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New editor -- Elliott Parker, elliott.s.parker@cmich.edu at Central Michigan University, will be the new editor of *Berita* beginning with the next issue (V.33,n.2) -- Barbara & I will be at the Chicago AAS, and next

day, Monday, at the NIU conference on, "Islam at the edges".

rp, blp, hoa

PERIODICALS PERIODICALS periodicals periodicals

>American ethnologist

V.35,n.4 Nov 2008 – 1) Lorraine V Aragon, "Arts and owners: intellectual property and the politics of scale in Indonesian arts" [From the Abstract & content -- Explores the implications of two Indonesian legal documents to show the disjunctions between discourses of regional artists who describe the ritual exchanges, relationships, and trans-generational messages their arts shape and (inter)nationalist legal initiatives that bypass artist's concepts of process, access, and authority in an effort to dis-embed and control ritual-based expressions as products with exclusive owners -- Sections on "Theaters of ownership"; "The fieldwork and legal project interface"; "Background on international guidelines and Indonesian national laws"; "Key concepts and the Indonesian politics of 'traditional arts'"; "Authorship, inspiration, and proprietary interests"; "Individual or communal artists: the only choices?"; "Art processes, selfhood, and attribution"; "Rural weavers, bounded transactions, and trans-generational authority"; "Conceptual gaps between law and life" -- This article, focused on intellectual and cultural property centered in Indonesia, is surrounded and entangled in wider Southeast Asian, Asian and global arenas -- Mention, p 616, of Indonesians complaining of the "Malaysian menace"... Malaysians who make and sell "imitation" Indonesian traditional foods and cloth], pp 607-631.

>Archipel

76 2008 -- 1) Neil Khor, "Malacca's Straits Chinese anglophone poets and their experience of Malaysian nationalism" [From the Introduction -- From 1511 to 1957, Malacca was successively ruled by the Portuguese, the Dutch and the British -- The Straits Chinese associated British rule (1824-1957) with political stability and prosperity; but the Malays had no reason to celebrate British rule -- In the aftermath of the brutal Japanese Occupation (1945-57) with colonialism drawing to close, Malacca was associated with multi-ethnic Malayan nationalism -- The English educated Malayan communities, such as the Straits Chinese, considered Malacca to be a reflection of Malaya's hybrid national identity -- But with independence, ethnic nationalism began to dominate Malayan politics, and the situation worsened when Chinese-dominated Singapore joined the Federation of Malaysia in 1963 only to be expelled 2 years later -- In the aftermath of 13 May 1969 race

riots, Malay-Muslim culture became the sole focus for Malaysia's future national identity -- This was a painful event for Malacca's Straits Chinese; and it was and is remembered in the poetry of three Malaysian poets of Straits Chinese descent -- This article is based on the lives and works of these three poets and their personal and their community's cultural/social trauma], pp 127-149.

>Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde

164.1 2008 -- 1) Hans Hagerdal, review of Nordin Hussin, 2007, *Trade and society in the Straits of Melaka; Dutch Melaka and English Penang, 1780-1830*. xxviii+388 pp. Copenhagen: NIAS Press. Pb ISBN: 9788791114885 [This work, originally a thesis, is a valuable addition to other scholarly works devoted to towns and ports that flourished before the onset of a fully implemented colonial rule in Asia in the 19th century (the author chose the period 1780-1830) after the Southeast Asian 'age of commerce' and before full implementation of Western colonial governance in the region -- Using archival materials kept in the Netherlands, Britain and Malaysia, the author begins by comparing the two places from the aspects of trade, geography, demography, administration, and society; In chs 2, 3 & 4 the pattern of trade in the 2 cities in great detail; chs 5 & 6 treat the morphology and demography developed in the 2 towns, attributing the modest size of the towns to the limited work available to the inhabitants; and notes that although the towns had small populations, ethnic segregation and slavery were strong institutions -- Chs 7 & 8 describe British & Dutch types of urban administration; and chs 9 & 10 are devoted to the character of the societies that evolved in Melaka & Penang -- The reviewer's main criticism, '... is one of style', such as '...lengthy enumerations of statistical data 'which reminds the reader that this work is basically an academic thesis']], pp 121-124; 2) J Thomas Lindblad, review of Rajeswary Ampalavanar Brown, 2006, *The rise of the corporate economy in Southeast Asia*. xvii+388 pp. London: Routledge. Hb ISBN 0415395593 [Reviewer notes that there is a shortage of analyses of Southeast Asia's corporate businesses with solid empirical bases drawing on company statistics; but this thoroughly researched volume fills the vacuum and provides insights into wider issues of political economy -- The substantive chapters offer case studies from 5 countries: Malaysia (3 chs), Singapore (2 chs), Indonesia (3 chs), Thailand (2 chs), and the Philippines (1 ch) -- There are 2 explicit case studies of Malaysian corporations: a) the Chinese-Malaysian, Hong Leong Group; & b) the Malay bumiputera conglomerate, Renong; and a 3rd ch on banking in Malaysia boils down to a case study on Maybank -- Singapore is described as a developmental state in which success can be largely attributed to the lack of cronyism -- Details on 4 major government-linked corporations show how state dominance nurtured corporate concentration during the 1980s & 1990s], pp 132-133.

Contemporary Southeast Asia

V.30,n.3 2008 -- 1) Jurgen Haacke, "ASEAN and political change in Myanmar: towards a regional initiative?" [From the Abstract -- ASEAN's combined efforts have not been very successful in pressuring Myanmar's military regime to release political detainees although the generals are moving Myanmar beyond extra-constitutional rule -- Singapore's role as ASEAN Chair, in November 2007, released a 'robust' statement on Myanmar; but nonetheless Brunei Darussalam, Singapore,

Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand abstained; while Malaysia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar voted no (to releasing the detainees) -- Separate sections on Singapore's, Thailand's, the Philippines, Vietnam's, Malaysia's, and Indonesia's view on what to do; as well as 'two ideas', and 'the impact of cyclone Nargis', pp 351-378.

>Crossroads

V.19.n.1 2007 -- From the Abstracts -- **1)** James Ockey, "Introduction: alternative explanations for the 2006 coup in Thailand" [A tight summary of the other authors' articles (and his own take on the 2006 coup) most of whom manage to link their particular themes to the rebellion in the Malay south], pp 5-19; **2)** Robert B Albritton & Thawilwadee Bureekul, "Public opinion and political power: sources of support for the coup in Thailand" [Analysis probes into data from polls in 2005 & 2006, indicating Bangkok residents are more likely to support alternatives to democracy when perceiving a threat to traditional political hegemony posed by rural, populist governments (e.g. Malays in the South)], pp 20-49; **3)** Thak Chaloehtiarana, "Distinctions with a difference: the despotic paternalism of Sarit Thanarat and the demagogic authoritarianism of Thaksin Shinawatra [Compares two Thai prime ministers, Police Lieutenant Colonel Thaksin Shinawatra & Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat, both ruthless and decisive, both acquiring large financial resources through corruption, but yet different], pp 50-94; **4)** James Ockey, "Thailand's 'professional soldiers' and coup-making: the coup of 2006" [Argues that the tensions within the military were one of the most motivating factors of the 2006 coup], pp 95-127; **5)** Allen Hicken, "The 2007 Thai constitution: a return to politics past" [The new (2007) constitution is designed to undermine the capacity of political parties and elected leaders to challenge Thailand's conservative forces in the future], pp 128-160; **6)** S P Harish & Joseph Chinyong Liow, "The coup and the conflict in southern Thailand" [General Sonthi Boonyaratglin led the 19 Sept 2006 coup in large part because Thaksin's administration mishandled the crisis in Southern Thailand -- But the strife in the Malay majority provinces was peripheral to the politics that led to the coup; In the months following the coup, attacks in southern Thailand continued unabated], pp 161-184; **7)** Chaiwat Satha-Anand, "Reflections on October 6, 1976: time and violence" [An informing and literate essay about an important event that has many facets: history, journalism, literature, languages, religions, and military and political force -- This essay is not a summary of the other chapters, but rather a very interesting and appropriate final chapter], pp 185-197.

>Current history: a journal of contemporary world affairs

V.107.n.712 Nov 2008 -- **1)** Joshua Kurlantzick, "Asia's democracy backlash" [South Asia and Southeast Asia at the turn of the millennium were riding on a wave democratization, but authoritarianism has comeback -- For example, in the 1990s and early 2000s Malaysia protesters lashed out at the authoritarian rule of Mahathir Mohamad; In Myanmar pro-democracy opposition leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi was released from house arrest in 2002 and allowed to tour the country; and leaders of nations such as Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam have begun to debate how they can apply a Chinese model to their own nations -- Sections in the article: "The

freedom facade"; "The fading beacon"; "Model competitors"; "Revenge of the autocrats"; "Reforms under siege"; "The Jakarta model"; and "Economic transparency in Southeast Asia has not necessarily signified political liberalization"], pp 375-380.

>Far Eastern economic review

V.171.n.8 Oct 2008 -- **1)** Richard Duncan, "Time to dump the dollar standard" [See especially the section titled "End of export-led growth", which dwells specifically on how the American economic crisis impacts virtually all of Asia] pp 6-10; **2)** David Roche, "Another empire bites the dust" [More about how American economic problems affect Asia] pp 11-14; **3)** Joe Studwell, "The China dream revisited" [Studwell reminisces about his 2002 book, *The China dream*, about the travails of foreign investors in China -- Mostly about China, but on the last page of the article, dwells briefly on PM Mahathir Mohamad's opening of economic doors so wide to Foreign Development Investment that foreign firms drove exports to a level in excess of annual GDP] pp 25-29. **1) V.171.n.9 Nov 2008** -- **1)** Richard Kraince, "Authoritarian resurgence" [Jailing bloggers in Malaysia for sedition is not a sign of a mature and confident democracy], p. 11.

