



ISSN 0273-4111

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Editor's note

For those of us who may have not yet read v.17 (2006) of the *Borneo research bulletin*: Clifford Sather, the editor, has written an interesting remembrance of Rodney Needham; pp 1-4.

Periodicals (Relevant to M/S/B Studies)

>American anthropologist

V.109.n.1 Mar 2007 – 1) Susan M. Darlington, review of Andrew C. Willford & Kenneth M. George (eds), 2005, *Spirited politics: religion and public life in contemporary Southeast Asia*, 210 pp, Ithaca NY: Cornell Southeast Asia Program [Raises critical theoretical questions relevant wherever religion, politics, and the identity of the nation-state intersect -- Sheds light on the complexities and dynamics of manipulations of politics, political interpretations of religion, and clashes between political and religious visions of the world – The introduction by the editors provides a solid frame for the nine chapters, which treat: cultural nationalism, identity politics, relationship between modernity and religion, citizenship, and authenticity – Each of the separate chapters focuses on particular interpretations of these concepts as they apply to their particular cases – See especially, Andrew C. Wellford's presentation of a Tamil Hindu medium within the Islamic Malaysian state; and also enjoy the other chapters, which provide similarly rich ethnographic and historic details in Thai, Indonesian, and Philippine chapters, for comparison], pp 229-230.

>Asian journal of social science

V.35.n.1 2007 -- 1) Danial Mohd Yusof, "Davutoglu's *Paradigm, Winkel's Episteme*' and Political Science in Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- Husserlian phenomenology and its terminology are utilized to justify the sociology of Islam and its essentialist response thru the course of trans-cultural exchanges and sedimentations with the irreconcilable *weltanschauung* of the West -- But also the issue of structure and knowledge is considered thru the difficult relationship between revivalist religion and state politics where political legitimacy and development of institutions is a feature of socio-political fact -- Malaysian political culture and democracy is used as an example, so that socio-political realities are representations of the conciliation of interests with specific value orientations regarding alternative conceptions of moral societies], pp 6-18; 2) Riaz Hassan, "Expressions of religiosity and blasphemy in modern societies" [From the Abstract -- In Abrahamic religions blasphemy exists to prevent challenge to notions of the sacred -- It is a litmus test of the standards a society feels it must

enforce to preserve its religions beliefs and morality, to prevent mockery of the Devine -- This paper examines debates about these issues in Christianity and Islam, examining struggles against blasphemy laws in Christian and Muslim countries, and concluding that modernity plays a significant role in shaping attitudes in modern societies, such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Palestine, Lebanon & Algeria], pp 111-125.

>Contemporary Southeast Asia: a journal of international & strategic affairs

V.29.n.1 Apr 2007 -- 1) Eul-Soo Pang, "Embedding security into free trade: the case of the United States-Singapore Free Trade Agreement" [From the Abstract -- About motivations and reasons for the US and Singapore to sign an FTA, which was prompted by little trade expansion & slow financial market opening within ASEAN, Japanese-led resistance to flowering of APEC, chronic breakdown of WTO's trade liberalization negotiations, structural changes in Singapore's economy, and unsettled security environment in Southeast Asia -- After FTA in effect, Singapore and US signed a strategic defense partnership agreement -- After 9/11 they have signed a strategic defense partnership agreement concerning the evolving security landscape for SEA -- Article examines the inadequacies of old regionalism, and suggests different ways to theorize new regionalism], pp1-32; 2) Leszek Buszynski & Iskandar Sazlan, "Maritime claims and energy cooperation in the South China Sea" [From the Abstract -- Unresolved maritime claims to all, or parts, of the South China Sea involve Malaysia, Brunei, Vietnam, the Philippines, Taiwan, and China, and have hindered development of hydrocarbon resources there -- Rising oil prices and China's voracious consumption of energy stimulate exploitation of the region's oil reserves -- Despite the uncertainty, ASEAN nations have involved energy companies in exploration/drilling even in the absence settlement of maritime claims -- Energy cooperation might stabilize problems in the South China Sea if there were a secure operating environment for oil exploration], pp143-171; 3) Joseph Y.S. Cheng, review of Ho Khai Leong & Hou Kok Chunk (eds), 2006, *Ensuring interests: dynamics of China-Taiwan relations and Southeast Asia*, 305 pp, Kuala Lumpur: Institute of China Studies, U. of Malaya, Pb [Review discusses 5 chapters of the book relating to Malaysia and Singapore: a) Hou Kok Chung's study of the Malaysian Association for the Promotion of One China; b) Yow Cheun Hoe's study of how contemporary Chinese diaspora communities are spatially and historically torn on the issues of China's reunification and Taiwan's independence; c) Alan Chong's 'normalization' of the Singapore-Taiwan relationship under the pretext of reunification; d) and Mohd Kamarulnizam observes that Malaysia adopts a two-pronged policy recognizing both Beijing's political rights and Taiwan's economic right -- In sum, a valuable volume], pp 202-203; 4) Abdul Rashid Moten, review of K.S. Nathan (ed), 2007, *Religious pluralism in democratic societies: challenges and prospects for Southeast Asia, Europe, and the United States in the new millennium*, 315 pp, Singapore & Kuala Lumpur: Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung & Malaysian Association for American Studies [See especially, pp 205-206, for comments of book's author's regarding Malaysia and Singapore, e.g., "... Shamsul A.B... argues that Islam is plural...Using the 'embedded thesis', he points out that Islam in the Malay world has been molded by local ontologies

and sociological conventions and in the process it became pluralized, tolerant, and accommodative... He suggests a similar embedization process of Islam and Muslims in the larger European community and culture', pp 204-207; 5) Maznah Mohamad, review of Tun-Jen Cheng & Deborah A. Brown (eds), 2005, *Religious organizations and democratization: case studies from contemporary Asia*, 306 pp, NY: M.E. Sharpe [See especially, the two chapters that compare Islam in Malaysia and Indonesia], pp 208-210.

>**Daily express** (East Malaysia) from www.asiaobserver.com .

5/20/2007 – 1) Bernama, "Parliament building renovation did not include roof: Samy" [Public Accounts Committee Chairman, Datuk Shahrir Samad, commenting on leaking roof of the Parliament building, asked why the Public Works Dept had failed to include water-proofing of the Parliament Building in the 2005 restoration -- Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu responded Saturday that restoration and renovation of the Parliament building in 2005 did not include repair of the roof as it was not damaged then, that the roof leakage began only 4 months ago, and that there had been a lot of other kinds of necessary repairs of the building; and he rejected a request for the JKR to station an engineer to monitor maintenance work on the Parliament building.]; 2) "Govt acts on loss of padi lands" [All district offices in Sabah have been directed not to approve applications by landowners to convert their padi lands for commercial development, said Agriculture and Food Industry Minister Datuk Abdul Rahim Ismail – The directive was issued because the number of padi fields in the state is getting fewer, and that the directive was also issued to achieve the objective of 60 percent self-sufficiency in rice production by 2010 – He also said that 'out of 32,000ha of padi land, some 1,500 acres have been turned into commercial areas in Sabah... and most padi fields in urban areas have been converted for commercial usage; while conversion in rural areas is less serious – And more on particular padi projects].

> **Environment and planning**

V.39.n.5 May 2007 -- 1) James D. Sidaway, review of Xiangming Chen, 2005, *As borders bend: transnational spaces on the Pacific Rim*, 331 pp, Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, ISBN 0-7425-0093-4 [Political borders have both bridging and barrier roles, which is recognized in the 'classic' early & mid-20th century research on borders -- At the same time globalization & regionalization proceeded near the end of that century, critical social science literatures on borders and cross-border regions proliferated and broadened ... In these contexts, this book is a landmark statement drawing on examples from East & Southeast Asia -- Notes that in the blurb and on the front cover Saskia Sassen says that the book is 'A brilliant deciphering of the meaning and agency of borders', and that she is right -- The book describes how the complex relationship between bridging and barrier roles... de-bordering & re-bordering... has undergone some marked shifts... and his arguments necessarily become quite complex -- Author's case studies are from East Asia and Southeast Asia... Southeast Asia includes a) the Greater Mekong; b) the Indonesia-Malaysia-Singapore Growth Triangle; and c) the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area -- From his case studies and comparison with Europe and North

America, Chen is able to describe what is distinctive about East and Southeast Asian cross-border regions.]

>**Ethnos: journal of anthropology**

V.72.n.1 2007 -- 1) Johan Fischer, "Boycott or buycott? Malay middle-class consumption post-9/11" [From the Abstract -- Much current anti-consumerist and anti-globalization discourse identifies boycotting as a very powerful force -- Religious and secular activists promote consumer boycotts as a type of resistance promising to break US economic, military and cultural hegemony -- Consumers support is essential for the success of boycotts -- Argues that insufficient anthropological attention has been paid to the micro-social logics of modern forms of boycotting -- Examines the political and cultural effects of the Islamic opposition's call to boycott US goods in Malaysia in the wake of 9/11 -- Shows how this issue evokes a wide range of contestations and paradoxes in the everyday lives of suburban Malay Muslim middle-class families -- The boycott confronts divergent Malay middle-class groups with the problem of how to translate intentionality into practice], 29-50.

