Editor's Note

I am working on an example of how the Berita website can be used to speed communication of research information for our readers... literally as we gather the information each week, rather than having to wait until the next quarter's (more formal) issue. I will let you know by e-mail when it is ready, sometime before volume 31, number 1 is completed.

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Periodicals (Relevant to M/S/B Studies)

> Akademika: jurnal sains kemasyarakatan dan kemanusiaan

Bil 65 Jul 2004  1) Idris Aman, "Bahasa dan kepimpinan: pengkhalyakan wacana Perdana Mentri Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad" (Language and leadership: audienization of the Prime Minister Dato'Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad's discourse) [From the Abstract -- Leadership one of the most important processes in social life -- Quality leadership important, especially in today's world situation, and the leadership process, role of language not to be denied -- Article shows the dialectical relationship between languages in discourse with one aspect of the social process, i.e., leadership -- Discusses how a leader employs language for effective leadership... examples from Mahathir's New Year messages], pp 3-25; 2) Marzuki Mohamad, "Between legalizion of politics and politicization of law: politics, law and economic development in Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- Law at the center of Malaysian politics during the long 22 years of Mahathir Mohamad's premiership -- Use of repressive laws to intimidate and crush political opponents; regression of the judiciary to being handmaidens of the political executive; constitution amendments aggrandizing the executive; anti-pluralist political discourse vis-a-vis individual freedom and fundamental human rights... etc -- On the other hand: the rise of new politics gave rise to new politics, bringing forth cross-ethnic and cross-sectional alliances of social groups challenging government's political legitimacy, as well as emergence of developmentalism as a new legitimating force... and more], pp 45-67; 3) Chan K.L. Geraldine, "Social organization of the business elite and big business growth: Malaysia during the 1990s economic boom" [Analysis of the Malaysian business elite has been mostly concerned with the nature of rapid private business growth of a multi-ethnic segment of the business elite -- Author's research, based on social network analysis, provides a systematic and analytical understanding of the structure of Malaysian business elite social organization and its contribution to the 1990s private big business growth, and also provides a better understanding of the commonly understood personalized character of how the 1990s capitalist business growth was achieved], pp 69-90.

> Asia Pacific viewpoint

V.47,n.2 Aug 2006  1) Tim Bunnel, James D. Sidaway & Carl Grundy-Warr, "Introduction: re-mapping the 'Growth Triangle': Singapore's cross-border hinterland" [Provides a brief history of the 3-year research project about the histories and dynamics of the Growth Triangle (connecting Singapore, Riau-Indonesia and Malaysia) and brief summaries of the four articles that follow], pp 235-240; 2) Cynthia Chou, "Multiple realities of the Growth Triangle: mapping knowledge and the politics of mapping" [From the Abstracts -- The Growth Triangle applauded by the 3 nation states, economists and transnational corporations as an economic success -- But some stark realities: a) It is supplanting older cultural and economic geographies, giving rise to struggles over rights to territories and resources; b) the landscape of Riau-Indonesia has been most dramatically transformed, and cadastral maps of administrators of the Triangle vs. the community maps of indigenous peoples shows differences in spatial ideas of Riau, and highlights different systems of knowledge as upheld by administrators in contrast to indigenous inhabitants -- Comparative study brings attentions to issues of knowledge construction, mapping knowledge and the politics of mapping], pp 241-256; 3) Michele Ford & Lenore Lyons, "The borders within: mobility and enclosure in the Riau Islands" [Border studies literature a strong case against claims for unfettered transnationalism and 'borderlessness' in the globalizing world -- But the focus on movement across borders fails to address bordering practices occurring within the nation-state as a result of transnational activity -- This study extends the concepts of 'enclosure' and 'mobility', confronting different layers of physical and non-physical borderings that have occurred in Indonesia's Riau Islands since they became part of the Indonesia-Malaysia-Singapore Growth Triangle], pp 257-271; 4) Carole Faucher, "Popular discourse on identity politics and decentralisation in Tanjung Pinang public schools" [Explores discrepancies between official rhetoric on Malayness and emerging discourse on national identity among the urban Malay youth of the Indonesian province Kepri -- Malay majority in a multi-ethnic population -- An important center historically for the whole Malay World, has led to attempts to revitalize transnational ethnic awareness based on an inclusive Malay identity framework... But most students tend to reject the connection with neighboring nations... and see a more dynamic democratization in Jakarta as opposed to the more moralistic and patronizing Malaysia and Singapore], pp 273-285; 5) Paul A. Barter, "Multiple dimensions in negotiating the cross-border transport links that connect and divide Singapore and Johor, Malaysia" [Examines roles played by transport facilities in border processes, transport links across borders usually associated uncritically with cross-border 'integration', examining roles played by transport facilities in border processes -- Case studies of three key transport links at the border between Singapore and Johor, Malaysia -- Findings highlight the complexity of border processes and underline the contingent
interactions between different dimensions of cross-border processes sometimes simplistically conflated as ‘integration’, pp 287-303; 6) James Chin, review of Gary Roden, 2004, Transparency and regimes in South-East Asia, xvi, 261 pp, London: Routledge-Curzon, Pb ISBN 0415335825. [Economic and political theorists have argued that economic liberalization, expansion of capitalism, inevitably leads to political openness, supporting the cases by using countries of Eastern Europe and Taiwan and Korea -- This book tries the case in Singapore and Malaysia, which of course are not quite the same as the ‘classic cases’, and even different between themselves -- "The real value of this book lies in its central argument that in South-East Asia, sophisticated capitalism can develop in the absence of liberal social and political regimes."], pp 305-306; 7) Meidyah Indreswari, review of Ho Khai Leong (ed), 2005, Reforming corporate governance in South East Asia: economics, politics, and regulations, 387 pp, Singapore:ISEAS, ISBN 981-230-291-3. [A collection of papers from a research project... Reforming corporate governance in Southeast Asia' presented in the ASEAN Roundtable 2004 -- Divided into two parts: Part I overviews aspects of corporate governance; Part II presents empirical case studies... Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, Philippines and Vietnam -- See especially a) Cheah Kooi Guan (Pt II, Ch5) discusses the experience of corporate governance reform in Malaysia; b) Philip Koh Tong Ngee (Ch6) addresses key issues in corporate governance including measures needed to strengthen corporate governance; c) Kala Anandarajah (Ch 11) reviews effectiveness of corporate governance reforms in public-listed companies in Singapore], pp 306-307.

V.xxxvii.n ii-Jul 2006 -- 1) A.J. Stockwell, review of Norman G. Owen (ed), 2005, The emergence of modern Southeast Asia: a new history, xxiii + 543 pp, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, Pb ISBN 0-8248-2890-9 [A genuine collaborative effort... the product of much deliberation in workshops and through exchange of manuscripts, it derives from In search of Southeast Asia (1971) and is dedicated to John R. W. Small -- Covers Malaysia (by William R. Roff), Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Burma -- Authors mix chapters (which advance the narrative) and thematic chapters (which examine key developments affecting the area as a whole -- Very positive review], pp 269-270; 2) Michael Rose, review of T.R. Moreman, 2005, The jungle, the Japanese and the British Commonwealth armies at war, 1941-45, 277 pp, London & New York: Frank Cass, Hb ISBN 0-7146-4970-8 [Contains a clear and timely message...Military doctrine is continually changing and the imperatives of victory are necessarily always different from those which pertained in the past... Unless the specifics of change are formally identified by military thinkers, disaster will surely follow, as it did in Malaya], pp 273-274.