>General anthropology

V.15.n.2 Fall 2008 -- **1)** Patricia C Rice, "Paleoanthropology 2008 -- part 2: Flores news" [At the AAPA meetings in April, William Jungers reported on the feet of LB1, claiming they were large, flat, with a high stepping gait and with its foot measuring 70% as long as its femur as opposed to 55% in modern humans, and the big toe was shorter than the other toes -- A comparison of the shape of the cranium of LB1 to other hominid crania suggests it may be closely related to early *H. erectus* from East Africa or Dmanisi (Georgia) or to *Homo habilis* -- Yet another study of LB1 shows an impression of an enlarged pituitary gland at the base of its skull behind the nasal region, and to the Australian team, this suggests *Homo sapiens* status with cretinism, which creates an enlarged pituitary and severely stunted growth and a small brain -- Most of the January to June issue of *Human Evolution* is devoted to articles about the Flores hominid based on a conference, organized by Teuku Jacob of Gadjah Mada University, which was held in the Luang Bua Cave itself -- Most of the scientists in attendance (July 2007) agreed with Professor Jacob's position that the Flores Hominids were *Homo sapiens* with diminished stature and brain size related to enlarged pituitary glands -- Moreover, DNA analysis of the teeth of LB1 suggests it is identical to modern human DNA -- Sadly, Teuku Jacob died before the volume was published] pp 9-10.

>Journal of Islamic studies

V.19.n.3 Sept 2008 -- **1)** R Michael Feener, review of John L Esposito, John O Voll & Osman Bakar (eds), 2008, *Asian Islam in the 21st Century*, xiv+306, Oxford: Oxford University Press, HB EAN 978-0195333022 [Introduced as a 'successor' to Esposito's *Islam in Asia: religion, politics and society* -- A collection of essays originally produced for a series of conferences held in Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok, Singapore and Hawaii as part of a project to place the long-term impacts of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 into broader global contexts -- Focused squarely on issues of religion and politics, party-based electoral developments, governmental institutions and ethnic tensions, rather than on other social and cultural dynamics of diverse Muslim societies developments in South Asian & Southeast Asian states and the era of globalization --

The bulk of chapters discussing .Osman Bakar's ch on Malaysia attempts to trace the shifting configurations of religion and ethnic politics during the same period as Fred von der Mehden in his chapter on Indonesia -- And more], pp 430-432.

>Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society

V.81,Prt.1,n.294 Jun 2008 --

1) John Bastin, "Abdullah and Siami" [From the Abstracts -- This is an Addendum to the article by Dr Ian Proudfoot on Abdullah bin Abdul Kadir Munsyi and Siami -- Provides new information on Siami, who served many years as Raffle's Malay writer], pp 1-6; 2) K T Joseph, "Agricultural history of Peninsular Malaysia: contributions from Indonesia" [Agricultural contributions of the Netherlands East Indies to Peninsular Malaysia, particularly in the bud grafting of rubber and the development of planting materials for sugar cane, pepper, and oil palm, helped establish these crops in Malaya -- And in the 21st century, laborers from Indonesia are sustaining the Malayan palm oil industry], pp 7-18; 3) Ismail Ali & Jane Wong Kon Ling, "*Boo'gok-Boo'gok*: The winged boat of the Sea Bajau in Sabah, Malaysia" [Community famous for its *lepa-lepa* boat in which they dwell and practice a sea nomad's lifestyle -- To preserve its culture, Sabah's Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Environment lists the 'Lepa-Lepa Festival' as one of the events on the Sabah tourism calendar -- Another Sea Bajau community has another type of uniquely designed boat called *boo'gok-boo'gok* which is a winged boat used for fishing -- But scholars who study this community seldom mention it -- Article highlights the *boo'gok* as part of the cultural heritage of this community], pp 19-26; 4) Neil Khor Jin Keong, "Imperial cosmopolitan Malaya: a study of Realist Fiction in the *Straits Chinese Magazine*" [The literary works in this reformist magazine, between 1897-1907, a milestone in Straits Chinese literary history -- Works ushered in Straits Chinese readers the threshold from traditional to modern society -- Show how English education and exposure to Western ideas gave rise to a Straits Chinese exclusiveness, separate from the larger Chinese immigrant population -- Similar developments in Bengal can be seen as a comparative model where, earlier, similar social circumstances gave rise to a literary flowering -- And more], pp 27-47; 5) Raimy Che'-Ross, "'A Malay poem on New Year's Day (1848)': Munshi Abdullah's lyric carnival" [One of Munshi Abdullah's lesser known works, this *syair* records his observations and impressions of the festivities organized to celebrate the New Year in Singapore in 1848 -- Evaluates Abdullah's account of the event against subsequent general perceptions of his writings and personality], pp 49-82; 6) J.M. Gullick, "Economic recovery in the Selangor River Valley in the late nineteenth century" [In the final stages of the civil war (1867-73), most smallholders of Kuala Selangor and miners of Kanching (Rawang) fled to escape reprisals and only a small proportion returned -- Earlier, the colonial regime, pressed by a fall in the world price of tin, had difficulty raising revenue enough to meet unavoidable commitments and expenses -- With limited resources, it's priority was to build the railway from Klang to Kuala Lumpur, repaying debts incurred in the civil war, extending the basic machinery of government to outer districts, neglecting the Selangor valley until 1890, when communications induced development], pp 83-98; 7) H S

Barlow, review of Abdullah Ahmad, 2008, *Dr Mahathir's selected letters to world leaders*, 239 pp, Marshall Cavendish Sdn. Bhd., ISBN:13-978-983-3845-11-8 / 10-983-3845-11-8 [Arranged by subjects rather than in date order, so the reader must remind of the two key events... the economic downturn that caused the political convulsions in Malaysia in Sept 1998, and the repercussions of the bombing on 11 September 2001 of the World Trade Center -- Also, the letters contain no items of correspondence between leaders of the developing and/or Islamic worlds... Dr Mahathir must have corresponded with them -- And more], pp 99-100; 8) Maznah Mohamad, review of Joel S Kahn, 2006, "*Other Malays: nationalism and cosmopolitanism in the modern Malay World*", 228 pp, Singapore: Asian Studies Association of Australia, ISBN: 9971-69-334-8 [It is a book of much value as it brings out many pertinent questions and issues surrounding the debate on Malay domination and hegemony in Malaysia -- Its main purpose was actually quite limited... to debunk the notion of a particular nationalist narrative as being the sole Malay narrative in Malaysian political history -- The author thus propounds a counter-narrative of cosmopolitan Malayness that this has been suppressed from being fully formed due to the dominance of the parochial narrative -- This alternative narrative is the domain of the 'other Malays' -- And more], pp 100-103; 9) Zawayah Baba, review of Peter & Waveney Jenkins, 2007, *The planter's bungalow: a journey down the Malay Peninsula*, 168 pp, Singapore: Editions Didier Millet, ISBN: 978-981-4217-31-6 [The book does much to mystify estate bungalows and provide a refreshing and enchanting perspective on the homes of planters in Malaysia -- The authors, as researchers, writers, and compilers, have succeeded in compiling a brilliant collection of estate bungalows of various architectural designs found in Peninsular Malaysia -- The omission of Sabah and Sarawak as well as Trengganu and Perlis is due to the fact that there are few, if any, estate bungalows found in these states -- And more], 103-105; 10) Jayum A Jawan, review of James Chin & Jayl Langub (eds), 2007, *Reminiscences: a recollection of Sarawak Administrative Service Officers*, 335 pp, Kuala Lumpur: Pelanduk, ISBN 978-967-978-943-0 [These officers had helped chart the early development of the state administrative bureaucracy as the middle and lower ranks such as at the sub-district, district, and resident levels -- This co-edited work by James Chin and Jayl Langub, is significant in that it helps to fill gaps in our knowledge about the rise and development of the post-Malaysia state and local administrative agencies and their workings at the time -- One of the significant contributions of this work is the attempt to fill gaps in our knowledge of the administration of Sarawak in the early pre-Malaysia period, especially so in aspects such as communist activities -- And more], pp 106-108.

>Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society

3rd series, V.18.pt.4 Oct 2008 -- 1) Ronit Ricci, "A Jew on Java, a model Malay Rabbi and a Tamil Torah Scholar: representations of Abdullah Ibnu Salam in the *Book of one-thousand questions*" [From the Introduction -- In contrast to many regions of the Middle East, where Jewish communities existed at the time of the Prophet and during the centuries after his death, the Tamil region of south India and the Indonesian-Malay world lacked such populations -- Nonetheless their absence did not imply a complete unfamiliarity with Jews and

Judaism, because there was a variety of textual sources, such as depictions in the Qurán and hadith literature, and Jewish figures occasionally appeared in texts produced in local languages -- The *Book of a thousand questions*, in Arabic and translated thereafter into many languages (Malay, Javanese and Tamil) -- Provides a glimpse of portrayals of Jews and Judaism in lands where their actual presence was virtually unknown] pp 481-495.