>**Far Eastern economic review**

V.170.n.4 May 2007 -- 1) Simon Montlake, "Thailand's exposed southern flank" [Author begins with a conversation, in 2004, with a political science professor (at Prince of Songkhla U., Pattani) and her husband at an outdoor cafe, where they and other intellectuals drink tea and discuss world affairs -- Author's suggestion that the violence was the work of Islamic separatists, was politely refuted and other causes suggested by the couple: political feuds, smuggling rackets, and turf wars between security forces -- 3 years later, the author, visited a boarding school in an insurgent zone after a shooting incident that killed 3 teenage boys, their killers unseen gunmen who shot them as they lay in their huts -- Also, the university has changed in a few years from having students from other regions; but the violence reduced their numbers; and more than 70 teachers have been killed in the last 3 years -- But students tend to blame members of security forces -- Army officers see no quick solution], pp 35-38; 2) Jill Jolliffe, "East Timor's imperfect election" [Timor's international partners speculate that the new nation is suffering than post-independence growing pains, and that maybe it is time to declare it a basket case... i.e. whether the present cycle of scheduled elections, for a president and parliament, will change things -- Malaysians part of peace-keeping force], pp 39-42; 3) Mukul G. Asher, "India's innovative pension plan" [Author notes that several aspects of India's experience with their New Pension System (NPS), the asset value of which is estimated to swell to 95 billion dollars by 2025, may be of interest to Malaysia, as well as Thailand and the Philippines], pp 54-57; 4) "Travelers' tales: silence that speaks volumes" [The Singapore Democratic Party condemned the International Bar Association for its shocking decision to hold its annual meeting (Oct) in Singapore, noting that when the IBA held its conference in Chicago in 2006, it included a symposium on the legal ramifications of the host country's detention of terrorist suspects in Guantanamo Bay... So why would the IBA hold at least on symposium on the rule of law in Singapore for its delegates... So far only silence from the IBA], p 80.

>**Itinerario**

V.xxxi.n.1 2007 1) John E. Wills, review of Eng seng Ho, 2006, *The graves of Tarim: genealogy and mobility across the*

Indian Ocean, xxvi + 380 pp, London, Berkeley & Los Angeles, CA: University of California Press. Pb ISBN 0-520-24454-2 [Notes from the review – An exemplar of dense and theoretically energetic description, sympathetic interpretation of specific developments in a great tradition, careful research in difficult sources and fieldwork in fascinating and challenging places, and the linking of a long continuity of trans-oceanic connections to contemporary realities; as well as a major contribution to the comparative study of trade diasporas or merchant networks – The graves of Tarim, located in the remote desert valley in the Hadramawt in south and southeast Yemen, are centers of pilgrimage and family return for the Hadrami diaspora (Kilwa, Mogadishu, Surat, Bombay, Calicut, Melaka, Aceh, and Banten) – Hadramis have been prominent at Singapore since Raffles invited one to settle there, another founded a family fortune from rental housing, and a famous Hadrami religious teacher's tomb in Singapore is a place of pilgrimage – Their heritage includes the migration of the *sayyids*, descendants of the Prophet Muhammad, about 950 CE -- The Hadrami diaspora involved military action and a great network of trade across the Indian Ocean -- They were mostly males, and married mostly local (often Malay) women -- Ho links the spread of Hadrami *sayyids* to East Africa and India to a shift of trade routes to the Red Sea after the Mongol conquests in the 1200s; and he offers information on the roles and achievements of Hadramis in East Africa, India and Java as well as a more connected and interesting account of their roles in the history of the Malay Peninsula], pp 151-152.

>**Journal of strategic studies** (Source: Routledge Journals)

V.30,n.1 Feb 2007 -- 1) David Ucko, "Countering insurgents through distributed operations: insights from Malaya 1948-1960" [From the Abstract-- Examines the emerging US Marine Corps concept of 'distributed operations' (DO) & its applicability to counter insurgency – DO involves dispersing the force and empowering decentralized units to create a network of mobile, agile and adaptable cells, each operating with a degree of autonomy but in line with the commander's overall intent – This concept's applicability to irregular campaigns is assessed regarding the Malayan Emergency, in which British and Commonwealth forces employed dispersed and decentralized small-unit formations to great effect – Teases out conditions that allowed DO to succeed in Malaya, and comments on requirements and implications for the use of DO today in the prosecution of the 'Long War'] pp 47-72.

>**JMBRAS** (*Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*)

V.lxxix,pt.2 2006 -- 1) **Obituary** of Ambassador Datuk Abdullah bin Ali, PSD, DPMJ, KMN [Datuk Abdullah Ali, President of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, and distinguished retired diplomat, died after a short illness on 18 November 2006. He was 84 years old. He was born in the Muar District, educated in at Muar High School, Raffles College, Singapore and the Australian National University, Canberra. He joined the Johore Civil Service as an Assistant District Officer and later in the office of the Commissioner of Lands and Mines, and later as District Officer in Mantin and Rembau, Negeri Sembilan. Through Mubin Sheppard's good offices he eventually joined what eventually became the Malaysian Foreign Office. He served in many posts: the British

High Commission and Malaysian High Commission in New Delhi, in Australia, Indonesia, Thailand, Ethiopia, Morocco, Singapore, Germany, and finally (concurrently) as Malaysian High Commissioner in London and as Ambassador to Ireland. He served as Chief of Protocol in Malaysia under two Yang di-Pertuan Agongs and as Malaysia's representative to the United Nations. And he authored *Malaysian Protocol and Correct Forms of Address*], no pagination... put under Obituaries; 2) Lee Boon Thong, "Petaling Jaya: the early development and growth of Malaysia's first new town" [From the abstract -- KL's population grew so rapidly after WWII that housing shortages led to squatting and slums -- Coupled with political urgency to resettle squatters, this led to planning a new town southwest of KL -- Petaling Jaya began as a resettlement for squatters who were soon eclipsed by the growing middle class attracted by good accessibility, good-quality homes, and well-planned neighborhoods -- PJ grew from 1,300 wooden houses in 1953 to 13,592 by 1974; its town area expanded to 42.2 sq km with population of 200,000 in 1977 -- By 1980 PJ had become the fastest growing industrial town in the country, with half a million people living in almost 100,000 homes], pp 1-22; 3) B.A. Hussainmiya, "Constitutional practice in Brunei as highlighted in the 1955 memorandum of R.H. Hickling" [From the abstract -- Author probes how far Hickling's views influenced the policy of the British Colonial Office in introducing the first written constitution for Brunei in September 1959 -- Although not as significant as M.S.H. McArthur's report of 1904, in urging the British government to preserve the State of Brunei; Hickling's report cautioned against introducing a modern constitution on absolute Western terms -- Examines the comment and views of R.H. Hickling, a British official who was sent to Brunei in Nov. 1954 to report on constitutional practice - - Reports such matters as the status of the Brunei monarchy, forms of government, and problems of its political survival], pp 23-38; 4) Muhamad Ali, "Transmission of Islamic knowledge in Kelantan" [Surveys the processes of transmission of Islamic knowledge in Kelantan during the 19th & 20th centuries -- 2 purposes: to trace the primary networks of the religious scholars (*ulama*) of Kelantan; and to examine how the local *ulama* disseminated Islamic ideas to the local communities -- Suggests that the scholarly networks were closely linked not only to Mecca and Egypt, but also to India and Pakistan -- Also suggests that it was the local rather than the 'foreign' *ulama* who became the primary disseminators of Islam in Kelantan, thru establishment of *surau*, *pondok*, and *madrasah*; and that it was the *ulama* rather than traders who were most influential -- It was the *ulama* who became central in the Islamization of Kelantan], 39-58; 5) Neil Khor Jin Keong, "Economic change and the emergence of the Straits Chinese in nineteenth-century Penang" [Presents the biographical sketches of 3 Chinese families in Penang discussing origins and development of their distinctive Straits Chinese identity in late 19th century -- This identity began in the Penang Hokkien business community, especially in the local-born -- Their business aspirations and culture played a key role in determining how they responded both to the Malay environment and to the new Western influence], pp 59-83; 6) J.M. Gullick, "On the nature of the military government: the case of the BMA in Negri Sembilan". In the 1939-45 war, armies of the major powers governed, generally for a short period only, territories that they occupied

