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THINK TANK News from the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies

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CONTENTS

Dean Barry Desker Awarded Honorary Doctorate by University of Exeter page 1

Strategic Leadership in Strategic Campaigning page 2

NTU Honorary Doctorate for President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono page 3

Conflict Management: Prof Gambari Shares Insights page 4

Integrating Domestic Industries with Global Supply Chains page 5

APPSMO 2013: The Future of War page 6-7

Safe and Secure Seas for International Maritime Security page 8

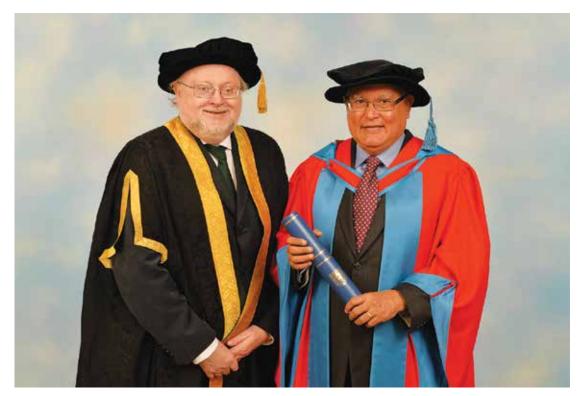
Timor-Leste's Future in a Rising Asia Pacific page 9

Advancing Urban Resilience in Environmental Change page 10

An Effective Institution for Multilateral Engagement page 11

Staff Publications and Upcoming Events page 12

Dean Barry Desker Awarded Honorary Doctorate by University of Exeter



Prof Sir Steve Smith (left) and Dean Barry Desker

he S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) is pleased to announce that Barry Desker, Dean of RSIS, has been conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, by the University of Exeter.

This honorary degree was conferred in recognition of his huge contribution to public life in East Asia and Singapore, and for his world-leading leadership and scholarship in the field of international relations.

Dean Desker received his degree from Baroness Floella Benjamin OBE DL, Chancellor of the University of Exeter, during a ceremony held at the University's Streatham campus in the United Kingdom on 16 July 2013. Professor Sir Steve Smith, Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive of the University of Exeter, delivered the oration.

In his oration, Professor Sir Steve said, "Since becoming Dean of RSIS, formerly the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, in 2000, he has rapidly established the School as the leading centre of its type in the Asia Pacific region and shown himself to be an outstanding academic leader. The School undertakes research in security, defence, international affairs and diplomacy. It also teaches postgraduate programmes in Strategic Studies, International Relations, and International Political Economy. Its third role is to organise lectures, conferences and seminars that help policy makers develop comprehensive approaches to strategic thinking. I am delighted to say that the School is establishing close relations with our own recently established Strategy and Security Institute headed by General Professor Sir Paul Newton."

Professor Sir Steve continued on to say, "Above all, we are recognising a man who since 2000, has taken a Singapore-based think tank to be a

continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

world ranking graduate school of international relations. As an external examiner at RSIS, I have had an opportunity to see this transformation first hand. Dean Desker's skilful balancing of academia and policy-oriented work has clearly made RSIS the leading research organisation in the region. Building that reputation from such a low base has taken enormous skill and the full use of his diplomatic training. The result is that he now leads what is not only the Asia Pacific's leading research think tank, but also one of the major powerhouses of policy development and research into international relations, terrorism, security studies, and the politics of the Asia Pacific region and the world."

In his acceptance speech, Dean Desker said, "My own institution, the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, has had excellent ties with Exeter. Sir Steve Smith, the Vice-Chancellor, has been an external examiner, and is a member on our Board of Governors. As I was a newcomer to university administration, he served as a mentor and fount of wisdom in dealing with the challenges of managing faculty and building an institution which is a combination of a professional school of international affairs and a think tank. We have also had Exeter faculty as visiting professors."