V.1xv-1 2006 -- 1) Clifford Sather, review of K. Alexander Adelaar (w/assistance of Pak Vitis Kaslem), 2005, Salako or Badamea: sketch grammar, texts and lexicon of a Kanayatn dialect in West Borneo, viii + 328 pp, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, Hb ISBN 3-447-05102-7 [A thorough and knowledgeable review of a book authored by a leading figure in the reconstruction of Proto-Malayic in an area thought by many scholars to have been the homeland of Proto-Malayic from which Malay was derived], pp 119-121; 2) Saito Chie, review of Renato Rosaldo (ed), 2003, Cultural citizenship in Island Southeast Asia: nation and belonging in the hinterlands, x + 228 pp, Berkeley: University of California Press, Pb ISBN 0-520-22748-4 [Focuses on negotiations of first-class citizenship and nation-states from view-points of ethnic minorities and examines processes in which state power culturally excludes minority ethnic groups from the category of citizens -- Develops Geertz,'s and Anderson's works about nation-state formations, reinterpreting the concept of 'primordial sentiments', and criticizes them for focusing only on metropolitans and the elite while ignoring minorities and non-elites -- The six chapters deal with 3 countries: Malaysia, the Philippines and Indonesia], pp 121-123.

V.16.n.3 Sep 2006 -- 1) Wai Hsien Cheah, "Issue involvement, message appeal and gonorrhea: risk perceptions in the US, England, Malaysia and Singapore" [An examination of the impact of involvement with effects of health risk messages -- 911 college students participated in the pretest, 700 students completed the experiment and posttest -- Regardless of message condition, country, and time, high involvement participants reported greater perceived susceptibility, perceived severity, perceived response efficacy, intention to use condoms, condom interpersonal impact, knowledge about gonorrhea, fear arousal, and perceived content learning scores, but lower message reactance and defensive avoidance scores than low involvement participants] pp 293-314.

V.13.n.2 Dec 2005 -- 1) David Seth Jones, "The Central Provident Fund scheme in Singapore: challenges and reform" [From the Abstract -- Explains the features and evolution of the Central Provident Fund (CPF) and reforms it has undergone in recent challenges -- Originally designed as a state managed savings scheme for retirement of members, but over time it was liberalized to let members to use savings for additional purposes -- In recent years two key challenges: a) too many members with insufficient savings for retirement; b) need to restructure the Singapore economy in response to face regional and global competition to sustain profitability of the business sector and enhance employability of older workers -- Government response allowed the CPF contribution rates of employers to be adjusted and the CPF salary ceiling to be lowered to reduce business costs and increase employment of older workers -- Down side of adjustments is less scope for members to accumulate enough savings for retirement; and the response to the second challenge would be at odds with that of the first challenge], pp 75-102.

V.1xvi.n.4 Jul/Aug 2006 -- 1) June Teufel Dreyer, "Sino-Japanese rivalry and its implications for developing nations" [See especially the section titled, 'Regional responses to the rivalry' (pp 553-554) which notes that in the summer of 2004 the navies of Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore began joint patrols of the Straits of Malacca (thru which more than 1/4 of world trade passes, including virtually all oil imported by China & Japan); and that at the same time Malaysia & Singapore joined with Australia, Great Britain and New Zealand to
resurrect a 30-year-old alliance; and Singapore helps keep the U.S. in the area, as a buffer between China-Japan vis-a-vis Southeast Asia, by setting up repair facilities for US military vessels; and more], pp 538-557; 2) Joshua H. Ho, "The security of sea lanes in Southeast Asia" [From the Abstract -- Asian economies still rely heavily on the sea for transportation even though analysts have warned that terrorists and pirates can cause severe economic repercussions by disruption of regional sea trade -- But this article contends that the threat has overstated, and that the affected countries have taken measures that have lowered the risk], pp 558-574.

>Bydragen tot de Taal-, Land-en Volkenkunde 162-2/3 2006 -- 1) Rene’ van den Berg, review of Alexander Adelaar & Nikolaus P. Himmelmann (eds), 2005, The Austronesian languages of Asia and Madagascar. xxi, 841 pp. London: Routledge, Hb ISBN 0700712860 [Deals specifically with the 800 or so non-Oceanic Austronesian language (which together with the 400 or so Oceanic Austronesian languages comprise about 20% of all the world's languages -- Languages found in Malaysia, Brunei, Indonesia, East Timor, Taiwan, Philippines, mainland Southeast Asia -- See especially, Hein Steinhauer’s Ch3, ‘Colonial history and language policy in Insular Southeast Asia and Madagascar’, on ways the colonial powers handled the multi-language situation in the European colonialist areas, highlighting the role of national language and education policy (Malaysia, Indonesia & Philippines... but also language policy in Singapore and Brunei... and more, East Timor -- Among the 22 sketches of languages, see especially those on Old Malay, Colloquial Malay, Sama (Bajau), Moken and Moken ... all 22 written by experts following the same general outline -- Lots of pages on Malay/Indonesian and Javanese], pp 352-355; 2) Benjamin McKay, review of William van der Heide, 2002, Malaysian cinema, Asian film; border crossings and national cultures. 301 pp. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press, Pb ISBN 9053565191 [An intriguing book intended to discover inherent truths about Malaysian cinema and film culture by interrogating it 'at the borders'... literal, geographical, historical, and metaphorical -- Creates a transsexual rubric around the cross-cultural reinterpretations of the classic Hollywood Western genre and traces its influence across cinematic borders in the study of how the 'hamburger' western became a 'spaghetti' western became a 'noodle' western became a 'chop suey' western, and ended up as a 'curry' western... from Hollywood to Japan to China and Hong Kong, etc. -- The reviewer, who emphasizes Malay culture, questions the overall usefulness in this, specifically with respect to Malaysian cinema, recognizing the early Indian influences, but not ignoring later the more recent impact of Malay culture -- Book arranges analysis of 11 chosen films... reviewer thinks more would be better... interesting review and book], pp 373-375; 3) Hein Steinhauer, review of K. Alexander Adelaar (with assistance of Pak Vitus Kaslem), 2005, Salakot or Badamea'; sketch grammar, texts and lexicon of a Kaanayat dialect in West Borneo. vii, 328 pp. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, Hb ISBN 3447051027 [The diversity of local Malay-like language varieties has given rise to the assumption that West Borneo Must have been the homeland of the ancestors of present-day Malay, and of the Malay-like languages of Sumatra and mainland Malaysia... but in-depth studies of West Borneo languages are rare... This is an in-depth study], pp 386-388.

>Contemporary Southeast Asia V.28.n.2 Aug 2006 -- 1) Eric C. Thompson, "Singaporean exceptionalism and its implications for ASEAN regionalism" [From the Abstract -- Singapore a unique polity in the world and in Southeast Asia -- Cites results of a survey conducted at NUS on perceptions of NUS students about countries world-wide and specifically ASEAN countries that demonstrates a sense of Singaporean exceptionalism -- Singapore as 'an exception' within ASEAN and the world -- Does this sense of exceptionalism exemplify challenges to ASEAN integration that are not only of relevance to Singapore but to the region generally?], pp 183-206; 2) Anthony S.K. Shome, review of Patrick Keith, 2005, Ousted! An insider's story of the ties that failed to bind, 198 pp. Singapore: Media Masters [About the separation of Singapore and Malaysia by an insider who felt it was time to unshackle his 'self-censorship' and tell 'a different way of approaching the separation story' -- Reviewer describes the book in some detail, but comments near the end of the review that 'the book promised much but delivered little'], pp 341-345; 3) P. Ramasamy, review of Meredith L. Weiss, 2006, Protest and possibilities: civil society and coalitions for political change in Malaysia, 324 pp. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press [Seeks to examine and analyze how civil society agents cooperate with opposition political parties to bring about democratization of Malaysian society -- Mainly about the rise of the refomasi movement in Malaysia following the ouster of the former Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, and how it sought to build and sustain coalition capital with a wide variety of civil society agents including the mainstream opposition political parties -- five points of critique... but ends with "Scholars interested in Malaysian politics in general and those interested in examining the important question of democratic change in particular should read it".], pp 346-348.

