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>Editor's note

This is my last issue as editor & publisher of *Berita*. I thank John Lent for inventing *Berita*; Association for Asian Studies

for support; Ohio U & Northern Illinois U for support; and Barbara for many hours finding data in the library. rp

>PERIODICALS PERIODICALS periodicals periodicals

Asian journal of social science

V.37,n.3 2009 – 1) Paula Panna, “The production and transmission of knowledge in Colonial Malaya” [From the Abstract – Highlights how knowledge played an integral role in the cultural reconstruction of the Malay world during the colonial period – The British produced knowledge about the Malays through scholarly writings in history and through the creation of the census report – This knowledge was mostly constructed and did not necessarily correspond to the social reality of the Malays – The education system played a vital role in transmitting knowledge to the masses, and began a process of internalization, which led to rapid disintegration of Malay cultural practices and new ways of life and concepts from Western culture and institutions such as history, territory and community – The present nationalist movement in Malaysia with its emphasis on race and boundaries attests to the success of the British in transforming the identity of the Malays -- This article is about the connection between British administrative procedures and their impact on reconstructing the thought patterns of the people -- This invasion upon the minds of Malays can be said to be the most lasting legacy of the British colonial rule], pp 427-451; 2) Choon-Lee Chai, “The Sungei Buloh Leper Settlement: illness and the technology of Acquiescence” [The Sungei Buloh Leper Settlement was established in 1930, serving the purposes of housing, controlling, and curing leprosy patients – Foucault’s thesis of disciplinary power is employed to examine the settlement’s techniques of leper control and to analyze the modus operandi of the leper settlement – The analysis of this article points to a shift of emphasis in the mid-1920s in the administration of leper settlements in Malaya from one that exercised predominantly coercive power of control of lepers to one that used primarily persuasive means – The central argument is that the changing technique of control was mainly due to the recognition of the settlement as being an establishment with an ambiguous identity, between a total and health institution -- While resembling a total institution, the leper settlement was not a prison, and lepers, like patients in hospitals, needed to be treated as ordinary citizens both on humanitarian and legal grounds – But the need for mandatory segregating them from the public was also necessary – The article points to the application of a persuasive technique of social control that encouraged voluntary enrolment and participation of lepers in the leper settlement – To promote voluntary admission and stay of lepers, the settlement was

organized in such a way that it provided a ‘natural and fair atmosphere’ that was akin to the external social environment; and inmates felt comfortably at home in their settlement.], pp463-479; 3) Yeng-Chong Yee, review of Francis T Seow, 2006, *Beyond Suspicion? The Singapore Judiciary*. Yale Southeast Asia Studies Monograph 55. 405 pp. ISBN 0-938692-86-0 . [From the review – While Seow’s meticulousness and his wit do make for an engaging read, the accuracy of his account is often difficult to measure, and the prose does seem convoluted with bias on the part of Seow’s personal entanglements with the PAP in the 1980s – Reviewer suspects that this is less a fault with Seow’s work and more of an issue with the local political culture itself, where informational opaqueness, a muzzled press and an enforced climate of fear, continue to render most investigative word on local politics difficult – Nonetheless, the book is laudatory as an important historical document of Singapore’s latent political past: a history few dare to document], pp 541–544.

V.37,n.4 2009 1) Vincent Chua, “Kinship, ethnic segregation and multiculturalism in Singapore: a relational study” [From the Abstract – The question of inter-ethnic integration and segregation in multicultural societies has been characterized by tensions at the level of public and scholarly debate between optimists who see ‘good’ inter-ethnic relations and pessimists see ‘bad’ ones – In reality, the ethnic situation in multicultural societies is often more nuanced than these labels suggest – Using personal network analysis to a segment of Singapore society, author shows that estimates of inter-ethnic contact are highly-contingent upon a range of methodological and social factors – Substantively, discusses how inter-ethnic interactions may often be hampered by in-group pressures arising from kinship relations – In practice, where ‘keeping family’ often means ‘keeping ethnicity’, kinship pre-eminence in everyday life tends to suppress inter-ethnic friendship in intimate regions of personal networks -- By contrast, inter-ethnic integration is more seen in outer regions of personal networks, suggesting that ‘multiculturalism’, in practice, is a form of society based on weak ties rather than strong bonds], 677-698.

Chulalongkorn journal of economics

V.18,n.1 April 2006 – 1) Fadzlan Sufian, “The efficiency effects of bank mergers and acquisitions: a non-stochastic window event analysis approach” [From the Abstract – An event window studies is employed to investigate the effects of merger & acquisitions on Singapore domestic banking groups’ efficiency – A 3-year window chosen to examine the relative overall pure technical and scale efficiency scores, ex-ante and ex-post – The non-parametric frontier approach, Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA), is employed to detect for an efficiency gains (loss) resulting from the mergers and acquisitions among domestic incorporated Singapore banking groups – Employed a variant of the intermediation approach to two models – The results from both models suggest that the merger has resulted in higher mean overall efficiency of Singapore banking group post-merger relative to pre-merger – Although mergers have resulted in a more efficient Singapore banking sector, we found that size has become the biggest factor resulting in the inefficiency of the Singapore banking groups, henceforth, from the scale efficiency perspective, neither of our models support for further consolidation in the Singapore banking sector – Our results further support the hypothesis that, the acquiring banks mean overall efficiency improved (deteriorates) post-merger resulting from the merger with a more (less) efficient bank], pp 1-37; 2) Mukhriz Izraf

Azman Aziz & Nor' Aznin Abu Bakar, "China's accession into the WTO: impact on the Malaysian economy" [From the Abstract – China's accession into the WTO will have major implications for China presenting opportunities and challenges for Malaysia – The prospect of China's deeper integration with the world economy has generated considerable interest in the potential impact of this accession; given China's already large and rapidly expanding commitments will undoubtedly enhance the trading position of China in the world economy – However, most of the studies have focused on the impact of this accession on China's economy and there are few studies that have investigated its impact on other countries, especially developing countries – This study represents an attempt to fill the research gap in this area by assessing implications of China's entry into the WTO on Malaysian manufacturing exports – We quantify the implications using multiple Revealed Comparative advantage indexes on the Electrical and Electronic sectors of Malaysia and China – The significant changes in comparative advantage have occurred in China since 2001 – But Malaysia is experiencing declining comparative advantage since the accession of China to the WTO], pp 38-62; **V.19.n.1 April 2007 – 1)** Edo Andriessse, "The impact of national institutions on economic development in Satun (Thailand) and Perlis (Malaysia)" [Analyzes the impact of national institutions on regional arrangements between the private and the public sector -- In addition, attempts to include politics in the analysis -- A comparison is made between the province of Satun in Southern Thailand and the state of Perlis in northern Malaysia, two peripheral regions within their respective national space economies – The objectives are three central questions: a) What institutional arrangements are in place for cooperation and coordination between the public and private sector in both regions; b) What are the political dimensions of these institutional arrangements; c) What extent does the national framework Influence regional institutional arrangements & ultimately regional development?], pp 74-109.

Commonwealth & Comparative Politics

V.47 July 2009 1) Andreas Ufen, "Mobilizing political Islam: Indonesia and Malaysia compared" [From the Abstract – Analyses forms of religious mobilization and resultant Islamization in Indonesia and Malaysia after independence against the backdrop of interactions in and among 3 different spheres: the state, political society, and civil society – Islamization in Indonesia was propelled by different actors, and only from the mid-1980s until the fall of Suharto did the state apparatus control and direct its dynamics with growing intensity – Since then, the process has preponderantly been driven by civil society forces – Whereas there has been a blossoming of diverse, yet mostly conservative Islam across the society, in the party system the Islamization of politics has been moderate – In Malaysia, Islamization has been much more actively planned and stimulated by the central bureaucracy -- Religion in political society has been planned and stimulated by the central bureaucracy – Religion in political society has been strongly politicized, while Islam civil society organization and groupings had a strong impact only briefly – Whereas in Indonesian civil society mass organizations have structured the discourse on Islam to a large extent and have therefore limited the ability of the state and political parties to set the agenda and mobilize Islam; In Malaysia the state and Islamic

political parties have acted more independently – Authoritarian rule in Indonesia previously obstructed religious mobilization by Islamic & Islamist parties – The brittle electoral democracy since the fall of Suharto has fuelled mobilization efforts, but the role of the Islamic and Islamist parties have still been limited – Electoral authoritarianism in Malaysia, in contrast, has been conducive to a form of religious mobilization that is centered upon the activities of parties], pp 308-333.