Contributed by Bernard Chin

Strategic Leadership in Strategic Campaigning



General (Ret.) John R. Allen

eneral (Ret.) John R. Allen, former Commander of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, shared his views on strategic leadership in campaigning during a RSIS Distinguished Public Lecture at the Marina Mandarin on 02 August 2013, noting that strategic campaigning demanded getting the "big ideas" right at the outset.

The former U.S. Marine Corps general presented extensive operational examples from the Afghan Campaign and Iraq, as well as operations in the Persian Gulf, and the Balkans. In Afghanistan, he observed, these objectives were to deny Al Qaeda safe haven, and prevent the overthrow of the Afghan government by the Taliban. The big ideas, then, revolved around the creation of a comprehensive civil/military counter-insurgency campaign that envisaged international forces shaping the insurgency as the Afghan National Security Force gained capacity.

General Allen said a strategic leader assesses the essential progress of the campaign, constantly measuring performance against the campaign objectives to ensure the proper apportionment of resources over time. But strategic leaders must also thoroughly understand the operational environment as it evolves and closely monitor the efficacy of assessment tools themselves.

He concluded with the observation that war was essentially dominated by human factors. Thus, strategic leaders must not only thoroughly consider the human factors of their own forces; they should also understand those of the enemy, and the social environment of the battle space within which the campaign and operations unfold.

Contributed by Jennifer Yang Hui

NTU Honorary Doctorate for President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono



President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia, receiving the Honorary Doctorate from Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, President of Singapore

n recognition of his distinguished achievements and contributions to Indonesia and to the University,

President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono became the first Indonesian Head of State to receive an honorary doctorate of letters from a Singapore university, the Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, President of Singapore and Chancellor of NTU, presided over the conferment ceremony which was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K. Shanmugam, Minister for Trade and Industry Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Communications and Information Yaacob Ibrahim, Minister for Education Heng Swee Keat, and Acting Minister for Social and Family Development and Senior Minister of State for Defence Chan Chun Sing.

Besides Mrs Ani Bambang Yudhoyono, the ceremony was also attended by Indonesia's Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs Djoko Suyanto;

Minister for Foreign Affairs Marty Natalegawa; Minister for Trade Gita Irawan Wirjawan and; Minister for Defence Purnomo Yusgiantoro.

President Yudhoyono's working relationship with RSIS first began in 1999, when the school was then known as the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS). He was then serving as the Armed Forces Chief of Territorial Affairs. Both his sons Agus Harimurti Yudhoyono and Edhie Baskoro Yudhoyono received postgraduate degrees from RSIS.

During his speech, President Yudhoyono advocated closer ties between RSIS and the Indonesian Defence University as well as the Indonesian National Resilience Institute (LEMHANNAS).

In his citation, NTU President Bertil Andersson highlighted President Yudhoyono's illustrious career in public service over four decades. At the reception following the ceremony, RSIS students had the opportunity to interact with President Yudhoyono.

Contributed by Mervin Kok

Conflict Management: Prof Gambari Shares Insights

he RSIS Centre for Non-Traditional Security (NTS) Studies hosted a Roundtable on 15 April 2013 to discuss challenges faced in conflict management and resolution. The keynote speaker at the Roundtable was Professor Ibrahim Gambari, RSIS Distinguished Visiting Fellow. He was joined by a panel comprising former Vice President of Indonesia, Dr Jusuf Kalla; Associate Professor and Head of the RSIS Centre for NTS Studies, Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony; and Project Manager of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Mr Marc Probst.

The discussion centred upon the importance of developing robust and effective regional mechanisms for conflict management and resolution; the crucial role of mediation in attaining peaceful resolution to conflict; the critical capacity and capability of mediators in negotiations; the necessity of improving the effectiveness of the UN Peacebuilding Commission; the need for champions to push forward such an agenda in ASEAN; and the importance of creating synergies among the different actors involved in conflict resolution.