>Kekal Abadi: bulletin perpustakaan Universiti Malaya

Jil26,bil1 Jun 2008 (University of Malaya Library Bulletin, V.26,n.1 Jun 2008) – **1)** Mohd Zailan Endin, "Pemeliharaan dan pemuliharaan bahan di Perpustakaan Universiti Malaya (PUM): langkah-langkah penambahbaikan" [From the Abstract – Narrates the experience of the U of Malaya Library (UML) in preservation and conservations of library materials – In 2002-2003 library materials in PUM were damaged when the library building was being upgraded; and realizing the importance of users needs and of the need to safeguard library materials, UML framed proactive measures to strengthen of preservation and conservation of the collection – Continuing improvements procedures are noted], pp 1-6; **2)** Zaharah Ramly & Zanaria Saupi Udin, "Kajian kepuasan Pelanggan Perpustakaan Universiti Malaya 2006" [In 2006, PUM conducted a user satisfaction survey to identify important factors to provide quality service for its users – Findings indicated that users were concerned with information in the library website, library catalogues, latest collection, easy access to electronic resources, opening hours and the attitude of library staff towards its users; and three of these factors have been identified as areas for improvement (latest collection, access to electronic resources, and customer service's attitude to its users; all of which need further improvement (?)], pp 7-12; **3)** Tiew Wai Sin, "A Bibliometric study of authorship characteristics in *Kekal Abadi*, *University of Malaya Library Bulletin 1995-2004*" [Author explores authorship characteristics in *Kekal Abadi*, which was first published in 1982, but more intensely analyzes a total of 32 articles published in 24 issues, covering the period of 1995 to 2004 utilizing such characteristics of authors as name, gender, status, institutional affiliation, language preference, length of articles, and analysis – Findings such as: single-authored articles 69%; female contributors 76%; middle-level professionals largest contributors of articles (79%); 78 % of articles were in English; Top ranked contributor is Zaiton bt Osman (Consultant Librarian, Open University of Malaysia with 4 contributions; The most prolific institution is University of Malaya Library of Malaysia with 22 contributing authors; 8 statistical tables], pp 13-17; **4)** Nor Ima Kahar, review of David Parmenter, 2007, *Key performance indicators (KPI): developing, implementing and using winning KPIs*, 256 pp, NY: John Wiley & Sons; **5)** Noorsuzila Mohamad, "Lecture reports: giving life to poetry (the *pantun*) by Y M Professor Tun Dr Ungku Abdul Aziz" [Brief biography, family, education, and academic profession – Nine example poems with brief explanations], pp 20-22.

>Media Asia: an Asian communication quarterly

V.33.n.1&2 2006 **1)**Tan Tarn How & Arun Mahizhnan, "Big stick, soft stick; Big stick, hard ball [Examines usual arguments claiming that political censorship of the internet will or will not

work -- Looks at at real-life examples of censorship such as Singapore and Japan which have 'a widely' open internet environment; Some governments don't offer explanations for stemming the free flow of information: Such as China, which does this by not showing banned links in search engine results; And Saudi Arabia, which openly declare their censorship, even enlisting the help of citizens suggesting content to censor -- Sections on: a) "The cat-and-mouse quest"; b) "Net difference: the nature of the beast"; c) "New media, old media--same media: controls"; d) "New media different?"; e) "Models of control"; "Discussion: who wins"; "Notes"], pp 3-9; **2)** Ling Chua-Yen & Pieter Aquilia, "Exporting the nation: Singapore International Co-productions and National Cinema" [From the Abstract -- In 2003 the Media Development Authority of Singapore unveiled a blueprint, Media 21, to stimulate the media industry on a transnational level, emphasizing co-productions including international collaboration such as *The eye & Infernal affairs* which was widely perceived as Hong Kong films which were partially funded by the Singapore film industry -- But will transnational film policies work against presentation of local stories in the international market], pp 23-27; **3)** Daniel Churchill, "Emerging ICT and challenges for education" [From the Abstract -- 'The central suggestion of this paper is that emerging information and communication technologies (ICT) do not only change our relations with the world and how we do things but they also change how we think and carry on with productive intellectual activities, and at the same time they develop our cognitive capacity thru gradual internalizations of features of an external activity carried in partnership with these technologies ...'], pp 28-32; **4)** Alan Knight, "Covering disasters and the media mandate" [From the Abstract -- The Western media have been accused of judging the extent of Asian disasters by the number of Europeans affected -- Do such assumptions persist in pan-Asian publications, which now enjoy benefits of increasing globalized communications -- Do national priorities frame the reporting of other people's disasters? -- And more -- Examines these questions thru reportage of the 2004 tsunami by 8 regional newspapers], pp 47-57 & 71; **5)** Jan Quarles, "Cultural industries on the global stage: the evolution of a global discourse, its key players and its impact in the Asian region" [From the Abstract -- Addresses some of the activities taking place on the world stage relating to the dominance of the Big 5 -- Draws in part from a larger ongoing study of cultural industries and country responses, and some interviews at UNESCO -- Some Malaysia/Singapore content on the last page], pp 58-64; **6)** Kalinga Seneviratne, "The peaceful path of Jihad: *Nasyid* revolution in South East Asia" [Looks at the '*Nasyid*' revolution in Southeast Asia, which is a popular form of Islamic music that promotes Islamic values -- Addresses the emergence of *Nasyid* into mainstream music, its role in revivalist movements and social impact -- Its significance for theories of cultural imperialism and culture theory], pp 72-78; **7)** Shanthi Balraj & Khoo Seok Wah, "Media literacy and a case study on designing of opportunities for learning internet radio in Malaysia" [Concerned with the importance of developing media literacy and skills among young people in Malaysia -- A case study of the Universiti Sains Malaysia radio project], pp 87-98; **8)** Latifah Pawanteh, "In search of cultural resemblances: the consequences of media consumption among young adults in

Malaysia" [Global media are having an increasing effect on Malaysian communities -- Concerns about changes in the local media industries -- Data from content analysis of media and focus groups of young adults basis of data], pp 103-111.

V.33,n.3&4 2006 1) Sonia Ambrosio DE Nelson, "News reporting on terrorism in Malaysia and Singapore" [This comparative study of the English language newspapers, *New Straits Times* of Malaysia & *The Straits Times* of Singapore looks into the reporting of the bombings in Bali in 2002, the JW Marriott Hotel bombing in 2003, the Australian Embassy bombing in Jakarta in 2004, and the 2005 Bali bombing -- The global discourse on "war on terror" a main frame for all the reporting, but the publications tailored the coverage of the bombing within their respective government/group-interest -- Also reveals how newspapers gave more emphasis to some aspects of events while ignoring others], pp 192-200; 2) Zeny Sarabia-Panol, "Bridging the digital and health divide in rural Asia: cases for empowering disadvantaged people" [A comparison of 6 SEA countries: Malaysia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines Thailand, and Vietnam -- 13 dimensions related to being disadvantaged: population (numbers), rural population (%), adult literacy (2005 AD), per capita GDP (US\$), telephones per 100 persons (2005 AD), cell phones per 100 persons (2005 AD), internet users (2000 AD), and Human Development Index rank -- Smaller number is better... Ranking: Malaysia 56, Thailand 66, Philippines 70, Vietnam 101, Indonesia 102, and Cambodia 121], pp 234-240.

>Pertanika journal of social science & humanities

V.15.n.1 Mar 2007 -- 1) Widad Othman & Rio Sumarni & Lee Ming Foong, "The relationship between personality types, learning styles and problem solving approach of technical and vocational education students" [From the Abstract -- Sample of 33 students from three different areas (Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering) of final year Technical and Vocational Education at University Technology Malaysia -- Results showed that phlegmatic personality type students, tend to have divergent learning style, followed by convergent and accommodator learning styles -- The results also implied that sanguine personality type students tend to possess divergent learning style, followed by convergent style, while the melancholic personality type students preferred divergent and convergent learning styles --The method used by students to solve engineering drawing problems is a combination of imagination and sketching -- But there is no difference amongst students with different personalities and learning styles in solving engineering drawing problems], pp 1-8; 2) Rusinah Joned & Siti Jalliah Manap & Zoharah Omar, "Employees' identification, cohesiveness and communication towards their work group in post-merger of 'XYZ Malaysia Sdn Bhd'" [Data were collected from 32 executives from the new administration using questionnaires -- Data were analyzed and interpreted with descriptive and inferential statistics -- Findings indicated that the overall level of employees' identification, cohesiveness and communication towards their group is high, and also there is a highly significant difference in group cohesiveness and communication among departments], pp 9-23; 3) Zakaria Kasa & Zaidatul Akmaliah Lope Pihie & Sharifah Md Nor, "Relationship between teachers' perceptions towards

principals' leadership practices and their job satisfaction: a case study of *Sekolah Harapan Negara*" [There was a moderate positive significant relationship between teachers' perception of their principals' transformational leadership practices and their job satisfaction; But the relationship between the teachers' transformational leadership practices and their job satisfaction was not significant; which suggests that principals should practice transformational leadership in order to increase their teachers' job satisfaction], pp 25-31; 4) Zaidatul Akmaliah Lope Pihie & Jamaliah Abd Hamid & Rahil Mahyuddin, "Lecturers' perceptions on the teaching strategies utilised in teaching business and entrepreneurship" [Study conducted to identify the perceptions of 141 business studies lecturers regarding their practice in delivering the essential components of business and entrepreneurial education to their undergraduate students who were majoring in business programs], pp 33-42; 5) Samsilah Roslan & Jacqueline Hoo Heap King & Rahil Hj Mahyudin & Rohani Ahmad Tarmizi, "The relationship between mathematics self-efficacy and mathematics achievement" [Sample of 339 high school students between 15 and 17 years of age -- Results showed that students with higher mathematics self-efficacy were more likely to achieve better mathematic achievement... a finding generally consistent with Bandura's (1986) self-efficacy theory], pp 43-49; 6) Rosnah Ismail, "Comparing factors of couple resilience across ethnic groups in Malaysia" [Resilience involves capacity to withstand and rebound from crisis and adversity and maintain successful adaptation, positive functioning or competence -- 17 individual components logically clustered into 4 groups (personal characteristics, interpersonal characteristics, intrapersonal characteristics, and external factors) -- Research on 200 postgraduate students: 46 Malays; 34 Chinese; 20 Indians; 58 Kadazandusuns, and 42 Bajaus], pp 51-57.