>Critical Asian studies V.38.n.3 Sep 2006 -- 1) Claudia Derichs, Andrea Fleschenberg & Momoyo Hustebeck, "Gendering moral capital: morality as a political asset and strategy of top female politicians in Asia" [From the Abstract -- Moral capital in contrast to social capital remains an under-researched topic in political science -- But moral capital in Asia is one of the core assets of women politicians on their way to power -- Addresses 2 questions: a) In which circumstances does moral capital become a significant asset for women rising to the top echelons of political power; b) How do women politicians use moral capital as a political strategy, campaign instrument, or asset of public imaging? -- The authors discuss 4 case studies of female opposition politicians: a) Burma’s Aung San Suu Kyi, Malaysia’s Wan Azizah, South Korea’s Park Geun-hye, and Japan’s Tanaka Makiko, in 3 types of systems: democratic, semi-authoritarian, and authoritarian -- Similarities and differences], pp 245-270.

>Current history: a journal of contemporary world affairs V.105.n.692 Sep 2006 -- 1) Joshua Kurlantzich, "China's charm offensive in Southeast Asia" [Winning friends and influencing people, Beijing embraces the role of benign power in the region -- Very little specifically about Malaysia, Singapore or Brunei; but generally relevant], pp 270-276.

>Development (conflicts over natural resources) V.49.n.3 Sep 2006 -- 1) Meenakshi Raman, "Environmental
struggles in Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- The author addresses general environmental deterioration and attendant social changes in Malaysia; and, in greater detail, the social and economic displacement of the Penan people in the Malaysian state of Sarawak; arguing that we must integrate environmental imperatives with economic development in order to save nature and improve living standards of the poor and disadvantaged], pp 38-42.

>Far Eastern economic review
V.169,n.7 Sep 2006 -- 1) Gary Kitching, "Letters: Singapore's shame" [No surprise that Singapore's government enforced new rules on Far Eastern economic review and others for the 'privilege' of circulating news and knowledge -- The new requirements, including security deposit and appointment of a legal representative in Singapore are obviously to silence individuals and all media reporting on any matters that political leaders regard undesirable -- Government libel suits against media that are among the most respected in the world], p 6; 2) Gary Roden, review of Carl A. Trocki, 2005, Singapore: wealth, power and the culture of control, 211 pp. New York: Routledge. [Offers a refreshingly different look at Singapore's colonial and postcolonial history, emphasizing continuities in its history of authoritarian rule and struggles involving its Chinese majority -- Also makes the most theoretically explicit statement yet that social conflict is the decisive force for change -- Plus a concise description of the book almost chapter by chapter], pp 68-70.

V.169,n.8 Oct 2006 -- 1) Hugo Restall, "From the editor" [A review of the Singaporean government's recent decision to ban the circulation of FEer in Singapore and file a defamation lawsuit against the publisher for circulating the article "Singapore's 'Martyr,' Chee Soon Juan," in July this year], pp 6-9; See also., 2) Gary Chua Sheng Yang, "Letters: abuse of freedom" and Mr. Chee's response to it], pp 10-11; 3) Gary Roden, "Singapore's founding myths vs. freedom" [The PAP's determination to insulate its foundational myths remains resolute], pp 13-17; 4) Michael D. Barr, "The charade of meritocracy," [The rhetoric of meritocracy has given Singaporeans the consolation of believing that their ruling elite are the best of bests and can therefore be trusted almost blindly on important matters, even though they are highhanded and lack a common touch] pp 18-22; 5) Hugo Restall, "Financial center pipedreams" [Singapore deserves credit for financial market deregulation since 1998 and the opening of local banking to foreign competition, but if it continues a strategy that alienates neighboring states it cannot realize its ambition of becoming a full-fledged financial hub], pp 23-26; 6) Alvino-Mario Fantini & Hugo Restall, "The Far Eastern economic review's barometer of Asian development 2006" [16 factors/Perfect score of total factor points = 125; Malaysia = 4 (many minus scores); Singapore = 67; Thailand & China highest = 70], pp 58-61.

>Global networks: a journal of transnational affairs
V.6,n.1 Jan 2006 -- 1) Junho H. Choi, George A. Barnett & Bum-Soo Chon, "Comparing world city networks: a network analysis of internet backbone and air transport intercity linkages" [From the Abstract -- Looks at the structure of the internet backbone and air transport networks between 82 cities in 2002, using internet backbone bandwidth and air passenger traffic data -- Centrality measures on individual city’s hierarchy in the internet and in the air traffic networks were significantly correlated, with London in the most dominant position in both networks -- Quadratic assignment showed a structural equivalence between 2 systems -- The division & membership of the clusters in both networks also showed similarity: both had a strong cohesive North American-European cluster with the London-New York dyad the strongest linkage in the global flow of information and people -- Top 25 ranked central cities in World: a) 1st-25th Internet backbone... London 1st, New York 2nd... no SEA cities; b) 1st-25 air passengers ... London 1st, Paris 2nd, New York 3rd... Singapore 8th, Bangkok 9th, Kuala Lumpur 20th], pp 81-99. V.6,n.2 Apr 2006 -- 1) Raeleene Wilding, "Virtual intimacies? families communicating across trans-national contexts" [Argues that many analyses of the uses of information and communication technology (ICT) focus on such factors as gender, class and communication infrastructures to explain how and whether people communicate across distance, but that such analyses fail to capture the full complexity of ICT use -- Uses results of a large qualitative study of transnational families, conducted in Ireland, Singapore, New Zealand, Australia, the Netherlands, Italy and Iran to examine kin contact across time & space], pp 125-142.

>Indonesia and the Malay world
V.34,n.98 Mar-2006 -- 1) Roy E. Jordan, "Why the Sailendras were not a Javanese dynasty!" [From the Abstract -- There is general agreement among scholars that most of the 8th to 9th century Buddhist temples in central Java were constructed by the rulers who claimed to belong to the Sailendra dynasty -- The unsolved puzzle preying on the minds of scholars for many decades is the actual origin of this dynasty, because the claim for a Javanese origin is ill-founded -- Urges a resumption of research into its foreign origins, in India, Sri Lanka or mainland Southeast Asia -- A compressed but useful discussion of the evidence and possibilities, with a bit of Sumatran Malay 'history'], pp 3-22. V.34,n.99 Jul-2006 -- 1) Eva Maria Kershaw & Roger Kershaw, "The mundane and the mystic: constructions of human relations with the animal world in Brunei-Dusun and other Bornean folktales" [From the Abstract -- Offers a six-part classification for animal tales of the Brunei-Dusun and for a large amount of cognate material collected by British and Dutch scholars in Sarawak, Sabah and Kalimantan -- Proposes main categories: a) anthropomorphic interaction with animals, and between animals & humans; b) birds & animals as messengers & helpers; c) mockery of animals incurs a curse; d) animals turned into (or restored as) miraculous humans upon a chance stimulus, or thru beneficial treatment by a human of high virtue; e) Dusun & crocodiles showing reciprocal respect in modern times, or evincing transmutable identity in the past; f) wild boars transformed into humans (en masse) -- In the Brunei-Dusun section each category is followed by one tale in English translation, for illustration -- An ideology emerges from 'between-the-lines' in this literature which classifies humans as a species nearer to other animals than is the case in Western or Muslim thought, nor does it conceive that humans are higher status or more powerful], pp 151-195.

>International review of administrative sciences
V.72,n.3 Sep 2006 -- 1) Anthony B.L. Cheung, "Budgetary reforms in two city states: impact on the central budget agency in Hong Kong and Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Compares budgetary reforms of the two Chinese city-states, which have
undertaken similar reform measures in line with global reform trends -- Finds that the reforms per se have not basically altered the institutional configuration of the respective budgetary regimes -- Although more financial autonomy and flexibility were given to departments and ministries, reducing central budget agency (CBA) micro-budgetary control, CBA continues to play a strategic macro-budgetary role at the governmental level -- Budgetary relationships have not moved toward control by performance as implied by the 'budgeting for results' objective -- Hong Kong has displayed a weaker CBA than Singapore due to extra-budgetary factors rooted in different governance and institutional contexts], pp 341-361.