From Afro-pessimism to Afro-opportunity

On 23 April 2013, Prof Gambari also delivered a RSIS Distinguished Public Lecture on the theme, "Beyond Its Mineral/Natural Resources: Why Africa Matters to the world." He recounted how after independence, many African states had experienced Afro-pessimism, with military coups, civil wars, poor terms of trade, external debt and famines. However, after the end of the Cold War, a new phase of political maturity had led to high growth in Africa and improving development indicators, resulting in a period of "Afro-opportunity."

Prof Gambari highlighted a few initiatives that were aimed at strengthening and pushing Africa towards peaceful progress such as the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), the voluntary African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), and the African Union (AU) Constitutive Act, which prohibits the takeover of power by unconstitutional means.

Prof Gambari emphasised the importance of building peace, sustaining economic growth and providing conducive environments for investment, thus, making Africa a significant region in global affairs.

Prof Ibrahim Gambari, who received a Special National Order from the President of South Africa in October 2012 for his contribution to the anti-apartheid struggle, was installed as Chancellor of the Kwara State University, Nigeria on 1 June 2013.

Contributed by Joel Ng Kuang Jong and Cheryl Lim Sze Hui



(Left to right) At the Roundtable, Mr Marc Probst, Project Manager of the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue; Dr Jusuf Kalla, former Vice President of Indonesia; Ambassador Barry Desker, Dean of RSIS; Prof Ibrahim Gambari, RSIS Distinguished Visiting Fellow; and Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony, Head of the RSIS Centre for NTS Studies



Prof Ibrahim Gambari delivering his Distinguished Public Lecture



Prof Ibrahim Gambari receiving the Special National Order from the President of South Africa

Integrating Domestic Industries with Global Supply Chains



Prof Joseph Liow, Associate Dean of RSIS



Dr Yuqing Xing, Director of Capacity Building and Training at ADBI



Participants at the ADBI-RSIS Conference

regional conference on "Integrating Domestic Industries with Global Production Networks and Supply Chains," co-organised by the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) and Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) was held in Singapore on 8–10 May 2013. The event brought together over 30 experts from the academic and policy circles of South and East Asian countries.

Professor Joseph Liow, Associate Dean of RSIS, and Dr Yuqing Xing, Director of Capacity Building and Training at ADBI, opened the conference with comments on the evolution of production networks and supply chains in the region. Both highlighted how the increasing presence of such networks have changed the patterns of trade and consequent need for the design and implementation of the right policies for Asian economies to benefit from their participation in Global Production Networks (GPNs) and Global Supply Chains (GSCs).

The conference in six sessions discussed basic concepts of GPNs and GSCs, analysed the role of GPNs and GSCs in South and East Asia's industrialisation, international trade, and economic development, and brainstormed strategies to integrate domestic industries into the GPNs and GSCs.

Participants discussed GPNs and GSCs from a country and firm's perspectives and recommended policies to enhance SMEs' participation in GPNs. They then underlined the importance of developing inter-regional production networks between East and South Asia to bring about mutual benefits for both regions. They highlighted three Asian cases of developing GPNs and GSCs in the hard disk drive, air transportation, and smartphone sectors; considered how firms can move up the supply chains via innovation and proposed policies supporting R&D in the private sectors. They also discussed government strategies to develop and integrate local industries into the GPNs of high-tech goods, automotives, services, and manufacturing logistics. Finally, participants shared ideas on how Asia should prepare for participating in GPNs and GSCs in an increasingly competitive world economy.

Contributed by Kaewkamol Pitakdumrongkit and Theresa Robles

APPSMO 2013: The Future of War

he 15th Asia Pacific Programme for Senior Military Officers (APPSMO 2013) was held at The Sentosa Resort & Spa from 5 to 11 August 2013. Organised by RSIS' Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies (IDSS), APPSMO was attended by more than 50 military officers from over 20 countries around the Asia Pacific and Europe.