Far Eastern Economic Review

July/August 2009 1) Razeen Sally, "Sri Lanka at the crossroads" [From the article – 'Sri Lanka is a sad tale of what might have been, with better governance, it could be where Malaysia is now' – As of 1960, Ceylon's living standards were higher than those of South Korea and Thailand -- As of 1970, Ceylon and Malaysia had similar living standards – With peace and East Asian style policies of macroeconomic prudence, openness to the world and better government at home, Sri Lanka would be where Malaysia is today (with an average real income of over \$15,000 at purchasing power parity)], pp 30-35; 2) Peter Ritter, "Borneo's 'Green Gold'" [A description mostly of Malaysia's Borneo: its waning rain forests, secondary growth, and palm oil plantations – And a bit of Indonesia's Kalimantan], pp 77-79.

Journal of East Asian studies

V.9.n.2 May-August 2009 – a) Teri L Caraway, "Labor rights in East Asia: progress or regress" [From the Abstract – (Summary of the volume about labor rights in East Asian and Southeast Asian labor rights: Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Cambodia, China, Laos, and Vietnam], pp 153-186; **b)** Richard W Carney & Loh Yi Zheng, "Institutional (dis)incentives to innovate: an explanation for Singapore's innovation gap" [From the Abstract – Despite having the 5th highest per capita GDP in the world, and despite numerous government efforts to spur innovation, Singapore has faced difficulties establishing a durable base of entrepreneurial activity -- Many ascribe this failure to the city-state's policies, that are often portrayed as generating a culture of risk aversion and a lack of creativity – But this article argues that the city-state's institutional arrangements generate conflicting innovation incentives that undermine innovative activity], pp 291-319.

Journal of economic issues

V.43.n.2 June 2009 – 1) Giuseppe Fontana & Abhinav Srivastava, "A human capital approach to inequalities: the case of the East Asian Miracle and India" [From the Abstract – The extraordinary growth and reduction in inequalities achieved between the mid-1960s by the High Performing Asian Economies (HPAEs): Hong Kong, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, China, Indonesia and Thailand... which have been discussed at great length in the economic literature – But no clear explanation has been suggested for the poor performance of other Asian economies, such as India, which share the HPAEs geographical proximity and similar economic structures – Paper shows the stark contrast between the high growth rates and declining income inequalities of HPAEs on one side and low growth rates and stable or rising income inequalities of India and other Asian countries on one side, may at least in part be explained by the different role that human capital has played in those economies between the mid-1960s and mid-1990s], pp 523-530.

Malaysian business

February 16th-28th 2009 – 1) A Kadir Jasin, "Other thots: losing in the credibility stakes" [The ruling coalitions backdoor

recapture of Perak, while showing up the weaknesses of the Opposition, does not augur well for it, especially at a time when it is facing two by-elections – It risks facing a voter backlash and even more losses in the next election – Having failed last August to recapture the Permatang Pauh parliamentary seat from PKR and losing the federal seat of Kuala Trengganu to PAS last month, the BN is hard pressed to show some improvement], pp 6-8; **2) Charles Raj, “Commentary: hopping mad”** [The fact that we might need anti-hopping laws is sad, to say the least, as it is clear indication that our politicians simply lack the values needed to do the right thing – But as political instability is unthinkable, especially in an economic crisis like now – Perhaps we do not have much of a choice -- Unless our politicians display a sense of high moral values, legislation may be the only way to thwart their despicable actions] p 19; **March 1st-15th 2009 – 1) A Kadir Jasin, “Other thots: heir to a troubled throne”** [To say that Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Abdul Razak will be taking over the leadership of the country at a difficult time would be an understatement – From a global economic crisis of unprecedented scale to local political rumblings never seen before, he has his work cut out for him – Can the besmirched political aristocrat hack it? – Given his less-than shiny image, Mohd Najib has to spring a few surprises to attract public attention and alter their perception of him], pp 6-17; **2) Charles Raj, “Commentary: make them pay”** [Officials of local authorities should be made to pay for their dereliction of duty in relations to disasters like the ones concerning hillside development projects – So why are we protecting them instead? – We also have all the laws in place relating to hillside development but poor enforcement – Is it a matter of manpower shortage or corruption?], p 19; **March 16th-31st 2009 – 1) A Kadir Jasin, “Other thots: translating the mini budget into action”** [The mini budget proposes to set aside another RM60 billion to stimulate the economy in the next 2 years – While this is laudable, the government has to be more open and transparent about where the money is going – Where has the money gone? – Mohd Najib is expected to revamp the cabinet, the leadership of the civil service and key advisory posts when he takes over the administration later this month], pp 6-8; **2) Charles Raj, “Commentary: making business easier”** [While red tape has been shortened considerably of late in the country, there is still a long way to go before we can pat ourselves on the back – This is true especially now, when we need to do everything we can to counter the economic downturn – We once were well regarded as an investment haven in Southeast Asia, but that was then – The world has since passed us by as we are too embroiled in our own petty issues and quarrels to notice], p 9.

The Copenhagen Journal of Asian Studies

V.25 – 2007 – 1) Michael Jacobsen & Ng Beoy Kui (eds), “Introduction, in the shadow of Mainland China: changing ethnic Chinese business practices in Southeast Asia” [From the Introduction – It has been argued that one of the main reasons behind Mainland China’s post 1978 rise to its current status as a global economic superpower has been particularly the economic success of Southeast Asian Chinese entrepreneurs, who sent huge amounts of foreign direct investments (FDI) to China in order to develop, and thus tap into, this emerging market; and the success of these

entrepreneurs has generally been attributed to some shared cultural characteristics with Mainland Chinese entrepreneurs, which were based on Confucian values that govern an array of economic practices such as *guanxi* (dyadic [business] relations) – & more], pp. 5-8; **2) Ng Beoy Kui, “The economic rise of China: threats and opportunities from the perspective of Southeast Asia”** [From the Abstract – Examines the economic impact of China on Southeast Asian countries, mainly in terms of trade and investment – Attempts to examine whether the rise of China poses a threat to Southeast Asia as a region in the area of international trade, and questions if the concentration of foreign direct investment (FDI) in China is resulting in a diversion of FDI away from the region – Do FDI in China and Southeast Asia complement on another when it comes to the international division of labor? – And more], pp 9-27; **3) Michael Jacobsen, “Living in the shadow of Mainland China: constraints among SEA Chinese entrepreneurs”** [From the Abstract – Taking a point of departure in the fluid political and economic landscape of East and Southeast Asia, this paper focuses on ethnic Chinese SME entrepreneurs in Southeast Asia, who are gradually becoming the focus in a discussion of whether a rising Mainland Chinese economy is a positive or negative force in Asia – The differentiation of the ethnic Chinese community in Southeast Asia, it is argued, is a reflection of many different influences from especially colonialism and different contemporary social and political developments within the individual Southeast Asian countries – And More], pp 28-49; **4) Thomas Menkhoff, Ulrike Badibanga & Chay Yue Wah, “Managing change in Asian business: a comparison between Chinese Educated and English educated Chinese entrepreneurs in Singapore”** [From the Abstract – Examines the organizational change management behavior of the owner-managers of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) in Singapore – The analysis of survey data is aimed at ascertaining whether there are any differences between Chinese and English educated small (ethnic Chinese) businesses in terms of Change Management (CM), a dichotomy that is of great historical and political-cultural significant in Singapore -- The survey data show that there are indeed differences between the subgroups, but the variations turned out to be far less pronounced than expected -- And more], pp 50-73; **5) Ramin Cooper Maysami & Christopher Ziemnowicz, “Ethnicity, gender and entrepreneurial tendencies: the Singapore perspective”** [From the Abstract – Creativity and risk-taking, widely accepted prerequisites for successful entrepreneurial behavioral , were absent for a long time from Singaporean culture, where people were accustomed to well paying and readily available jobs in the public sector -- As a result of the economic slowdown of the late 1990s, promoting entrepreneurial activities became a priority of the Singapore government – This study analyzes the entrepreneurial characteristics of Singapore’s multi-racial and multi-cultural society, and attempts to find if there are any reasons why some people are more readily willing to engage in entrepreneurial behavior, based on factors such as race, gender, and culture], pp 74-; **6) Sew Tong Fock & Barry Wilkinson, “Over the Weberian Wall: Chinese family business in Singapore”** [From the Abstract – Overseas Chinese businesses have been characterized as possessing unique cultural attributes or being embedded in specific institutional environments that construct their growth and lead to them

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taking on limited economic roles – Familism, particularism, nepotism, and lack of state support (among other cultural and institutional features) it is argued, stand in the way of the emergence of large, successful and enduring firms, and problems of inter-generation transition frequently leading to their demise – Argues that such a fatalistic prognosis is misplaced and uses case studies of successful Chinese family businesses in Singapore to demonstrate how business leaders, as agents, can incorporate, defy, or re-combine elements from the socio-cultural environment in ways that enable continuity and growth – Additionally, this chapter highlights the role of a proactive state at play in promoting a specific Chinese capitalism, which despite its culturalist associations, is based on capitalist practices], pp 99-125.