>Itinerario
V.xxx,n.2 2006 -- 1) Annabel Teh Gallop, "Malay documents in the Melaka records in the British Library" [About a 1964 article by F.R.J. Verhoeven, 'The lost archives of Dutch Malacca', noting the disappearance of about 2000 volumes of records during the Dutch administration of Melaka from 1641-1824 -- Only 150 volumes in the National Archives of Indonesia in Jakarta, 15 volumes of church registers now in the National Archives of Malaysia, and a few records in the Hague were known to have survived -- In 1983, with Ian Baxter's listing of series R/9 in the India Office Records, it became widely known that a portion of the archives had been shipped to London early in the 20th century, which is now in the British Library at 96 Euston Road, London NW1 -- Most of the records are in Dutch; some in English (1795-1818 & 1825 onwards); some in Portuguese, Chinese, Malay and Tamil...and fewer in Arabic, Javanese and Bugis -- This article discusses the Malay documents in the Melaka Records, found in the course of a page-by-page search thru the kinds of documents most likely to contain them -- Types of documents include: powers of attorney; records of commercial transactions of land, boats, slaves; pawn and loan receipts; public notices and official letters; estate papers and wills; inventories of goods; claims & counter-claims & inheritance papers -- Separate sections of the article: a) Letters; b) Estate papers; c) Records of commercial transactions regarding sales of land, boats, and slaves; d) Other documents; e) The value of the Malay documents in the Melaka records; f) 3 appendices (1 = comparisons of Malay words and phrases of the period with modern Malay; 2 = a granting of power of attorney of the period ; and 3 = a record of the sale of 2 slaves); g) Bibliography of works cited; and h) Notes], pp 54-77; 2) Kate Reid-Smith, review of K.S. Jomo (ed), 2005, Malay nationalism before UMNO: the memoirs of Mustapha Hussain, 424 pp, translated by Insun Sony Mustapha, Singapore: Singapore University Press, Pb ISBN 967-61-1698-X [A well structured, descriptively thorough and positive, and relatively brief review of the book], pp 217-218.

>Journal of cultural geography
V.23,n.2 Spr/Sum 2006 -- 1) Robert A. Voeks & Samhan bin Nyawa, "Dusun ethnobotany: forest knowledge and nomenclature in Northern Borneo" [From the Abstract -- Examines the ethnobotanical knowledge domain and naming system maintained by the Dusun of Brunei who practice swidden cultivation -- Two elderly Dusun men collaborated in a census of old-growth and disturbed forest habitats, identifying and naming 244 species, of which 87% are used for material or magical purposes and 78% provide for basic human needs (shelter, food & medicine) -- Medieval species largely associated with disturbed rather than old-growth habitats -- Dusun plant taxonomy parallels western taxonomy in some respects, but diverges in others: Ranks recognized at the life form, intermediate, genus, and species levels; most taxa lumped into tree (kayuh), vine (akau), and rattan (uwai) life forms; Jinx (sisil) and dermatitis (rangas) taxa constitute problematic covert groupings -- Of the 120 scientific plant genera identified, 88.3% were associated with a single Dusun folk genus, and only 16% of the 141 named categories were identified as binomials (folk generic followed by descriptive epithet (color, habit, location or sex)) -- Well done, altho small, map; Good tables and figures (Dusun useful plant categories; Dusun and scientific life-forms for uwai/rattan & akau/non-rattan vine; and Dusun and scientific binomials for taribu/Genus Lygodium]), pp 1-31.

>Malaysian business
Apr1st-15th 2006 -- 1) A Kadir Jasin, "Other Thots: the heavy price of saving the wrong things" [About the ongoing debate over the fuel price hike and the way it was communicated to the public -- And he touches on the debate about the proposed Independent Police Complaint and Monitoring Commission], pp 6-8; 2) Ooi Sue Hwei, "River privatisation: why the silence" [An examination of the proposed privatization of 3 rivers in Selangor], pp 50-51. Apr16th-30th 2006 -- 1) A Kadir Jasin, "Other Thots: equitable growth remains the answer" [On the income disparity between races and within them, and why Malaysians should be less emotional and not oppose policies that will eventually help them], pp 6-9; 2) Charles Raj, "Promises, promises" [Health and education seem to have gotten less in the recently announced 9th Malaysia Plan... pity, as they are the 2 most fundamental needs of a nation in a bid to progress], p 10; 3) Prathaban V, "The bio-diesel promise" [The 9th Malaysia Plan totally missed the bio-diesel potential, but it is the RM1 billion question that is raising temperatures in Malaysian business... and the protracted feud over Proton's controversial sale of its controlling stake in MV Austa Motor SpA for Euro 1 still has many missing pieces in its puzzle... Let an independent inquiry come up with its findings], p 12; 2) A Kadir Yasin, "Learning to listen" [The Cabinet decision to cancel the Johor Baru-Singapore bridge project has caused a multitude of reactions, from silly to adverse... one thing is obvious, those who cannot handle criticism should not be leaders], pp 8-10. May1st-15th 2006 -- 1) Charles Raj, "The truth is out there" [The protracted feud over Proton's controversial sale of its controlling stake in MV Austa Motor SpA for Euro 1 still has many missing pieces in its puzzle... Let an independent inquiry come up with its findings], p 12; 2) A Kadir Yasin, "Learning to listen" [The Cabinet decision to cancel the Johor Baru-Singapore bridge project has caused a multitude of reactions, from silly to adverse... one thing is obvious, those who cannot handle criticism should not be leaders], pp 8-10. May16th-31st 2006 -- 1) A Kadir Jasin, "Other thots: actions speak louder than words" [While the present administration has welcomed many a grand proposal to improve the lot of the people, many plans remain unimplemented because the wrong members of parliament are appointed to further necessary legislation -- Political quarrels leave no time to deal with the high price of mackerel in rural Kedah, where farmer sons and daughters are still unemployed years after they graduated from university -- It is time to translate good intentions into actions], pp 6-8; 2) Charles Raj, "Should Suhakam be given more powers" [While the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (Suhakam), acts as advisor and investigator of complaints, it lacks enforcement and prosecution powers... perhaps it is time
Putting the lid on Pandora's box

much is at stake

-- the process

is in overdrive about a third party trying to exert control over the

their fundamental freedom since gaining independence from

poll... in spite of strong economic growth

diminished from 75.3% in 2001 to 66.6% in the May 6, 2006

Junior Lee won the May 6 poll, but the PAP's overall mandate

its stance could be the harbinger of its own self -distruction

examples

criteria that has been set... as compared to how much a

can a company deliberately lose without infringing on any of the

"Corporate governance: frankly speaking"

take for them to 'buck up'? 

rakyat

environmental fiascos seems to be absent in local councils

behind such an excuse will be counter -productive... At some

he is open to criticism because this is a free country... Hiding

wouldn't it be more sensible to justify these decisions and put

questioning some of the present administration 's decisions,

former PM Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's behavior in

"and sensibility"