>The economist

Oct11th-17th 2008 -- 1) "The world this week : "Abdullah Badawi, Malaysia's prime minister, confirmed he will stand down next March" [He hopes the leadership will pass to his deputy, Najib Razak -- The PM has been under pressure to resign since the relatively poor showing in last March's general elections of the coalition he leads] p 9; 2) Obituary: J B Jeyaretnam [Joshua "Ben" Jeyaretnam, an opposition politician in Singapore, died on September 30th, aged 82 -- A tightly written obituary of an honorable Singapore politician and steadfast foe of the PAP, died 30 Sept 2008, aged 82] p 118; 3) "Emerging economies' GDP: forecasts as % increase on previous year" [Malaysia 4th among 11 countries: (first to last: China, India, Russia, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Poland, Argentina, Brazil, Czech Republic, South Africa, and Mexico] p 132. **Oct18th-24th 2008** -- 1) "Asia and the crisis: here we go again" [The world's financial meltdown stirs uneasy memories across Asia -- True to form, Mahathir Mohamad, who was and is among the West's harshest critics can't resist gloating -- On his blog, he recalls how the Americans said Asian companies should have been allowed to go under, but now Americans are preparing bail-out and nationalization for their own firms] p 51. **Nov1st-7th 2008** -- 1) "Cost of remittances" [As many as 190 million migrant workers sent money home in 2007, according to the World Bank -- The cost of sending money home depends on both source and its destination -- The Netherlands,

Germany and Japan tend to be the most expensive places to send; Singapore, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, America and Britain are the least expensive], p.110. **Nov8th-14th 2008 --**

1) "The world this week: politics" [Najib Razak won enough nominations for the leadership of the United Malays National Organization, which heads Malaysia's governing coalition, ensuring he will be unopposed in party elections in March, and almost certainly he will succeed Abdullah Badawi as PM] p 10; **2)** (date line Bangkok) "Malaysia: enter Najib, with baggage" [A new leader mired in accusations -- Born to be a Malaysian prime minister, the son of Abdul Razak, and the nephew of Hussein Onn, he was elected to parliament at age 23, became deputy to the present minister, Abdullah Badawi; but now Mr. Najib is in a cloud of allegations linking him to a murder case, and some Malaysians will be wondering if he is a fit person to lead them -- Also the governing coalition, which he leads, has lost the two-thirds majority needed to change the constitution, and in spite of efforts to cling to power, he may be forced to quit next March -- Nevertheless his rival, Mr. Anwar, has failed to topple the government by mass defection of parliamentarians; and he has been accused of being linked to cronyism in the defense ministry -- Meanwhile, Mr Anwar nurtures an ambition to be the PM] p 60. **Nov22nd-28th --**

1) "Asian economies: sittin' on the dock of a bay" [Trade slows and gloom mounts -- But Asia's economic downturn will be milder than the one it endured a decade ago -- In 1998 Malaysia, Indonesia, Hong Kong, South Korea and Thailand all suffered slumps in GDP of more than 6%; even the gloomiest forecasters don't expect anything so dire; and most Asian economies are in relatively good shape -- Among SEA economies, Indonesia seems to be holding up best, GDP up by 6.1% in the year to the 3rd quarter; but Malaysia, which is much more dependent on foreign demand, will be hit harder] p 51-52; **2)** "Business in Asia: you still can't get the staff" [Staff shortages persist, despite the slowdown in economic activity -- Thousands of workers have been fired in the Philippines, and Malay and Indonesian workers are being sent home from the Middle East, Singapore and Taiwan; yet managers say the shortage of staff is still not easing -- Many of these job losses have been in industries such as toy-making, textiles and construction, which use migrant and unskilled workers -- And more] pp 75-76.

The Islamic quarterly

V.52,Issue3 Third Qtr 1429/2008 -- 1) Iik A. Mansurnoor, "Maintaining religious tradition in Brunei Darussalam: between inspiration and challenge" [From the Abstract -- Brunei among the few countries in SEA to have been relatively free from modern radicalism -- Author looks beyond the political and security arrangements of which modern states are accustomed -- Brunei shares the religion of many other Southeast Asian nations; but Brunei has developed its own approach to the implementation of Islam, which are published, circulated in the form of sermons and institutions patronized, particularly in the stability of religious leadership and continuity of education and training -- The dominant position of the religious leadership has been successful in silencing dissent -- Examines the overall picture of religious education, including major curricular emphasis throughout levels of education, teaching staff and

international networking -- A thorough article with appendices on courses for BA Islamic Studies in Arabic and English (majoring in Shari'a), pp 207-254.

>The journal of Asian studies

V.67,n.4 Nov 2008 -- 1) Joel S Kahn, review of Andrew C Willford, *Cage of freedom: Tamil identity and the ethnic fetish in Malaysia*, xiii+ 346 pp. Ann Arbor: U. of Michigan Press, doi:10.1017 / S0021911808002349 [Like the PhD thesis it is based upon, there is a lot to like about the book -- An exemplary study of religious belief and practice among Malaysia's South Asian, mostly ethnically Tamil, Hindu minority -- Helps fill a gap often noted in Malaysian studies which pay more attention to the Malays, Chinese and Orang Asli -- The author dwells at length on the ways other kinds of "modern" Malaysians see and think about "backward" Tamils as the "other"...the "other" which is seen as "superstitious" as well as "backward" -- The author focuses on a key problem in the current world literature about ethno-religious identity formation, nationalism, and modernity throughout the world -- the book should also be of significant interest to researchers working on the Indian diaspora] pp 1509-1511.

>The Pacific review

V.21.n.4 Sept 2008 -- 1) "Special Issue -- Towards ASEAN's fifth decade: performance, perspectives and lessons for change" [a) Guest Editors, Jurgen Ruland & Anja Jetschke, "Introduction--40 years of ASEAN: perspectives, performance and lessons for change", pp 397-409; b) Shaun Narine, "Forty years of ASEAN: a historical review", pp 411-429; c) Timo Kivimaki, "Power, interest or culture - is there a paradigm that explains ASEAN's political role best", pp 431-450; d) Richard Stubbs, "The ASEAN alternative? Ideas, institutions and the challenge to 'global' governance", pp 451-468; e) John Ravenhill, "Fighting irrelevance: an economic community 'with ASEAN characteristics'", pp 469-488; f) Heribert Dieter, "ASEAN and the emerging monetary regionalism: a case of limited contribution", pp 489-506; g) Mely Caballero-Anthony, "Non-traditional security and infectious diseases in ASEAN: going beyond the rhetoric of securitization to deeper institutionalization", pp 507-525; h) Jorn Dosch, "ASEAN's reluctant liberal turn and the thorny road to democracy promotion", pp 527-545], pp 397-545.

>Third World quarterly

V.29,n.7 2008 -- 1) Nicola Piper, "Feminization of migration and the social dimensions of development: the Asian case" [From the Abstract & the article -- Offers a first attempt at discussing the linkages between migration and development in reference to the feminization of intra-regional migratory flows in Asia -- Begins with a summary of the current debate on the 'migration and development nexus' with two objectives in mind: 1) to assess this debate's relationship to intra-regional migration in Asia; and 2) to redirect attention to the social dimension of feminized migrations and its relationship to development, focusing on the individual and family level to discuss the impact of migration on personal development as well as on interpersonal relations -- Sections of the article: 1) linking migration & development... a) shifting from the economic to the social... b) changing familial and gender relations; 2) feminization of migration in Asia... a) visibility and invisibility of migrant women, b) diversified landscape of gendered migration, c) temporary contract migration, d) changes in

female migration; 3) last but not least, a) the issue of rights, b) rights-based approach; 4) conclusion – Has some Singapore and Malaysian content -- Entirely based only in part of the literature -- Malaysian content -- 66 end-notes.], pp 1287-1303.

>Visual anthropology review

V.24.n.1 Spring 2008 – 1) D S Farrer, "The healing arts of the Malay mystic" [From AnthroSource www.anthrosource.net -- 'The legacy of Alfred Gell offers a rich stock of ingenious ideas to apply and extend to the thought-provoking artwork of Mohammad Din Mohammad, who combines the skills (*ilmu*) of the Malay martial art *silat* with the knowledge of the traditional Malay healer, to press life, breath, and divine power into his painting and sculpture – The artwork is a protective talisman during spiritually vulnerable moments, such as birth, marriage, fasting, and death – Power stored in the art may be unleashed to counter attacks from ghost, vampires, etc], pp 29-46.

