

Indonesia Council Digest June 2008

This is the digest of the Indonesia Council, a regional grouping within the Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA). As the Indonesia Council does not have a separate fee structure, we urge those of you who find this bulletin useful or who attend the Indonesia Council's free biennial conference to become **financial members of the ASAA**. **You can now join online** at <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?ID=594>.

The Indonesia Council Digest is circulated monthly. If you have information about conferences, Indonesia-related news, resources, job opportunities, new books etc, send it in at any time by replying to this email. Older copies of the digest can be downloaded from the Indonesia Council website (<http://indonesiacouncil.anu.edu.au/digest.php>). If you know of anyone who may like to be added to the list please ask them to contact the list moderator directly at michele.ford@usyd.edu.au. **There is now also a real-time interactive electronic version of the Digest on Facebook – the Indonesia Council Group.**

NEWS

The Indonesia Council will hold a meeting at 9 am on 1 July, on the first day of the ASAA. The meeting is just before the ASAA's AGM, which begins at 11 am on the same day. If you are planning to be in Melbourne at that time, please do join us at the 9 am meeting. It's a good opportunity to discuss matters that affect us collectively.

Citu writes: I wonder if members of your list might be interested in listening to these two speakers. Special Forum on Post-1998 Indonesia, with guest speakers Nursyahbani Katjasungkana and Hilmar Farid.

http://webcast.berkeley.edu/event_details.php?webcastid=23068&p=1&ipp=15&category=

"Politics Meets Pop Culture In Indonesia" a podcast conversation with authors Ariel Heryanto (The University of Melbourne) and Penny Coutas (Murdoch University) of a newly published book [*Popular Culture in Indonesia: Fluid Identities in Post-Authoritarian Politics*](#) (A. Heryanto, ed., Routledge 2008). The podcast is available for playback online, or download and save in your computer or mp3 player. A transcript in pdf and space for comments are available.

RECENT JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Chalmers, Ian 2008, 'The Islamization of Southern Kalimantan: Sufi Spiritualism, Ethnic Identity, Political Activism', *Studia Islamika - Indonesian Journal for Islamic Studies*, vol. 14, no. 3, pp. 371-417.

Religion is generally a key component of ethnic identity in Southeast Asia. This is particularly the case in both Malaysian and Indonesian parts of Borneo, where conversion usually involves a change in ethnicity: converts to Islam undergo a process known as masuk Melayu, 'entering Malaydom'. However, in southern Kalimantan the close affinity between Islam and Malayness has become more fluid in recent decades. Many Dayaks now identify as Muslim, while many in the Banjarese-Malay community now proudly proclaim their Dayak ancestry. This article explores the theological implications of this

changing relationship between ethnicity and religion. Although Islam remains a central element in the identity of the Banjarese, there is evidence that this change in ethnic identity has diluted the form of Sufi Islam to which most Banjarese adhere. Further, I suggest that the growing popularity of Islam within the Dayak community has accelerated the process of 'renewal' within the faith, taking it away from local variants and towards more universal norms.

Jim Schiller, Anton Lucas, Priyambudi Sulistiyanto, "Learning from the East Java Mudflow: Disaster Politics in Indonesia". *Indonesia*, Vol. 85 (April 2008), 51-78.

This article is a study of the grim results of the erupting mud volcano in East Java that was apparently triggered in May 2006 by the company, Lapindo Brantas, which was digging an exploratory well in search of natural gas near Sidoarjo. The toxic mud now covers over 2,000 acres in East Java, and all efforts to plug the mudflow have failed. The authors discuss the scale of the disaster; theories concerning its cause (due to natural factors or negligence?); the tangled politics complicating the relief and mitigation efforts, which have involved many uncoordinated governmental and non-governmental agencies, as well as Lapindo Brantas (which seeks to limit liability); and the enormous human, social, and economic costs.

BOOKS

Chandra, Alexander C. *Indonesia and the Asean Free Trade Agreement: Nationalists and regional integration strategy*. Lanham, Lexington Books, 2008.