The economist

July 4th-10th 2009 – 1) “Malaysia’s racial-preference policy: the prime minister reforms his father’s economic policy” [In 1971 Malaysia’s 2nd PM, Abdul Razak, began a policy of racial preferences for majority Malays and other “sons of the soil” – Goals of the NEP were to reduce poverty & redistribute wealth which was mostly in the hands of Chinese and other ‘sons of the soil’ – He told foreign investors – On 30 June 2009, Abdul Razak’s son (Najib Razak), presently the PM, has told foreign investors that Malaysia needed to overhaul its manufacturing-based economy to avoid falling into a ‘middle-income country trap’, and proposed to reform the requirement that all listed companies must have 30% of their equity in Malay ownership; AND limits on foreign stakes in fund management and stock-broking will be relaxed -- This is welcome news... It will help Malaysia’s relations with the country’s trading partners ... the US and the European Union... both of which have complained that the rules have been race-based – But the main audience is Malaysia’s restless voters, who are leaning towards the political opposition, led by Anwar Ibrahim, who has vowed to dismantle the NEP – And much more], p 37; **July 18th-24th 2009** – 1) “Asia: Malaysia’s opposition... Anwar holds the PAS” [How stable is Malaysia’s would-be coalition government? – Life in rubber-tapping villages of northeast Malaysia with a crowd of national politicians descending into the kampongs – Anwar holding the PAS, but the party possibly split, Anwar facing a trial; UMNO not strongly united; Indian and Chinese allies of UMNO standing aside?], pp 38-39; 2) “Economic and financial indicators” [“Authorities in Singapore reckon that the island nation’s GDP rose by 20.4% at an annualized rate in the second quarter – But GDP was still 3.7% lower than a year earlier], p 93. **July 25th-31st 2009** – 1) “Terrorism in South-East Asia: after the bombings” [From the article --The fight against Jemaah Islamiah is going better than it might seem – Cross-border co-operation tops the agenda whenever ministers in Southeast Asia meet, as they did this week on the Thai island of Phuket... Until now, legitimate businesses have struggled to build a common presence in the region – The same cannot be said for Jemaah Islamiah which are blamed for the suicide bombings of upscale business hotels in Jakarta on July 17th – The group cross-pollinates jihadists from Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia and the Philippines, feeding on sectarian strife, lax policing and anti-Western hatred – Indonesia has arrested hundreds of Jemaah Islamiah suspects, and Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines have captured others -- Singapore and Malaysia have detained terror suspects without trial – And much more],

p 40. **August 1st-7th 2009** – 1) “Banyan/Malaysia’s chameleon: the rise, fall and rise of Anwar Ibrahim, South-East Asia’s most extraordinary politician” [From the article – One evening in mid-July Anwar was deep in the rubber-tapping state of Kelantan in northern Malaysia, urging a crowd of rural folk to vote for a devout fishmonger, a candidate from the conservative Islamic Party (PAS) --The author of the article (not named) notes the paradox of Anwar, a member of the largest political party, UMNO, having to persuade voters to favor a politician who is a member of a opposition party – But Anwar Ibrahim needs votes from PAS to win -- Summarizes some events of Anwar’s political and private life], p 39.

The Journal of development communication

V.19,n.1 June 2008 1) Mohd Safar Hasim & Norizan A Razak & Ali Salman, “Sustainability of internet usage and digital divide [From the introduction – Presents a study on the sustainability of internet usage in a rural setting, Kota Bahru, Malaysia, chosen because it is a small town in the north-eastern part of Peninsular Malaysia, and because it is a ‘typical rural town’; which is to say that not all the houses are wired up through either telephone wires or wireless to receive internet services; but internet services are available nonetheless, at internet cafes or offices where the respondents work -- People need not have internet connection in their homes to use the internet and the services available -- Only those who use the internet were interviewed – Article reports the factors studied concerning sustainability, indispensability, relevance, gratification and beneficial usage], pp 63-86. **V.19,n.2 December 2008** -- 1) Hasmah Zanuddin, “Malaysia media at the crossroads: rise of the alternative media” [Discusses aspects of freedom of speech, other aspects such as the right of freedom of speech and expression, limitation to freedom, relationship to other rights; the internet and internet regulations; state sovereignty; political and cultural participation in the context of the other articles concerned with the propaganda model], pp 54-70.

The Pacific Review

V.22,n.3 July 2009 – 1) William Case, “Low-quality democracy and varied authoritarianism: elites and regimes in Southeast Asia today” [The papers in this special issue argue that it is less fruitful to study democratic transitions than authoritarian durability – At the turn of the 21st century, Southeast Asia featured 3 new democracies – But only Indonesia is still rated by Freedom House as ‘politically free’ – Yet, even here, the legislators and party leaders who have been thrust up by democratic change rather engage with top bureaucrats and business tycoons in pursuit of largess than produce public goods – In the Philippines, corrupt practices and human rights violations have grown so severe that the country lost its rating of ‘free’ in 2007 – And Thailand’s democracy was disfigured by executive abuses, then overturned through a military coup – This issue investigates, then, the new authoritarian practices that mar regimes in Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand, as well as older forms that have persisted or been reconstituted in Malaysia, Vietnam, and Burma – Where these papers differ from much recent scholarship, however, is in their extending study from historical and structural factors to elite-level voluntarism and relations], pp 255-269; **AND 4)** William Case, “Electoral authoritarianism in Malaysia: trajectory shift” [From the Abstract -- Proposes an analytical framework to understand the origins, functioning, and dynamics of electoral authoritarianism in Malaysia – Explores notions of historical legacies, structural pressures, critical junctures, and institutional formation – In guarding against teleology, it also

considers elite agency and 'stunning elections' – This framework applied in the case of Malaysia because, in anticipating contemporary trends, the country has so long perpetuated a paradigmatic electoral authoritarian regime – And yet, with many countries growing similarly authoritarian today, Malaysia has suddenly become less so, with the government having been dealt a startling setback in its latest contest, held in March 2008, thus losing its extraordinary majority in parliament and control over 5 states – Hence, if democratization once again gains steam round the world, Malaysia may presage this trend too, with its electoral authoritarianism, long so resilient, perhaps poised today on the edge of transition], pp 311-333; **SEE: 2)** Kyaw Yin Hlaing, "Setting the rules for survival", pp 271-291; **3)** Jamie S Davidson "Dilemmas of democratic consolidation in Indonesia", pp. 293-310; **5)** Nathan Gilbert Quimpo, "The Philippines: predatory regime, growing authoritarian features", pp 335-353; **6)** Michael K Connors, "Liberalism, authoritarianism and the politics of decisionism in Thailand", pp 355-373; **7)** Jonathan London, "Viet Nam and the making of market-Leninism", 375-399.

>BOOKS BOOKS books books

Anwar, Zainah (ed) –2009-- *Wanted: equality & justice in the Muslim family*, 264 pp. Musawah. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 9789832622260 [From www.gerakbudaya.com -- This collection of papers brings together arguments supporting Musawah, the global movement for equality and justice in the Muslim family – These resource materials show how equality and justice are possible within an Islamic framework and why they are necessary given the socio-economic realities of today's Muslim societies – This collection brings together analyses from a broad range of disciplines to support rights-based reform of Muslim family laws and protection of existing rights – The disciplines include: *Qur'anic* exegesis, *fiqh* or jurisprudence, socio-legal history and analysis, international human rights law, gender studies, political science, sociology and economics – The contributors are from leading scholars and analysts who are concerned about the need for equality and justice in the Muslim family – Book also a concise resource for the Musawah movement.]

Asian Indigenous & Tribal Peoples Network –2008—*The Department of Orang Asli Affairs, Malaysia: an agency for assimilation*, iv+23 pp. K K Agencies: New Delhi. Pb ISBN: 8-90231879 [From www.indianbooksonsoutheastasia.com -- The table of contents: 1) The context; 2) Introduction; 3) The Orang Asli, a) Non-recognition of land rights, b) Forcible evictions of Temuan Orang Asli... Sagong bin Tasi Case, c) exclusion from benefits of development; 4) The Department of Orang Asli Affairs, a) Historical background, b) Organizational set-up, c) Personnel of the Department of Orang Asli Affairs, d) Procedures in policy-making; 5) Mission statement and objectives of the Department of Orang Asli affairs; 6) Programs of the Department, a) Medical program, b) Educational program, c) Economic modernization, d) Islamization; 7) Jheoa a mechanism to control the Orang Asli.]