BOOKS BOOKS books books

Aggarwal, Vinod & Shujiro Urata (eds) –2006—*Bilateral trade agreements in the Asia-Pacific: origins, evolution, and implications*, 328 pp. Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 9780415702102 / 10: 0415702100 [Examines the underlying political and economic factors driving these accords, based on a novel theoretical framework – Experts provide overviews of political and economic trends in the region as well as detailed analyses of the trade strategies of Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, China, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, the USA, and Mexico.]

Baxstrom, Richard – 2008-- *Houses in motion: the experience of place and the problem of belief in urban Malaysia*, 304 pp. Palo Alto: Stanford University Press. ISBN: 10-0804758913 / 13-9780804758918 [From the press website www.sup.org/book.cgi?id=12146 , by e-mail from author and press (thanks) -- About the transformation of urban space and the reordering of the demographic character of Brickfields, one of the oldest neighborhoods of Kuala Lumpur – Offers an ethnographic account of the complex attempts on the part of the state and the community to reconcile techno-rational conceptions of law, development and city planning with local experiences of place, justice, and belief in an aggressively changing world – Combines classic methods of anthropological research and engagement with the work of theorists such as Giles Deleuze & Henri Lefebvre, moving beyond previous studies of SEA cities, in linking larger conceptual issues of ethnic, belief, and experiences – "Introduction"; PT 1. HISTORICAL CONTEXT: Ch 1 "The founding of Brickfields and the prewar development of Kuala Lumpur"; Ch 2 "The Malayan Emergency, Islamic reform, and the trajectory of urban governmentality in Kuala Lumpur"; PT 2. LAW, JUSTICE, AND THE EXPERIENCE OF EVERYDAY LIFE IN BRICKFIELDS, 2000-2002: Ch 3 "Law, justice, disappearance: the experience of place in a time of radical transformation"; Ch 4 "Strangers, counterfeiters, and gangsters: figures of belonging and the problem of belief"; Ch 5 "Ambivalent encounters in the city: Islam, Hinduism, and Urban governmentality"; "Conclusion"; Notes; Bibliography; Index.]

Beeson, Mark (ed) –2007—*Bush and Asia: America's evolving relations with East Asia*, 288 pp. Routedge:

Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 9780415444088 / 10: 041544408X [Details the changing nature of power relations in East Asia, including case studies of Malaysia, China, Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Korea, and Australia.]

Bjorgo, Tore & John Horgan (eds) –2008-- *Leaving terrorism behind: individual and collective disengagement*, 328 pp. Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group. Pb ISBN: 978-0-415-77668-4 [From www.routledgepolitics.com – Expands understanding of processes by which persons and groups disengage from terrorism – Uses empirical data to explore how and why persons and groups disengage from terrorism, and what can be done to facilitate it – Presents a series of case studies of disengagement programs (Singapore, Malaysia, Columbia, northern Europe, Italy, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and Indonesia); comparing and assessing their various strengths and weaknesses – Describes and explains the potential for new developments in counter-terrorism.]

Bloustien, Gerry & Margaret Peters & Susan Luckman (eds) –2008—*Sonic synergies: music, technology, community, identity*, 264 pp. Ashgate (Popular and folk music series). Hb ISBN: 978-0-7546-5721-7 [From the website www.ashgate.com – 18 scholars focus on the new and emerging synergies of music and digital technology within the new knowledge economies, explore the global and local ramifications of rapidly changing technologies on creative industries, local communities, music practitioners and consumers -- Areas considered: production, consumption, historical and cultural context, legislation, globalization and impacts upon individuals – Draws upon such music genres as jazz, heavy metal, hip-hop and trance as well as detailed case studies reflecting on the work of professional and local amateur artists – See especially, Kelly Fu Yu Sin & Liew Kai Khiun, "From folk devils to folk music: tracing Malay heavy metal scene in Singapore.]

Chris, Rowley & Vimolwan Yukongdi (eds) –2008—*The changing face of women managers in Asia*, 288 pp. Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 9780415437677 & 10: 0415437679 [Examines the influence of culture and tradition on organizational and management practices, and how these affect the progress of women in management in Asian economies – Higher educational levels, falling fertility rates and sectoral changes have contributed to women's increasing participation in the labor force, and as they become more educated and qualified for managerial positions, the number of Asian women managers and executives is predicted to rise over the next decade – Case studies included: Malaysia, Singapore, China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.]

Cook, Malcom – 2008—*Banking reform in Southeast Asia: the region's decisive decade*, 176 pp. Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 9780415413190 / 10: 0415413192 [Table of contents: ch1 Introduction; ch2 Globalization arrives; ch3 Indonesia; ch4 Thailand; ch5 Malaysia; ch6 The Philippines; ch7 Singapore; ch8 Globalization mediated.]

Day, Abby (ed) – 2008—*Religion and the individual: belief, practice, identity*, 214 pp. Ashgate (Theology and religion in interdisciplinary perspective series). Hb ISBN: 978-0-7546-6122-1 [Brings together a significant set of reflections on the meaning of religion for individuals as well as society -- See especially: a) Jayeel Serrano Cornelio, "New paradigm

Christianity and commitment-formation: the case of Hope Filipino (Singapore)”; and b) Kevin S Reimer, Alvin C Dueck, Joshua P Morgan, and Deborah E Kessel, “A peaceable common: gathered wisdom from exemplar Muslim and Christian peacemakers”.]

Drysdale, Peter & Takashi Terada (eds) –2007—*Asia-Pacific economic co-operation*, 1968 pp. Routledge: Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 9780415310987 / 10: 0415310989 [APEC established as a regional grouping to deal with issues arising from growing interdependence – Aim is to build a prosperous Asia-Pacific through free and open trade and investment – Now 21 members, including: Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia, Vietnam, Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Russia, Canada, USA, Mexico, Peru and Chile – APEC keeps pace with the rise of East Asian economic and political power – A five volume set that covers in depth the origins and history of APEC, its achievement and its impact, and more.]

Fu, Tsung-his & Rhidian Hughes (eds) –2009—*Ageing in East Asia: challenges and policies for the twentieth-first century*, 208 pp. Taylor & Francis Group. Hb ISBN: 9780415454650 [Demographics show that East Asian countries have the highest proportion of older people, or the speed at which their population is ageing is faster than anywhere else in the world – Explore the causes and trends of populations of 8 countries, discussing challenges and impacts of population ageing on public policies – health, social care, income maintenance, employment and housing – Countries: Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, China & Japan.]

Fukukawa, Kyoko (ed) –2009-- *Corporate social responsibility in Asia*, 192 pp. New York, NY: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group. Hb ISBN 9780415459358 & 10:0415459354 [From www.taylorandfrancis.com -- Table of contents: a) John Elkington, “Preface”; b) Kyoko Fukukawa, “Introduction”; 1) Hock-Beng Cheah “Can Asia avoid the mistakes of the West?”; 2) John Kidd & Frank-Jurgen Richer, “CSR – a virtuous circle?...but which circle?...and whose virtue?”; 3) Roszaini Haniffa & Mohammad Hudaib, “Corporate governance and accountability in Malaysia”; 4) William Shafer, “Social paradigm in China and the West”; 5) Kanji Tanimoto, “Structural change in corporate society and CSR in Japan”; 6) Nongnooch Kuasirikun, “How corporate social responsibility is perceived and adapted in businesses in the Thai context”; 7) Samia Ferdous Hoque & Abdullah Al Faruq, “Labour relations: explaining the ethical dilemmas in employee rights: a culture based approach”; 8) Kyoko Fukukawa, “Conclusion: shift for capitalism...a new paradigm needed”.]

Gin, Ooi Keat –2009 (forthcoming June)—*Historical dictionary of Malaysia*, 512 pp. Scarecrow Press, Historical dictionaries of Asia, Oceania, and the Middle East Series #71. ISBN: 0-8108-5955-6 / 13: 978-0-8108-5955-5 [From the website www.scarecrowpress.com -- Encapsulates the development of Malaysia from the prehistory to the early years of the 21st century – Covers not only Malaysia’s history, but also its politics, economy, multiethnic society, multiculturalism, scientific and technological developments, and the state of its environment – A host of contemporary issues and challenges are featured, including ethnic polarization, economic equity, and

polygamy; as well as concepts such as *ketuanan Melayu* (Malay dominance), “Malaysian Malaysia”, “Malaya”, and *Islam Hadhari* (Civilizational Islam); and such terms as “Ali Baba” business, *kiasi*, *bejalai*, and “Twenty Points” – 500+ cross-referenced dictionary entries, covering everything from ethno-historical entries to culinary favorites, personalities and more... an introductory essay, chronology, appendices, and bibliography for dictionary entries -- Authoritative and up-to-date information – The author is a professor of history and coordinator of Asia-Pacific Research at the School of Humanities, at Universiti Sains Malaysia and chief editor of the *International Journal of Asia*.]

Ginsburg, Tom & Albert H.Y. Chen (eds) –2008—*Administrative law and governance in Asia: comparative perspectives*, 400 pp. Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 9780415777315 & 10:0415777313 [Examines administrative law, exploring the profound changes in the legal regimes of many Asian states recently -- Compares: Malaysia, Singapore, China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam.]

Guan, Yeoh Seng & Loh Wei Leng & Khoo Salma Nasution & Neil Khor –2009—*Penang and its neighbors: from regional entrepot to Malaysian Port*, 260 pp. Honolulu: U of Hawai’i Press. Pb ISBN:978-9971-69-423-4 [Discusses the personal networks that have linked prominent individuals in Penang with neighboring areas, and then considers the position of the island as a whole within the Southeast Asian region.]