in the course of operations -- Such regimes were established to meet immediate military needs and differed, in what they did and refrained from doing, from normal civil governments -- After explaining the objects and limitations of military government, the author illustrates them with an account, based on first-hand experience, of the British Military Administration in Negri Sembilan], pp 85-101; **7)** Barbara Harrison, article-length review of John M. Miksic (ed), 2003, *Earthenware in Southeast Asia*, 370 pp, Singapore: Singapore University Press, ISBN 9971-69-271-6 [A textbook on earthenware that was originally prepared for a symposium on pre-modern Southeast Asian earthenware – Editor John Miksic writes the overview thru maps, tables and coordination of some 750 bibliographic entries which range from the Philippines, eastern Indonesia, the fringes of Oceania, Annam, Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Peninsular Malaysia, Borneo, Sumatra and Java – Various contributors speak to the current state of earthenware knowledge – The many authors and titles of articles mentioned in Harrison's review witness the diversity and thoroughness of the book's inspection of the subject : W.G. Solheim, Wilfredo Ronquillo, Eusebio Dizon, David Bulbeck & Genevieve Clune, D. Kyle Latinis & Ken Stark, Santosa Soegondho & Mundardjito & Ingrid Pojoh & Djuwita Ramelan, Hilda Sumantri, E. Edwards McKinnon, Leong Sau Heng, Nik Hassan Shuhaimi Nik Abd. Rahman & Asyaari bin Muhamad, Amara Srisuchat, Ruth Prior & Ian Glover, Stephen Chia, Leedom Leffoerts & Louise Allison Cort, Charlotte Reith, and Dilip Medhi], pp 103-107; **8)** Jayum Anak Jawan, review of Heidi Munan, 2005, *Beads of Borneo*, 144 pp, Singapore: Editions Didier Millet, ISBN 981-4155-07-1 [About the beads of various natives of Borneo, including: Iban, Bidayuh, Melanau, Kaya/Kenyah, Muruts, Kadazandusun, Rungus, and Ngaju as related to the rich oral history and culture of their possessors – The beads are more than decorative items hung on various parts of their bodies; they are important in many daily activities and ritual ceremonies, including hunting, farming, health, festivals, birth, coming of age and death cycles] , pp 107-110; **9)** A. Mani, review of Samuel S. Dhoraisingam, 2006, *Peranakan Indians of Singapore and Melaka Indian Babas and Nonyas—Chitty Melaka*, xiv + 118 pp, Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Hb ISBN 981-230-346-4 [The author spent many years collecting evidence to document the history of the community, which is the oldest surviving community in Malacca that traces its origins to India – While most histories of Indians in Singapore and Malaysia are written at the macro level, failing to document the dynamics of events that shape particular communities; the author spent many years collecting evidence to document this singular history – While scholars will note the opportunity to compare it with other Indian communities and their contexts is lacking , the reviewer states that the book is valuable for popular readers], pp 110-112; **10)** Karl Hack, review of Brian Farrell, 2005, *The defense and fall of Singapore, 1940-1942*, 440 pp, Port Stroud, Glouc.: Tempus, Pb ISBN 0-7524-3478-0 [Reviewer begins by noting the author's military and scholarly experience and intimate knowledge of local battlefields; and how he used them in this book to reconcile different schools of thought on the Fall of Singapore, in order to answer the 'why' question: why were

British forces not just defeated, but humiliated? – The 'naval school of thought'; the 'intelligence school'; and the author's 'unified school', which is that almost inevitable defeat became crushing humiliation on 15 February 1942 – And most, if not all the details], pp 113-116.

>Malaysian business

Jan16th-31st 2007 -- 1) Charles Raj, "Commentary: death knell for MAS?" [Will the launch of a low-cost, long-haul service in AirAsia X further jeopardize beleaguered national carrier MAS? -- Many government-owned airlines in the world are both efficient and profitable -- So, don't really need a guy like Datuk Tony Fernandes to run MAS -- What you need is political will], p 12; **2)** Ishak Ahmad, "Are minorities being shortchanged?" [With the current ebullient mood of the stock market, is the cash-out price offered to minorities in the Sime Darby-Golden Hope-Kumpulan Guthrie merger adequate?], pp 20-21; **3)** James S, "Banking on a new chapter" [The collective upgrading of merchant banks, universal brokers and discount houses to investment banks spells an exciting time ahead for the Malaysian banking sector -- How will these new entities evolve and fare in the face of global market liberalizations?], pp 22-24 & 32.

Feb1st-15th 2007 -- 1) A Kadir Jasin, "Other thots: political pressure frustrates Utusan-NSTP merger" [Despite endorsement by the PM and the DPM, the proposed merger between newspaper stalwarts *Utusan Melayu* and *The New Straits Time Press* came to a halt, courtesy of a large segment of Malaysians speaking up -- Easily the longest 45 days in the history of *Utusan Melayu (M) Bhd* and *The New Straits Time Press*... and also a great discomfort for Umno], pp 6-7; **2)** Charles Raj, "Commentary: beware the little Napoleons" [As we unveil the National Education Blueprint, we must make sure that its implementation is unhindered by people with selfish motives -- So for all this to succeed, the Minister must ensure one thing: that all the 'little Napoleons' are first removed for the sake of the dedicated educators and our future generation; **3)** Habhajan Singh, "The right to information" [The rakyat may be reaching the end of its tether over the disinclination of ministers to reveal information on issues affecting their lives -- For example: a) Works Minister Datuk Seri S Samy Vellu telling us why he cannot tell us more about toll concessions, b) Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik tells the rakyat how 'sorry' he is to remain mum on the make-up of the water concession agreement or the audited accounts of Syarikat Belakan Air Selangor -- 'Come on, dear ministers... No one is even asking you to spill the beans' they just want the information on the concessions impacting directly on the people's purse and quality of life'], p 10; **4)** Bishen Bedi, "The Bush insurgency" [In what can be seen as a final bid to be vindicated, American President George W Bush is bent on sending more troops into lost-cause Iraq -- What's more worrying, however, is the emergence of Iran in the picture -- A Malaysian view of the US President '... in the dying years of his leadership'], pp 52-53.

>Media Asia: an Asian communication quarterly

V.32,n.4 2005 -- 1) Stewart Auyash, "Communication as a treatment for SARS in Singapore and its lessons for infectious epidemics in Asia" [Looks at the handling of the 2003 SARS outbreak by the Singapore government and the media -- Contends that Singapore's handling of the crisis was so effective as to be considered a benchmark model for other

countries to apply in times of future public health crises] pp 207-210.

>**New Sabah times** (From <http://www.newsabaitimes.com.my>) **5/20/2007** – Awang Ahmad, "SANDAKAN: The prevailing unity among Umno members in Sabah must be maintained" [While officiating at the joint meeting of Umno Libaran branches yesterday, Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Haji Aman said... Umno members must maintain the existing unity and also try to prepare for the coming election – He called on Umno members in Sabah to not take victory for granted, but to work harder to obtain a stronger mandate from the next election, while urging voters to not listen to rumors and accusations that the opposition hurled against Umno leaders – He also reassured the people, including Umno members in Sungai Sibuga that he would not abandon them and contest elsewhere, as a act of gratitude for their sacrifices and support ... he said to the thunderous applause from the over 1,000 branch members present... to which he responded that he would contest election in Sungai Sibuga, and not elsewhere – He wants to focus on developing the state by building infrastructural facilities and further improve the economy for the people using the RM20 billion allocated to Sabah under the 9th Malaysia Plan ... and more on development.]

>**Past & present: a journal of historical studies**

N. 191 May 2006 -- 1) Michael B. Miller, "Pilgrims' progress: the business of the Hajj" [An interesting article on the business of the Hajj in South and Southeast Asia, with relevance to Singapore, Malaysia, Belawan, Tanjung Priok, Semarang, Banjarmasin, Surabaya, and Makassar -- Shows that pilgrim traffic formed part of a wider, mass transportation business, and that European shipping companies, by applying to this traffic the logistical command they had acquired in their other migration trade, made possible large-scale, regular, even routinized carriage of hajjis across thousands of sea miles... the Hajj was a religious event, but business also contoured the pilgrim -- But European maritime commerce in what had been imperial colonial waters was altered forever after WWII -- For example in Malaysia, Lembaga Urusan dan Tabung Haji (LUTH) ran pilgrim affairs by the end of 1960s... It had absorbed the broker system that persisted along the east coast, reversing the earlier colonial cooption of indigenous networks, and itself invested in a series of enterprises, including palm oil and rubber states, in order to finance its operating cost -- And much more], pp 189-228.