Baker, Nick & Kelvin Lim –2008—*Wild animals of Singapore: a photographic guide to mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fresh water fishes*, 180 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press (distributed for University of the

Philippines Press). Pb ISBN: 978-981-05-9459-6 [The most comprehensive account of Singapore's wild animals ever produced in one volume – Almost all terrestrial vertebrates currently occurring are described and illustrated in brilliant habitat photographs taken in Singapore: 38 mammals, 87 reptiles, 25 frogs and toads, and 30 freshwater fishes – There are additional chapters on how and where to find wildlife in Singapore, as well as checklists of all species ever recorded in the country, including those extinct, introduced, or of indeterminate status.]

Borschberg, Peter –2009—*Hugo Grotius, the Portugeses, and 'Free Trade' in the East Indies*, 224 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawaii (distributed for NUS Press). Pb ISBN: 978-9971-69-467-8 [From www.uhpress.hawaii.edu/shopcore -- In February 1603, Admiral Jakob van Heemskerck plundered a Portuguese merchantman, the Sant Catarina, traveling from Macao to Melaka – The episode raised legal questions and the United Dutch East India Company commissioned the young Hugo Grotius to defend Heemskerck's actions – Book explores the Santa Catarina incident and Grotius' resulting treatise on free trade in the East Indies.]

Borschberg, Peter –2009—*The Singapore and Melaka Straits: violence, security and diplomacy in the 17th Century*, 300 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawaii (distributed for NUS Press). Pb ISBN: 978-9971-69-464-7 [From the same source as above – But no description.]

C D, Abdullah –2009—*The memoirs of Abdulllah C D (Part One) The Movement until 1948*, 207 pp. SIRD. GB Gerak Budaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 9789833782642 [[From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- Malaysia's Independence on 31 August 1957 cannot be alienated from the contributions of various forces and groups who had been involved in the anti-colonial struggle since World War II – But there are historians who have argued that the spirit of Malay anti-colonialism before World War II was weak, akin to setting fire to damp wood – They maintain that this spirit only came alive after the Japanese Occupation during World War II – By my on observations and involvement, this view needs to be reconsidered -- Although the rise of nationalism only became evident after the war, its seed had been sown long before – I hope my memoir will contribute a little to the efforts of rewriting the history of our land – I hope it will complement the historical gaps yet to be filled – Perhaps it will help students & researchers to think from different perspectives and make more balanced assessments about the anti-colonial fighters who were leftists.]

Devaraj, Jeyakumar –2009—*Malaysia at the crossroads: a Socialist perspective*, 123 pp. Parsosma. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 9789834454708 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- Parti Sosialis Malaysia (PSM) was registered as a political party in late 2008, after its long and successful challenge to the earlier decision by the Home Minister to deny registration – With one Member of Parliament and a State Assemblyman in Selangor, and an active dedicated membership, the PST is already playing an important role in the affairs of our nation – But what is its program? What are its principles? – How does it view the immediate and longer-term future of our nation? – In this collection of articles by Dr Jeyakumar, MP of Sg Siput, and

Maharani, a member of the PSM Central Committee, readers will find a number of crucial issues discussed, including the globalized economy, race relations, Hindraf, privatization of essential services and the future of socialism in Malaysia – This book provides a refreshing alternative insight into topics that affect us all.]

Dubey, Manish –2009—*Agriculture and water management*, vii+256 pp. Indian Books On Southeast Asian from India. ISBN: 817884145 [www.indianbooksonsoutheastasia.com --

Short of water for agriculture a problem in most parts of the world – There is increasing concern that agricultural development contributes significantly to general environmental degradation – And these problems lead to dangerous problems regarding economic development and social structures – Increasing the efficiency with which water is used in agriculture is a major priority – For many countries, agriculture is the largest water user and to improve water use efficiency in agriculture would have a significant impact on sustainable development – Also, water quality is important, and it is important to be at the right time – Table of contents: Preface; Ch1 “Impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate changes in Asia”; Ch2 “Good practices on strategic planning and management of water resources in Asia and the Pacific”; Ch3 “Integrated water resources development for the Nadi River Basin”; Ch4 “Integrated water resources in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic”; Ch5 “Management of water resources in Malaysia”; Ch6 “Strategic plan on integrated water resources management in Myanmar”; Ch7 “Strategic plan of the Pakistan council of research in water resources”; Bibliography; and Index.]

Fakeh, Shamsiah –2009—*The memoirs of Shamsiah Fakeh: from AWAS to 10th Regiment*, 189 pp. SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. ISBN: 9789839048772 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- Shamsiah Fakeh was a leader in the independence movement among a group of Malay women who fought in the jungles of Malaya – She was the head of Angkatan Wanita Seder (AWAS) which joined forces with Angkatan Pemuda Insaf (API) as flag bearers in the demand for independence from the British – She and her husband collaborated with API head, Ahmad Boestamam, stoking the spirits of many Malaysian youths to take up arms against the colonizers; and she also joined the 10th Regiment, the wing of the Malayan Communist Party (MCP) – Later, she and her husband Ibrahim were sent to China, Indonesia and Vietnam to inflame the spirit of nationalism among other people who were still colonized – Later, she was expelled from the MCP, and lived in China working in a factory – She and her family returned to Malaysia on 23 July 1994, well after the peace accords between the MCP and the Malaysian and Thailand governments signed an accord in Haadyai in 1989 – Returned home she lived a moderate life in old age with her children and grandchildren.]

Fischer, Johan –2009—*Proper Islamic consumption: shopping among the Malays in modern Malaysia*, 272 pp. NIAS Monographs, No. 113. Distributed by University of Hawai’i Press for Nordic Institute of Asian Studies. Pb ISBN: 978-87-7694-032-4 [From www.uhpress.hawaii.edu – The West has seen the rise of the organic movement; In the Muslim world, a similar *halal* movement is rapidly spreading –

Malaysia is at the forefront of this new global phenomenon – Examining the powerful linkages between class, consumption, market relations, Islam and the state in contemporary Malaysia, this is the first book to explore how Malaysia’s emerging Malay middle class is constituted through consumer practices and Islamic revivalism – By exploring consumption practices in urban Malaysia, this book shows how diverse forms of Malay middle-class consumption (of food, clothing, and cars, for example) are understood, practiced, and contested as a particular mode of modern Islamic practice – It illustrates ways in which the issue of “proper Islamic consumption” for consumers, the market place, and the state in contemporary Malaysia evokes a whole range of contradictory Islamic visions, lifestyles, and debates articulating what Islam is or ought to be.]

Gatsiounis, Ioannis –2009—*Beyond the veneer: Malaysia’s struggle for dignity and direction*, 272 pp. Tuttle Publishing: current affairs, Monsoon books. Pb ISBN: 13-978-981-08-0657-6 [From the catalog – *Beyond the veneer* is a comprehensive and timely account of a pivotal turning point in Malaysia ... the 2008 elections which saw the ruling coalition, Barisan Nasional, suffer its worst showing since independence, balancing political power and bringing hope of a more progressive, democratic future – The author is a leading expert on Malaysia and lives in Malaysia.]

Ghee, Lim Teck & Alberto Gomes & Azly Rahman (eds) – 2009—*Multiethnic Malaysia: past, present and future*, 530 pp. UCSI University & SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. Pb ISBN: 978-983-3782-78-9 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- Contributions from a distinguished team of independent scholars, the chapters provide a definitive survey of the interaction of race, ethnicity, nationalism and politics in Malaysia – Examines the historical roots of national and ethnic identity, the sources of conflict and social change and social cohesion, and contemporary manifestations of ethnic tension and solidarity in areas such as economic policy, cultural politics, education and migration – The contributors delineate a variety of possible paths to reconciliation and the construction of a genuinely multiethnic society – Challenging mainstream thinking, *Multiethnic Malaysia* breathes fresh life into debates on ethnicity and the past, present and future of Malaysian society – It is indispensable reading for students, academics, activists and policy makers wanting to engage in these debates, and help achieve a more just and equitable society – Contributors: Ariffin S M Omar, Azly Rahman, Cheah Boon Kheng, Alberto Gomes, Edmund Terence Gomes, Khoo Kay Kim, Lee Kam Hing, Lim Teck Ghee, Maznah Mohamad, S Negarajan, Sheila Nair, Ong Puay Liu, Oii Kee Beng, P Ramasamy, Johan Saravanamuttu, Syed Husin Ali, Shanthy Thambiah, Wazir Jahan Karim, Diana Wong, Zainah Anwar, and Zawawi Ibrahim.]

Heng, Derek & Syed Muhd Khairudin –2009—*Reframing Singapore*, The Chicago University Press (Distributed for Amsterdam University Press). ISBN: 978908640949 [From www.press.uchicago.edu/presssite -- Over the past 2 decades, Singapore has advanced rapidly towards becoming both a global city-state and a key nodal point in the international economic sphere – These developments have caused reassessments of how we understand this nation, including its history, population, and geography, as well as its trans-

regional and trans-national experiences with the external world – A collection of essays spanning several disciplines in social sciences, humanities & social sciences, that draws on various theoretical approaches and methodologies in order to produce a refined understanding of Singapore and to reconceptualize challenges faced by the country and its peoples.]

