creatively exploit both China's rise and its pursuit of regional influence"], pp 318-319.

>Indonesia and the Malay world

V.33.n.96 -- Jul 2005 -- 1) Waveney Jenkins, "Spirit of wood exhibition and lectures at the Brunei Gallery, SOAS, London, January 2004" [introduction to the volume], pp 93-96; 2) Rosnawati Othman, "The language of the Langkasukan motif" [Notes that the most important about the *keris* is that it functions as far more than just a weapon, and serves functions vital to Malay society, as symbol of power and status, talisman or spiritual guardian of its owner, family heirloom embodying family character and history, and a prerequisite of the complete Malay costume -- Defines the Langkasukan motif, principles of composition, and application of the motif -- beautifully illustrated], pp 97-111; 3) Annabel Teh Gallop, "The spirit of Langkasuka? Illuminated manuscripts from the east coast of the Malay peninsula" [A survey of illuminated Islamic manuscripts from the Malay peninsula reveals a somewhat variable, but basically even pattern of distribution, which is described -- Describes the East Coast styles of manuscript illumination and architecture, delineating Terengganu and Patani styles -- Other sections on the art of the East Coast Qur'an, lithographed Qur'ans in the East Coast style, illumination in non-Qur'anic manuscripts, and other matters such as palette, paper, page size, bindings, and questions of identity -- Excellent illustrations and catalogue list], pp 113-182; 4) Fiona Kerlogue, "Jambi Batik: a Malay tradition?" [Raises the question of whether Malay *batik* is distinct from *batik made by Javanese* and widely *traded by Malays* -- Illustrated], pp 183-204.

>International migration

V.43.n.5 -- 2005 -- 1) Suresh Narayanan & Yew-Wah Lai, "The causes and consequences of immigrant labour in the construction sector of Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- Malaysian construction highly dependent (70%) on immigrant labor -- Huge contribution to sector's rapid expansion, but some serious costs... immigrants (mostly unskilled) did not contribute to skill formation but, after learning skills in

Malaysia, returned home -- But no evidence that immigrants displaced domestic workers since they were concentrated in jobs rejected by Malaysians -- Immigrants no longer a cheap option for labor because of government regulation of their employment -- Despite the large immigrant presence, the general wage level increased -- Also cost effects of need for supervision of immigrant workers -- Over reliance on immigrant labor a possible problem, because of its almost singular source is Indonesia], pp 31-57.

>Islamic law and society

V.12.n.1 -- 2005 -- 1) See especially, Jajat Burhanudin, "Aspiring for Islamic reform: Southeast Asian requests for *fatwas* in *Al-Manar*" [Some specific Malaysian & Singapore content -- Whole volume mostly relevant to Indonesia... the papers focused on Malaysia and Singapore apparently to be published elsewhere... but, anyway, many Indonesians have migrated to Malaysia and Singapore], pp 9-26.

>Itinerario: international journal on the history of European expansion and global interaction

V.xxix.n.3 - 2005 -- 1) Sunil S. Amrith, review of Paul Kratoska, Henk Schulte Noordholt & Remco Raben (eds). 2005. *Locating Southeast Asia: geographies of knowledge and politics of space*. 326 pp. Athen, OH & Singapore: Ohio University Press & Singapore University Press. ISBN Pb 9971-69-288-0 [From the review -- One major theme in this book, written by many scholarly authors, is the question of perspective(s) -- It poses Donald Emerson's question of 20 years ago... "What's in a name?" ... but with more recent concerns, such as what it means to study the region and its boundaries in the age of globalization -- The editors argue that Southeast Asia emerged as a regional concept not from any collective identity within the region, but from the need of Europe, America and Japan to deal collectively with a set of territories; and that academics have shifted away from the nation state to the processes of globalization -- Wang Gungwu argues that Southeast Asia was constituted differently from British and Chinese perspectives, each according to their particular strategic interests in the region, and that a local Southeast Asian perspective is still lacking -- Tongchai Winichakul contrasts the Thai imperial view of Southeast Asia, which views neighboring countries as either dependents or as past and potential enemies -- Other authors include: Heather Sutherland, Wang Gungwu, Shimizu Hajime, Stein Tonneson, Willem Von Schendel, Eric Tagliacozzo, Willem Wolters, Howard Dick, and Cynthia Chou], pp 214-216.

>Journal of international affairs

V.59.n.1 - Fall/Wntr -- 1) J. Ashley Roach, "Enhancing maritime security in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore" [From the Conclusion -- Cooperation is essential, capacity building is available, and methods for cooperation in combating the international threats can have a common physical and legal foundation -- None of the states bordering the Straits of Malacca and Singapore alone can satisfactorily defend their territorial integrity against criminals who have no

respect for national borders], pp 97-116; 2) Zou Keyuan, "Seeking effectiveness for the crackdown of piracy at sea" [A section directly relevant to Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia, pp 126-127], 117-134

>Journal of Southeast Asian education: the official journal of SEAMEO

V.r.ns.1&2 - 2004-2005 -- 1) Paull J. Bisnette, "Education and economy in Singapore: a foundation with pillars?" [From the Abstract -- In Singapore, education has evolved primarily in response to economic development and nation-building -- Economic policy has driven educational reform ... heavy government investment in human capital -- Symbiotic relationship between industry and education -- Recent orientation to knowledge-bases in all social sectors -- UNESCO four pillars of educational foundation not addressed fully... compatibility issues regarding local values], pp 4-19.

> Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society

V.lxxviii.pt.1 - 2005 -- 1) Two new CD-ROMs: a) The JSBRAS/JMBRAS author index 1874-2004, including separate indices of book reviews and obituaries; b) The contents index from 1980 (date of the last hard copy contents) to 2004... RM35 each or RM60 for both including postage -- Also, available microfilms of all journals published by the society from 1878 to 2000, plus indices (total 47 reels)... full details at www.mbras.org.my ; c) Forthcoming Reprints (#24 & # 25) of W.W.Skeat's *Malay Magic* w/introduction by John Gulick & appendix with later and previously unpublished annotations by Skeat -- And *Articles from JSBRAS/JMBRAS on Chinese Influence in Southeast Asia with Particular Reference to Admiral Zheng He*, edited by Geoff Wade], backcover.

>Malaysian business

Jul16th-31st -- 1) A. Kadir Jasin, "Other thots: a question of integrity" [Mostly from the *precis* -- From wielding the big stick on corrupt politicians to deviant sect leaders to immoral youths, it would seem that integrity is on the wane these days -- This shouldn't be the case, especially since it has been made a cornerstone of government policy -- Although the government has made integrity another cornerstone of its policy, it appears that, like many other recent policies and initiatives, it is yet to be fully understood and embraced by the masses], pp 6-7; 2) Datuk Mustapa Mohamed, Minister in the PM's Dept, "Fiscal prudence's the answer". [From the *precis* -- A vicious rumor in town has it that the government has run out of money to spend -- To dispel such unfounded talk, we take a look at how the government budgets its money -- In Malaysia, borrowing comes mainly from domestic sources -- If someone comes up with a project proposal and there is no provision in the Budget, we cannot spend the money -- To some people this indicates that the government has no money], pp 10-11;

3) James S, "End of petrochemical boom?" [From the *precis* -- Analysts say the petrochemical industry has reached the peak of its cycle and is now due for a correction -- Has this got anything to do with Titan Chemical's lackluster stock performance?], pp 18-20; 4) Clarence Y.K. Ngui, "Challenging road" [Former PM Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad saw Proton as a center piece of establishing the nation's industrial economy, and now, as a Proton advisor he sees that it is again facing issues that could have a significant bearing on the future Malaysian economy], pp 26-32.

>New political science: a journal of politics & culture

V.27.n.3 Sep -- 2005 -- 1) Krista Johnson & Meredith Weiss, "Who sets social policy in metropolis? Economic positioning and social reform in Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Changes in Singapore's social policy reflect its concerted effort to craft itself as transnational hub, international business center, and home-away-from-home for skilled, moneyed cosmopolitans who drive the global political economy... as well as changing sociopolitical realities and popular attitudes -- Shifts in the *de jure* and *de facto* treatment of gays and lesbians provide a stark demonstration of these dynamics -- Examines why the Singapore government has taken steps toward greater official tolerance of gays and lesbians, despite potential backlash -- Considers how far transnational environment & forces of globalization might diminish states' sovereignty in setting social policy], pp 267-289.

>New Straits Times online

Jan/22/2006 -- 1) Abdul Razak Ahmad, "Comment: 'ideal' schools face multi-culturalism woe" [From the article's preface -- Introduction of Mandarin and Tamil in schools nationwide has been delayed by a shortage of teachers -- Big hurdle to the government's effort to make national schools more appealing to all ethnic groups will be to overcome entrenched stereotypes about what multi-culturalism should mean in Malaysia -- Is it possible to build a school system that can truly unite multi-ethnic and multi-religious Malaysia while catering to its diversity? -- "Such a school would have to offer a single national curriculum. But it would also have to be one where Chinese pupils could learn Mandarin; Indians, Tamil; and Malays could delve into Arabic, learn Jawi and gain in-depth knowledge about Islam. And where any one of them could study each other's languages out of interest." -- Plus more of the most current details ...] , 3 pages.

>RELC journal (A journal of language teaching and research in SEA)
V.36.3 - Dec 2005 -- 1) Mary Wong Siew Lian, "Language learning strategies and language self-efficacy: investigating the relationship in Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- Study explored graduate pre-service teachers' language learning strategies and language self-efficacy and the relationship between these two constructs, based on 74 (13 males, 61 females) graduate English-as-a-second-language (ESL program) graduates from a teachers college in Kuching, Sarawak -- Six categories of language learning strategies

were identified from their responses to seven hypothetical learning contexts -- Pearson correlation coefficients show that there is a significant positive relationship between language learning strategies and language self-efficacy -- Best students most frequently used more strategies than did low self-efficacy pre-service teachers], pp 245-269; **2)** Debbie Guan Eng Ho, "Why do teachers ask the questions they ask?" [From the Abstract -- Shows how It is possible to challenge the argument concerning question types and purposes used by ESL teachers through a three-level question analysis], pp 297-310; **3)** Stephen A. Bird, "Language learning edutainment: mixing motives in digital resources" [From the Abstract -- Reports a study of English language learners who were asked to use and report their experiences with a digital video system, *L1* -- Discusses *L1*'s consequent design modifications and design considerations for language learning], pp 311-339.