Hefner, Robert W (ed) –2008—*Making modern Muslims: the politics of Islamic education in Southeast Asia*, 256 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press. Pb ISBN: 978-0-8248-3316-9 [From www.uhpress.hawaii.edu -- Addresses topics of utmost importance in a globalizing and dangerous world -- For scholars with diverse disciplinary backgrounds and general readers with vastly different levels of knowledge about the peoples of cultures of modern Asia and the culture & politics of contemporary Islam (from Michael Peletz’s comments) – An up to the moment overview of Islamic schools in Southeast Asia, with special attention to the roles played by states in shaping schooling, and bears on important policy-relevant issues (from John Bowen’s comments) -- Contents: **a)** “Introduction” by Robert W Hefner; **b)** “Islamic schools, social movements and democracy in Indonesia” by Robert W Hefner; **c)** “Reforming Islamic education in Malaysia: doctrine and dialogue?” by Richard G Kraince; **d)** “Islamic education in Southern Thailand: negotiating Islam, identity, and modernity” by Joseph Chinyong Liow; **e)** “Muslim metamorphosis: Islamic education and politics in contemporary Cambodia” by Bjorn Atle Blengslie; **f)** “Islamic education in the Philippines: political separatism and religious pragmatism” by Thomas M McKenna & Esmael A Abdula.

Huang, C Julia –2009—*Charisma and compassion: Cheng Yen and the Buddhist Tzu Chi Movement*, 354 pp. Harvard University Press. Hb ISBN: 978-0-674-03133-3 [From www.hup.harvard.edu – The Venerable Cheng-yen is an unassuming Taiwanese Buddhist nun who leads a worldwide social welfare movement with 5 million devotees in over 30 countries (USA branch largest) -- Tzu-Chi (compassion relief) began as a tiny grassroots women’s charitable group; and now in Taiwan it runs 3 hospitals, a television channel & a university – She has been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize, is a leader in Buddhist peace activism and recognized by *Business Week* as an entrepreneurial star – Book based on extensive fieldwork in Taiwan, Malaysia, Japan and USA, this book is about a religion and cultural identity, and the blending of charisma and compassion and personal compassion and personal relationships.]

Inoguchi, Takashi & Jean Blondel –2007—*Citizens and the State: attitudes in Western Europe and East and Southeast Asia*, 208 pp. Taylor & Francis Group. ISBN: 9780415451918 / 10: 041545 19 14 [About the relationship between citizens and the state – Case studies on: Malaysia, Singapore, France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, Britain, Taiwan, Japan, Indonesia, Greece, Italy, Korea, the Philippines, Portugal, Ireland, Thailand, and China – 3 questions: How strongly do citizens identify themselves to the country?; How much confidence do citizens place in the state and its institutions?; How satisfied are citizens with life and politics? – Book attempts to answer these questions by setting up 6 types of relationship between citizens and the state.]

Ismail, Rahil & Brian Shaw & Ooi Giok Ling (eds) –2009—*Southeast Asian culture and heritage in a globalizing world: diverging identities in a dynamic region*, 208 pp. Ashgate (Heritage, culture and identity series). Hb ISBN: 978-0-7546-7261-6 [Southeast Asia has become a crossroads of cultures with high levels of ethnic pluralism, between countries, sub-regions, urban areas, and also at the local levels of community and neighborhood – Book demonstrates how forces of ‘post-colonialism’ in various manifestations that are accelerating social change, creating new and ‘imagined’ communities which are potentially disruptive and which may threaten the long term sustainability of the region – Book brings together geographers, historians, anthropologists, architects, education specialists, planners and sociologists to make connections and new insights to provide a comprehensive view of heritage, culture and identity in the region – a) Brian J Shaw, “Introduction: diverging identities in a dynamic region; b) Rahil Ismail, “Di waktu petang di Geylang Serai” ... Geylang Serai in Singapore: maintaining identity in a globalized world; c) Ooi Giok Ling & Brian J Shaw, “Paradise lost? Islands, global tourism and heritage erasure in Malaysia & Singapore”; d) Mark Baildon, “Being rooted and living globally, Singapore’s educational reform as post-developmental governance”; e) Johannes Widodo, “The morphogenesis and hybridity of Southeast Asian coastal cities”; f) Kevin Blackburn, “Nation building, identity, and war commemoration spaces in Malaysia and Singapore”; g) Amber Widiastuti, “Being Javanese in a changing Javanese city”; h) Michael Theno, “Reimagining economic development in a post-colonial world: towards Laos 2020”; i) Nancy Hudson-Rodd, “When was Burma? Military rules since 1962”.]

>Khanna, Amar Nath –2008—*Hindu and Buddhist monuments and remains in South-East Asia*. xxviii+178 pp. maps. New Delhi: Aryan Books International. ISBN 8173053481 [Introduction --, “Cultural interface of India with SEA” -- Covers Malaysia, Brunei, Kedah, Bujang Valley, The Kinta Valley (Perak), Gunung Santubong (Sarawak), Simhapura, Borneo and Singapore National Museum; as well as Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Indonesia Sri Ksetra, Bagan (Pagan), and Mandalay]

>King, Ross –2008—*Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya: negotiating urban space in Malaysia*. 256 pp. Honolulu: U of Hawai’i. Pb ISBN: 978-0-8248-3318-3 [KL, arguably SEA’s spectacular city, and just celebrated 50 years as the national capital of Malaysia; but its ‘twin-city’, Putrajaya, the nation’s new administrative capital is very different – Whereas KL is a diverse, cosmopolitan, and multi-racial as reflected in the brilliance & diversity of its architecture and urban space; Putrajaya fulfils an elitist vision of a Malay-Muslim utopia and is an architectural homage to an imagined Middle East – Copious

illustrations – ALSO see *Berita* 32-2 p-10 for a book with the same title & author & year & abstract, but different pagination (320 pp), different ISBN (Pb ISBN: 978-9971-69-415-9) altho the binding is the same), and different press (Singapore: NUS Press, instead of U of Hawai’i Press) – Ever wonder why?]

>Koh, Tommy & S Jayakumar –2009—*Pedra Branca: the road to the World Court*, 160 pp. Honolulu: U of Hawai’i Press (Distributed by NUS Press). Pb ISBN: 978-9971-69-457-9 [This work discusses the territorial dispute between Malaysia and Singapore over a small but strategically located island near the entrance to the Straits of Malacca.]

Mietzner, Marcus –2008– *Military politics in contemporary Southeast Asia*, 192 pp. New York, NY: Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group. Hb ISBN: 978-0-415-46035-4 [www.taylorandfrancis.com – Examines the role of the military in Southeast Asian politics, especially since 2001 – Each chapter on the role of the military of a particular country: Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, and East Timor.]

Mishan, E J & Euston Quah –2007—*Cost-benefit analysis*, 336 pp. Routledge, Taylor & Francis. Pb ISBN: 97800443500668 [From the web above – Should Malaysia build a new steel mill, or NY an urban motorway? – Should higher education expand, or water supplies be improved? – Table of contents: 1) some simplified examples of cost-benefit studies; 2) economic concepts of cost and benefits; 3) external effects; 4) the choice of a cost-benefit criterion; 5) investment criteria; 6) particular problems in project evaluation; 7) uncertainty; 8) further notes relating to cost-benefit analysis.]

Morwood, Mike & Penny Van Oosterzee –2009—*A new human: the startling discovery and strange story of the “Hobbits” of Flores, Indonesia* (updated edition), 256 pp. Walnut Creek, California: Left Coast Press. Pb ISBN: 978-159874-414-9 [From the catalog – About Morewood’s discovery, description, and intense study of what might be a previously unknown diminutive species of human, nicknamed the “hobbit”, on the Island of Flores -- This updated edition contains an epilogue that reports the most recent debates, findings and analyses about the discovery.]

Nakhleh, Emile –2009– *A necessary engagement: reinventing America’s relations with the Muslim world*, 184 pp. Princeton Studies in Muslim Politics. Cl: 978-0-691-13525-0 [From the catalog and the website www.press.princeton.edu – The CIA’s former point man on Islam makes a vigorous case for a renewed American public diplomacy in the Muslim World, offering a case balanced among in-depth analysis, personal memoir, and foreign policy remedies; injecting much-needed wisdom into the public discussion of long-term US-Muslim relations – Quite a bit on Malaysia.]

Ramaswamy, Vijaya –2007—*Historical dictionary of the Tamils*, 448 pp. Scarecrow Press: www.scarecrowpress.com ISBN: 0-8108-5379-5 / 13:978-0-8108-5379-9 [Presents a vivid picture of the Tamils’ cultural and literary traditions in the historic past and in the present – A list of acronyms & abbreviations, a chronology, and introductory essay, a bibliography, photos, maps and more than 500 cross-referenced dictionary entries about Tamil history from the megalithic to present day – Also Tamil personalities, economics, literature, music, politics, and cinema – Not confined to their homeland of Tamil Nadu, the Tamils constitute a powerful diaspora in Sri Lanka, where they are fighting for their political rights, and -- Singapore, where Tamil is one of the national languages, and also in Malaysia – Tamil communities in Singapore & Malaysia are well represented in the book.]