Jugale, V B (ed) –2009—*Economic growth and foreign trade relations among India, China and ASEAN*, viii+ 333 pp. Indian Books On Southeast Asian Books from India. ISBN: 8183871594 [From www.Indianbooksonsoutheastasia.com --

Relevant contents: Preface, V B Jugale -- Economics theorists have puzzled why some economies grow much faster than others – To confine the boundaries of development rates and their summation of macro variables is very difficult; But it is essential to diagnose the quality of the development; Otherwise the material or physical growth has no scope to justify the case of development – Development indices of some of the macro economic variables are being developed and assessed; for example, human development index, human poverty index, social indicators of development, etc – During 1970s poverty eradication programs became the goal of development of most of the developing economies – During the 1980s moral, ethical values were considered as well as environment aspects in the development process – During the 1990s the quality of life and human resource development became the thrust of the development paradigm – Self-esteem, freedom from servitude and sycophancy and fetching the basic needs became the development indicators – Of late freedom, rationality, social choices, and democratic setup are becoming the indicators of development – There are 24 articles in the book: 5 of which are directly relevant to *Berita*: Ch4, R Meenakshi, “Role of ASEAN in India’s development”; Ch8, Christopher Gan, “GMS economic integration in the establishment process of ASEAN China Free Trade Area”; Ch10, Sandeep Kumar, “IndoASEAN economic relations: some dimensions; Ch11, Geetanjali Sharma, “Imports and exports between ASEAN and India”; and Ch13) Mohd Khairuddin Hashim, “Reexamining the role of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Malaysian economy”.]

Keong, Voon Phin –2008—*Malaysian Chinese and nation-building: before Merdeka and fifty years after (volume 2)*, 796 pp. Center for Malaysian Chinese Studies. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 978-983-390805-9

[From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- 50 years have elapsed since the Federation of Malaya proclaimed independence in 1957 – 6 years later it was joined by Sabah and Sarawak to form Malaysia – It is necessary to place the progress thus far achieved in proper perspective – A special study by the Centre for Malaysian Chinese Studies to commemorate the golden jubilee of Merdeka – The primary purpose of the book is to examine the contributions of the Malaysian Chinese community to nation-building -- Focuses principally on the post-independence period stage of the country, but with some emphasis on the earlier era that constituted the formative stage of the country as a political state – Describes the multi-faceted areas and extent of the Chinese contributions, including the more crucial areas that have determined the vigor and durability of the Malaysian nation-state – Also describes present cultural aspects of life

that combine to make Malaysia what it is today and that have a profound influence on its future prospects – The volume is divided into 3 parts: political perspective, cultural perspective, and conclusion.]

Kline, Ronald D –2009—*The other empire: literary views of Japan from the Philippines, Singapore, and Malaysia*, 260 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawaii (distributed for University of the Philippines Press). Pb ISBN: 978-971-542-562-9 [A survey of literary images of Japan – More than 160 works with Japanese characters identified, providing both comprehensive overviews as well as individual monographs on specific writers – Book creates a subgenre of thematic work, positing an alternative postcolonial relationship.]

Lin, Angel M Y & Evelyn Y F Man –2009—*Bilingual education: Southeast Asian perspectives*, 176 pp. Seattle: University of Washington Press. Hb ISBN: 9789622099586

[From www.washington.edu/uwpress -- Questions regarding whether a first or a second language should be used as a medium of instruction (MOI) in schools, for whom, and when, have been enthusiastically debated in recent years in Hong Kong and many Southeast Asian societies – But the debates, however, have not been largely able to benefit from the existing international body of research in bilingual education as well as the educational experiences of other countries – Such knowledge is often either couched in specialized language or scattered over diverse journals and books – This book aims at meeting the need to critically integrate and review the international research literature with a view to informing public debates and policy making regarding the medium of instruction in Hong and other Southeast Asian contexts – This book aims at meeting this need by discussing research findings on key concepts of bilingual education, and recent developments of bilingual education policies in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia – Teachers, students and researchers in the areas of bilingual education, language policy and planning (LLP), and studies of medium of instruction policy and practice both in Hong Kong and other Southeast Asian contexts will benefit – And more.]

Maidin, Rashid –2009—*The memoirs of Rashid Maidin: from armed struggle to peace*, 121 pp. SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. ISBN: 9789834372727 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- Since the 1930's he was involved in the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) in the struggle against the British to free Malaya – Asked why he chose to take this path and not another, and also asked about his experiences, particularly about his experiences in the CPM -- Endured the extreme bitterness of living under both the British and Japanese – Fought against the Japanese during their occupation (1941-45) with all his might, just as when the British returned to rule Malaya in 1945 – He agitated peacefully against the British as one of the CPMs public representatives, openly organizing the masses for independence – Soon after the declaration of the Emergency he was caught and imprisoned in British detention camps until 1952 -- He managed to escape and join the 10th Regiment of the Malayan National Liberation Army with his close friend, Abdullah C D in December 1955 and participated in the Baling Talks with Chin Peng and Chen Tien – In 1989, he was on the CPM's representatives in the Phuket negotiations which resulted in the Haadyai Peace Accord of 2 December, 1989.]

Marican, Pawancheek –2009—*Anwar on trial: in the face of injustice*, 387 pp. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. Pb ISBN: 978 9834479329 [www.gerakbudaya.com] -- The Anwar Ibrahim trials during the late 'nineteens' left the landscape of Malaysia's judiciary forever changed – Convicted to a 6-year prison on charges that many believe to have been trumped up, Anwar has become the symbol of a new generation of Malaysians determined to seek truth and justice – “Anwar on trial: in the face of injustice” gives readers a cogent look into the detailed workings of the 1998/1999 corruption trial of Anwar Ibrahim – Captured through the lens of a lawyer who was present throughout the proceedings, this book presents a first-hand account of the goings-on in court and outside it – Pawancheek Marican examines the way that the Malaysian judiciary was systematically emasculated and turned into a pawn of the executive branch government, the consequences of which will linger for many years to come – From the trial judge who forbade Anwar to argue his defense of conspiracy to the questionable role of the Attorney-General's Chambers, this book lays bare the political machinations taking place behind the scenes by those in power to remain in power – The information contained within the book comes at an opportune moment as Anwar Ibrahim faces yet another sodomy trial in 2009... This time, however, from the freedom of his own lawyer and as the Opposition Leader and Member of Parliament for Permatang Pauh in Penang.]

Means, Gordon P --2009—*Political Islam in Southeast Asia*, 444 pp. SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. Pb ISBN: 978 9834372697 [From Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com] -- The only descriptions on web are brief out-takes of two political scientists: 1) Howard Federspiel, Ohio State University (Newark) ... “This is a gem of a book ... One of the best I have seen on political Islam in Southeast Asia... Mean's knowledge of his subject matter is prodigious; and 2) Dwight W King, Northern Illinois University... “A crowning achievement for Means, and a must read...”.]

Muhammad, Amir (ed) –2009—*New Malaysian essays 2*, 288 pp. Matahari Books. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. ISBN: 9789834359683 [From www.gerakbudaya.com] -- Bigger and maybe more badass than the first, *New Malaysian essays 2* has ten non-fiction pieces – Sharon Shah squarely faces the politics of religion; and Mohammad Tajuddin Mohamad Rasdi critiques 'power architecture'; a subject Ridhhwan Saidi also handles with wit – Then there is Amir Sharipuddin's journal of National Service; Yusuf Martin's amusing rant on the Americanization of popular culture; Amir Muhammad's views on royalty; Ann Lee's secret history of leprosy; and Danny Lim's proto-essay on our newly-regained love for public demonstrations – As night falls, Andrew Ng and Jac sm Kee play twin tributes to the female undead that not only scare us but help define us – (*Berita's* Haron Omar A says *Di-genggam, takut mati di-lepaskan, takut terbang!*)

Muhammad, Amir (compiler) & Fahmi Reza (artwork) – 2009—*Malaysian politicians say the darndest things (V.2)*, 120 pp. Matahari Books. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my.

ISBN: 978983-4359669 [From www.gerakbudaya.com] -- “Malaysia has already far too many tigers... They should be shot because there is no use keeping them alive” -- “If you come across a snake and a man from a certain ethnic community, you should hit the man first” – Hot on the heels of the best-selling V.1 of *Malaysian politicians say the damdest things*, this compilation is further proof that we don't need to travel far to experience shock and awe – Join us for another through some of the toe-tapping delights of the past 2 decades – Some of the quotes are witty and pithy; others are weird and prickly, and yet others are just out-of-tune – If all history lessons were this painless, none of us would have ever skipped classes.]