>Rima: review of Indonesian and Malaysian affairs

V.38,n.2 -- 2004 -- 1) Christine Campbell, review of Julian Miller (ed), 2004, *Bidasari: jewel of Malay Muslim Culture*. xi, 310 pp. Leiden: KITLV Press. ISBN 90-6718-224-9. [Provides a very compact description of the plot, history and cultural contexts of the *syair* along with details of the analysis in this book, noting other English and Dutch translations, and other media such as theatre and film -- An interesting bit on translation as the art of compromise.], pp 180-183.

>Strategic analysis

V.29,n.2, Apr-Jun - 2005 -- 1) Sujit Dutta, "Securing the sea frontier: China's pursuit of sovereignty claims in the South China Sea" [From the Abstract -- The expansive maritime sovereignty claims of China in the South China Sea flow from 3 key goals: a) completion of its incomplete nationalist project of territorial consolidation and unification; b) desire to control the contested maritime periphery; and c) garnering sea-based resources such as oil and gas critical for fuelling the economy and rapid modernization ... putting them at odds with Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam... as well as other interested parties such as Taiwan and Japan], pp 269-294; **2)** Gurpreet S. Khurana, "Cooperation among maritime security forces: imperatives for India and Southeast Asia" [From the Abstract -- A realignment of states with the end of the Cold War -- India's 'Look East' policy initiated an economic engagement with its eastern neighborhood to generate political trust and eventually forge multifaceted bonds -- Saliency of Southeast Asian countries geo-strategic terms -- Identifying complementarities and cooperation in terms of coordinated operations -- Maritime stakes and security challenges in the Malacca Straits... Malaysia and Singapore, etc.], pp 295-316.

>The economist

(See also www.economist.com/cities ...e.g., Singapore news)

Oct 22nd-28th -- 2005 -- 1) "Emerging-market indicators" [Singapore's trade surplus narrowed to \$16.8 billion in the

3rd quarter of 2005], p 114.

Oct 29th-Nov4th -- 2005 -- 1) "Emerging-market indicators" [Industrial production growing briskly in many parts of Asia ... In the year to September, it grew a prodigious and unexpected 21.1 % in Singapore, the leader by a large margin], p106.

Nov 5th-11th -- 2005 -- 1) "Chinese companies: over the Great Wall" [The China banking regulator, this week, confirmed reports that the investment arm of Central Huijin Investment, the biggest shareholder of the Bank of China, has voted to block a long-mooted plan by Singapore's Temasek to take a 10% stake in the lender], p 71; **2)** "Emerging-market indicators: using technology" [Hong Kong and Singapore lead the world in their capacity to exploit information and communication technology (ICT), according to the World Bank, based on the availability, quality, affordability, efficiency and adoption of ICT... rankings correlate strongly with GDP per head, though Singapore is one of a few other countries that do better than incomes suggest], p 114.

Nov 26th-Dec2nd -- 2005 -- 1) "Singapore cloudburst of ghouls: Geeks gather for the world gaming championships" [World cyber games (WCG) 2005 drew over 700 boys and men and 1 woman (all mostly under 35 years of age) who crossed swords (so-to-speak) over 8 games, complete with commentators -- Contestants were winners from among 1.25m people participating in qualifying tournaments in 67 countries and the prize money from firms exceeded \$2.5m], p 54; **2)** "Emerging-market indicators" [Singapore's inflation rate rose to 1.1% in October], p 116; **3)** "Remittances" [About 30-45% of remittances to poor countries comes from other parts of the developing world, such as Malaysia and South Africa], p 116.

Dec10th-16th -- 2005 -- 1) "The East Asia summit: time to talk" [Half the world (49% of the global population represented) sits down together in Kuala Lumpur for the first East Asia Summit -- First meetings with China, Japan and South Korea bilaterally, then ASEAN+3 -- India, Australia and New Zealand invited, but not America -- Excited talk on an Asian version of the European Union probably hugely premature... but an emerging East Asian community of other more beneficial interests: trade, investment, financial co-operation and health concerns such as AIDS and avian flu -- The summiteers already do more than half (51%) of their total trade with each other], pp 13-14.

Dec17th-23rd -- 2005 -- 1) "East Asian diplomacy: dead on arrival" [Kuala Lumpur -- First East Asia Summit not a grand summit, but a 'damp squib' -- Official slogan of the summit was "One vision, one identity, one community" -- Its mission to bring together the leaders of nations with half the world's population, and to create a common purpose... but with Japan and China not on talking terms prospects were dim. -- The summit planned to be annual event in tandem with meetings of ASEAN & ASEAN+3 which includes China, Japan & South Korea as well as India, Australia and New

Zealand... but China will probably ignore the wider forum and concentrate exclusively on ASEAN+3], p 40.