Schrover, Marlou & Joanne van der Leun & Leo Lucassen & Chris

Quispel (eds) –2009—*Illegal migration and gender in a global and historical perspective*, 256 pp. The University Press of Chicago. Pb ISBN: 9789089640475 [Volume combines 2 important issues in contemporary debates over migration: gender and illegal migration -- Reconsiders migration scholarship thru lens of gender in order to investigate definition of citizenship and differences in mechanisms of inclusion and exclusion for men and women – Applies an interdisciplinary & comparative historical framework spanning the 19th & 20th centuries – Also, a comprehensive account of illegal migration in many places such as Malaysia, Pakistan, the horn of Africa, Mexico, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Germany, the Middle East & USA – See especially, Ch5, Blanca Garces-Mascarenas, “Old and new labour migration to Malaysia: From colonial times to present”.]

Sodhi, Navjot S & Greg Acciaioli & Maribeth Erb & Alan Khee -Jin Tan (eds) –2007—*Biodiversity and human livelihoods in protected areas: case studies from the Malay Archipelago*, 494 pp. US: Cambridge University Press. Hb ISBN: 139780521870214 [From www.cambridge.org/us -- Protected areas have emerged as major arenas of dispute concerning both indigenous and environmental protection – The Malay Archipelago contains 2 of the 25 biodiversity hotspots identified globally, where rampant commercial exploitation is jeopardizing species and rural livelihoods – But while imperiled biota are being protected, local people have aspirations and need sustenance – The views of the stakeholders of the *protected areas* are represented: conservation practitioners, biologists, lawyers, policy and management analysts and anthropologists – The book has 50 authors and 29 information-filled chapters.]

Tiwary, Shiv Shanker –2008-- *Encyclopaedia of Southeast Asian dynasties*, 1st edition, 3 vols: v.1 302pp, v.2 292pp, v.3 294 pp. New Delhi: Anmol Publications Pvt Ltd. ISBN: 8126137244(set) **V.1:** Preface – Ch1 Southeast Asian countries: a brief history -- Ch2 Kingdoms of Southeast Asia -- Ch3 New challenges to old authority in Southeast Asia – Ch4 The making of new Southeast Asian states – Bibliography – Index -- **V.2:** Preface – Ch1 Konbaung Dynasty: towards an end -- Ch2 Malay kingdoms from 16th to 18th century – Ch3 The dynasties of Siam – Ch4 The Vietnamese emperors – Ch5 Emergence of nationalism in Southeast Asia – Ch6 Southeast Asian nations: from dynasties to modern times – Ch7 Southeast Asia: later history of the mainland states – Bibliography – Index -- **V.3:** Preface – Ch1 Prominent Indonesian dynasties -- Ch2 The Khmers and Angkor dynasties – Ch3 Burma and Arakan – Ch4 Various dynasties of Burma -- Ch5 Annam and Tongking dynasties – Ch6 The kingdom of Laos and Ayut'ia – Ch7 The kingdom of Champa and its dynasties – Ch8 Kingdom of Malacca and the spread of Islam – Bibliography – Index.]

Tiwary, Shiv Shanker & Rajiv Kumar –2009—*Encyclopaedia of Southeast Asia and its tribes*, 1st edition, 3 vols: v.1 303 pp, v.2 306 pp, v.3 300 pp. New Delhi: Anmol Publications Pvt. Ltd. ISBN: 8126138371 (Set) KK-69567 -- From the www.kkagencies.com blurb - There are large numbers of tribes and ethnic groups in Southeast Asia, many of which are located in more than one country – This publication is especially useful because each chapter is centered in a state rather than a tribe or ethnic group; which more easily and more accurately show effects of different governments and their policies on the various tribes and ethnic groups in the region -- Each chapter of the three volume encyclopedia is about the tribal and ethnic groups in a particular state among eleven Southeast Asian states – The encyclopedia is about how different states in Southeast Asia affect particular tribal and ethnic groups -- VOL 1: Preface, Ch1 Indonesia,

Ch2 Cambodia; Ch3 Brunei, Ch4 East Timor, Bibliography, Index; VOL 2: Preface, Ch1 Kingdom of Thailand, Ch2 Singapore, Ch3 Malaysia, Bibliography, Index; VOL 3: Preface, Ch1 Philippines, Ch2 Vietnam, Ch3 Myanmar, Ch4 Laos, Bibliography, Index.]

Weatherbee, Donald E –2008—*Historical dictionary of United States-Southeast Asia relations*, 472 pp. The Scarecrow Press, Inc. Hb ISBN: 0-8108-5542-9 / 13:978-0-8108-5542-7 [From the website - **[Subjects:** History & Asian History; Political Science & International Relations; History & American History; Area Studies ; Political Science & Political History; History & American History & Diplomatic History; Reference & History – Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam -- Identifies the key issues, individuals, and events in the history of US-SEA relations and places them in the context of the regional, political, and economic processes that have fashioned the American role in SEA, chronologically, biographically, appendices and hundreds of cross-references on key persons, places, events, institutions and organizations.]

Zaman, Muhammad Qasim –2000—*The Ulama in contemporary Islam: custodians of change*, 312 pp. Princeton Studies in Muslim Politics. Pb ISBN: 978-0-691-13070-5 [From the catalog -- “Demonstrates that the received image of Muslim clerics as passive, unworldly reactionaries bound to an atemporal, socially withdrawn Islam is thoroughly misconceived. “ ... Clifford Geertz, *New York Review of Books*.]

WEBS

www.asian-studies.org [A new website address for the AAS in 2009.] – From www.feer.com .

CONFERENCES, PAPERS, MANUSCRIPTS, POSITIONS, etc

1) 26-29 Mar 2009 – Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Chicago – Meeting will be held at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel, 301 East North Water Street, Chicago, IL, 60611 – Hotel reservations can be made by calling (800) 325-3535 or on the Annual Meeting section of the AAS website www.aasianst.org -- Especially interesting sessions, among others, are: a) #103 (*Roundtable: Malaysia's New Politics from Hegemony to Pluralism*) starting at 3:15 PM Friday; b) #128 (*Beyond Sacred and Secular: Islam and Political Mobilization in Muslim Southeast Asia*) starting at 8:30 AM Saturday; c) #154 (*Food, Markets and Culture in Southeast Asia*) starting at 10:45 AM Saturday; d) #180 (*ASEAN / Southeast Asian Literature: Contemporary Trends and Transactions*) starting at 2:45 PM Saturday; e) #204 (*The Quality of Democracy in Southeast Asia*) starting at 5:00 PM Saturday; f) #205 (*Roundtable: Early Southeast Asian History: The Legacy of O W Wolters* – Sponsored by the Southeast Asia Council) starting at 5:00 PM Saturday; and g) #239 (*Roundtable: Information Access and Border Crossing in Southeast Asian Studies* -- Sponsored by CORMOSEA) starting at 10:45 AM Sunday; **2) – 26-28 March 2009** – Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Cambridge – “*Continuity and Change: reconceptualising power in Southeast Asia*” -- Keynote speakers: James Scott (Yale); and Shelly Errington (UC, Santa Cruz) – Comfirmed: Avery Poole, Adian Vickers, Andrew Beatty, Tomas Larsson, Victor V. Ramraj, Michele Ford, Deidre de la Cruz, Holly High, Ingrid Jordt, Catherine Allerton, Jeremy Jammes, Krisna Uk, Lee Kah Wee, Sarinda Singh, Markus Schlecker, Yanuar Nugroho, Ruth

Toulson, Andrew Walker, Nicola Frost, Loren Rytter, Dimitri Tsintjionis, Shu-Yuan Yang, Nicholas Farrelly, David Irving, and Heather Maclachian – And a screening of the documentary film “Terlena: the breaking of a Nation” by Andre Vitacheck, who will hold a Q&A session after the screening – Contact Anna Malinowska apm50@cam.ac.uk for conference bookings and for all other enquiries;

3) The Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (SEASSI) – To be held on the campus of the U of Wisconsin-Madison – Instruction offered at 1st, 2nd and 3rd year levels in Burmese, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian (Malay), Javanese, Khmer, Lao, & Vietnamese – Each language course is equivalent to semesters of study – Instruction given in small individualized groups – Teachers usually native speakers – Find more information at: SEASSI Coordinator; Center for Southeast Asian Studies; Room 207, 1155, Observatory Drive; University of Wisconsin; Madison, WI 53706 – Tel. (608) 262-1755; Fax (608) 263-3735; E-mail seassi@intl-institute.wisc.edu ; Website <http://seassi.wisc.edu>

.4) 2-5 July 2009, -- This conference, “*East by Southeast: multiple perspectives on Asia*”, will be conducted in English, and jointly sponsored by the Society for East Asian Anthropology (SEAA) of the American Anthropological Association; The Taiwan Association for Anthropology and Ethnology; The Graduate Institute of Anthropology at National Tsing Hua University; the College of Hakka Studies at National Chiao Tung University; and the Institute of Ethnology a Academia Sinica – The organizers encourage submission of both organized panels and individual papers on issues of interest and passion in the anthropology of East and Southeast societies; particularly those that bring together comparative studies of a common topic from different parts of the region.

Deadlines: a) submission of panel & paper abstracts, 28 February 2009; b) conference registration & housing application (Thanks to Anru Lee, PhD, Assoc Prof, Anthro, CUNY & URBANTH-l@lists.yu.edu), 30 April 2009 – Check the SEAA website www.aaanet.org/sections/seaa/index.html for the SEAA 2009 Taipei Conference update.