Mun, See Chak –2009—*India's strategic interests in Southeast Asia and Singapore*, 176 pp. K K Agencies. New Delhi, Macmillan India Ltd. ISBN: 9780230637658 [From www.kkagencies.com] -- Focuses on India's active engagement with Southeast Asia and Singapore from the time of Jawaharlal Nehru to the present day – Author interviewed several key people who recounted their experiences of the important developments in this engagement – Of immediate interest of diplomacy planners, diplomats and people keen to further India's relations with countries in Southeast Asia – Contents: Preface and acknowledgements; Introduction; 1) Jawah Nehru – Pan Asianism; 2) Narasimha Rao – The 'Look East' Policy; 3) The Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government and the nuclear tests; 4) The Manmohan Singh Government – Approach to ASEAN; 5) India-Singapore relations; 6) Future directions of India's 'Look East' Policy; Appendix... The Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the East Asia Summit; Bibliography; Index.]

Nesadurai, Helen E S & J Soedradjad Dijwandono (eds) – 2009—*Southeast Asia in the Global Economy: securing competitiveness and social protection*, 259 pp. Singapore: ISEAS & S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS). ISBN: 978-981-230-823-8 [From www.bookshop.iseas.edu.sg] -- While economic globalization benefited Southeast Asia, especially during the 1990s boom, the region now seems to be caught between 2 emerging economic giants... China & India – What challenges and opportunities does the rise of China and India pose for Southeast Asia and how should policy-makers respond? -- Are bilateral free trade arrangements and bilateral economic partnerships a boon or bane for competitiveness? -- In identifying approaches and strategies to coping with these challenges and leveraging on the opportunities available, this book also links the quest for competitiveness with the necessity of social protection – The link comes in the form of the people who work for firms as human resources, and as users and innovators of technology – The book acknowledges and discusses the problems of inadequate technological and innovative capacity and the problems of managing labor productivity in Southeast Asia – However, the book also cautions against focusing on people solely as productive labor, whether in production or the knowledge sector – By highlighting the adverse social, economic and political consequences of ignoring social protection issues and challenging the myth that addressing social protection undermines competitiveness, the book emphasizes the social responsibilities incumbent on governments and firms in this age of growing economic insecurities – Table of Contents -- Preliminary pages – “Introduction: Southeast Asia in the Global

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Economy (by Helen E S Nesadurai & J Soedradjad Djiwandono) – Part I: Southeast Asia/ASEAN and the Asian giants: Ch2, “ASEAN and India - exploring complementarities” (by Rahul Sen & Sadhana Srivastava); Ch3, “ASEAN and China: managing competition and exploring complementarities” (by Yunhua Liu); --Part II: Securing international competitiveness; Ch4, “Bilateral economic arrangements in the Asia-Pacific - Implications for competitiveness” (author(s) not noted); Ch5, “Technological intensities and network strength – electronic firms in East Asia and Southeast Asia compared (by Rajah Rasiah); Ch6, “Managing labor for competitiveness in Southeast Asia” (by Chew Soon Beng & Rosaling Chew); Part III: Competitiveness and the social dimension: Ch7, “Labor regulations in Southeast Asia – boon or bane for competitiveness” (by Carolina S Guina); Ch8, “Social security policy in an era of globalization – challenges for Southeast Asia” (by Mukul G Asher & Amarendu Nandy); Ch9, “Corporate social responsibility in Southeast Asia” (No author); Index.]

Nevins, Joseph & Nancy Lee Pelusa --2009—***Taking Southeast Asia to market: commodities, nature, and people in the Neoliberal Age***, 280 pp. SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. ISBN: 978-983-3782-67-3 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- “As one leans on a lovely Indonesian table, slips into a stylish T-shirt, sips a rare Arabica coffee, or munches on delicious shrimp, one is in the new circuits of Southeast Asian economics – Most US readers have largely forgotten about this region and hear of it mainly in references to the Vietnam War or threatened tigers – But the region has reconfigured itself, its politics, and its economies in highly complex, often unpredictable ways under this round of neo-liberal globalization ... *Taking Southeast Asia to market* by local institutions and actors – A useful and definitive collection on politics, socio-natures, and globalization (Abstract by Susanne Hecht).]

Noltie, H J --2009—***Raffles' Ark redrawn: natural history drawings from the collection of Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles***, 180 pp, 130 color plates 8½x 9½. The Chicago University Press (Distributed for British Library). ISBN: 978071350846 [From www.press.uchicago.edu/presssite -- Lushly illustrated catalogue of the 120 natural history drawings that comprise the Raffles Family Collection, acquired by the British Library in 2007 – The story of these colorful drawings of plants, birds, and mammals is dramatic: Chinese and French artists from the island of Sumatra composed the bulk of them during on ten-week period in 1874, in order to replace over 2,000 similar drawings, priceless Malay manuscripts, animal specimens, and living animals (including a tiger specially tamed for the voyage!) that perished in a shipboard fire – Accompanied by 130 full-color illustrations, this volume captures an array of historical flora and fauna superbly reproduced for lovers of exotic plants and gardens.]

Pieris, Anoma --2009—***Hidden hands and divided landscapes: a penal history of Singapore's rural society***, 416 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press (in association with the Institute of postcolonial studies, Melbourne, Australia. Pb ISBN: 978-0-8248-3354-1 [In the 19th century, the colonial Straits Settlements of Singapore, Penang, and Melaka were free ports of British trade and proved attractive to large numbers of regional migrants – After slavery was abolished in

1833, the straits government transported convicts from the East India Company's Indian presidencies to the settlements as a source of inexpensive labor – The prison became the primary experimental site for the colonial plural society and convicts were graduated by race and the labor needed for urban construction – This book investigates how a political system aimed at managing ethnic communities in the larger context of the colonial urban project, which was first imagined and tested through the physical segregation of the colonial prison – The book relates the story of continuity of Singapore as prison and city and its plural society.]

Rajendran, Charlene --2009—***Taxi tales on a crooked bridge***, 238 pp. Matahari Books. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my: Suaram Komunikasi: Matahari Books. ISBN: 978-983-43596-7-6 [From the abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- Charlene Rajendran is one of many Malaysians living in Singapore, and she chooses not to own a car – This book chronicles her conversations with some of the ‘driving philosophers’ she has met on the hundreds of taxi rides she has taken – Ethnicity, gender, nationhood, religion, and more are discoursed in short trips across the island state – Seemingly transient and anonymous, but never lonely, the space of a taxi might be the ideal place for both passenger and driver to ponder the world that is literally passing by – *Taxi tales on a crooked bridge* is a quirky, lively and often surprising book that also incorporates many photographs.]

Ramachandriah, C & A C M van Westen & Sheela Prasad (eds) --2008—***High-tech urban spaces: Asian and European perspectives***, 393 pp. ills. maps. New Delhi: Manohar Publishers & Distributors Ltd. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. ISBN: 8173047731 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- The rise of the ICT-related service industries is not only changing India's economy, but also reconfiguring its urban landscapes – This volume looks at the emergence of ‘high-tech’ India, together with ‘high-tech’ experiences in selected Asian and European countries, from the perspective of geographers and other scholars interested in how society uses and transforms urban space -- And, in most cities, spectacular new business districts are created emphasizing difference by means of spatial separation from the rest of the city and a distinct style of architecture – Specific high-tech spaces first appeared in Western cities in the 1970s; and in the last few decades these high-tech spaces have spread around the world, producing distinct urban landscapes and spatial patterns – These differences reflect local conditions, as well as the demands made by leading companies, and the ambitions of local politicians that determine the ICT policies – The ICT and other high-tech industries offer opportunities for economic growth and development, but can also trigger social exclusion, uproot communities, widen urban disparities and more generally add to urbanization problems of pressure on infrastructure – Takes a comparative approach in discussing the engagement of high-tech industries and urban space, and the associated problems and challenges – Presents a range of case studies in India and other Asian countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, Korea, and China; as well as European countries such as The Netherlands and France – Part I: Perspectives on high-tech spaces: Ch1) “Introduction : High-tech urban spaces in perspective” by C

Ramachandraiah, A C M van Westen & Sheela Prasad -- **Ch2)** "Geography of high-tech spaces: some reflections" by Doreen Massey – **Part II: European Perspectives: Ch3), Ch4), Ch5) – Part III: South-East Asian Perspectives: Ch6, Korea; SEE ESPECIALLY Ch7, Leo van Grunsven, "Remaking the economy and high-tech spaces in Singapore: a consideration of one-north" AND Ch8. Rajah Rasiah, "From export processing zones to industrial clusters: growth synergies in the electronic industry in Malaysia – Part IV: Indian perspectives ; Chs 9 thru 14.]**

Rowe, Peter --2005—*East Asia modern: shaping the contemporary city*, 256 pp. University of Chicago Press, distributed for Reaktion Books. Pb ISBN: 1-86189-249-7 [From the catalog – A comparative analysis of cities of Singapore, China, Taiwan, South Korea, and Japan; In particular, comparing the rapidity of the process of expansion and modernization they are currently experiencing – The author provides a historical overview, showing how these cities have developed over the last century, and puts their individual paths toward modernization into context.]