Dec24th-2005 -- Jan6th-2006 -- 1) "Obituary: Devan Nair" [Mostly about C.V. Devan Nair's political career and his times in prison and one of his lawyers, Lee Kuan Yew, who loathed both communism and wild parties and thus, in the end, was also was one of Devan Nair's detractors], p. 122.

Jan14th-20th - 2006 -- 1) "Asia: the jobless boom" [While unemployment in Asia is normally not a problem... so many people are too poor not to work, and Asian economies usually generate many new jobs; but now there are more new workers than there are new jobs -- In Malaysia, the ratio of employment growth to economic growth in the 1990s has been lower than in the 1980s; but in Singapore, the ratio of employment growth to economic growth in the 1990s has been higher than in the 1980s... article does not really explain why], pp 46-47.

Jan21st-27th - 2006 -- 1) Yeong Yoon Ying (Press Secretary to Minister Mentor, Singapore), "Letters: Devan Nair" [A lengthy complaint about statements in *The economist* Dec24th-2005/Jan6th-2006 obituary of Devan Nair (see above) -- Followed by a formal apology by the editorial staff of *The economist*, recognizing that the statements attributed to Mr Lee in the obituary and referred to in Yeong Yoon Ying's complaint were false, apologizing to Mr Lee for having published them... unreservedly withdrawing them... agreeing to pay Mr Lee damages and indemnifying him from all costs incurred in connection with the matter], p 14.

Jan28th-Feb3rd - 2006 -- 1) "Thailand: Thaksin helps himself" [A politically and economically astute asset sale by the prime minister -- The PM says that his relatives' decision to sell their stake in the Shin Corporation (a consortium led by Singapore's Temasek ... which controls Singapore Telecom) which he had to 'transfer' to them when he became PM, was an act of patriotic self-sacrifice... to put an end of his critics complaints of the PM's conflicts of interest, which almost cost him his job in 2001, etc.], pp 39-40; **2)** "Emerging-market indicators: overview" [Inflation rose in Singapore to 1.3% from January to December 2005 and the 12 month trade surplus widened to \$29.6 billion in December], p 102.

>**The international history review**

V.27.n.1&2 - 2005 -- 1) Nicholas Tarling, review of Donald B. Freeman, 2003, *The Straits of Malacca: gateway or gauntlet?* xxix, 249 pp. Montreal & Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press. [An ambitious book -- Author adopts a multidisciplinary approach and offers an answer to the question the books title poses... and offers much more -- Reviewer's only quibble is that little is said about the naval base at Singapore... "a subject on which historians have written copiously"], pp 114-116; **2)** Peter Duus, review of Ken'ichi Goto (w/ Paul H. Kratoska, editor & introduction), 2003, *Tensions of empire: Japan and Southeast Asia in the*

Colonial and Postcolonial World. xxiv, 349 pp. Athens, OH & Singapore: Ohio University Press & Singapore University Press. [Since WWII, Japan has had better relations with Southeast Asian countries than with immediate neighbors China and Korea -- Twelve published and unpublished articles by Ken'ichi Goto, one of Japan's leading historians of Japan/Southeast Asia relations -- Articles groups around three themes: a) Japanese perceptions of and cultural relations with Western colonies in SEA before 1945; b) the occupation of the Dutch East Indies; and c) the residual impact of Japanese occupation on post-war Southeast Asia - - Ends with challenges], pp 418-420

>**The Pacific review**

V.18.n.4 -- Dec 2005 -- 1) Alan Colins, "Securitization, Frankenstein's Monster and Malaysian education" [From the Abstract -- In 2002 the Malaysian government announced it would reintroduce English as a medium of instruction in all Malaysian primary schools -- Reaction of Tamil, Malay and Chinese educationalists was damning -- Chinese (Mandarin) educationalists were especially upset and the government threatened them with action under provisions of the Internal Security Act (Some Chinese educationalists detained previously under the ISA in 1987) -- Author uses the Copenhagen School's categories of social security and scrutinization to reveal why the medium of instruction used in Chinese National primary schools is regarded as a matter of security by Chinese educationalists... their goal is to keep the issue at the politicized end of the securitization spectrum -- A revealing study of the perilous state of Mandarin education in Malaysia's national education system], pp 567-588.

Books Books books books (Relevant to M/S/B)

>**Akashi, Yoji**

2005 *British Malaya and Singapore during the Japanese Occupation*. 320 pp. Singapore: Singapore University Press Pb ISBN 9971-69-299-6. [From the catalogue -- A collection of articles by major authors from a project that gathered many important materials relevant to Japanese activities during the occupation -- An important project because the Japanese destroyed most of the documents related to their administration of Malaya -- Interviewed many former soldiers -- Results show how Japanese viewed the war and occupation in Malaya.]