>**RIMA (Review of Indonesian and Malaysian affairs)**

V.4.n.2 2006 -- 1) JH Walker, "Zaman ini: making time the same as money in nineteenth-century Sarawak" [From the intro -- Describes the attempts made in Sarawak during the 1870s both to secularize human conceptions of the environment and to commercialize human approaches to agriculture -- Sources used for delineating these processes are the *Hikayat Panglima Nikosa* and the *Sarawak Gazette*], pp 55-72; 2) Virginia Matheson Hooker, "Places to call home - household/ land/ homeland: domains of modernity in the Malay novel" [Begins with a line from Anwar Ibrahim, "Apart from religion, it is literature that will enable us to regain the fullness of our humanity" -- The question of how to modernize Malays as a subject of public debate... Malay intellectuals as 'activists'... the

representation of choice linked closely in fictional narratives with a sense of responsibility for the welfare of fellow Malays ... new literary domains from old -- The 'homeland' defined and further defined... technology addressed ... the domestic domain defined -- Identity as land ownership ... empty houses & final homes -- Concludes with 'novel sites of transformation'], pp 73-110; 3) Sven Alexander Schottmann, "*Melayu Islam Beraja: the politics of legitimization in a Malay Islamic monarchy*" [Begins with Brunei's conceptualization of national identity as more similar to nation-states of mainland Southeast Asia than with its counterparts from the Malay world -- Brunei's vast oil and gas resources have turned the sultanate into a highly affluent society, boasting one of Asia's highest GDP per capita -- Hobsbawm's ideas about nationalism form the departing point of his discussion; He seeks to frame the Bruneian monarchy's quest for legitimization thru its *Melayu Islam Beraja* philosophy in terms of Hobsbawm's analysis of 18th & 19th century European nationalism... Like its Indonesian, Singaporean, Malaysian or Thai counterparts, the key aims of Brunei's national philosophy are to preserve the *status quo* and to provide an ideological underpinning for the system -- Sections on a) a brief history of the Bruneian monarchy; b) the making of a national philosophy; c) the political legacy of Britain; d) *Melayu Islam Beraja* - ethno-cultural legitimization; e) religious legitimization; f) Arabicization of Bruneian Islam; and g) Conclusion], pp 111-139.

> **Studies in conflict & terrorism**

V.30.n.6 Jun 2007 -- 1) Yun Yun Teo, "Target Malacca Straits: maritime terrorism in Southeast Asia" [From the Abstract -- The strategic and economic importance of the Straits of Malacca makes it one of the major sea routes most vulnerable to terrorist attack -- The piracy that continues to frustrate maritime authorities in the Straits is proof of this, and given the security concerns after 9/11, major users of the Straits major users are alarmed -- Although international pressure has forced Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia to improve Straits security, national interests and reluctance to address the problem as a potential terror threat hinder cooperation -- Article examines how 3 neighbors in the same Straits have such divergent policies regarding combating maritime terrorism], pp 541-561.

>**The economist**

Apr28th-May4th 2007 -- 1) "Capital punishment: here is thy sting" [Notes that more and more countries have doubts about the death penalty -- The various methods of executions from nation to nation... noting that hanging gone awry is cruel -- Methods since 2000: hanging in Singapore, Pakistan, Jordan, Japan, Iran, Egypt and the USA (Virginia, South Carolina and Alabama)], pp 69-70.

May5th-11th 2007 -- 1) "Monks on the march: a most un-Buddhist demand for worldly recognition" [Buddhist nationalists are demanding that the new constitution give explicit recognition to Buddhism as Thailand's official religion... about 95% of Thailand's 64 million people are Theravada Buddhists, and most of the rest are Muslims (mostly Sunni Shafi'i) -- A group of Buddhist monks has tried to persuade the constitution drafters to strengthen the wording about the status of Buddhism as national religion -- In the present constitution the government is required to "... patronize and protect Buddhism and other religions" -- Having failed, the group is now seeking to persuade co-religionists that their faith is under threat --

Army chief, General Sonthi Boonyaratglin and the PM, General Surayud Chuanont, have said they would not oppose the proposal... Perhaps a ploy to defuse a campaign by loyalists of Thaksin Shinawatra, the former PM that the generals ousted -- All this could further inflame the separatist insurgency in the Malay (Muslim) dominated southern Thailand], p 56; 2) Also see "In place of God: culture replaces religion" [Beginning in 16th C. to this day in England the title "metropolitan" given to senior clerics ... other instances of religion diminished by other aspects of culture, including Kuala Lumpur's tallest building], pp 14-15 of "A special report on cities" within "The world goes to town" between regular pp 62 & 63.

May12th-18th 2007 -- 1) "Free-trade agreements: Japan worries about missing Asia's banquet of free-trade deals" [The noodle bowl of Asian free trade agreements (FTAs) is about to get more tangled; Yet of all Asian countries, Japan, with the biggest economy, feels least comfortable with the process -- It has ratified just 4... with Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines and Mexico -- In negotiations with poorer partners, Japan can come across as alternately stingy or overweening], p 45.

May19th-25th 2007 -- 1) "Elections in South-East Asia: voting for the same thing" [Lots of elections, but democracy remains fragile and limited -- In May, voters of Timor-Leste voted for a president, Filipinos vote for members of congress and local office holders, and Vietnamese elect a new national assembly; later this year Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea will have parliamentary elections, and so might Thailand and Malaysia -- But only Malaysia, Singapore and Cambodia are, nominally, multi-party democracies], pp 45-46.

May26th-Jun1st 2007 -- 1) "Sovereign-wealth funds: the world's most expensive club" [How government investors are flourishing at the heart of the financial system -- Top 12 countries that are holders of gold sovereigns in the world: Singapore is 2nd (GIC) & 6th (Temasek Holdings); and Brunei is 11th (Brunei Investment Agency) -- While China is 5th, USA is 9th and Russia is 10th], pp 79-80.

Jun2nd-8th 2007 -- 1) "Malaysia: Lina Joy's despair... A legal blow to religious freedom" [Quotes Article 11 of Malaysia's constitution: 'Every person has the right to profess and practice his religion' -- But Lina Joy, who has fought for 9 years to convert from Islam to Christianity, was told by the Supreme Court on May 30th that the guarantee is worthless to her, because as a Muslim she should have first received permission from the Muslim *sharia* courts, which punish apostates -- She wants to marry her Christian boy friend, but Malaysia in effect bans Muslims from marrying outside the faith -- But one of the 3 judges, a non-Muslim dissented from the judgment -- The ruling will confirm the fears many Malaysians (and not just the Chinese and Indian minorities) that the country is suffering "creeping Islamisation"], p 42.

Jun16th-22nd 2007 -- 1) "Terrorism in South-East Asia: wounded but still dangerous" [Indonesia, with the help of Singapore and the Philippines, strikes a blow against the Jemaah Islamiyah terror group... but it remains a threat and its plans a mystery -- Singapore revealed that it was detaining 4 Jemaah Islamiyah members arrested between last November and April, and released another 5 suspects, and the Indonesian arrests came shortly afterward -- More details], pp 48-49.

Jun23rd-29th 2007 -- 1) "Suicide: elusive, but not always unstoppable" [From 1997 to 2002 suicides rising in Japan (from 18 to 24 per 100,000), South Korea (from 14 to 18 per 100,000), Hong Kong (from 12 to 16 per 100,000), and Taiwan (from 10 to 13 per 100,000); but in Singapore suicides decreased (from 10 to 9 per 100,000)], pp 66-67.

>The Fletcher forum of world affairs

V.31,n.1 Wntr 2007 -- 1) Meredith Weiss, "The Malaysian state turns 50--and the nation?" [Fifty years since the nation, comprised of ethnic Malay and Chinese and Indian citizens won its independence, Malaysia continues to struggle to define its national identity -- Despite the domestic confusion that this ambiguity creates, it may also provide a strategic advantage for Malaysia as it jockeys for position on the world stage -- Discusses the importance of the 'bargain' among Malay and Chinese Malaysians in which Malays dominate political life and Chinese focus on the economy -- Sections on: a) 'Malaysia as an Islamic state, perhaps', noting that seeing domestic pressures as reflected thru the lens of Malaysia's external environment offers clues on how to interpret and define contemporary Malaysian national identity; b) 'Malaysian identity, from the outside in', noting *Malaysia boleh!*; c) 'Why identity matters', noting that debates on identity and nationhood are not fluff side issues, but may have critical policy impacts; d) and that 'While on the one hand the government touts a united Malaysian nation with a sense of common and shared destiny it also styles Malaysia increasingly as a Muslim nation'], pp 119-129.

>The Indonesian quarterly

V.34,n.3 3rd Qtr 2006 -- 1) Begi Hersutanto & Bantarto Bandoro, "Securing Malacca Strait" [From the conclusion -- The littoral countries of the strait (Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia) are responsible of its security according to International Law, but they should be open to possibilities for external parties who use the strait to provide assistance -- But the involvement of external parties in securing the strait shall not impact the sovereignty of the littoral countries] pp 198-202; 2) Anak Agung Banyu Perwita, "The impact of territorial border problems on Indonesia's security" [From the introduction -- Indonesia is still having border problems with 10 neighboring states: Singapore, Malaysia, The Philippines, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, India, Thailand, Timor Leste, and the Republic of Palau ... which have negative consequences -- Focuses on the range of issues (military and non-military dimensions) as part of a comprehensive solution to border problems], pp 202-207; Christopher B. Roberts, "The ASEAN security community project: the prospects for comprehensive integration in Southeast Asia" [See especially, the section "Domestic instability and the continuation of conflict initiators in Southeast Asia (pp 281-288, which is summed in Table 1 ('Bilateral disputes in Southeast Asia'... Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei involved in almost half the disputes)], pp 270-293.