The author analyzes the relationship between Indonesian nationalism and ASEAN regional integration, with specific reference to the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (FTA). Traditionally, the relationship between nationalism and regionalism has most often been characterized as contentious. Chandra, however, challenges the argument that nationalism and regionalism cannot co-exist, and argues instead that the two ideologies can stand in a symbiotic relationship to each other. The relationship between nationalism and regionalism can be conflicting or mutually exclusive, but can also sometimes be mutually reinforcing. Therefore, nationalists today are not necessarily hostile to free trade and closer economic ties with other states.

Ravesteijn, W. *For Profit and Prosperity. The contribution made by Dutch engineers to public works in Indonesia, 1800-2000*. Leiden, KITLV Press, 2008.

Roads, railway lines and bridges, harbours and cities, irrigation and drinking water supplies; evidence of the presence of Dutch engineers in the former Dutch East Indies may be found everywhere in Indonesia. This book places this legacy from the colonial past in its true perspective - it provides a detailed description of some of the most important works projects of the Dutch East Indies era while simultaneously outlining the contribution made by the Netherlands to the restoration, modernisation and development of such works in the Republic of Indonesia.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

The 26th annual Indonesia Update conference **INDONESIA BEYOND THE WATER'S EDGE: Managing an Archipelagic State**. The Australian National University Friday and Saturday, 19–20 September 2008. Indonesia is the world's largest archipelagic state. More than half its share of the earth's surface is sea, and the marine frontier presents Indonesia with economic opportunity and political and strategic challenges. Indonesia has been affected more than most countries in the world by a slow revolution in the management of the seas. Whereas Indonesia's seas were once conceived administratively as little more than the empty space between islands, successive governments have become aware of the need to establish regulatory regimes in marine areas to manage the allocation of marine resources, to guard national security and to provide human services to those at sea. The effective transfer to the seas of regulatory regimes such as territoriality that took shape on land has been an enduring challenge to Indonesian governments. This conference examines Indonesia's response to that challenge. Presentations will address maritime boundaries and security, marine safety, inter-island shipping, the development of the archipelagic concept in international law, marine conservation, Indonesian sea-farers, illegal fishing, and the place of the sea in national and regional identity. Speakers include Hasjim Djalal, Djoko Sumaryono, Rili Djohani, Gerry van Klinken, Howard Dick, John Butcher, James Fox, Michele Ford, Lenore Lyons, Vincent Ashcroft and David Ray. For more information, see: <http://rspas.anu.edu.au/economics/ip/IU08/>

The Academy Professorship Indonesia in Social Sciences and Humanities (KNAW-AIPI) and the Graduate School of Gajah Mada University Yogyakarta will organize the **First International Graduate Student Conference on December 15-18, 2009** with the theme entitled as follows: “(Re) Considering the Contemporary Indonesia: Striving for Democracy, Sustainability and Prosperity”. The Steering Committee of the international conference are glad to invite the Indonesian/foreign graduate students to participate by submitting their abstracts by the end of **November, 2008**. Please find enclosed the concept and schedule of the international conference on Indonesia for your reference. The Steering Committee will do review on the abstracts related to the theme of the conference from various disciplinary backgrounds with the focus on social-cultural-humanities dimension of the contemporary Indonesia. The information and the form for abstract submission can be downloaded at <http://www.api.pasca.ugm.ac.id/>.

Religion and Globalization in Asia: Prospects, Patterns, and Problems for the Coming Decade, University of San Francisco, March 13-14, 2009. Join us in beautiful San Francisco as keynote speakers Mark Juergensmeyer (UC Santa Barbara), Saskia Sassen (Columbia), Nayan Chanda (Yale)-and ten other presenters -- explore the dynamics of globalizing forces on the established and emerging religions of South and East Asia. How do communication technologies, capital flows, security issues, transnationalism, immigration and migration, and identity politics contribute to social conditions in which some kinds of religious belief and practice prosper and proliferate, while others are adversely affected? Additional themes and issues can be found on our website at <http://www.pacificrim.usfca.edu/religionandglobalization.html>. If you wish to present a paper, please submit a 200 word abstract and brief CV to the CFP address listed on our

website no later than **August 30, 2008**. Each presenter will be awarded an honorarium of \$350 to help defray travel and conference expenses.