>**Cheah Boon Kheng**

2005 *To' Janggut: legends, histories, and perceptions of the 1915 Rebellion in Kelantan*. Singapore: Singapore University Press. 200 pp (est). Pb ISBN 9971-69-316-X. [From the catalogue -- Deconstructs popular legend about the 1915 uprising in Kelantan against British rule led by To' Janggut as recounted in folk tales, newspapers and scholarly publications -- Uses previously classified official reports and previously unknown photographs -- Author's purpose not to verify the facts, but rather to consider the broader

significance of the uprising: for example, was To' Janggut rebelling against the Sultan, or was he being used by the Sultan?... Were the aristocracy supporting the Sultan, or were they attempting to unseat him?... Was it a tax rebellion or an uprising against colonialism?]

>Cheung, Anthony B.L. (ed)

2005 *Public service reform in East Asia: reform issues and challenges in Japan, Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong*. 310 pp. Hong Kong: Chinese University Press. Pb 962-996-2349. [From www.chineseupress.com -- Most Asian governments do not adequately cope with changing globalism in terms of capital and technology because traditional bureaucracy has been strong compared to the weak sense of community – Traditional relations between government, business sector and labor, which slowly evolved in the last two decades, are now once again challenged thru decolonialization in Hong Kong, democratization in Korea, decentralization in Singapore and technological innovation in Japan -- Addresses a variety of selected reform issues confronted by these economies -- Areas of reform covered range from human resource management, financial management and pay reform, to central agency role, service improvements, private sector involvement and political accountability.]

>Dulyakasem, Uthai & Lertchai Sirichai (eds)

2006 (*Knowledge and*) *Conflict management: a case study of southern border in crisis*. Nakhon Sri Thammarat: Faculty of Liberal Arts, Walailak University (w/support of the Asia and the William and Flora Hewlett foundations). No info on pagination or ISBN nr. [Info on online *Bangkok Post*, 31 Dec 2005 ...Thanks to Julia S. Lamb, Outreach Coordinator, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, NIU who provided some details and web address: http://www.bangkokpost.com/311205_Outlook/31Dec2005_out14php .

Apparently, the "(*Knowledge and*)" version of the title refers to the Thai language version, which is now in print, and the shorter title is that of the forthcoming English version -- The *Bangkok Post* on-line article, "Giving Muslims a voice: new book examines the violence in the south" notes the rising violence in the South has cost more than 1,100 lives as well as many (more) wounded in the last 2 years, and that a number of books focusing on the region and its problems have been published, each with a particular perspective, but that this new volume, purports to be comprehensive – At the recent book launch, historian Nidhi Eoseewong reflected on the need for Thai Muslims to have more freedom to peacefully express their needs and opinions – The seven chapters of the book deal with different aspects of the problematic region: a) Phuwadol Songprasert deals with a long history of conflicts as background to the recent unprecedented level; b) Chaiwat Sathanand analyzes emergence of absolutism within democracy, which adds complexity to solving disputes; c) In contrast, Lertchai

Sirichai discusses the peaceful movement of small-scale fishermen in Pattani, who reclaimed the right to manage natural resources, withstanding the flux of large trawlers; d) Chidchanolk Rahimmula explores the different interest groups and their roles in the on-going spate of violence; e) James R. Klein noted the uniqueness of southern Muslims, and that there is a need for the government to listen to southern Muslims; f) Ibrahim Narongraksaket discussed the role and influence of the pondoks of Pattani in the relation of religion and language in shaping worldviews of Muslim youths; g) Amporn Marddent dealt with little-known struggles of Muslim women and their need to be empowered to engage more actively in the process of political, economic and social development.]

>George, Cherian

2006 *Contentious journalism & the internet: towards democratic discourse in Malaysia & Singapore*. 288 pp. Singapore: Co-published by Institute of Policy Studies (NUS Press) & U. of Washington Press. Pb ISBN 9971-69-325-9. [From the catalogue & www.nus.edu.sg -- The internet is used to democratize public discourse in Malaysia & Singapore... countries between liberal democracies and authoritarian states, where websites emerge at the margins of the political system and engage in contentious journalism, challenging the prevailing consensus prevails in mainstream media -- Examines arguments that explain this development in terms of technology and of differing norms of journalism and democracy.]

>Hussin, Abd. Rahim Abd. Rashid Sufean

2005 *Career development and unemployment problems in Malaysia: crisis of education and training*. 87 pp. K.L.: Utusan Publication & Distribution SND Bhd. Pb ISBN 9676117676. [Explores key issues and problems of Malaysian graduates regarding the disconnect between education and employment -- Issues: a) career decisions of suburban secondary school students; b) roles of career service centers; c) structural unemployment of youth; d) career development strategies; e) career development in engineering, etc.]

>Kathirithamby-Wells, Jeyamalar

2005 *Nature and nation: forests and development in Peninsular Malaysia*. 384 pp. Singapore: Singapore University Press. Pb ISBN 9971-69-302-X. [From the catalogue -- Explores relations between people and forests in Peninsular Malaysia, where one of Earth's richest terrestrial ecosystems met one of the most rapid economic transformations in the tropics -- history, culture, science, economics and politics provide a holistic interpretation -- a major contribution.]