The theme of APPSMO 2013 "The Future of War" focused on the features and trends in the future of warfare across the key domains and their potential impact on the military profession. Mr Chan Chun Sing, Acting Minister for Social and Family Development and Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence, officiated at the opening of APPSMO 2013. Mr S. R. Nathan, the 6th President of Singapore, attended the dinner for participants and speakers at the Rasa Sentosa Resort as the Guest of Honour.

As in previous years, APPSMO provided a valuable forum for defence diplomacy, where military professionals, policy makers, practitioners, academics and other experts exchanged views on a broad range of subjects related to regional and international security.

IDSS assembled an impressive range of speakers to speak on the outlook of warfare in the future, the redefining of war-fighting concepts, and the prospects of civil-military cooperation. RSIS speakers included Professor Pascal Vennesson, Dr Ahmed Salah Hashim, and Dr Michael Raska. Distinguished overseas speakers included Major General Yao Yunzhu, Director of China-America Defense Relations, Academy of Military Science, Professor Beatrice Heuser, Chair of International Relations at the University of Reading and Dr John Nagl, Senior Fellow at the Center for a New American Security.









The Distinguished Dinner Talk on the topic "Wielding Strategic Communications in Complex Operations" was delivered by General (Ret.) John R. Allen, RSIS Distinguished Speaker; Distinguished Fellow of Foreign Policy, The Brookings Institution; Former Commander of the International Security Assistance Force and U.S. Forces - Afghanistan. Dr Wayne Mapp, Former New Zealand Minister of Defence, touched on the topic "Lessons Learned from Stability and Security Operations in the Asia Pacific" during his Distinguished Lunch Talk.

APPSMO participants attended seminars and plenary sessions dealing with "Dimensions of War and Strategy,"

"Defining War in the 21st Century," "Warfare in New Domains: The Future of Asymmetric Operations and Information Warfare," "Civil-Military Cooperation in a Coalition Environment," and "Challenges to the Military Profession: Impact of Emergent Technology and Issues of Legitimacy."

The participants also visited the Republic of Singapore Navy's Information Fusion Centre and toured other places of interest such as the Army Museum and the Singapore Discovery Centre. They also joined Singaporeans in watching the National Day Parade at Marina Bay on 9 August.

Contributed by Chang Jun Yan













Safe and Secure Seas for International Maritime Security

n International Maritime Security Conference (IMSC) was convened by RSIS and Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN) in conjunction with the International Maritime Defence Exhibition (IMDEX) Asia 2013. The conference on the theme "Safe and Secure Seas – Strengthening Cooperation in Maritime Security," brought together Chiefs of Navies, Directors-General of Coast Guards, government officials, key industry players, and academics from around the world to discuss the varying threats to maritime security and safety, and the need to develop frameworks and solutions to meet those security challenges.

Senior Minister of State for Defence Chan Chun Sing in his opening address, highlighted that the security of the maritime realm was critical to Asia's rise. With Asia making up 50 per cent of the world's seaborne trade, international cooperation to secure regional shipping lanes like the Straits of Malacca and Singapore was important for the global economy. Minister Chan suggested two aspects of promoting such cooperation. Firstly, through strengthening the current platforms for inclusive dialogue, as well as maintaining channels of communication to build trust and explore new avenues for collaboration. Secondly, by moving beyond discourse at the strategic level to strengthen practical cooperation in areas of shared security.

RSIS Dean, Ambassador Barry Desker, in his keynote pointed out the adverse potential of tensions in Sino-U.S. relations for Southeast Asia, as well as the importance of tackling non-traditional and transnational security threats in the maritime domain to promote good order at sea.

Chief of RSN, RADM Ng Chee Peng listed three key factors for maritime security cooperation, (i) fostering of mutual understanding and trust among partners, (ii) establishment of information sharing networks, and (iii) building of capacity and inter-operability between operational forces at sea and ashore.