Tepuk

rights

human rights, which emphasizes social, economic and cultural

"Other Thots: time for a reality check" [The Opposition's increasing inroads into Sarawak as indicated by recent state election results is not to be taken lightly; it is an indication of what the Barisan Nasional will be up against in the next general election -- Other than the economy and uncertainty about the future of the leadership, Sarawak voters were displeased with what they saw as a mismatch between the promises of transparency and their practice], pp 6-8; 2) S C Schan, "Politics: winds of change" [There was almost a 10% drop in support for the Sarawak Barisan Nasional in the recent state election, with the biggest casualty being the Sarawak United People's Party -- What contributed to the voter swing?], pp 12-13. Jun16th-30th 2006 -- 3) Khoo Ying Hooi, "Letters: whither human rights in Malaysia" [Malaysia is at the forefront of asserting that there is such a thing as an Asian concept of human rights, which emphasizes social, economic and cultural rights -- But do we really have the right channel towards eliminating the abuse of human rights in Malaysia? "Tepuk dada tanya selera"], p 5; 2) A Kadir Jasain, "Other thots: sense and sensibility" [Rather than divert attention to the propriety of former PM Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's behavior in questioning some of the present administration's decisions, wouldn't it be more sensible to justify these decisions and put doubts to rest? -- In time Abdullah will no longer be able to say he is open to criticism because this is a free country... Hiding behind such an excuse will be counter-productive... At some point, public opinion will have some influence on his ability to lead and rule], pp 6-8; 3) Charles Raj, "Whither accountability?" [Regard for credibility and responsibility for the nation's many environmental fiascos seems to be absent in local councils -- The rakyat continue to pay, many with their lives... what will it take for them to 'buck up'?], p 9; 4) Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, "Corporate governance: frankly speaking" [How much money can a company deliberately lose without infringing on any of the criteria that has been set... as compared to how much a country can... with Yugoslavia, Turkey, French and British examples -- And more], pp10-12; 5) Bishen Bedi, "Region: Singapore Slingshot" [The Lee political dynasty continues, but its stance could be the harbinger of it own self-distraction -- Junior Lee won the May 6 poll, but the PAP's overall mandate diminished from 75.3% in 2001 to 66.6% in the May 6, 2006 poll... in spite of strong economic growth -- Notes that election system the basic cause of why 'Singaporeans have never won their fundamental freedom since gaining independence from Malaysia 41 years ago'], pp 52-53. Jul15th-15th 2006 -- 1) A Kadir Jasain, "Other Thots: the third-party poseur" [The rumor mill is in overdrive about a third party trying to exert control over the government, causing a rift between present & past premiers in the process -- An UMNO minister now says it is true... this does not augur well for the country], pp 8-10; Charles Raj, "Avoiding the FTA trap" [Free Trade Agreements agreements suddenly popular -- While benefits can be had, we must tread carefully, because much is at stake], p 12. Jul16th-31st 2006 -- 1) A Kadir Jasain, "Putting the lid on Pandora's box" [Former MAS head honcho Tan Sri Tajuddin Ramli's billion ringgit counter-suit against the government and other parties, and allegations that he was yet another pawn in a power play not good for the country, regardless of who is at the helm -- Better for the government to arrest such developments before they get out of hand -- During good times Bumiputra businessmen were celebrated and adored as the crown princes of corporate Malaysia and the icing on the cake of Malaysia Inc -- In the aftermath of crisis, they were portrayed as failures, crooks and thieves], pp 6-8.

>Medical anthropology quarterly: international journal for the analysis of health

NS V.20.n.3-Sep 2006 -- 1) Robin Root, "'Mixing' as an ethnoetiology of HIV/AIDS in Malaysia's multinational factories" [From the Abstract -- The label, Minah Karan, given female Malay factory workers in the 1980s was related to female sexuality that spread beyond the factories into Malaysia's ideas of traditional kampong culture -- Narrates how Minah Karan, as former anti-hero of development, was constituted in the 1990s by the government's labeling of factories as 'high-risk settings' for HIV/AIDS, presuming that 'gendered-mixing' of workers led to 'sexual-mixing of 'races' -- Demonstrates how importation of the high-risk label articulates, at the local level, the new and contested labels, economic, religious, and scientific, constitutive of globalization -- The pragmatic nature/imperatives of this high-risk process discerned in factory women's accounts of how they negotiate interactional imperatives of factory work -- Concludes by questioning whether ethno-etiologies, especially those concerned with sexual networks, become social etiologies, because this locates ethno-etiologies as central to conventional public health praxis rather than as ethnographic exotica in the margins], pp 321-344; See also, 2) See also, Marcia C. Inhorn, "Defining women's health: a dozen messages from more than 150 ethnographies" [M/S/B only a bare mention of Malaysia -- But, defines a dozen "most important topics concerning women's health -- And has a bibliography of 157 ethnographies, a more-or-less world-wide sample], pp 345-378.

>New political science: a journal of politics & culture

V.28.n.3 Sep 2006 -- 1) Songkok Han Thornton, "Trial by development: Senian 'concurrency' in the new Asian developmentalism" [From the Abstract -- Building on Amartya Sen's development theory, the author takes the Asian Crisis as a window into the politics of globalization -- Builds on Sen's axiom of 'development as freedom' that just and sustainable development is best achieved when economic and political priorities are simultaneously pursued -- Three major cases are the Philippines, Indonesia and Korea in the 1997 economic crash; notes that Sen's model is an 'Asian Third Way' that circumvents the East/West schism that the Crash exposed and exacerbated... 'made-in-Singapore 'Asian values' vs. made-in-America globalization'], pp 353-376.

>Policy & politics

V.34.n.3 Jul3 2006 -- 1) Eliza W.Y. Lee, "Welfare restructuring in Asian newly industrialised countries: a comparison of Hong Kong and Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Comparison of patterns of welfare restructuring in reaction to economic globalization and socioeconomic change -- Argues that Hong Kong has gone through a budget-driven restructuring resulting in reenforcement of its residual welfare state, while Singapore has undergone a policy-driven restructuring that aims to consolidate the state regulation of the welfare society -- Difference in patterns of restructuring found to be related to state strength, electoral politics, interest group politics, the production system and pre-existing institutional arrangement of
social programs — illustrates the characteristics of welfare restructuring in Asian authoritarian NICs], pp 453-471.

>**Singapore energy analysis 2006** — From Elliott Parker — www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Singapore/Background.html.


>**Social and cultural geography** V.7,n.3 Jun-2006 — 1) Elaine Lynn-Ee Ho, "Negotiating belonging and perceptions of citizenship in a transnational world: Singapore, a cosmopolis?" [From the Abstract — Complex mappings of inflows and outflows of people, capital, images and ideas in global city spaces create particular challenges for nation-states deeply embedded in the international circuit of capital — An analysis of how the state-sponsored cosmopolitan project is contested by Singapore citizens, which also presents evidence highlighting contradictions of belonging and citizenship in a transnational world, particularly referencing postcolonial racial and nationality dynamics that inflect these discourses], pp 385-401.

>**Sojourn: journal of social issues in Southeast Asia** V.21,n.1 Apr 2006 — 1) Solvay Gerke & Hans-Dieter Evers "Globalizing local knowledge: social science research on Southeast Asia, 1970-2000" [From the Abstract — New social science knowledge is produced at great speed and fed into a global epistemic machinery of data banks, publications, and think tanks... in reverse, it is absorbed and used locally — If it is locally produced, it can be interpreted as reflexive modernization in so far as it provides paradigms for an interpretation of social processes and structures — This article traces the development of social science research in Southeast Asia and its increasing localization — A model is developed to summarize the output of interpretative schemes and published documents; and statistical data on the global absorption of locally produced knowledge are used to measure the extent of the move towards a knowledge society — Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia, and the Philippines have relatively high local social science output, whereas Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, and Laos have low output rates — Diagnose four different paths from 1970 to 2000], pp 1-21; 2) Christine Doran, "Bright celestial: progress in the political thought of Tan Teck Soon" [From the Abstract —Tan Teck Soon, an influential Chinese scholar, contributed to the reformist impulse within the Chinese community in Singapore at the turn of the 20th century — Article examines the nature and importance of his work, which has been neglected by historians — Provides a detailed analysis of two of his most important articles, which emphasize the salience of concepts of progress and radical change], pp 46-67.