>Kausar, Zeenath

2005 *Social ills in Malaysia: causes and remedies*. xi, 97 pp. K.L. : Research Center, International Islamic University Malaysia. Pb ISBN 9832957303. [Presents selected statistics on some social problems in Malaysia, attempting to identify causes and suggest remedial measures – Rape, incest, sexual harassment in the work place, increased divorce rates, drug addiction of youth – Notes that problems have not been addressed by leaders of society.]

>Khoo, Gaik Cheng

2006 *Reclaiming adat: contemporary Malaysian film and literature*. Vancouver, BC: UBC Press. xi, 254 pp. Hb ISBN 978-0-7748-1172-9. [From the back cover – “In the early 1990’s, the animist and Hindu traces in Malay *adat* became contentious for resurgent Islam in Malaysia – This book focuses on the film makers, intellectuals and writers who reclaimed *adat* to counter the homogenizing aspects of both Islamic discourse and globalization – In this project of cultural recuperation, they emphasized sexuality and a return to archaic forms, such as magic and traditional healing -- Khoo Gaik Cheng’s close reading of texts in literature and film reveals and elucidates the tensions between gender, modernity and nation, weaving a wealth of cultural theory into a rare analysis of Malay cinema -- Khoo Gaik Cheng weaves cultural theory and the work of new Malaysian Anglophone writers into a rare analysis of Malay cinema, making an essential contribution to knowledge about the complexities embedded in modern Malaysian culture, politics and identity.]

>Liu Kang & Ho Ho Ying (T.K. Sabapathy & Cheo Chai-Hiang, eds; Cheo Chai-Hiang, translator)

2005 *Re-connecting: selected writings on Singapore art and art critics*. Singapore: Institute for Contemporary Arts, LASALLE-SIA College for the Arts, Singapore (distributed by Singapore University Press). 136 pp. Pb ISBN 981-05-4016-7. [From the catalogue – Authors are important painters and also art writers and critics who shaped Singapore’s art scene from the 1950’s through the 1970s – The editors have unparalleled understanding of art criticism in Singapore through the years.]

>Sinha, Vineeta

2005 *A new god in the diaspora? Muneeswaran worship in contemporary Singapore*. Singapore: Singapore University Press. 360 pp. Pb ISBN 9971-69-321-6. [From the catalogue – Examines the worship of a Hindu deity in contemporary Singapore – Documents a neglected aspect of local Hinduism and the ritual domain of surrounding guardian deities – Author asks why this deity, from Tamilnadu to Malaya more than 170 years ago, has such a strong appeal among young Singaporean Hindus – Documents contemporary urban-based Hindu religiosity in Singapore.]

>Soong, Kua Kia (ed)

2005 *Policing the Malaysian police*. xx, 88 pp. Malaysia: Suaram Komunikasi. Pb ISBN 9834136722. [Describes police abuse of suspects, abuse of power, deaths by shooting, lack of published accounts of police abuse and corruption, suppression of peaceful assemblies; And, also of submissions of proposals and recommendations by concerned Malaysian NGOs for reforming the police force.]

>Subasinghe, Rohana P., J. Richard Authur & Mohamed Shariff

2005 *Health management in Asian aquaculture*. xv, 142 pp. New Delhi: Daya Publishing House. Hb ISBN

8170353890. [From abebooks.com -- Consists of the technical papers presented at Universiti Pertanian Malaysia in May 1995, and is a supplement to the report of the consultation with FAO by the Network of Aquaculture Centers in the Asia-Pacific region (NACA), the Aquatic Animal Health Research Institute (AAHRI), the South-East Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and the Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM), in collaboration with the Fish Health Section of the Asian Fisheries Society (FHS/AFS).]

Conference Reports

>The Japanese Occupation: sixty years after the end of the Asia-Pacific War – Singapore, Sept 5-6, 2005 – Organized by Assoc Profs Kevin Blackburn & Karl Hack, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological Univ., Singapore, sponsored by the Ministry of Education, Tourism Board & Lee and Tan Foundations – 55 papers from 15 countries – Many panels arranged to debate national & collective memories covering 15 countries, including Malaysia and Singapore – Panel themes included history textbook controversies, war shrines & museums, and war tourism – Some focus on prisoners of war and women and children who were internees as well as experiences of Japanese and Indian prisoners of war, among many other topics – Papers from history, literature and drama, cultural studies, sociology, cultural anthropology, museology, legal studies, geography, education, film and media studies – incorporation of individual memories of war veterans & members of the war generation – Contact for abstracts, etc. : Kevin Blackburn kpblack@nie.edu.sg & Karl Hack kahack@nie.edu.sg . [From *Asian studies newsletter* 50.3]

Scholarly Opportunities: Calls for papers, Conferences, Workshops, Fellowships & Publication