RSIS Research Fellow and Coordinator of the Maritime Security Programme Jane Chan during the Q&A

Contributed by Ristian Atriandi Supriyanto



RSIS Dean Barry Desker delivering his keynote



 $RSIS\ Associate\ Dean\ Joseph\ Liow\ moderating\ a\ panel\ discussion$

*Photographs are courtesy of IMDEX Asia

Timor-Leste's Future in a Rising Asia Pacific

imor-Leste's Prime Minister Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão assessed the challenges and future of his country in a RSIS Distinguished World Leaders Lecture on 4 June 2013

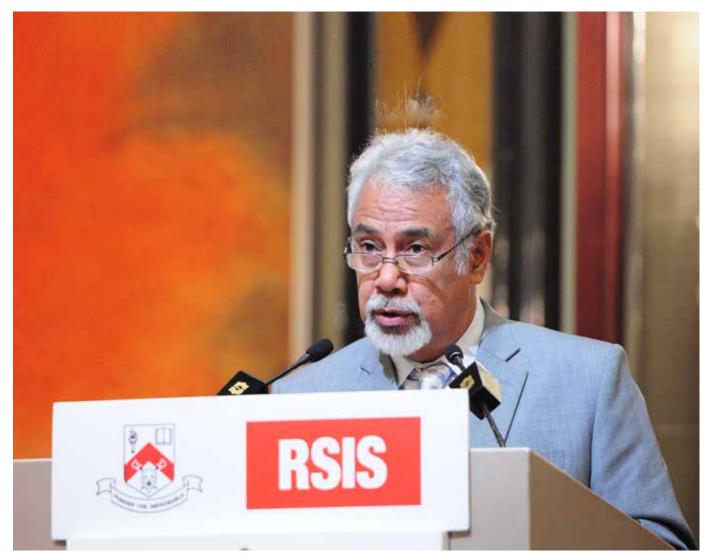
PM Xanana Gusmão asserted that Timor-Leste had achieved significant progress in the last decade. Overcoming a period of crisis in 2009, he believed that the *Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011-2030* will provide a framework to move Timor-Leste from a low income country to an upper middle income country by 2030.

Xanana Gusmão viewed this century as the "ASEAN century." He reiterated that ASEAN should focus on constructive actions and building on shared interests rather

than griping over conflicting issues. He argued that Timor-Leste may be small but it is part of Southeast Asia and it is crucial to greater connectivity within the region. The next priority for Timor-Leste will be to establish relations with the Pacific Islands, especially Vanuatu and the Solomon islands.

Xanana Gusmão stated that Timor-Leste will choose to improve relations with Indonesia despite it being an unpopular move for the people. Timor-Leste recently signed an MOU that covers the eastern Indonesian islands on issues of security and economy as it is especially interested in the development of that part of Indonesia.

Contributed by Adri Wanto



PM Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão

Advancing Urban Resilience in Environmental Change



Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony, Associate Professor and Head of the RSIS Centre for NTS Studies

ome 40 regional experts on urban resilience gathered in Singapore on 22–23 April 2013 to address the challenges brought about by environmental changes facing urban spaces in Southeast Asia. The meeting, which was convened by the RSIS Centre for NTS Studies with support from NTU's Sustainable Earth Office (SEO), included representatives from relevant Singapore organisations, regional governments, non-governmental organisations, civil society and members of academic and think tank communities.

Many of the region's cities, which provide economic and social hubs, face risks to a range of critical urban systems from extreme and even moderate environmental trends and events. Building resilience in both key physical and social urban systems is therefore imperative.

The meeting discussed the trade-offs in building urban resilience to environmental and climatic changes, best practices of participatory urban resilience building, sustainable financing and investment mechanisms for climate adaptation, and building social resilience in parallel with critical infrastructure resilience.



Participant Bahrat Dahiya sharing his insights

Participants focused on the importance of conceptual, operational and policy frameworks for urban environmental resilience for human security; mainstreaming urban resilience into the local development agenda; and the critical nexus of climate finance, information management and technology in building urban resilience.