>**The economist** Aug5th-11th 2006 — 1) "Emerging-market indicators: exports" [Singapore the epitome of an entrepot economy: it exported goods worth nearly twice its GDP in 2005, by importing goods worth almost as much; Also, Malaysia's exports accounted for more than 100% of GDP], p 86. Aug12th-18th 2006 — 1) "South-East Asia's airports: delayed arrivals" [A hubbub over the region's next air hubs — Air travel booming in the region and airport operators are rushing to expand — In March, Kuala Lumpur & Singapore opened new international terminals for budget carriers; but Bangkok and Manila expansion projects are very behind schedules and in danger of losing business to Singapore (project to expand Changi capacity to 64m completed) & Kuala Lumpur (project to expand capacity to 45m passengers), pp 34-35; 2) "Oil's dark secret" [Most of the world's oil reserves are in the hands of state-run companies, many of which are run badly — Notes that '... the state-run oil firms of Malaysia and Brazil (contrary to most state-run oil firms), which had relatively strong governments and diversified economies before they found oil, do better than most' and that their 'governments... allow other firms to bid against their respective...' national oil companies], pp 55-57.

**Aug19th-25th 2006** — 1) "Private banking in Singapore: a new treasure island" [Singapore is a small but growing rival to the Swiss — No '...dark-wood' panelling in the Credit Suisse's private-banking branch in Singapore and not many middle-aged European expats in pinstripes', it is '... modern... and the typical private banker is an Asian woman in her thirties...' — The private wealth managed in Singapore's booming private banks may grow by 25% this year — Creation of a 'private bankers charm school'] p 60; 2) Go online for Singapore news briefs at www.economist.com/cities. Aug28th-Sep1st 2006 — 1) "Politics in Malaysia: Anwar's return: the government's crisis, the opposition's opportunity" [Although dubiously charged and dubiously convicted of sodomy (later overturned), most analysts saw that the real offense was to have challenged the then PM, Mahathir Mohamad — In recent months, UMNO has been convulsed by Mahathir's barrage of attacks on the present PM, Abdullah Badawi (previously chosen by Mahathir as his Deputy PM) — Mahathir has complained that Abdullah is weak and possibly involved in graft, sending letters to millions of UMNO members accusing UMNO leaders of obstructing him from speaking at party meetings — Article suggests that the crisis might be an opportunity for Anwar, noting that Abdullah's election might have been secured by promising political and economic reforms that Anwar had called for from his jail cell, and that similar promises may have influenced the May elections in Sarawak where the opposition won 8 positions, 7 more than the last election — To succeed, Anwar must unite a disparate opposition — Notes that political scientist P. Ramasamy (DAP) says Anwar's best chance of becoming PM is to reinjoin UMNO], pp 33-34; 2) "Green power in South-East Asia: fuels rush in when diesel grows on trees" [Surging global demand has led Malaysia and Indonesia, which produce most of the world's palm oil, to plant even more acreage by reducing plantings of rubber and cocoa — Biofuels reduce fossil fuel dependence, boost trade balances, & create more jobs as well; but oil palms take several years to start bearing fruit], p 34.
From the very positive review — Janowski has produced an ethnographically rich and satisfying work enhanced by detailed lists of materials used (full lists of items in the two museums & black/white drawings by Claire Thorne and 119 b/w photo-graps showing use of material culture — The book also evokes countless more questions and directions for further research], pp 456-457.

**The journal of imperial and commonwealth history**

V.34,n.3 Sep 2006 -- Andrea Benvenuti, “Australian reactions to Britain’s declining presence in Southeast Asia” [From the Abstract — Examines Australia’s long-held doubts about Britain’s willingness/ability to maintain a significant military presence in Southeast Asia, where Australia's main strategic interests lay -- Argues that Australian concerns predated the Wilson government's attempt to disengage from east of Suez in the 1960s -- Malaysia, Singapore and the whole “Malayan area”], pp 407-429.

**The Pacific review**

V.19,n.3 Sep 2006 -- 1) Erik Martinez Kuhonta, “Walking a tight rope: democracy versus sovereignty in ASEAN's illiberal peace” [From the Abstract — Since 1967, ASEAN has established intramural relations that forsake war as a means for resolving conflict -- While this is a remarkable achievement for the region, it still must be balanced against a concomitant democratic reform — There are several sections in the article where Malaysia's Mohammad Mahathir is the ‘heavy’], pp 337-358.

**The Straits Times** (asianewsnet.net/columnist.php?aid=4800).

Sep13th 2006 -- 1) Karamjit Kaur, “S'pore-KL air links: wheels are turning” [Skeptics convinced that talk about the Singapore-Kuala Lumpur air route for budget airlines is just hot air; but there is hope — Both governments deaf to argument favoring it, so that critics were surprised when Malaysian Transport Minister Chan Kong Choy noted that his ministry had selected a committee to study the matter -- SIA & MAS now dominate the sector (85% of the market) — SIA has deals with more than 90 countries regarding flights per week and numbers of passengers, etc .... first deal with MAS in 1972, revisited in 1980, and now want free competition to all — And more on the details].

Sep19th 2006 -- 1) Wong Chiang Yin, “A case of having too many GPS” [Reaction to a story in the August 6 Straits Times headlined ‘Tough times for heartland docs’ about the difficulties of general practitioner doctors, e.g., those who used to make between $20,000 & $30,000 per month, now make only $10,000 (working 12 hour days & 6 day weeks — What’s bad about $10,000 a month... especially when more than half of Singaporeans earn less than the $3,000 — A terse but possibly complete discussion about the impact of commoditization of GPs through their oversupply/competition].

**The journal of Asian studies**

V.65,n.2 May 2006 -- 1) Reed L. Wadley, review of Monica Janowski, 2003, *The forest, sources of life: the Kelabit of Sarawak.* vi, 154 pp. London: The British Museum Press & Kuching: The Sarawak Museum, Occasional Paper no. 143 [From the very positive review — Janowski has produced an ethnographically rich and satisfying work enhanced by detailed lists of materials used (full lists of items in the two museums & black/white drawings by Claire Thorne and 119 b/w photo-
ban on open discussion of these issues].

Oct 25th 2006 – 1) Carolyn Hong, “Mahathir’s attacks show a ‘lack of sincerity’” [Several senior UMNO ministers, on Oct 24, expressed shock over Tun Dr Mahathir’s attacks on his successor just hours after ‘peace talks’ between them – They questioned his sincerity and said that his decision to go public after a private meeting with PM Abdullah Badawi could worsen the rift between them – Dr Mahathir had raised more than 20 issues… including charges of nepotism, the abandoned Johore bridge project, and management of the economy… in the 2 hour meeting which was arranged after months of verbal attacks by the former PM – In an unprecedented move, the Sultan of Johore criticized Dr Mahathir’s behavior … Rulers are supposed to stay non-partisan].

Books Books books books
Abdul Razak Baginda & Peter Schier (eds) 2005b Malaysia: an Islamic state? Secularism and theocracy: a study of the Malaysian constitution. 53-6. [From the website above -- Issues: What are the criteria marking an Islamic state; What does the Malaysian Constitution say about Malaysia being such a state? – A contribution towards understanding Islamic identity and multiculturalism in Malaysia.]
Heath, Christopher & Kung Chung Liu 2006 Copyright law and the information society in Asia. 352 pp. London: ASEAN Academic Press. ISBN 1-901919-53-6. [From the website above -- Issues: What are the criteria marking an Islamic state; What does the Malaysian Constitution say about Malaysia being such a state? – A contribution towards understanding Islamic identity and multiculturalism in Malaysia.]

Kingsbury, Damien 2005 Violence in between: conflict and security in Archipelagic Southeast Asia. 325 pp. London: ASEAN Academic Press. ISBN 1-876924-37-3. [Considers a range of security issues that have affected archipelagic Southeast Asia, addressing sites of conflict in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines – Contributors are experienced and knowledgeable scholars.]