>Submissions invited for a special issue of the *Graduate journal of Asia-Pacific studies* (A fully peer-reviewed journal): “Navigating the future: Asia-Pacific pathways.”– The Asia-Pacific region has been shaped by the movements of peoples, technologies and cultures... crisscrossed with trade routes, seafaring migrations, displacements of warfare thru time, scars of European exploration and imperialist expansions, etc – The modern region retains historical consequences of those events, while recent globalization reconfigures our concepts of geographical space, mobility and travel – Contributors are invited to consider contemporary cultures of travel, migration and movement in the region as well as stasis and friction, examining phenomena at various scales, examining such matters as migratory passages, everyday pathways, tourists and refugees, wartime to peace, local to global, home & belonging, estrangement and exile – How is travel experienced, represented and narrated? What are its

Consequences regarding movement within and/or into & out of the Pacific Rim? -- Contributors from all fields welcome -- For purposes of the special issue, "Asia-Pacific" is defined in the broadest sense (lands in or on the edges of the Pacific Ocean... the Malay Archipelago specifically mentioned -- Deadline for Submissions: February 28, 2006 -- E-mail submissions for the journal issue to Editor, Francis Collins f.collins@auckland.ac.nz . The journal also seeks book reviews... send by e-mail to Ann Pistacchi at ann@pozo.org . For more information go to: www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/qjaps . (From URBANTH-L mailing list).

>Conference on natural resources in the tropics: development and commercialization of tropical natural resources resources, 6-8 June 2006 – The conference is designed to present the latest R&D findings in utilization and management of natural resources, particularly in ASEAN countries, to the private sector, researchers, academicians, managers of resources, industrialists and policy makers – Discussions will encompass issues in sustainable utilization and management of existing natural resources to support national economic development and to identify potential alternative resources such as new potential commercial crops, suitable tree species in forest plantation, alternative sources of energy such as bio fuel, modernization of agriculture, sustainable deep sea fishing and aquaculture and developing timber and commercialized non-timber forest products – Also, there will be deliberations on conservation of biodiversity, environmental management, legislative procedures, socio-economic and marketing strategies – All of the above will be brought into discussion in the exploration and search for potential solutions – Expected attendees: academicians, researchers, policy makers, private sector companies, natural resource managers, NGOs, and individuals involved in natural resource management, land-use planning and development, forestry and forest products, agriculture and plantation management, and environmental policy – Those giving papers or posters are required to send abstracts by **28 February 2006** and papers or posters by **15 April 2006**. Direct further enquires to: e-mail ibipor@frst.unimas.my ; or to website <http://www.unimas.my> .

>American Anthropological Association — Nov 15-19, 2006, Annual Meeting (San Jose) – First deadline: March 1 for urban anthropology panels and papers to SUNTA (theme is "Critical intersections/dangerous issues"); then forwarding to the AAA before March 31, the 2nd deadline -- For details, help/advice go to David W. Haines at dhaines1@gmu.edu and/or Angela Jancius acjanicius@ysu.edu .

>Growing up transnational – Call for contributions for an edited collection of essays on issues of family in transnational context -- Topics may include (but not limited to) scholarly articles that interrogate family relations, identity politics and cultural locations within the family from a feminist perspective, perspectives on effects of trans-nationality on

family life and family relations, family as virtual nation, impact on gender roles, travel across borders, relationship between privilege and (dis) placement, disconnect between origin and ethnic consciousness, identity mapping across borders, trans-nationality and generation conflict, notions of feminism and family, home and domesticity in transnational contexts, virtual and internal border crossings. -- Address letters of inquiry and/or full-length articles (3,000-6,000 words, MLA style, not under consideration elsewhere or previously published) to May Friedman at may@orang-carb.org or Silvia Schulterman at silvisch@rci.rutgers.edu (Submission deadline: 30 April 2006). (From URBANTH-L mailing list)

>"Hegemony and control in public and social urban space in Asia", a session on critical urban geography at the 2006 East Asian regional conference in alternative geography (EARCAG), Taipei, Taiwan – Papers should deal with cities that have been until recently under-researched. Control of public spaces, the city, the urban environment, and associated visual-geographical 'imaginings' imposed by overarching political and state organizations have been the subject of fruitful recent analyses by critical urban geographers... the dynamic spaces of the city, and the articulation and intermeshing of power relations through the built environment has created particular and engaging geographies of control. Cities in Asia under-researched regarding these topics. Focus of this session is to consider power, control and construction of hegemony in cities in East and Southeast Asia: from political discussion in Singapore to Falun Gong in Shanghai, erosion of freedoms in Hong Kong, to spaces of disaffected youth in Tokyo -- Geographers and academics from cognate disciplines from Asian and other countries who research similar topics are welcome to submit proposals – Abstracts to federico.caprotti@geog.ox.ac.uk . Federico Capriotti , Oxford Univ. (Frm URBANTH-L mailing list).

>5th International symposium on aspects of tourism: inequality and growth in the age of tourism – Topics: global and local conflicts in tourism; tourism and development goals; economic exploitation of the exotic; tourism and development methodologies; gender equality and participation; critiques of ecotourism; tourism in particular regions/areas; etc. – Contact Merz Hoare, Centre for Tourism Policy Studies, School of Service Management, Univ. of Brighton. Darley Road, Eastbourne, BN20 7UR U.K. Email: tourismdevelopment@brighton.ac.uk . (From URBANTH-L mailing list).