>The journal of comparative Asian development

V.6,n.1 Sprng 2007 -- 1) Ka Ho Mok, "The quest for 'world-class' status: university responses and strategies in Asia" [Sections of the article: a) Questioning for global competitiveness and search for new governance; b) The concept of a world-class university; c) University responses and strategies (university restructuring--incorporation and corporatization); d) Questioning for 'world-class' status--climbing the world university

league; e) Impacts of 'world-class university' on national higher education systems; f) Watching out--the danger of neo-imperialism in education -- Comparison of Singaporean and Malaysian universities with East Asian, European, British and American universities -- Notes the international role of English language journals], pp 1-20; 2) Michael H. H. Lee & Saravanan Gopinathan "University restructuring in Singapore: amazing! or a maze?" [Restructuring or reforming education in Singapore one of the most important public policy issues over the past decade -- Two state universities, the National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) as well as the Singapore Management University (SMU) a focus of important national public policy issues -- Article examines critically the impact of the restructuring policies and reforms on the university system in Singapore -- Amazing that the university system has been expanding more rapidly by embracing more universities or higher education institutions from local and abroad, and also recruiting more local and non-local students -- NUS & NTU have been ranked high in several international and regional ranking exercises in recent years... their academic quality and institutional reputation widely recognized regionally and internationally -- Sections on: a) 'The setting--university education in Singapore'; b) 'Policies and reforms for university restructuring (Funding and governance reforms, quality assurance for universities, international and world-class universities, university system restructuring and corporations)'; c) 'University restructuring--amazing! or a maze?'; d) 'Conclusion'], pp 107-141.

>The Times of India

21 May 2007 -- 1) "Nobel' Horta new East Timor prez" [Dili: Nobel Peace Prize winner Jose Ramos-Horta was sworn in as East Timor's president on Sunday, vowing to unite the desperately poor nation more than a year after violence brought down its young government -- Only hours after taking the oath of office, a clash left at least 1 man dead and several others wounded -- UN peacekeepers were deployed to help restore order -- Dozens of men clashed in Dili's streets on Sunday, some attacking refugees and fish vendors.]

BOOKS BOOKS books books

>Askew, Mark --2007-- *Conspiracy, politics, and a disorderly border: the struggle to comprehend insurgency in Thailand's deep south*. 100 pp. Singapore: ISEAS & co-publishers: East-West Center Washington & Institute of Southeast Asian Studies. ISBN 978-981-230-464-3. [Examines themes underlying the character and causes of violence engulfing southern Thailand since 2004 -- Begins with key representations of the problem, then, drawing on little used Thai-language documentation, interviews and field study -- Focuses on three topics: a) the prominence of conspiracy theories claiming that killings and bombing have been engineered by vested interest groups rather than by separatists, arguing that circulation of conspiracy speculations emphasizes the reality of the labyrinthine and disorderly borderland, a major problem long deferred by former governments; b) Focuses on arguments claiming that Thaksin's dissolution of the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Center in 2002 paved the way for the current insurgency and a

decade of failure to detect an emerging new network-based militancy; c) Discusses the political uses of the southern crisis by the opposition Democratic Party, which preserved its electoral base in the South by demonizing Thaksin as the cause of the turbulence; and d) Argues that representations of the southern crisis have been inherently political, while the reality is the complexity and vulnerability of a disorderly, contested, and neglected borderland.]

>Baer, Adela ...et al --2006-- *Orang Asli women of Malaysia: perceptions, situations & aspirations*. xiii + 167 pp. Subang Jaya: Center for Orang Asli Concerns. [Listed in *Ethnos: journal of anthropology*, v.72,n.1 2007, "Publications received", p 139.]

>Beng, Oii Kee & Ding Choo Ming (eds) --2007-- *Continent, coast, ocean: dynamics of regionalism in Eastern Asia*. 223 pp. Singapore: ISEAS. ISBN 978-981-230-447-6 [A collection of articles, by Taiwanese and Malaysian scholars, that takes a long look at the dynamics of regionalism in Eastern Asia -- Shows how although the past limits the future, its hold on our possibilities for peaceful coexistence is not especially strong -- Much about Japan's diplomatic history as well as the heritage of its conquest of Eastern Asia examined alongside China's cultural geography -- Ties between East Asia and Southeast Asia, as well as the influence of American military power and European integration also examined -- See especially: a) Tham Siew-Yean, "Myths and miracles of economic development in East Asia: policy lessons for Malaysia in the 21st Century"; b) Khoo Kay Kim, "The historical and cultural legacy of relations between Southeast Asia, with special reference to Malaysia"; c) Shamsul A B, "Reinventing traditional values for our future: a Malaysian organizational response"; and d) Mohamad Abu Bakar, "Islam in Asia: the way ahead".]

>Brassard, Caroline & Sarthi Acharya (eds) --2006-- *Labour market regulation and deregulation in Asia : experiences in recent decades*. 229 pp. New Delhi: Academic Foundation. In association with Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. Singapore. ISBN: 817188539X [From kkgencies, kkagen@nda.vsnl.net.in -- Little or no description of text.]

>Bunce, Fredrick W. --2007-- *Monuments of India and the Indianized States : the plans of major and notable temples, tombs, palaces and pavilions of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Java, the Khmer, Pagan, Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia from 3rd C. BCE to CE 1854*. xxii + 518 pp. New Delhi: D. K. Printworld (P) Ltd. ISBN: 8124603855 [From kkgencies, kkagen@nda.vsnl.net.in -- Little or no description of text.]

>Burghoorn, Will & Kazuki Iwanage & Cedilia Milwertz & Qi Wang --2007-- *Gender politics in Asia: women manoeuvring with dominant gender orders*. 252 pp. NIAS Press. Pb ISBN 978-87-7694-015-7 [From www.niaspress.dk -- Demonstrates the great diversity in gender politics & women's strategies to negotiate and change gender relations individually or collectively in Malaysia, Singapore, China, Japan, the Philippines, and Thailand; Examining multiple aspects of gender politics such as dress, healing, religious ordination, and NGO activism; bringing interdisciplinary approaches of inquiry based on in-depth empirical data.]

>Cayron, Jun G. --2007-- *Stringing the past: an archaeological understanding of early Southeast Asian*

glass bead trade. 222 pp. Manilla: Univ. of the Philippines, distributed by Univ. of Hawai'i Press. Pb ISBN 978-971-542-506-3 [From the UH Press website -- The source of thousands of Indo-Pacific type glass beads recovered from the Pandanan shipwreck in Palawan, Philippines, has heretofore not been determined -- This book is a significant contribution to our knowledge of glass beads: how they were made, used, and traded in early Southeast Asia.]

>**Cramb, R. A.** --2007-- **Land and longhouse: agrarian transformation in the uplands of Sarawak.** 448 pp. NIAS Monographs, No. 110. Distributed by University of Hawai'i Press [From UH Press website -- Examines the role of community, market, and state in the historic transformation of upland livelihoods in Southeast Asia, focusing on the Aribas Iban of Sarawak -- Combines in-depth, generation-long village case studies with an account of changes in land use and tenure at the regional level, spanning a century and a half -- Demonstrates that, far from being passive victims of globalization, the Iban have been active agents in their own transformation, engaging with both market and state while retaining community values and governance -- Makes a significant contribution to debates about economic, social, and environmental change and conflict in upland Southeast Asia.]

>**Duncan, Christopher R. (ed)** --2004-- **Civilizing the margins.** 288 pp. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. Pb ISBN 978-0-8014-8930-3 [From the website -- SEA nations have devised a range of development programs to incorporate minority ethnic groups into the nation-state -- Contributors discuss the programs, policies, and laws that affect ethnic minorities in 8 countries: Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam -- Contributors: Robert Knox Dentan, Christopher R Duncan, James F Eder, Kirk Endicott, Kathleen Gillogly, Curtis W Lambrecht, Pamela McElwee, Thomas M McKenna, Jan Ovesen, and Ing-Britt Trankell.]

>**Federspiel, Howard M.** --2007-- **Sultans, shamans, and saints: Islam and Muslims in Southeast Asia.** 312 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press. Hb ISBN 978-0-8248-3052-6 [From the website -- Looks at Islam in Southeast Asia during four major eras: its arrival (to 1300), the first flowering of Islamic identity (1300-1800), the era of imperialism (1800-1945), and the era of independent nation states (1945-2000) -- Ranges across the humanities and social sciences, emphasizing the historical development of Southeast Asia's accommodation of Islam and the creation of its distinctive regional character -- Each chapter opens with a general background summary, placing events in the greater Asian/Southeast Asian contexts, followed by an overview of prominent ethnic groups, political events, customs & cultures, religious factors, and art forms.]

>**Ghani, Azhar ... et al.** --2006-- **Struck by lightning: Singaporean voices post-1965.** 135 pp. Singapore: SNP Editions. Pb ISBN 9812481184 (Thanks to electronic access to NIU Southeast Asia Collection) [Selected 'Post-65ers' columns from *The Straits Times*, 2004-2005, includes index, -- LC Card Number 2006328323 -- Call Number: DS609..9 .S77 2006.]