Koe, Gillian 2005 Singapore perspectives. 140 pp. Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Academic. ISBN 981-210-438-0. [From the promo – Spit between papers that focus on Singapore’s domestic agenda and papers that focus on foreign policy – Domestic section has papers on the macro-level and trends in politics and the economy, providing background for papers focusing on how these issues translate to lives of individual citizens – The 2nd section of papers provides insights into what shapes Singaporeans’ sense of political and socio-economic
Serving the meal; Foods of celebration: beef, goat, and pork; Fish and shellfish; Sweets and beverages; Street foods: satays, salads, and Condiments: sambals, dipping Rice and noodles.

In West Malaysia & Singapore he highlights Penang’s “... bold mix of Indonesia... Central Java, East Java, North Sulawesi, Spice Islands; ginger, (Padang rice) and Acheh geography” includes brief notes on the special food of different places:

Introduction about how the author was introduced to the food and Barbara by Chef Lori Provencher

Editor’s perusal of contents of the book, which was recommended to Norton & Company. Hb ISBN 13: 978-0-393-05477-4


From the promos -- Highlights contemporary and classic research on the prehistoric societies of SEA, particularly Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Myanmar; providing a general picture of the events that shaped early mainland Southeast Asia.


From the Editor’s perusal of contents of the book, which was recommended to Barbara by Chef Lori Provencher -- Possibly the best more-or-less comprehensive home-cooking book in English for the region so far, but wisely avoids difficult-to-do specialty foods such as roti canai -- Ch1, “Introduction” about how the author was introduced to the food and cuisine... over a period of 20 years, pp 15-29 -- Ch2, “Cuisines and geography” includes brief notes on the special food of different places: Acheh kari kambing (goat curry), and masam jing (hot & sour fish stew with bamboo shoots); West Sumatral Minangkabau nasi Padang (Padang rice) and rendang dagi sapi (braised dry beef curry with ginger, galang, nutmeg & cinnamon); AND other regions of Indonesia... Central Java, East Java, North Sulawesi, Spice Islands; In West Malaysia & Singapore he highlights Penang’s “... bold mix of Chinese, Indian and Malay cooking styles... char kuey teow a (e.g., stir-fried noodles w/chillis and garlic) as well as British spiced roast chicken with potatoes Penang style; Kelantan’s kari terung; KL’s nasi lemak and kare laksa; Melaka’s Nyonya foods ... ayam pong the and udang masak nenas; and Singapore’s ketam lada hitam, and kacang panjang belacan; and this is just the geography lesson!, pp 31-37 -- Ch3, “At the market: ingredients”, w/ sub-sections on “Where to shop”, “Buying & storing spices”, and other sections on other ingredients, pp 39-93 -- Ch4, “In the kitchen: techniques and equipment”: “Making flavoring pastes”; “Cooking flavoring pastes”, “making curries and stews”; “stir-frying”; “making rendang dishes”, “twice-cooking”... -- The other chapters (5 “Serving the meal”; 6 “Condiments: sambals, dipping sauces, dressings, and pickles”; 7 “Street foods: satays, salads, and snacks”; 8 “Rice and noodles”, 9 “Vegetables”, 10 “Fish and shellfish”, 11 “Poultry”, 12 “Foods of celebration: beef, goat, and pork”; 13 “Tempeh, tofu, and eggs”, and 14 “Sweets and beverages” all chapters as internally logical as the first 4; And “Selected bibliography” (40 sources cited), “Sources” (16 businesses cited), Acknowledgments (More than a hundred persons, some natives of the area, who contributed recipes, information or other help): Index.


From the promo -- Authors most active researchers on late Pleistocene/Holocene Southeast Asian human osteology consider major approaches to studying human skeletal remains -- Analyses of physical appearance of region’s past peoples -- Explores such issues as the evidence of migratory patterns (particularly between S.E. Asia and Northeast Asia) and counter arguments centering on in situ micro-evolutionary change.


From the promo -- Nation’s efforts in educational development are closely conjoined with underlying pedagogical philosophy: learning means developing personhood, to become a person, and to optimize personal potential -- Challenges to educational policy identified, including building a common platform and dialogue among educational researchers, policymakers, and practitioners; adopting evidence-based educational policies; and achieving a good grasp of research methodology.


From the catalogue -- Relates the Singapore experience to wider debates about, and theories of, social policy, and shows how the overall state, and the social policy parts of it have been remarkably successful -- Demonstrates how, from independence in 1959 onwards, social policy in Singapore, which has provided a range of excellent benefits in the areas of housing, healthcare, education and social security, has in fact been a key part of a larger overall project in state building and economic growth undertaken by Singapore’s ruling People’s Action Party.


From the promo -- Inspects the politics of leadership change and succession in Indonesia and Malaysia, which experienced the worst political fallout from the Asian financial crisis -- Begins with an overview of political transitions in Southeast Asia and examines developments through the tumultuous years to end of 2004 -- Serves as relevant backdrop to understanding context and genesis of political
events that currently dominate news and landscapes in the 2 states.]

Yoffee, Norman & Bradley L. Crowell (eds) 2006 Excavating Asian history: interdisciplinary studies in archaeology and history. 368 pp. Tucson: Univ. of Arizona Press. Hb ISBN 0816524181[From the website www.uapress.arizona.edu. -- Not yet published as of Oct 2006 -- Explores the relationship between history and archaeology in the study of pre-modern Asia -- Considers biases in both historical and archaeological data that have occasioned rival claims to knowledge in the two disciplines, ranging widely across the region from the Levant to China and from the 3rd millennium BC to the 2nd millennium AD, demonstrating that the two disciplines can complement each other -- Contributors are leading historians and archaeologists of Asia who have contributed research on the history and archaeology of the ancient Near East, early Islam, India, China, and Southeast Asian states -- Miriam Stark and Philip Kohl add commentary with new perspectives to the findings.]

WEBSITE Energy information administration: official energy statistics from the energy statistics from the U.S. Government: www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/cabs/Singapore. -- From Elliott S. Parker, Central Michigan University, distributed to members of the MSBFORUM List -- Deals with Singapore energy statistics -- Topics with labels on ‘access buttons’ include: a) background, b) oil, c) natural gas, d) electricity, e) environment, f) profile, g) links, h) sources ... full report in 8 pages ... (.html or .pdf file) and more electronic contact addresses -- Some statistical information -- The same address ending with ‘/Malaysia’ nets a bare beginning, and there is no ‘/Brunei’ address so far.]

CALL FOR PAPERS

>Refugees and the end of empire – Submission deadline: November 30, 2006 – The ends of British & Dutch & French & US & other colonial empires were accompanied by wars and population ‘exchanges’ and expulsions – The purpose of this conference is to examine the relationship between imperial collapse, the emergence of successor nationalism, the exclusion/submission of ethnic groups and refugee experience – Especially interested in 20th century imperial collapse – Themes of interest include: a) the role of empire in creating distinct ethnic populations; b) emergence of exclusivist national ideologies and their views of minorities; c) the attitude and role of successor states in the creation of refugees; and d) the refugee experience – Send abstracts of about 250 words to Panikos or Pippa Virdee, by 30 November 2006 – We hope to offer a small number of subsidized places to doctoral students -- Date & Venue: 29–30 June 2007 at De Montford University, Leicester, UK -- Contact: Professor Panikos Panayi; School of English, Performance & Historical Studies; De Montfort University; The Gateway; Leicester LE1 9BH. 01162078681 ppanayi@dmu.ac.uk. Details: www.dmu.ac.uk/empire.

