

## Indonesia Council Digest January 2009

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](mailto:michele.ford@usyd.edu.au).

### NEWS

The deadline for abstracts for the 2009 **Indonesia Council Open Conference** is fast approaching. Please check <http://indonesiacouncil.anu.edu.au/icoc2009.php#papers> for details of the conference. Submit your abstracts to [ICOC2009@gmail.com](mailto:ICOC2009@gmail.com).

**The Department of Indonesian Studies at the University of Sydney is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Dwi Noverini Djenar to the position of Lecturer, Indonesian Studies as of July this year.** Novi has been the mainstay of Latrobe's Indonesian language program for many years and is the author of *Semantic, Pragmatic, and Discourse Perspectives of Preposition Use: A Study of Indonesian Locatives* (2007) and *A Student's Guide to Indonesian Grammar* (2003).

### RECENT JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

**David Dawe (2008) 'Can Indonesia Trust the World Rice Market?', *Bulleting of Indonesian Economic Studies* 44 (1), pp.115-132.**

Geography suggests that Indonesia will continue as a net rice importer for the foreseeable future, because it is an island nation without dominant river deltas providing abundant water and flat land suitable for rice growing. Yet policy makers remain reluctant to use the world rice market to achieve domestic food security goals for at least two reasons. First, there is concern that trade policies of other countries create a heavily distorted world market price. Second, there is fear of world market price volatility. It is argued here that distortions in the segment of the international market relevant to Indonesia are relatively small, and that world rice prices are considerably more stable now than during the 1970s world food crisis. Thus, the fear of price distortion and volatility appears unfounded, and engaging fully with the world market is a much more viable alternative than it was 30 years ago.

Bridget Welsh (2008) 'Local and National: Keroyokan Mobbing in Indonesia', *Journal of East Asian Studies* 8 (3), pp. 473-504.

From horrific accounts of men decapitated to "ordinary" accounts of stolen motorcycles, the routine beating and killing of alleged criminals by mobs (*massa*) has become common in Indonesia. This article examines the patterns of *keroyokan*—mobbing—from 1995 through 2004 in four provinces and highlights the temporal, spatial, and substantive variations of this phenomenon. This article uses three case studies to illustrate the centrality of local factors affecting this form of violence. The case studies suggest that mobbing is shaped by the acquiescence of actors in local communities and local learning. The article draws attention to the need to incorporate local data and methods into an analysis of violence in Indonesia and to appreciate varied daily rituals of violence as reservoirs of conflict.

## BOOKS

Marleen Dieleman (2008) *The Rhythm of Strategy: A Corporate Biography of the Salim Group of Indonesia*. Amsterdam University Press, Amsterdam.

*The Rhythm of Strategy* provides a richly documented analysis of the Salim Group, one of the largest family conglomerates in Southeast Asia. Set up by Liem Sioe Liong, a Chinese emigrant, the Salim Group evolved from a small trading venture in colonial Java into one of the largest diversified businesses on the Asian continent. While the Salim Group is generally reluctant to provide information on its strategy to the general public, this volume proposes that the conglomerate's strategy oscillates between a business model built on connections and a professional model adapted to markets. Dismissing the view that the group is a typical Chinese ethnic firm—in which the cultural values of the founding family influences corporate behavior—*The Rhythm of Strategy* argues that the group's strategy made sense in the evolving institutional context of Indonesia, which is characterized by high transaction costs, corruption, political risk, and ample business opportunities to cater to a large and rapidly growing consumer base.

## CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

Dissertation Workshop on Social Capital and Civic Engagement in Asia, May 3-6, 2009.

This dissertation is intended for doctoral students whose dissertation projects concern the role of civic engagement and social capital, in its many variations, in fostering dynamic change in any part of contemporary Asia. The purpose of the workshop is to encourage and assist doctoral students who are just beginning work on these issues, as well as those who are farther along in their projects. The workshop will involve intensive discussion of the individual projects and also the larger theoretical and methodological issues that they raise. Possibilities for continuing associations among interested students and faculty will be explored. Applicants must be enrolled in a full-time doctoral program. They must have drafted a dissertation research proposal, even though it may not yet be approved by their committees. They must be prepared to engage in some work prior to the meeting, namely reading and commenting on the proposals of other participants to establish a basis for productive exchange at the event. The workshop will take place over three days on the campus of the University of Toronto. It will include twelve students and four faculty

members from a variety of disciplines and interdisciplinary fields. The Asian Institute at the University of Toronto will cover the costs of work, meals, and accommodation. Travel will be subsidized up to a maximum of CDN\$600 per participant. Applications consist of two items: 1) a current curriculum vitae and 2) an 8 to 10 page double spaced dissertation proposal. Alternatively, if the work is well underway, an 8 to 10 page double spaced description of the specific issues being addressed, the intellectual approach, and the materials being studied. Workshop participants will be selected on the content of the submitted projects, the potential for useful exchanges among them, and the benefits of including a wide range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches and intellectual traditions. Applications should be sent in an email attachment to [ai.soc@utoronto.ca](mailto:ai.soc@utoronto.ca). Applicants will be informed about whether or not they have been selected for the workshop by February 6<sup>th</sup> 2009. For further information about the workshop or eligibility, please contact the workshop assistant at [ai.soc@utoronto.ca](mailto:ai.soc@utoronto.ca). Application deadline is **January 30, 2009**.