>**Hadiz, Vedi R. (ed)** --2006-- **Empire and neoliberalism in Asia.** 272 pp. London: Routledge Taylor & Francis [From the website -- Ch1 on the overall theme 'Empire, neo-liberalism and Asia'; First sub-theme, Ch2 thru Ch6, is 'Theoretical issues and the international context'; Second sub-theme, Ch7 thru Ch15, is Asia: social conflict, power, and American empire -- See especially: a) Ch9, "Searching for Islam in Malaysian politics: confluences, divisions and governance"; and b) Ch10, "Fostering 'authoritarian democracy' with violence: the effect of violent solutions to southern violence in Thailand" -- List of authors, but not attached to particular chapters in the website promo.]

>**Janowski, Monica & Fiona Kerlogue (eds)** --2007-- **Kinship and food in South East Asia.** 336 pp. NIAS Press (Studies in Asian Topics, V. 38). Pb ISBN 8791114934 [From the website -- 11 chapters covering a range of societies in different parts of SEA, examining ways in which food is used to think about and bring about ties within and between generations and between the living and the dead, particularly thru the feeding relationship -- Significant parallels emerge between the societies covered, especially in the role of rice -- A significant contribution to the ongoing debate on the nature of kinship in Southeast Asia -- See especially: 1) Monica Janowski's introduction to the volume, "Feeding the right food: the flow of life and the construction of kinship in Southeast Asia"; 2) Fiona Kerlogue's "Food and the family: assimilation in a Malay village"; Carol Davis's "Food, fertility and kinship in Minangkabau"; and 3) Monica Janowski's "Being 'big', being 'good': feeding, kinship, potency and status among the Kelabit of Sarawak".]

>**Jomo, K.S. (ed)** --2007-- [Listed without description in *Berita* 30-1] **Malaysian industrial policy.** 344 pp. Singapore: Singapore Univ. Press (distributed by Univ. of Hawai'i Press). Pb ISBN 978-9971-69-340-4 [From the UH Press web promo -- Argues that selective government promotion efforts have been successful and crucial for Malaysia's industrialization despite some disastrous outcomes associated with the Mahathir government's heavy industrialization program -- Authors present evidence to show that direct and indirect government interventions have induced and supported investments, accelerating the structural transformation of the Malaysian economy. (Book for sale only in the U.S.A. & its dependencies, and Canada, and Mexico).]

>**Keong, Neil Khor Jin & Khoo Keat Siew** --2004-- **The Penang Po Leung Kuk: Chinese women, prostitution and a welfare organization.** 192 pp. Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Monograph 37. [Ch1 -- An early history of the Chinese in Penang (1786-1886); Ch2 -- Events leading-up to the founding of the Po Leung Kuk (PLK) & its early years as a half-way house (1877-1925; Ch3 -- The Babington Home before WWII (1926-1945); Ch4 -- The immediate postwar period and the PLK in local hands (1945-1969); Ch5 -- A multi-ethnic home and new directions (1969-1977); Conclusion, Bibliography, Tables, Index.]

>**Khan, Joel S.** --2006-- **Nationalism and cosmopolitanism in the modern Malay world.** 254 pp. NIAS Press. Pb ISBN 978-87-7694-007-2 [A slightly different prospective title & description posted in *Berita* volume 29... but the book is now published -- From www.niaspress.dk -- Challenges the narrative of Malay identity devised by Malay nationals, writers

and film makers in the late colonial period that associated Malayness with the *kampungs*, envisaged as static, ethnically homogenous, and rural; and he argues that it ignores the immigration of Malays from outside the peninsula to participate in trade and commercial agriculture, the large urban Malay populations, and the reformist Muslims who argued for a common bond in Islam -- The author argues that owing to dissatisfaction with the established order and modernist sensitivities of the younger generation that it is time to revisit the (more ancient) cosmopolitan narrative of Malayness -- Janet Carsten's comment that the "questions Kahn asks are the important ones, and the material is drawn together in quite new ways" concludes the website's description.]

>**Khan, N. A.** --2004-- ***A infrastructure for economic development: a comparative study of India and Malaysia.*** 187 pp. New Delhi: Anmol Publications. ISBN: 812611794X [From kkgencies, kkagen@nda.vsnl.net.in , little or no description of text.]

>**Kruspe, Nicole** --2004-- ***A grammar of Semelai.*** 520 pp. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Hb ISBN-13: 9780521814973 [From the web promo --The first comprehensive grammar of a language from the Asian subgroup, within the Mon-Khmer branch of the Austroasiatic family -- Spoken by approximately 4,000 persons in the lowland forests of the Malay Peninsula, Semelai has many distinctive features of interest to linguistic typologists, phonologists, morphologists and syntacticians -- Provides a unique reference resource for Southeast Asian language specialists as well as general linguists -- Table of contents: Ch1 Semelai; Ch2, Phonology & phonotactics; Ch3, Morphology; Ch4, Word classes; Ch5, The verb; Ch6, Pronouns, personal, ignorative & demonstrative; Ch7, The noun phrase; Ch8, Prepositions and the prepositional phrase; Ch9, Grammatical relations, constituent order & coding strategies; Ch10, Basic clauses; Ch11, Complex clauses; Ch12, Expressives; Ch13, The quotative marker, interjections and discourse clitics; Ch14, Texts.

>**Kumar, Brajendra (ed)** --2006--***Encyclopaedia of Southeast Asia.*** 5 vols: v.1, History, society and culture, xii + 307 pp; v..2, History, society and culture, xiv + 297 pp; v.3, Geography, environment and tourism, xii + 288 pp; v.4, Geography, environment and tourism, xiv + 291 pp; and v.5, Economy, commerce and trade, xii + 297 pp. New Delhi: Akansha Publishing House [From kkgencies e-mail blurb (kka1996@vsnl.net) -- Modern SE Asia characterized by its high economic growth by numerous countries and close regional integration -- Malaysian and Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand having experienced high growth and recognized as the more developed countries of the region and the world -- More recently, Vietnam is experiencing an economic boom -- Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos and East Timor as still lagging -- Countries included: Brunei, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Laos., Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam.]

>**Kuwajima, Sho** --2006-- ***Mutiny in Singapore : war, anti-war and the war for India's independence.*** xiv, 198 pp. Delhi: Rainbow Publishers Ltd. ISBN: 8186962875. [From kkagen@nda.vsnl.net.in , little or no description of text.]

>**Kwa, Chong Guan (ed)** --2006-- ***S Rajaratnam on Singapore: from ideas to reality.*** xxii + 281 pp. Hackensack, NJ: World Scientific. Pb ISBN 9789812704542 (Thanks to electronic access to NIU Southeast Asia Collection) [Multi-culturalism in Singapore, Singapore foreign relations, and history of Singapore]

>**Lal, Brij V. & Peter Reeves & Rajesh Rai (eds)** --2006-- ***The encyclopedia of the Indian diaspora.*** 416 pp. New Delhi: Oxford University Press In association with National University of Singapore. ISBN: 9814155659 [From kkgencies, kkagen@nda.vsnl.net.in , little or no description of text .]

>**Loos, Tamara** --2006-- ***Subject Siam: family, law, and colonial modernity in Thailand.*** 240 pp. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. Hb ISBN 978-0-8014-4393-0 [From the website -- Demonstrating the centrality of gender relations, law, and Siam's Malay Muslims to the history of modern Thailand, Tamara Loos examines the structures and social history of jurisprudence to gain insight into Siam's unique position within Southeast Asian history, and elaborates on the processes of modernity thru study of hundreds of court cases involving polygyny, marriage, divorce, rape, and inheritance adjudicated between the 1850s and 1930s -- Offers a novel approach to the question of modernity precisely because Siam was not colonized, yet was subject to transnational discourses and symbols of modernity, and not associated with a foreign colonial overlord so it could be deployed by elites who favored continuation of existing domestic hierarchies and by those advocating political and social change.]

>**McCargo, Duncan (ed)** --2007-- ***Rethinking Thailand's southern violence.*** 236 pp. Singapore: Singapore Univ. Press (distributed by Univ. of Hawai'i Press) Pb ISBN 978-9971-69-362-6 [From the UH Press web promo -- Since Jan 2004, the 3 Muslim-dominated provinces of Pattani, Yala & Narathiwat ablaze with violence -- Since the Kru-Ze mosque incident and the death of 78 Tak Bai protesters by the army, which made global headlines, the daily killings go largely unnoticed -- This collection by Thai and international scholars examines, from various perspectives, causes behind the unrest in southern Thailand, providing new understanding of the conflict.]

>**Metcalf, Thomas R.** --2007-- ***Imperial connections: India in the Indian Ocean arena, 1860-1920.*** 280 pp. Berkeley: University of California Press. Hb ISBN 978-0-520-24946-2. [From the web promo -- Challenges the Euro-centrism implicit in many accounts of modern European empires -- Focus on the British empire when at its zenith, analyzing the pivotal role the Raj played in running the empire in regions far-flung from one another, such as the Malay peninsula, Natal, Uganda and Egypt -- An innovative remapping of empire that offers a broad-ranging view of the workings of the British Empire at a time when it was at the center of newly globalized systems of trade, investment, and migration.]