>Borneo in the new century: call for papers -- The 8th Biennial Conference of the Borneo Research Council (BRC) will be in Kuching, Sarawak , July 31-August 1, 2006 – Jointly organized by BRC and Universiti Malaysia Sarawak's Institute of East Asian Studies, the theme of the conference is "Borneo in the New Century" – Participants are invited to submit papers presenting original research in any field relating to Borneo Studies (Brunei, Sabah, Sarawak,

Kalimantan and the surrounding region. Individual presenter papers are encouraged – Panel proposals: Each panel (4 papers max.) will be allocated 90 minutes -- Proposals should include: 1) panel title; 2) panel convener, with full contact details; 3) titles of papers w/names of authors & contact details; 4) brief paper abstracts (each 150 words or less), which must be submitted by e-mail before 1 May to: Jchin@ieas.unimas.my or James.Chin@lycos.com . Each abstract must indicate: a) title of paper; b) author(s); c) contact details; d) less than 101 word bios of author(s); e) final paper submitted electronically in Word or PDF format; f) lines of text 1.5 spaced; g) Times New Roman font, 12 pt. recommended; h) include Abstract at the top; i) author(s) & address(s) info on a separate page; j) all papers submitted before the deadline, 1 June 2006, will be included in the proceedings; k) Deadlines: abstracts **1 May 2006**; papers, **1 June 2006**; pre-conference registration **1 July 2006**.

Amnesty International

(From Margaret John, Coordinator for Singapore and Malaysia, Amnesty International Canada, and edited by *Berita* to conserve space).

For the latest AI documents, please check our website at www.amnesty.org or www.asipacific.amnesty.org or www.amnesty.ca . Go to <http://www.aimalaysia.org> for more information; or e-mail aimalaysia@aimalaysia.org , and for AI Australia, to <http://www.amnesty.org.au> .

AI YEAR ending in Singapore: I write in the wake of two events in recent weeks that have added during 2005 to more open challenges to, or questions about, Singapore's human rights and political *status quo*. First, the execution of Australian Van Tuong Nguyen, aged 25, and the raw edge that his senseless death leaves. But there is one certainty: Singapore is now recognized internationally as a leader in executions, and other cases (see below) may receive more publicity as a result. And second, the death in Canada of former Singapore President C V Devan Nair, who became a severe critic of then Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, was persecuted and went into exile. Extensive media coverage of his death referred -- at least in the international media -- to Mr Nair's continuing criticism of former political ally Mr Lee and their rival libel suits into recent years. Mr Nair was a founder of the independent Singapore and an acknowledged trade union leader. He was buried December 10, Human Rights Day, in Hamilton, Ontario.

In October, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong again called for a more "inclusive" society, while stating that a free-wheeling democracy and gay-ride parades would not work in Singapore. Those engaged in last year's unprecedented challenges comment that, nevertheless, there is no real movement in that direction by the government. The *Star* article about C V Devan Nair noted that "PAP dissenters like Nair, Ong Teng Cheong and J B Jeyaretnam show how

politics is shifting in the minds of the new generation....[T]he PAP will find that governing in the new era isn't easy at all". (18/12 www.singapore-democrat.org)

Malaysia: AI Malaysia Executive Director Josef Roy says that there is now more awareness of human rights among Malaysians. But promised reform of the policing system has not yet materialized, despite continuing campaigning within Malaysia and internationally. Public concern was heightened by a video showing humiliating treatment of a woman detainee. Suhakam announced plans to investigate every death in custody in the absence of probes by the authorities. Peaceful demonstrators continue to be arrested and subjected to ill-treatment. Despite an influx of asylum seekers, the Malaysian government said it would not ratify international conventions on refugees. There was much opposition to a planned Family Law Bill, which many saw as discriminating against women.

26 Jan 2006 -- "War on Terror": Ahmad Yani bin Ismail & Abdul Samad Shukri Mohamad are among Malaysia's 'forgotten' prisoners" – Arrested Dec 2001, they are still held without trial under the Internal Security Act (ISA), accused of involvement in Jemaah Islamiah (JI), a group allegedly aiming to establish a Pan-Islamic state in Southeast Asia through militant means – Both deny any connection with JI – Their 2-year detention orders expire at the end of February 2006, but their detention may be renewed once again as it was in 2004 – They are among 80+ ISA detainees suspected of Islamic militancy who have been denied opportunity to challenge in court evidence against them -- One detainee, Mohamad Fariq Hafidh alleged that he was continuously beaten, forced to strip naked, and ordered to crawl while entering a room and then kicked in the buttocks.

Prospectus

Berita is a bulletin board, forum and publication for all scholarly disciplines concerned with Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Studies. It is published and distributed mid-month in February, May, August and November.

Address all correspondence and submissions for publication to rprovenc@juno.com or to Ron Provencher, P.O. Box 13336, Burton, WA 98013. Submissions should be sent: (1) as an attachment to an e-mail message to the above e-mail address; OR (2) as a typed manuscript to the above mailing address. The Editor

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