The Second International Symposium on the Languages of Java, 4-5 June 2009, Sheraton Senggigi Beach Resort, Senggigi, Lombok, Indonesia. With this symposium, we offer an opportunity for scholars working on any aspect of Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese, Balinese and Sasak to come together and share their findings. We aim to encourage and promote continued research on these important and unique languages. Abstracts are invited for papers to be presented on any linguistic topics dealing with the languages of Java and its environs—Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese, Balinese, and Sasak. Given the location of the conference, papers on Sasak are especially encouraged. Papers on other languages will be judged according to their relevance to the symposium topic. Papers are welcome from any subfield of linguistics and using any approach or theoretical background. Studies of non-standard(ized) versions, dialects, and isolects, including contact varieties, are particularly welcome. All papers are to be presented in English. Persons wishing to present papers at the symposium are invited to submit a one-page [data and references may be on a second page] abstract in electronic form (PDF AND MSWord) to Thomas Connors at the following address: oranghutan@cbn.net.id. Deadline for submission of abstracts: March 1, 2009. For more information see: <http://lingweb.eva.mpg.de/jakarta/isloj2.php>

Ten Years Along: Decentralisation, Land, and Natural Resources in Indonesia on 15-16 July at the Faculty of Law, Atmajaya University, Jakarta, Indonesia. Following the dramatic 1998 overthrow of Suharto's New Order, Indonesia's 1999 Regional Autonomy Laws broke over 100 years of centralised government through far-reaching administrative and political decentralisation as well as new fiscal arrangements between the central government and the regions. This has had various consequences for land and other natural resources arrangements, among others through the ensuing revival of adat law-discourse and the shift in orientation of district leaders from the centre to their local constituency. At the same time, however, central state law still applies and reduces their scope of lawful action. The dynamic interactions between central state law, regional legislation, and the highly diverse regulating mechanisms, practical solutions and traditions of the Indonesian population form the core of this seminar's subject. Based on research data collected in various regions in Indonesia, this seminar seeks to analyze and understand the nature and local impact of the new legal structure of regional autonomy on land and natural resources law at the district, municipal and village level. It aims to study how the state responds to local legal initiatives, how 'guardian institutions' control the acts of the newly empowered legislatures and executives, how the new system influences tenure security of common people and what use is being made of global discourses on rights and international legal orders. With that, the seminar seeks to draw conclusions on the process of rule of law formation at Indonesia's lower levels of government ten years after the onset of reform. Those who want to present a paper are kindly requested to submit an abstract to Laurens Bakker: L.Bakker@jur.ru.nl or Gustaaf Reerink: G.O.Reerink@law.leidenuniv.nl before **15 June**. Paper will be selected on the basis of academic quality, originality, and relevance. For further information on the seminar, please contact Steny: steni@huma.or.id or +62(8)139355355.

PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES

Call for new manuscripts on Media in Asia-Pacific: This call is for excellent new manuscripts in the field of Asian media and society. We look for books which make exciting and innovative connections between media, communications and the way people live in the Asia Pacific region. Works on new media are particularly welcome at this time, as are historically nuanced works. We also particularly welcome new work on India and the SE Asian region. Authors from the region are important to the series as its aims include the building of a strong scholarly field of interest in Asia-Pacific. The site for the Series is:

<http://www.routledge.com/books/research/Media,+Culture+and+Social+Change+in+Asia+Series>. First ideas should be sent to Stephanie Donald (Stephanie.Donald@uts.edu.au) directly, marked 'SERIES' and please expect a three work turnaround for initial feedback.

SCHOLARSHIPS/FELLOWSHIPS/RESEARCH/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Usyd Scholarships: Applications for the 2008 Semester 2 Vice-Chancellor's Research Scholarships (VCRS) and University of Sydney Postgraduate Awards (Co-funded) are now open. These scholarships are available to citizens of Australia or New Zealand, or Australian permanent residents intending to **commence** a full-time postgraduate research course at the University of Sydney in 2008 Semester 2. Closing date: **13 June 2008**. For further information please see http://www.usyd.edu.au/ro/training/postgraduate_awards.shtml.