>**Pearsall, Deborah M. (editor-ini-chief)** --2007-- ***Encyclopedia of archaeology.*** 3 vols -1,900 pp. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier. ISBN-13:978-0-12-548030-7 [Also available online via ScienceDirect -- A distinguished 10 person editorial advisory board, distinguished authors of articles, and 280 professionally refereed articles -- See especially, Charles Higham's "Asia, Southeast: early states and civilizations", & Sandra Bowdler's "Asia, Southeast: Paleolithic cultures".]

>Peerenboom, Randall & Carole J. Petersen & Albert H.Y. Chen (eds) --2006-- *Human rights in Asia: a comparative legal study of twelve Asian jurisdictions, France and the USA*. 544 pp. London: Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group). ISBN 9780415360036 [From the website – Considers how human rights are viewed and implemented in Asia, covering both civil and political rights, and also social, economic and cultural rights – Contents include the Introduction which provides the strategy of the book, which is to use the USA & France as comparison to 12 other countries, two of which are Singapore & Malaysia – The others: China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, and the Philippines.]

>Pillai, P. Sudarsanan --2004-- *Plantation management : a study of rubber plantation industry in India and Malaysia*. xiv, 266 pp. New Delhi: Sonali Publications. ISBN 8188836516 [From kkgencies, kkagen@nda.vsnl.net.in, little or no description of text .]

>Rowland, Kathy (ed) --2007-- *Krishen Jit: an uncommon position*. 248 pp. Singapore: Singapore University Press (distributed by Univ. of Hawai'i Press). Pb ISBN 978-9810-48-295-4 [From the UH Press web promo – Krishen Jit one of the most influential figures in the arts in Southeast Asia – Distinguished as director, dramaturge, critic, academic, arts advocate, educationist, historian, and regional powerbroker for over 40 years – As critic and has defied boundaries of language and genre, his writings an indispensable resource in structuring and historicizing arts practice in Malaysia – Book features a selection of his essays and articles from early 1970s to date, including theatre, dance, and visual art. (Book for sale only in the U.S.A. & its dependencies, and Canada, and Mexico).]

>Sarkar, Chitta Ranjan. --2004-- *Tax incentives and economic growth : an international comparison*. xviii, 302 pp. New Delhi: New Century Publications. ISBN 8177080660 [UK, USA, France, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, India and Bangladesh [From kkgencies, , little description of text at kkagen@nda.vsnl.net.in .]

>Sim, Hew Cheng (ed) --2007-- *Village mothers, city daughters: women and urbanization in Sarawak*. 150 pp. Singapore: ISEAS. ISBN 978-981-230-415-5 [A compelling collection of studies on the diverse and transforming experiences of women encountering the forces of modernization altering contemporary Borneo – The authors, locally-based scholars specializing in gender issues, present the human and gendered face of development and discuss the pressing issue of urbanization and rural-urban migration as experienced by women – Preliminary contents: 1. Hew Cheng Sim, "Urbanization in Sarawak"; 2. Goy Siew Ching & Low Kuek Long, "Gender, wages and labour migration"; 3. Adela Baer, "Women and health"; 4. Sara Ashencaen Crabtree, "Madness and the hegemony of healing: the legacy of Colonial psychiatry in Sarawak"; 5. Ling How Kee, "Elderly women's experiences of urbanization"; 6. Hew Cheng Sim, "Like a chicken standing on one leg: urbanization and single mothers"; 7. Poline Bala, "From highlands to lowlands: Kelabit women and their migrant daughters"; 8 . Hew Cheng Sim, "Conclusion".]

>Singh, Daljit & Lorraine Carlos Salazar (eds) --2007-- *Southeast Asian affairs 2007*. 412 pp. Singapore: ISEAS. ISBN 978-981-230-432-2 [Preliminary pages – 1) Donald E. Weatherbee's overview of the region, "Southeast Asian in 2006: *Deja vu* all over again"; 2) Manu Bhaskaran , "The regional economies: a year of growth, stability, and resilience" ; 3) David Martin Jones, "The Southeast Asian development model: non-liberal democracy with market accountability"; 4) Andrew Symon, "Petroleum and mining in Southeast Asia: managing the environment and social impacts" – The usual chapter(s) for each country in Southeast Asia; See especially: a) Hj. Mohd Ysup Hj Damit, "Brunei Darussalam: towards a new era"; b) Ooi Kee Beng, "Malaysia: Abdullah does it his own vague way" & Liew Chin Tong, "PAS leadership: new faces and old constraints"; and c) Ho Khai Leong, "Singapore: campaigning for the future".]

>Solheim II, William G. --2007-- *Archaeology and culture in Southeast Asia: unraveling the Nusantao*. 336 pp. Manila: University of the Philippines Press (distributed by Univ. of Hawai'i Press) Pb ISBN 978-971-542-508-7 [The long awaited synthesis of almost 4 decades of articulation of the Nusantao by the most senior practitioner of archaeology in Southeast Asia – Nusantao is a formulation that attempts to provide answers to why we see so many clear similarities and patterns in the archaeology of the region – The main answer to this question places the sea and the maritime tradition on center stage -- Solheim draws on his wide and profound knowledge of networks of interactions existing in various time depths, peopled by what he generally labels Nusantao.]

>Suryadinata, Leo --2007-- *Understanding the ethnic Chinese in Southeast Asia*. 310 pp. Singapore: ISEAS. ISBN 978-981-230-437-7 [Notes that about 80% of the ethnic Chinese outside of China live in Southeast Asia – First examines the community in the context of both national and international dimensions, discussing the ethnic Chinese and China, addressing issues of migration, nationality, business success and ethnic conflict; Then examines Chinese cultural adaptation and various identities; & Finally, case studies of the Chinese in Indonesia, external actors, the state, and ethnic Chinese politics... throwing light on the complexity of this diverse ethnic community – See especially, Ch6 "Peranakan Chinese identities in Singapore and Malaysia: a re-examination"; and Ch 10 "Selected publications on partially assimilated Chinese in Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore: 1980-2006".]

>Thompson, Eric C. --2007-- *Unsettling absences: urbanism in rural Malaysia*. 272 pp. Singapore: Singapore University Press (distributed by Univ. of Hawai'i Press). Pb ISBN 978-9971-69-336-7 [From the UH Press web promo – Kuala Lumpur epitomizes modernity, but rural Malays who move there are often marginalized in squatter settlements on its periphery – The *kampung* as symbol of home and place of Malay identities, and schoolbooks and television have projected urbanism that marks rural life as backward and marginal in a forward-looking nation – Book challenges city-bound urban studies by locating urbanism in a wider world that extends outside the city.

>Thuno, Mette (ed) --2007-- *Beyond Chinatown: new Chinese migration and the global expansion of China*. 304 pp. NIAS Press, NIAS Studies in Asian topics volume 41. Pb

ISBN 8776940004 [From the website promo – A sweeping study of Chinese migration past & present – Highlights the growing pride in their roots among ex-pat Chinese – Began as bachelor societies living in harsh, slave-like conditions yearning to return home as rich men, who despised and were feared by their hosts; but some returned home – Those who stayed in their places outside China formed camps, shantytowns and neighborhoods in cities, eventually becoming integrated into modern multiethnic nations – Brings to life the momentous changes sweeping the Chinese world in all parts of the globe.]

>**Visscher, Sikko** --2007-- *The business of politics and ethnicity: a history of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry*. 328 pp. Singapore: Singapore University Press (distributed by Univ. of Hawai'i Press). Pb ISBN 978-9971-69-365-7 [From the UH Press web promo – This first extended history of the Chamber describes its changing relationship with the state and with businesses in the region – Drawing on archival materials and extensive interviews, the author provides lively biographical sketches that highlight the circumstances and personal values that propelled these and other leading Chinese businessmen to success and prominence – Examines Chinese business practices, considering cultural elements as well as state and market forces, highlighting unique features of the Chinese experience in Singapore – By viewing Singapore from the perspective of a well established, non-governmental organization as it struggled, negotiated and cooperated with the state, this book offers an alternative to conventional political perspectives.]

>**Wariya, Chamil** –2005—*Naik, jatuh, dan bangun semula / The survivor meets the challenge: Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Malaysian politics*. (trans. Abdul Latiff bin Bidin) xiv + 273 pp. Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia: Times Editions Marshall Cavendish. ISBN 9833318762. (Thanks to electronic access to NIU Southeast Asia Collection) [An account of Abdullah Ahmad Badawi in Malaysian politics.]

WEBSITES

>**East Timor Directory** (For websites related to East Timor) <http://www.easttimordirectory.net> [Art, business & economy, education & research, friends of East Timor, general information, government, history, humanitarian & development, international organizations, language, law & justice, military, other, and politics.]