Seng, Loh Kah --2009—*Making an unmaking the asylum: leprosy and modernity in Singapore and Malaysia*, 189 pp. SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- "Making and unmaking the asylum" recounts the entangled histories of leprosy in colonial and post-colonial Malaya-Malaysia and Singapore – Decades of heavy-handed biomedical policies and laws enacted in the name of modernity, science and development, interwoven with the personal accounts of those who were sent to the asylums – The leprosarium was a living hell for many – It is also no coincidence, Loh argues, that the majority of patients were poor and working class – Also demonstrates how patients resisted being victims, creating new families, forging friendships, working, joining unions, and actively engaging in their communal religious and cultural lives – Having struggled to remake the asylums into homes, ex-suffers in both countries have been evicted or moved again, their personal and collective histories erased, and their real homes exchanged for antiseptic hospital wards.]

Siang, Lim Kit --2009—*Unmasking Najib*, 160 pp. REFSA . GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 978-98344629-0-1 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- The baggage is too heavy for our new PM – No one in living memory has ever had to drag so much unnecessary baggage along with him as Datok Seri Najib Abdul Razak is doing on assuming the highest political office in Malaysia – My heart goes out to this unfortunate man who has had to fend off a relentless barrage of poison arrows aimed at his personal and public integrity – Under different circumstances he should be celebrating his moment of destiny the attainment of the greatest political prize of all – I marvel at his ability to remain almost as unflappable as the legendary Harold Macmillan, the British Tory prime minister of the "winds of change" in such a difficult and dangerous situation – He would rate an A+ for sangfroid in the eyes of his detractors, and their numbers are legion – However, the rumors about him with such regular monotony on many blogs are unlikely to go away – The allegations are serious, touching upon his personal honor and integrity – What

a way to begin his stewardship of a troubled nation that seems to lack moral direction – The people of Malaysia must not be short changed by having someone who has yet to clear his name in a court of law foisted on them – Najib has all positive qualities of leadership – It would be a pity if he chose to ignore the increasingly persistently strident collective voice for high moral and ethical standards in our political leaders – And more.]

Sisters in Islam --2009—*Women as judges*, (revised ed) 41 pp. Sisters in Islam / GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my. ISBN: 9832622069 [From www.gerakbudaya.com -- Sisters in Islam (SIS) and other women's groups have pushed for the appointment of women as judges in the Shari'ah Courts since the 1990's – To counter objections alleging that such appointment would be contrary to the shari'ah, SIS has embarked on a research project to put forward the following arguments in support of women as Shari'ah Court.Judges – SIS research has shown that interpretations that discriminate against women were influenced by cultural practices and values which regarded women as inferior and subordinate to men – This Q & A booklet is written to illustrate the fact that in Islam, men and women are created equal, and that qualified women should be able to be judges.]

Soong, Kua Kia (ed) --2009—*Toni Kasim: many shades of good: a tribute*, 132 pp. Suaram Komunikasi. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my: Suaram Komunikasi. ISBN: 978-156-5924796 [www.gerakbudaya.com -- Zaitun Mohamed Kasim, or Toni, was a human rights defender extraordinaire – She was on the secretariats of SUARAM, the human rights organization, the All Women's Action Society, as well as Sisters in Islam, among others – She fought for justice and equality for all, regardless of gender, ethnicity or creed – The diversity and range of her commitments covered poverty eradication, environmental protection, sustainable transport, disaster management, health and support for vulnerable and marginalized groups – This tribute by her family, friends and admirers captures her contributions and impact on many lives during the relatively short time she lived.]

Soong, Kua Kia --2009—*New era college controversy: the betrayal of Dong Jiao Zong*, 100 pp. Oriengroup. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 9789839048711 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- The New Era College controversy which erupted in mid-2008 engulfed the Malaysian Chinese community and the Chinese-language press for the rest of the year, creating unprecedented unity among the staff, students and parents of the college in their resistance to the Dong Jiao Zong (DJZ) – Leaders who were hell bent on evicting the principal – Methods used by some DJZ leaders to undermine the principal included sabotaging their own college by fabricating untruths about the financial management and casting doubts on the recognition of its courses by the ministry, which led to the resignation of many committed and talented professionals from the Chinese education movement – This calls into question of the characters who are leading the Chinese education movement today... Their agenda in purging activists in the Chinese education movement appears to fall in line with that of the ruling Barisan Nasional's – And more.]

Tate, Muzafar Desmond –2008—*The Malaysian Indians: history, problems and future*, 241 pp. Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia: Perpustakaan Negara – Pb ISBN: 978-983-3782-54-3 [Foreword – Prologue -- [Part I. “Malayan Indians in Gestation, 1900-1945”; **ch1**) “A question of identity”; **ch2**) “The Tamil connection”; **ch3**) “The other Indians (from North and South)”; **ch4**) “Doing their own thing: Sikh affairs, 1874-1941”; **ch5**) “Tamil Renaissance”; **ch6**) “The particularism of the middle class”; **ch7**) “Indian labour and the Great Depression”; **ch8**) “The role of the CIAM”; **ch9**) “Grassroots alternatives: The Social Reform Movement”; **ch10**) “Interregnum” – Part II, “Adjusting to reality, 1945-1957”: **ch11**) “Malayan Indians in the crossroads”; **ch12**) “Post-war Malayan Indian political organizations”; **ch13**) “The quest for leadership”; **ch14**) “The triumph of the communal principle” – Part III, A half-century of independence: **ch15**) “The Era of the Tunku, 1957-1970”; **ch16**) “Razak and Hussein Onn: The New Course, 1971-1981”; **ch17**) “The voice of dissent”; **ch18**) “The Mahathir years, 1981-2003”; **ch19**) “Language and education” (Part 1); **ch20**) Language and Education (Part 2); Postscript, Notes, References, Index, About the Author.]

Wade, Geoff & Sun Laichen (eds) –2009—*Southeast Asia in the Fifteenth Century: the Ming factor*, 380 pp. Honolulu: University of Hawaii (distributed for NUS Press). Pb ISBN: 978-9971-69-448-7 [Draws together the great changes that occurred in Southeast Asia during the 15th century, and considers the extent to which Ming China’s engagement with the region helped usher in the early modern period of Southeast Asian history.]

Wah, Francis Loh Kok –2009—*Old vs New Politics in Malaysia: state and society in transition*, 294 pp. SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 978-983-3782-68-0 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- The central argument in this volume of 27 essays on Malaysian politics and society is that there exists a conflict between the BN’s ‘Old Politics’, which is essentially ethnic-based and characterized by money politics, coercive laws and other restrictions, and ‘New Politics’, which demands more democratic participations and social justice, accountability and transparency, and more multi-ethnic in orientation – The NGOs, new media, Reformasi and the results of the 2008 general elections all mark the arrival of this New Politics – Between the Old and the New lies a politics of developmentalism, which also helps to explain why many people continue to support the BN.]

Yeoh, Oon –2009—*Najib’s first 100 days*, 163 pp. SIRD. GB GerakBudaya Enterprise Sdn Bhd: WordPress Internet Marketing by MyWeb.com.my . ISBN: 9789834244026 [From the Abstract at www.gerakbudaya.com -- Najib Razak took over as Malaysia’s 6th prime minister on April 3, 2009 – In his first 100 days, he introduced many reforms that surprised a skeptical rakyat that he is serious about Malaysia goals – But there were serious shortcomings – Oon Yeoh, a seasoned political writer, looks at Najib’s record in 8 aspects: leadership, managing Barisan Nasional, dealing with Pakatan Rakyat, economic reforms, race relations, foreign affairs, civil liberties and media strategy – Viewpoints, contrarian and otherwise, were sought from 14 prominent social-economic-political commentators, namely Ahirudin Attan (Rocky’s Bru), Gayathry Venkliteswaran, Hafiz Noor Shams, Ibrahim Suffian, Kee

Thuan Chye, Khaw Veon Szu, Malik Imtiaz, Ong Kian Ming, Ooi Kian Ming, Ooi Kee Beng, Ramon Navaratnam, Bridget Welsh , Wong Chin Huat, Tricia Yeoh and Zaid Ibrahim.]