Aceh Research Training Institute - ARTI travel grants - call for applications. Each year the Aceh Research Training Institute (ARTI) offers travel grants for up to ten Indonesian and ten Australian or international doctoral students to conduct their research in collaboration with the Pusat Latihan Penelitian Ilmu Sosial Budaya (PLPISB) of Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia. These travel grants are for a period of six months and are funded by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and the Myer Foundation. The next round of applications for these travel grants will close on Wednesday **25 June 2008**.

2009 Endeavour Research Fellowships: The Endeavour Research Fellowships provide financial support for postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows from Australia to undertake short-term research (4-6 months), in any field of study. The research is to be undertaken in participating countries within the Asia/Pacific region and the Middle East. Total Award value up to \$AUD23,500. **Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Research Fellowships:** The Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Research Fellowships provide individuals with a unique opportunity to take the next step in their academic career in any field of study, in participating Asian countries. The Endeavour Australia Cheung Kong Research Fellowships aim to enable high achieving scholars from Australia to undertake research in Asia and further develop the social and economic environment of Asia and Australia. Total Award value up to \$AUD23,500. Internet Link: http://www.endeavour.dest.gov.au/Australian_applicants/default.htm
Closing Date: **31 July 2008**

Australian Academy of the Humanities Visiting Scholar Programmes. For scholars from Russia and the former USSR and Indonesia and South-East Asia to visit Australia. These programmes are in place to encourage contact between scholars across the world, by providing for Australian scholars to host scholars from the aforementioned countries. It is envisioned that the visiting scholar will have conferences and/or speaking engagements during their stay in Australia. Funds are available for up to two scholars from each region. Scholars from Russia/former USSR countries are eligible for up to \$3500 of financial assistance, and scholars from Indonesia/South-East Asia are eligible for up to \$2000 of financial assistance. These funds may be used for any purpose that the Australian host considers vital to the visit, such as travel, conference fees, accommodation and per diems. For more information and application details: Contact Phoebe Garrett at the Academy on 02 6125 9871 or e-mail grants@humanities.org.au Application forms and more details about international programmes can be found at www.humanities.org.au The closing date for applications is **31 July 2008**.

Australian Academy of the Humanities Netherlands Exchange Programme. The Australian Academy of the Humanities and the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia have a joint programme with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. The programme provides for an Australian scholar to travel to the Netherlands for 1-2 weeks to visit institutions or conferences in connection with research. The scholar is responsible for the cost of the international airfare to the Netherlands, but the Royal Netherlands Academy will meet the cost of living and approved internal travel during the period of the visit. This programme is administered by the Academy of Social Sciences in Australia, in conjunction with the Australian Academy of the Humanities. Application forms and further information about the programme can be found on ASSA's website www.assa.edu.au [<http://www.assa.edu.au>](http://www.assa.edu.au) . The closing date for applications is **31 July 2008**.

Australia Indonesia Governance Research Partnership (AIGRP) Young Scholars Workshop: Applications for 2008 now open. The Young Scholars Workshop is designed to encourage a new generation of prospective researchers (Honours and post-graduate students) from Indonesia and Australia who are working on contemporary governance issues in Indonesia (politics, economy, law, environment, society).. Funding is available on a competitive basis to bring scholars together with senior academics to Jakarta in December. Successful candidates will have the chance to showcase their research, develop presentation skills and forge links with key research institutions. They will also receive mentoring from leading academics and attend the AIGRP Policy Research Forum. Economy travel and accommodation for three nights will be awarded to the successful applicants. For more details see: http://www.crawford.anu.edu.au/AIGRP/scholars.php#app_apply or contact kate.fuller@anu.edu.au