GRANTS & POSITIONS

>**Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowships, 2008-2009** – Deadline for applications: 15 Oct 2007 – 5 Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowships in the Humanities are available for the 2008-2009 academic year from the Penn Humanities Forum of the University of Pennsylvania for untenured junior scholars who are no more than 8 years out of their doctorate – The Forum has set change as the topic for the required research proposals for the 2008-2009 academic year – Candidates from all humanistic disciplines and allied areas such as Anthropology and History of Science – Each Fellow teaches 1 undergraduate course each of 2 terms in addition to conducting research – Stipend: \$42,000 + health insurance – Open to all scholars who meet eligibility criteria – guidelines, topic description, and downloadable application at: <http://www.phf.upenn.edu> .

>**Princeton University, Department of Religion** invites

applications and nominations for a tenure-track position at the rank of assistant professor in the religions of South Asia, Southeast Asia, or the Himalayas, to begin September 2008 – The candidate should be an expert in one or more of the religious traditions of these three areas, with interests that complement those of continuing faculty in the subfield of Asian Religions – Historical period, methodological approach, and particular tradition(s) of focus are open to consideration – Must show evidence of excellence in scholarship and promise in teaching – Must have Ph.D. or close to completing it by time position begins – Applications from women and members of minority groups are especially encouraged -- Info for applying, link to <http://web.princeton.edu/sites/dof/ApplicantsInfo.htm>. Send a letter of application, CV, bibliography, 3 letters of reference, & a writing sample to: Chair, Asian Religions Search Committee, Dept of Religion, 1879 Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544-1006 – The search committee will begin reviewing applications on Oct 1, 2007, and continue until the search is complete.

CONFERENCES, PAPERS & MANUSCRIPTS.

>**AAS Annual Meeting** – Hyatt Regency, Atlanta, Georgia, April 3-6, 2008 – Deadline for all proposals: 17 August, 2007.

>**Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities**, Jan 11-14, 2008, Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa, Hilton Waikiki Prince Kuhio, Honolulu – **Call for papers: submission deadline is 23 Aug 2007** – Opportunities for academicians and professionals in arts, humanities – Much more information at: Web address: <http://www.hichumanities.org> & E-mail address: humanities@hichumanities.org -- For details of submitting on line go to: www.hichumanities.org/cfp_artshumanities.htm .

>**Global change, peace and Security** is a leading peer reviewed journal published by Routledge (UK), based at La Trobe University, Victoria, Australia – The journal invites entries for the inaugural Routledge-GCP&S Essay Competition to encourage new contributions to research practical and theoretical questions posed by the rapidly globalizing world, attracting new research into international dimensions of political, economic and cultural life -- Entries looking at events and developments reverberating beyond the confines of a particular country that are relevant to sources and consequences of conflict, violence, insecurity, and the conditions and prospects for conflict transformation and peace-building are of particular interest – Previously published articles or those being considered for publication are not acceptable -- The winning essay will be refereed with a view to publication in *Global change, peace and security*, and the author will receive a prize winner's certificate and US\$500 prize money -- Essays must be between 6000-8000 words in length, and conform strictly to the guidelines, which are at <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/authors/cparauth.asp> -- Send entries as e-mail attachments only to gcps@latrobe.edu.au .

>**ASEN** (Association for the study of ethnicity and nationalism) holds its 18th annual conference, entitled "Nationalism, East and West: civic and ethnic conceptions of nationhood", April 14-16, 2008, at the London School of Economics -- The conference will address questions of the continuing relevance, utility and theoretical contribution to work on nationalism, historical interpretation and contemporary policy-making of Hans Kohn's (1945) distinction as used, extended and adjusted by scholars of nationalism based on citizenship, territory and 'exclusive' nationalism based on common ethnic ties and descent – Suggested themes for panel sessions: Civic and ethnic aspects of nation formation; Is nationalism a European phenomenon?; Alternatives to civic and ethnic nationalism; Experiences of historical migrant nations; Citizenship

and immigration; and multiculturalism -- Call for papers: Open to any researcher interested in nationalism and/or ethnicity . . . PhD and young scholars particularly encouraged to apply – Abstracts of paper to not exceed 500 words no later than November 30, 2007 – Papers submitted to be considered for publication in special issue of *Studies in ethnicity and nationalism (SEN)* more than presented. Further information at: asen@lse.ac.uk .

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (From Margaret John, Amnesty International Canada Malaysia & Singapore coordinator.)

>26 Apr 2007 -- rp's abstract of the message of Josef Roy Benedict, Executive Director, Amnesty International Malaysia: [AI Malaysia is gravely concerned about recent news of selective denial (under Section 27 of the Police Act 1958) by police of public gatherings and speeches in the Ijok by-election, which is a violation of the right to freedom of speech and peaceful assembly, which are guaranteed in the Federal Constitution & the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights – AI Malaysia is also concerned by the use of Section 27, which highlights continuing lack of police accountability – Moreover, both the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Conduct and Management of the Royal Malaysia Police and the National Human Rights Commission (*Suhakam*) have called for amendments to this section as it is open for abuse and undermines human rights.] **>11 May 2007** – [J B Jeyaretnam, Singapore's veteran opposition leader and human rights campaigner, freed from bankruptcy (after paying damages of S\$233,255 for having 'defamed' the MPM & the PM in an election rally) and eligible to resume his profession as lawyer, travel abroad, and contest the 2011 election in Singapore – His personal costs about S\$2 million (in addition to imprisonment, bankruptcy, loss of his seat in Parliament) but he can now apply for restoration of his license to practice law – AI has called for the Singapore government to stop using undemocratic tactics to muzzle critics and opposition party members.] **>24 May 2007** (Excerpts from the 2007 Annual Report) [Police reform: Non-governmental organizations continued to press the government to create an 'Independent Police Complaints and Misconduct Commission' ... Draft legislation to establish an IPCMC remained under consideration by the Attorney General and a range of other recommendations, including repeal or review of laws allowing for detention without trial or requiring police permits for public assemblies, were not implemented -- Police brutality: Continued reports of excessive use of force by police officers ... especially with use of batons and water canons during peaceful demonstrations in March and May to disperse peaceful protests in KL against fuel prices, with several people, including one woman, reported to have been seriously injured – Detention without trial: The ISA, which allows detention without trial for as much as 2 years, renewable indefinitely, continued to be applied or as a threat, with 80 men accused of links with Islamist extremist groups still detained, and at least 20 detention orders renewed – Migrant workers, refugees and asylum-seekers: They continued to be vulnerable to arrest and detention in poor conditions and deportation under the Immigration Act, as well as being psychologically and physically abused by agencies and employers, and often denied equal access to benefits and protections guaranteed to Malaysian workers – Freedom of

expression and association act: AI continued criticism of the Printing Presses and Publication Act which allows the authorities to refuse, revoke or suspend printing permits ... 2 editors were forced to resign following their newspapers' coverage of police abuses and 4 newspapers were suspended for publishing drawings of the Prophet, first published in a Danish newspaper in 2005 – Death penalty and corporal punishment: In March the Malaysian Bar Council passed a resolution calling for the abolition of the death penalty and a moratorium on all executions... But death sentences continued to be passed in 2006, mostly for mandatory drug-related offences and caning was also carried out... And more.]

>12 June 2007 (Forwarded by AI Malaysia... excerpted by *Berita* from the press statement released by Syed Ibrahim Syed Noh, Chairman of GMI) [Gerakan Mansuhkan ISA calls on the government to release or charge all 40 alleged Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) detainees currently held under the Internal Security Act (ISA) since "... there is no JI movement here in Malaysia" as stated by Inspector General of Police (IGP) according to *Berita Harian* on 10 June 2007 – All are Malaysian citizens, many were arrested initially as being part of KMM (Kumpulan Militan Malaysia), but their letters of arrest later accused them of being JI members – The detainees are alleged to be part of the terrorist network with connections to Al-Qaeda – GMI calls on the governments of Malaysia and Singapore to release or charge all the detainees held under the ISA.] **>2 July 2007** (Forwarded by Margaret John, AI Canada, who campaigned many years for Said Zakari's release from detention) [Said Zahari, former anti-colonialist newspaper editor, launches the Chinese edition of his autobiography, '*The long nightmare: my 17 years as a political prisoner*' at the Southern College in Johor, Malaysia on 1 July 2007 – The video includes an introductory speech by Dr Lim Hock Siew, a founding member of the PAP who broke ranks in 1961 to form Barisan Sosialis, was subsequently arrested and detained without trial for 20 years under Singapore's Internal Security Act – Go to www.singaporerebel.blogspot.com .]

OBITUARY NOTICES

From *Anthropology today* V.23,n.2 Apr 2007 -- 1) Jeremy MacClancy, "Rodney Needham, 1923-2006: distinguished structuralist anthropologist" [One of the three leading British social anthropologists, together with Mary Douglas and Sir Edmund Leach -- Born in Kent and joined the 1st Gurkha Rifles as an officer in 1942 – Then two years at SOAS, Oxford, then off to Borneo -- First great work, *Structure and sentiment* (1962) – More scholarly works and Intellectual combat with Claude Levi-Strauss], pp 22-23.

PROSPECTUS

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

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