5) 24-27 Sept 2009 – This conference, “*Medical anthropology at the intersections: celebrating 50 years of interdisciplinarity*”, to be held at Yale University, will bring together the world’s medical anthropologists, including faculty, students, and practitioners, to celebrate past achievements and foster exchanges of ideas that will inspire path-breaking work in the next 50 years – All types of medical anthropology are welcome, but encourage five kinds of submissions: 1) individual papers; 2) individual posters; 3) pre-organized panels of 5-7 papers/discussants; 4) pre-organized workshops of pre-circulated papers; and 5) films and other media – To submit an abstract or pre-organized session for review, see the detailed instructions on the conference website www.yale.edu/macmillan/smaconference , and e-mail your abstract to medanthro.conference@yale.edu -- The deadline for abstract submission is 15 April 2009. – Registration can be at www.yale.macmillan/smaconference ; and the break for early registration rates (from 1 Dec 08 to 16 Apr 2009) are worth thinking about (US Profs \$75vs\$100 & Non-US participants \$50vs\$75 & Students \$25vs\$50) – There will be special events – More information on the website.

6) Positions (Thanks to Prof. Dato Dr. Mohd Amin Jalaludin, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic & International, Univ. of Malaya) The University of Malaya has vacancies for the post of Professors / Associate Professors / Senior Lecturers / Lecturers in the following fields: 1) Malay Studies; 2) Islamic Studies; 3) Arts & Social Sciences; 4) Economics & Administration; 5) Law; 6) Built Environment; 7) Computer Science & Information Technology; 8) Dentistry; 9) Education; 10) Engineering; 11) Business & Accounting; 12) Languages & Linguistics; 13) Sciences; 14) Medicine; 15) Performing Arts; 16) Sport Sciences; 17) Public Policy & Management; and 18) Social Sciences & Humanities – Ranks: Professor, Associate Professor, Senior Lecturer, Lecturers -- Tenure up to 3 years initially, renewable if required or subject to performance – Vacation Leave 30 days per year; Medical benefit for staff and immediate family; Return air passage; Non taxable gratuity at the rate of 17% of the last drawn salary (basic) for each completed month of service – Salaries from RM214,174 to RM46152 (RM3.65=USD\$1.00) – Visit www.um.edu.my/career.

7) The Green Harbor Prize An award sponsored by Green Harbor Financial to support anthropological fieldwork on economic activities that are sustainable, eco-friendly, culturally sensitive, committed to community engagement, and/or socially responsible – For 2009, the award will be raised to \$1,000, thanks to the generosity of Eric Rice of Johns Hopkins University – This award is intended as supplemental funding for PhD candidates doing their field research, and will only be awarded to students who are (or will be) in a position to use the funds for fieldwork-related expenses – Only students in graduate programs located in the CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, IN, MA, MD, NC, NH, NY, VA will be eligible – Application procedures at www.greenharborfinancial.com/Green_Harbour_Anthropology_Prize.aspx .

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

(Abstracted by rp from reports by Margaret John, Amnesty International Canada, Coordinator for Malaysia & Singapore, e-mail: malaysiasingaporecoordinator@amnesty.ca) – **1)** AI welcomed release, on 7 November 2008, of Malaysian blogger Raja Petra Kamarudin, but called on the government to stop using the Internal Security Act (ISA) to control dissent – A Malaysian high court ordered the release of Raja Petra on grounds that his arrest, under the ISA, was unconstitutional -- Raja Petra, a social commentator and editor of news blog *Malaysia Today*, was arrested on 12 September for threatening national security and potentially “causing tension among the country’s multi-racial and multi-religious society” – Articles published online (‘Malays, the Enemy of Islam’; ‘Let’s send the Altantuya murderers to hell’; ‘I promise to be good, non-hypocritical Muslim’; and ‘Not all Arabs are descendants of the Prophet’) were deemed insulting to Muslims and to the Prophet Muhammad and were thought defamatory of Malaysia’s leaders – Judge Syed Ahmad Helmy, of the High Court in Selangor, ruled that the Malaysian Home Minister, Syed Hamid Albar, had acted beyond his powers in having Raja Petra arrested – The ISA allows the police to arrest individuals they believe have acted, or are likely to act in a way that would threaten Malaysian security, ‘essential services’ or ‘economic life. Amnesty International calls for the government to revoke the ISA immediately; **2)** AI release, 24 November 2008 – The KL High Court acquitted a migrant workers’ rights activist on

Monday, ending one of the longest court cases in Malaysian legal history... more than 12 years – Irene Fernandez, founder & director of human rights organization Tenaganita, was arrested in 1996 for reporting that detained illegal immigrants suffered from malnutrition and torture; & a court held that the report was ‘maliciously publishing false news’ under the Printing Presses & Publications Act – AI repeatedly called for her release, but 7 years after her arrest, she was sentenced to 1 year imprisonment -- She appealed, was freed on bail, but her civil rights were restricted – As a convicted person she was barred from standing as a parliament candidate in the 2004 Malaysian election and could not travel outside the country freely; but she and her Tenaganita have continued to work for the rights of migrant workers – In 2005, she was a recipient of the prestigious Right Livelihood Award – On 24 November 2008, Malaysia’s Public Prosecutor dropped his opposition to Fernandez’s appeal due to the discovery of ‘systematic errors’ in court records; **3)** AI release 13 December 2008 – Former prominent prisoner of conscience A Samad Ismail died in September at the age of 84 – Obituaries paid tribute to him as an icon of journalism who wrote & spoke against unjust laws, and for leftist ideology and social equity – In 1976, he received both a government journalism award and was imprisoned under the ISA, and after his release he publicly opposed the ISA arrests of 1987 – The balance of political leadership in Malaysia is shifting ... PM Badawi will resign in Spring 2009, Deputy PM Najib Razak is expected to become PM, and Law Minister Zaid Ibrahim resigned in opposition to the government’s use of the ISA, and Opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim was re-elected to Parliament with a stated intention to draw enough MPs to topple the ruling coalition, become PM and focus on priorities of human rights and democracy... supporters were eventually disappointed -- Former Law Minister Zaid Ibrahim, after his resignation from the ruling coalition Cabinet, published a letter to the PM referring to the founding principles of Malaysia... liberty, welfare and happiness for Malaysians; but he was sad that the government has repeatedly failed the people of Malaysia... referring to the many arrests under the ISA (1987, 2001, 2007 & 2008); and called for repealing the ISA; **4)** The UN to review human rights in Malaysia in February 2009 – AI’s concerns include: Legislation providing for arbitrary arrest and unlawful detention without trial; Failure of the state to protect human rights thru the curtailment of peaceful public demonstration and the arrests of government critics; Torture and other ill-treatment by police and lack of legislation to advance human rights-based practice; And end the death penalty – Recommendations include: Ratification of international human rights treaties; Repeal of the ISA and repeal or amendment of other restrictive laws, including the Dangerous Drugs Act; Reform of the national human rights body, SUHAKAM; A moratorium on executions leading to the total abolition of the death penalty and lifting the veil of secrecy on executions and the death penalty; Establishment of an independent, impartial body to oversee the police; An end to discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity; **5)** Welcome developments in Singapore in the lifting of some stifling controls, especially in terms of the Internet and films – PM Lee Hsien Loong said the government looking out for

people with minds of their own, giving assurances that Singapore would see more political openness – He said the ruling PAP must evolve and engage Singaporeans, but within the PAP rather than in the form of a 2-part system – For opposition activists & rights campaigners, little if anything has changed... they are prosecuted for peaceful actions that would be acceptable in more open societies where human rights are promoted and protected – International support for Dr Chee Soon Juan and colleagues is growing – Eighteen people, including Dr Chee Soon Juan and Chee Siok Chin, are being charged under the Miscellaneous Offences Act for participating in unlawful assemblies and/or processions, for which permits are required -- Human rights defenders point to the difficulties of obtaining such permits – The ‘Kangaroo Three’: John Tan (SDP Asst Secretary-General), Muhammad Shafi’ie Syahmi Sariman and Isrizal Mohamed Isa were convicted of contempt of court and sentenced to jail terms for wearing T-shirts emblazoned with a kangaroo in judge’s robes in the Supreme Court building during last May’s hearing regarding the defamation damages to be paid by Dr Chee Siok Chin and the SDP to Lee Kuan Yew and PM Lee Hsien Loong – John Tan was given a jail term of 15 days, and Isrizal Bin Mohammad Isa and Muhammad Shafi’ie were each sentenced to 7 days... Each was ordered to pay S\$5,000 in costs – The prosecution alleged that John Tan had said to Lee Kuan Yew “This is a kangaroo court”, as he walked by – The Attorney-General said the three had ‘scandalized the Singapore judiciary’.] **6)** BBC News at www.yoursdp.org/index.php/news/singapore 21 Jan 09 -- The secretary general of the Singapore Democratic Party, Chee Soon Juan, posted his message to President Obama on the video sharing website You Tube – Mr Chee expressed hope that Mr Obama “will pay more attention to the human rights abuses of the human rights abuses of the Singapore government” -- His youtube message began with congratulations to Mr Obama, describing his inauguration as “an occasion of great moment”, and reminded the US president of his words on International Human Rights Day in December 2008, when he had aligned the US with “men and women around the world who struggle for the rights to speak their minds, choose their leaders and be treated with dignity and respect” – Mr Chee then spoke of the many men and women around Asia suffering in that struggle, notably Burmese opposition icon Aung San Suu Kyi, who remains under arrest..

PROSPECTUS

Berita is a quarterly (beginning with volume 27) 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.

The editor welcomes news of forthcoming or very recent scholarly research, publications and professional positions.

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RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION STAFF

The Chair and new Editor will call for volunteers from among the membership for new editorial staff and researchers.