### **CFP The (In)Stability of Authoritarian Regimes (ECPR General Conference 2009).**

Theories of regime transformation are generally characterized by a teleological outlook that sees all regimes as verging towards democracy. Usually, such theories are formulated as phase models in which democratization is followed by a period of democratic consolidation. Although several authoritarian regimes across the world have displayed remarkable stability, a corresponding concept of 'authoritarian consolidation' does not exist thus far. Interestingly, while democratic consolidation is conceptualized as a process, authoritarianism is rather understood as a condition out of which democracies emerge and into which they return when a democracy breaks down. What are the internal and external factors that determine the survival of authoritarian regimes? Why has authoritarianism survived in some countries, but not in others? Are there different qualities to different kinds of authoritarianism? We welcome abstracts that address these or related questions. These can be single-case and comparative papers that strike a balance between empirical data (quantitative and qualitative) and relevant, critical and innovative theoretical questions/debates. Developmental, actor-centred, institutional and historical approaches are particularly welcome. Proposals submitted can be submitted via the ECPR website using the link "Submit a paper" at the following URL: [http://www.ecpr.org.uk/potsdam/panel\\_details.asp?panelID=284](http://www.ecpr.org.uk/potsdam/panel_details.asp?panelID=284). Please refer to [http://www.ecpr.org.uk/potsdam/files/paper\\_proposals\\_guidelines\\_and\\_deadlines.pdf](http://www.ecpr.org.uk/potsdam/files/paper_proposals_guidelines_and_deadlines.pdf) for further information about how to submit a paper. Deadline for submission is **1 February 2009**. If you have any questions, please address these to the convenors at [christian.goebel@uni-due.de](mailto:christian.goebel@uni-due.de) and [daniel.lambach@inef.uni-due.de](mailto:daniel.lambach@inef.uni-due.de).

### **PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES**

**Proposals for an international scholarly collection of chapters on Asian Popular Culture are now being considered.** Proposals may address any of the full range of Asian popular culture topics, e.g., music, popular food, games, vehicles, the bar scene, tourism, fashion, fads, sports, literature, architecture, dating habits, film, television, and new media. Finalists will be notified: chapters will be 7-8000 words; deadline August 15 2009. Send a 500-word proposal and brief teaching & publication profile to both editors of the collection: Dr. John Lent, Professor, Communications, Temple University, Philadelphia, USA, [jlent@temple.edu](mailto:jlent@temple.edu) and Dr. Lorna Fitzsimmons, Associate Professor and Coordinator,

Humanities, California State University, Los Angeles, USA, [lfitzsimmons@csudh.edu](mailto:lfitzsimmons@csudh.edu). The deadline for proposals is **February 15 2009**.

**Kasarinlan: Philippine Journal of Third World Studies.** This special issue welcomes papers that explore aspects or the totality of cross-border flows of goods, capital, labor, and ideas. Do resource flows affect economic performance and socio-political conditions of economies, and how? Do the circuits in which resources flow evolve independent of flows themselves? How does one make sense of the rapidity in and complexity of resources flows brought about by globalization with the fixity of resources despite globalization? Do China and India affect the nature of the circuits and resources flows? How would the present global financial and economic crisis change the circuits and flows? Are there viable alternative arrangements at this juncture? Kasarinlan: Philippine Journal of Third World Studies invites theoretical and empirical papers that explore issues linked to the theme. Papers that use unorthodox perspectives or approaches, present solid analyses, and stimulate critical discourse are welcome. See the call for papers at: <http://journals.upd.edu.ph/index.php/kasarinlan/announcement/view/12>. Due Date for Submission of Manuscript: **June 30, 2009**. All inquiries concerning the submission of articles should be addressed to the editor at [kasarinlan@up.edu.ph](mailto:kasarinlan@up.edu.ph).

**ABC-CLIO, the leading publisher of academic reference works, is in the process of developing a comprehensive 21-volume Encyclopedia of World History.** We are seeking interested scholars to prepare 500-1500 word articles on the history and culture of Asia. Please see list of open topics: <http://www.abc-clio.com/academic/aboutus/callToAuthors.aspx>. If you are interested in writing 1 or more of the entries listed below, please send a c.v. to Fred Nadis ([Fnadis@abc-clio.com](mailto:Fnadis@abc-clio.com)) or Jeanie Azizian, Project ([JAzizian@abc-clio.com](mailto:JAzizian@abc-clio.com)).

**New JIWS Special Issue: Islam and Gender in Asia and the Diaspora: Call for Papers.** This special issue of the Journal of International Women's Studies (JIWS) solicits articles on Islam and Gender with a focus on Asia. Submissions will address women's lives, gender dynamics and Muslim women's movements, including both formal movements and subtle, informal, everyday acts of resistance. The special issue will include a broad range of discussions on how Muslim women strategize and negotiate their lives and/or movements to accommodate and/or resist Islamic dominance in terms of the nation state, constitutions and dominant cultural norms. We are seeking articles that tackle the above stated issues, specifically covering the regions of Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Indonesia, S.E. Asia and any Muslim demographic from the pertinent region as well as the diaspora, including refugee populations. Scholars and activists are invited to submit unpublished manuscripts that are currently not under review. Please consult the JIWS web site ([www.bridgew.edu/jiws/](http://www.bridgew.edu/jiws/)) for submission guidelines including length, format and bibliographical/referencing styles. Forward all submissions via email attachment to the special issue editors, Huma Ahmed-Gosh at [ghosh@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:ghosh@mail.sdsu.edu) or Rahat Imran at [rai@sfu.edu](mailto:rai@sfu.edu) by **April 1, 2009**.