>**WEBSITES WEBSITES websites websites**

1) **The American Ethnological Society** has a new website – Check it out at www.aesonline.org/ -- You will find information relevant to all aspects of the society, including the meetings, awards, news and AES working projects – The site also provides on-line access to the journal, the *American Ethnologist* -- From David Nugent, the President, AES.

>**POSITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES** (Thanks to Kendall Thu kthu@niu.edu) – Northern Illinois University anticipates hiring an entrepreneurial individual to become the first Director of the Center for NGO Leadership and Development (NGOLD), pending budgetary approval – The Center for NGO Leadership & Development is one of NIU’s strategic planning initiatives, a new interdisciplinary unit that involves multiple departments and colleges – A primary responsibility of the director is providing leadership and teaching in a new undergraduate major in Community Leadership & Civic Engagement (CLCE) – The director must lead diverse faculty, staff, and students associated with NGOLD to achieve its mission of integrating undergraduate & graduate curricula & conducting scholarly research relevant to domestic and international settings – A primary goal is engagement, outreach, and consulting, particularly with some of the 9,000 NGOs in the Chicago area – Much more important information may be found at www.mpa.niu.edu/pub_ad/faculty_staff/Thurmaier.shtml. The position requires a Ph.D. and a research record appropriate for appointment as a full or associate professor with tenure.

>**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL** (Abstracted from full reports by Margaret John, A I Canada, Coordinator for Malaysia & Singapore: malaysiasingaporecoordinator@amnesty.ca) --

10 August 2009 1) -- In Malaysia, promises of reform at the recent start of PM Najib’s tenure are in contrast to what is now happening – Prominent opposition leaders are facing serious charges in court, and in the latest large-scale demonstration, hundreds of peaceful anti-ISA protestors and critics were arrested – Another death, suspected related to an official interrogation by Malaysia’s Anti-Corruption Commission of an opposition political aide – Opposition is being shown against government limiting internet access to some websites, a move seen as designed to further restrict opposition criticism and freedom of expression – As the situation worsens, individuals and NGOs urge democratic reforms, including the liberalization of the political process; new elections in Perak state & reform of the police and judiciary. **2)** In Singapore National Day celebrations ran alongside continuing misuse of the law against opposition critics and human rights defenders – Dr Chee Soon Juan, re-elected secretary-general of the Singapore Democratic Party and colleagues continue to refuse to remain silent –The SDP said it was building a credible and effective opposition and that its mission was to work towards social, economic and political justice – Recently, Dr Chee invited Foreign Minister George Yeo to engage with him in a public debate about issues central to Singaporeans **17**

August 2009 1) -- AI’s mission to Malaysia to investigate the treatment and conditions of the many migrants, asylum seekers and refugees is now over – Mission members were staff from AI’s International Secretariat and included Vinod Ravindranathan from its Malaysia team – Information both before and during the mission from many sources have been

confirming that very serious concern is warranted – Malaysia has not taken the very basic step of ratifying the International Covenant on Refugees, despite its promise to study ratification arising from the UN Human Rights Council's recommendation in its Universal Periodic Review earlier this year.

20 August 2009 1) On 20 July 2009, the Shariah High Court in the Malaysian state of Pahang sentenced Kartika Sari Dewi Shukarno, age 32, to 6 strokes of the cane and fined her RM 5,000 (ca. US \$1,400) after she pleaded guilty to consuming alcohol (beer) last year at a hotel – Also the judge also threatened to jail her for 3 years if she did not pay the RM 5,000 fine (which she subsequently paid) – Amnesty International reminded the Malaysian authorities that caning is a form of cruel, Inhuman and degrading punishment and is prohibited under international human rights law -- The court ordered Kartika Sari Dewi Shukarno remanded at the Kajang women's prison from 24 August, and caned within 7 days -- While, apparently, no female (nor male) Malaysian citizen has ever before been lawfully caned in the country; nonetheless caning is legal punishment for illegal migrants (the Malaysian government announced that 47,914 illegal immigrants had been caned as of June 2009).

22 August 2009 1) Despite promises of reform at the start of PM Najib's tenure, human rights are in a sad state – Opposition activists and human rights defenders have been arrested in their hundreds and opposition leaders are facing criminal charges – Deaths in custody continue as do reports of torture and ill treatment – Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers face perilous treatment at the hands of the authorities – Recommendations made earlier this year by the UN in its Universal Periodic Review of Malaysia have made little, if any, inroads into Malaysian policies or practices – The government's promised review of the ISA has yet to show any outcome – Nevertheless, many Malaysian, including prominent politicians, show a determination to see justice and freedom in their country – Writer Fan Yew Teng's view was that "Our corrupt oppressors... don't even seem to realize that they have helped arouse and increase the consciousness of the Malaysian people... (who) are more radicalized, more altruistic, and more ready to unite (and) to demolish the old order [Harakah 4/5] – Former Law Minister Zaid Ibrahim outlined the opposition coalition Pakatan Rakyat (PR) platform for federal government.... It included the introduction of an anti-discrimination law: abolition of the ISA; and the relaxation of laws such as the Sedition Act and press legislation (Minsid 10/8) – AI's mission to Malaysia (to investigate the situation for migrants) is now over – A report and campaigning documents will be issued later.

25 August 2009 1) The Malaysian government should extend the reprieve from caning granted to Karika Sari Dewi Shukarno indefinitely after Ramadan and use this as an opportunity to abolish the punishment – More than 35,000 people have been caned in Malaysia since 2002 – Recent photographic evidence of the physical scars left after detainees have been caned obtained by AI, demonstrate the level of injury inflicted by this form of punishment – The photos show the damage and scarring that just 2 caning strokes continue to cause months after the actual punishment has been executed – In June 2009 the Malaysian government announced that they had 47,914 migrants to be caned for immigration offences since amendments to its Immigration Act

into force in 2002. **1 September 2009** 1) AI International Secretariat statement with color photographs showing immigration detainees at the Lenggong Detention Centre; cruel caning (on the buttocks); and a detainee in Malaysia with scars caused by two whips of the cane months earlier.

3 September 2009 1) "Dr Lim Hock Siew, prisoner of conscience in Singapore for 18 years, testifies" – He was one of numerous prisoners of conscience in Singapore for whose release AI campaigned in the 1960s, soon after AI was established (1961) – Held without charge or trial under the Internal Security Act from 1963 to 1982 as a suspected communist ... a charge he strongly rejected ... He is now speaking up about his long incarceration and is writing his memoirs – His ISA captors wanted him to 'concede something' so that then PM Lee Kuan Yew would not lose face, writes Dr Lim Hock Siew in a statement which was cited by filmmaker Mr Martyn See – Mr See took on the *Straits Times* for ignoring the roles played by PAP founding members and long-term ISA detainees such as Dr Lim Hock Siew and Mr Said Zahari in Singapore's formative years – Dr Lim, a medical doctor, was detained by Mr Lee for 19 years, only Mr Chia Thye Poh served longer (32 years) as a detainee; But Dr Lim, now 78, is penning his memoirs – Stay tuned, there is more to come.

6 September 2009 1) In yet another trial, Dr Chee Soon Juan was convicted of speaking in public without a permit under the Public Entertainments and Meetings Act and fined S\$10,000 or 10 weeks in prison – He is lodging an appeal – Yap Keng Ho, was similarly convicted and is serving a 20-day jail term after refusing to pay a S\$2,000 fine (roughly equivalent to the Canadian dollar) – The charges were related to the selling of their party newspaper during the 2006 elections – Dr Chee argued that the charge against him is a red herring, since the Ministry for Home Affairs and police have stated that no permits will be issued for outdoor political events – Dr Chee said that such a ban clearly violated the Constitution and was therefore legally invalid – He pointed out that, as a citizen of Singapore, he is guaranteed fundamental freedoms of speech, expression and peaceful assembly -- Complain to President S R Nathan at : s_r_nathan@istana.gov.sg & yong_guan_koh@cpf.gov.sg.

>IN MEMORIAM (From *Anthropology News* V.50,n.6 Sept 2009, pp 49-50.) **[Peter Wilson, 72,** taught anthropology at Otago University in New Zealand for 27 years before he retired in 1998 as emeritus professor – Inspiring, witty and incisive, with an inextinguishable intellect -- He grew up in London, accepted a Cambridge scholarship, gaining a place in Pembroke College in 1954, and studied under some of the most influential figures of that time: Edmund Leach, Meyer Fortes and Jack Goody – After graduating Cambridge, Peter moved to Yale to work with George Murdock and the Human Relations Area Files (HRAF) – He wrote a number of scholarly books in several fields of Anthropology -- My favorite is *A Malay Village and Malaysia ...* rp)

>PROSPECTUS

Berita is a bulletin board, forum and publication for all of the scholarly disciplines concerned with Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Studies.

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