>Imperial Curiosity: Objects, Representations, Knowledges – [Thanks to “Angela Jancius” jancius@ohio.edu -- Alongside economic, political, and strategic motivations, curiosity spurred the spread of empire – An interdisciplinary conference to bring together those scholars and curators working in historical, literary, ethnographic, and cultural studies from diverse disciplines: literary studies, geography, Asian studies, history, indigenous studies, art history, architecture, legal studies, museum studies, gender studies, cultural studies, and anthropology, amongst others; to explore imperial curiosity at the University of Tasmania’s Centre for Colonialism and Its Aftermath – Suggested topics (But other topics possible): a) Imperial inquisitiveness &/or acquisitiveness; b) Imperial wonder & awe; c) Resisting imperial curiosity; d) Cultural industries of imperialism; e) Imperial florilegium; f) Textual economies of curiosity... reading, travels, and travails; g) Imperial networks and/or the imperial archive; h) The gendering of imperial curiosity; i) The psychological terrain of imperial estrangement; j) imperial affect…curiosity, fear, awe, pleasure k) cabinets of curiosities… collecting & classification; l) The objects of empire; m) The erotics of empire – 250 word abstracts to be submitted not later than 1 December, 2006 to be accompanied by a 100 word biographical note -- Email caia@utas.edu.au; web www.utas.edu.au/arts/imperialcuriosity.

CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

>Invitation for scholarly contributions to a volume on The South Asian Diaspora in Singapore, Vijay Devadas & Selvaraj Velayutham (eds) – From urbanth-l@lists.ysu.edu. -- This volume seeks to offer an in depth study and analysis of the diasporic practices of the Singaporean South Asian communities – Contributions are invited that focus on a specific Singapore South Asian community and address the group’s diasporic connections, networks, relationships, cultural productions & consumption practices – The following themes are of interest: a) ‘Old’ diaspora, ‘new diaspora’, skilled migration, temporary migrants; b) Gender/sexuality/nation/ethnic/linguistic/religious identities; c) Economic partnerships; d) Food/rituals/customs; e) Affect/embodiment/senses; f) Literature/language/media/cinema; g) Youth culture/popular culture; h) Theatre/performance/visual arts/sports; i) Diasporic spaces/places; j) Land/home & belonging; k) Diasporic memory; l) Nation, nationalism, cultural policies; m) Virtual communities, new media; n) Other Themes are also welcomed -- Send a proposed title, a 500-word abstract and a short bio by 1 December 2006 to: vijay.devadas@stonebow.otago.ac.nz. Accepted contributions (7,000 words) to be completed by 1 July 2007 -- Publication by late 2008/early 2009 -- We have expressions of interest from several publishers. -- FOR ALL ENQUIRIES, contact selvaraj.velayutham@scmp.mq.edu.au.]

POSITIONS

>Position: – Asst. Prof. -- Review of applications begins 15 November 2006 & continues until position is filled -- Department of Sociology & Anthropology, Berry College, Mt. Berry, Ga. -- [From urbanth-l@lists.ysu.edu. Applications invited for a tenure-track position in cultural anthropology at asst. prof. level beginning in Aug 2007 – Area specialty open; expertise in Latin America, Caribbean, Asia or Middle East preferred – Teach intro to cultural anthropology, applied anthropology, and additional courses complementing departmental offerings – Background in gender, ethnicity, and/or globalization and transnationalism a plus, experience/expertise in archeology a plus – Send letter, vita, and 3 letters of recommendation to: Dr. Anne Lewinson, Search Committee Chair, P.O. Box 495010, Berry College, Mt. Berry, GA 30149-4010. Email inquiries: alewinson@berry.edu.]

>Position: – Asst. Prof. -- Deadline: December 1, 2006 – Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, Gettysburg College, Penn., -- [From urbanth-l@lists.ysu.edu. Applications invited for an entry level tenure-track position in Anthropology to begin
August 2007 – Geographic area open – Seek a broadly trained cultural anthropologist working in globalization and trans-nationalism, committed to undergraduate teaching – Possible research interests: migration, trafficking, health, tourism, heritage & identity, popular culture/expressive arts, environmentalism, and violence – Must be prepared to teach ‘intro to cultural anthropology’, and share responsibility for upper-level courses in ‘history of anthropological theory’, ‘field methods in cultural anthropology’ and/or the ‘senior capstone seminar’, and offer courses in his/her topical or regional interests – Completed Ph.D. in Anthropology required by time of appointment – Teaching experience preferred – Submit letter of application, vitae, and names of three references (at least one who can speak to your teaching ability) to: Chair, Dept of Sociology & Anthropology, Gettysburg College, 300 N. Washington Street, Gettysburg, PA 17325.

OCCUPATIONS:

Modeling interdisciplinary inquiry: a postdoctoral program in the Humanities & Social Sciences – Deadline: December 1, 2006 – [From urbahn-l@lists.vsu.edu] – Washington University (St. Louis) announces the 6th year of an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship Program to encourage interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching across the humanities and social sciences among new and recent Ph.D.s wishing to strengthen their own advanced training and to participate in the university’s ongoing programs and seminars – Appointment for 2 years with a stipend of $40,700 annually – Fellows will outline a plan for continuing research with a senior Washington University faculty mentor – Other duties: teach 3 undergraduate courses & collaborate in leading an interdisciplinary seminar in theory and methods – No application forms, submit a cover letter, description of your program (3 single-spaced pages), a brief proposal for the seminar, your curriculum vitae, and 3 letters of recommendation (submit in paper copy) to Steven Zwicker, Dept of English, Washington University Campus Box 1122, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63130, 314-933-5190.

Freeman-ASIA Awards – [From seacc@uwashington.edu] – Awards up to $7,000 available for students participating in under-graduate study abroad programs in East and Southeast Asia – Foundation provides information and financial assistance – Deadlines for upcoming Freeman-ASIA award applications for 2007: a) Summer 2007 cycle, 7 March 2007; b) Fall 2007 cycle, 4 April 2007 – Program details: Freeman Awards for Study in Asia; U.S. Student Programs Division; Institute of International Education; 809 United Nations Plaza; New York, NY 10017-3850; or www.iie.org/Freeman-ASIA.

Amnesty International

28 August 2006 – (Sent to Berita by Margaret John, Malaysia/Singapore Coordinator) – AIM is deeply concerned about the latest revelation of police torture of persons in custody (aired by Buletin Utama on 25 August 2006) and calls for open, transparent and independent investigation; and that appropriate action be taken against those who committed the violations – Incident shows that ill-treatment and torture continues despite calls for internal reform within the police force, and it shows disregard for the previous Royal Commission’s recommendation that police abuses must be dealt with in a comprehensive manner – Call for PM, YAB Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to look into police accountability, not just issue executive directives to investigate police abuses and human rights violations – Incident reveals the importance of the Prime Minister establishing an independent and transparent oversight mechanism.

Manchester, UK coast. 22 August 2006 – 14 men, indefinitely detained without trial for more than 12 years under the Internal Security Act (ISA), – Although AIM welcomes these releases, it emphasizes that any detention under the ISA is illegitimate because it violates fundamental standards of human rights – AIM once again calls for the ISA to be repealed or reformed, and for all those detained to be immediately and unconditionally released or charged and given a fair trial.

Oblivious to the fact that thousands of people had signed the petition against his death sentence and a dissenting judge stated that the prosecution failed to prove conclusively that Took had smothered the victim, and one psychiatrist found Took to be suffering schizophrenia – But he was hanged November 3 – See Nov 3 newspaper for details of the case = www.bernama.com.my/bernama/v3/news.php?id=227655.

Oblivious Notice

Clifford Geertz (1926-2006) [From jancius@ohio.edu (Angela Jancius), 31 Oct 2006 – Known especially for his ethnographic research, cultural analyses and scholarly publications regarding Indonesia, he died at the age of 80 of complications following heart surgery at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania – His many scholarly books include The religion of Java (1960); Islam observed: religious development in Morocco and Indonesia (1968); The interpretation of cultures: selected essays (1973, 2000); Negara: the theatre state in nineteenth century Bali (1980); and The politics of culture: Asian identities in a splintered world (2002) – He was working on the question of ethnic diversity and its implications in the modern world – www.ias.edu./Newsroom/announcements/Uploads/view.php?cmd+view&id=354.

Prospectus

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