The Endeavour Language Teacher Fellowships (ELTF) are an Australian Government initiative which offer practising and trainee (pre-service) language teachers an opportunity to improve their language proficiency and cultural knowledge through an intensive, short-term study program. In 2009, programs will be offered for trainee teachers of Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Bahasa Indonesia in Jordan, China, Japan, Korea and Darwin respectively. Applications opened on Saturday 3 May and are due by **Friday 13**

June. For further information, and to download an application pack, go to http://www.endeavour.dest.gov.au/language_teachers_fellowships/

Expressions of interest are sought for two PhD scholarship positions to carry out field research in Indonesia on community, environment and local governance issues. The successful candidates will work with a team of experienced researchers - Dr Greg Acciaioli (UWA), A/Prof Anton Lucas and Dr Jim Schiller (Flinders), Dr John McCarthy (ANU), and A/Prof Carol Warren (Murdoch), as well as collaborating researchers in the Netherlands and Indonesia - on an Australian Research Council Discovery Project entitled 'Social Capital, Natural Resources and Local Governance in Indonesia'. The project will focus on case studies of local decision-making on environmental issues in the context of conservation and development programs in different regions of Indonesia. It aims to improve understanding of contemporary community dynamics in a range of cultural and ecological settings, as well as the practical implications of local participation and capacity building interventions for achieving equity and sustainability outcomes. The two candidates will be based at Flinders University in Adelaide and Murdoch University in Perth respectively, with location and supervision determined by the focus and site of each student's component of the project. It is anticipated that one student will work in a coastal community where marine conservation issues are the focus of research, while the second student will focus on a primarily agrarian research site in which World Bank /AusAID/ NGO local capacity building, conservation and development projects are being conducted. Essential criteria include: * a first-class Honours or Masters degree with a thesis component in a relevant social science field; * advanced fluency in Indonesian language; * field research or other equivalent community/overseas experience; * ability to work independently and as part of a team. Potential applicants should send an initial expression of interest (2 pages) addressing the following points: a) personal details - name, birth date, citizenship status, address, phone and email b) academic qualifications - degrees, major areas of study, undergraduate grade point average, honours result c) title of honours thesis or other significant piece of research, and a brief account of the main argument and approach/methodology adopted d) level of competence in quantitative and/or qualitative research methods e) level of proficiency in the Indonesian language f) study, work or volunteer experience in Indonesia g) research interests h) contact information for two referees who can comment on your academic background and suitability for undertaking this research project. Each scholarship is for a three-year period with a stipend of \$25,118 per annum (tax free) and up to \$10,000 of additional funding for fieldwork in Indonesia. A relocation allowance will be provided where a move to Adelaide or Perth is required to join the project. **A shortlist will be determined by the research team in September**, at which point applicants will be requested to submit full formal applications and documentation to either Flinders or Murdoch University. The successful candidates are expected to take up their appointments no later than February 2009. Please forward initial expressions of interest as outlined above by email to: A/Professor Carol Warren, Asia Research Centre, Murdoch University c.warren@murdoch.edu.au

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

ACICIS is seeking a new employee for the full-time position of Program Officer in Yogyakarta (YPO). The YPO will be a locally employed person, initially on a one year contract. The YPO will report to the Resident Director in Yogyakarta and will assist in the

management and development of ACICIS programs in Indonesia. The position is open to Australian and Indonesian citizens. All applicants must possess high level Indonesian language skills, good administration and leadership skills, and be an effective communicator. A relevant bachelors degree from an Australian university is highly desirable. The salary package offered will be in accordance with the experience and qualifications of the candidate, with a basic salary in the range Rp.7 million to Rp.20 million per month. Other benefits (and approximate financial equivalents) may include: one return airfare per year (A\$1500), Relocation Allowance (A\$1000), Insurance, one month bonus salary upon extension of contract. Expressions of interest including a current CV should be sent by email to ACICIS by **Tuesday 10 June 2008**. ACICIS is hoping to appoint the YPO as soon as possible, so applicants should include details of the date they are available to commence the position. For a Job Description, or other details, please contact David Armstrong at acicis@murdoch.edu.au or on (08) 9360 6254. The ACICIS Reference Group reserves the right to appoint by invitation or to not make an appointment.