Contributed by Cheryl Lim Sze Hui

An Effective Institution For Multilateral Engagement: The Future of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus)

he Multilateralism and Regionalism Programme of RSIS held a roundtable on "Strategic Engagement in the Asia Pacific: The Future of the ADMM-Plus" on 24 July 2013. Some 80 participants, including experts from the United States, China and Australia, gathered at the Marina Mandarin for the full day event. They reviewed the regional strategic engagement, and examined perspectives from the United States and China as well as four other regional powers.

Discussants noted that the Asia Pacific region faced the challenge of rising defence expenditure (hence the possibility of an arms race), on-going territorial disputes, growing nationalism as well as natural and humanitarian disasters. On the other hand, regional militaries have been able to cooperate more readily on defence engagement with each other. The ADMM-Plus was noted, among others, for its capacity building objective which suggested that the goals were for functional, rather than for strategic reasons.

Participants highlighted the importance of the United States and China in the regional security architecture. It was noted that the U.S. pivot to Asia had resulted in China taking a more assertive stance in its foreign policy. There was therefore a need for both countries to redefine the manner in which they engage one another. While tensions exist between both countries, opportunities for cooperation were also present. The ADMM-Plus was a multilateral forum where the ASEAN countries could engage with both the U.S. and China, among others.

It was agreed that countries such as Japan, Australia, India and Indonesia also played an important role in the strategic environment of the Asia Pacific region. While the ADMM-Plus was an effective institution for multilateral engagement it could be expanded to include more than just non-traditional security issues. The importance of ASEAN centrality was emphasised as a core factor for the success of the ADMM-Plus.

Overall, participants concluded that while the ADMM-Plus was a useful multilateral forum for institutional engagement, more could be done to ensure that it continued to remain relevant in meeting the security needs of a more complex regional security environment.



Dr Ralf Emmers (left) with Dr Tan See Seng

Contributed by Benjamin Ho

Staff Publications



Rohan Gunaratna, Jolene Jerard and Salim Mohamed Nasir

Countering Extremism - Building Social Resilience Through Community Engagement

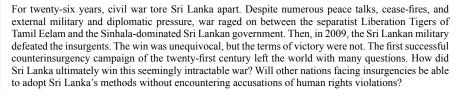
Imperial College Press, 2013. ISBN 978-1-908977-52-6

This edited book was released to coincide with the International Conference on Terrorist Rehabilitation and Community Resilience 2013 jointly organised by the Religious Rehabilitation Group and the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies. The conference, which was held in Singapore, was inaugurated by Mr Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore. The book contains a series of chapters by leading researchers and practitioners on community engagement approaches in the field of counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency. It presents existing and emerging community engagement models in various parts of the world, which could serve as effective models for governments keen to work with community leaders to manage and reduce the terrorist threat.

Ahmed S. Hashim



University of Pennsylvania Press, July 2013. ISBN 978-0-812244-52-6



Kwa Chong-Guan

Early Southeast Asia Viewed from India

New Delhi: Manohar, 2013. ISBN: 9789350980170

The present anthology of selected articles from the eighteen volumes of the Journal of the Greater India Society (JGIS) is a long overdue publication. The comprehensive Foreword and Introduction by its editor Kwa Chong-Guan, provides an excellent critical analysis of the aims and history of the Greater India Society, inaugurated at Calcutta in 1926, and of its Journal, published from 1936 to 1959. While the JGIS has been criticised for having also become an organ of Indian nationalist attempts at the height of the Indian independence movement, it contained a considerable number of historiographically still relevant articles, such as those by D.C. Sicar and H.B. Sarkar. It also constitutes, as rightly pointed out by the Editor, an important historical document "of India's understanding of its historical destiny as it once again 'Looks East.'" – Hermann Kulke, Kiel University, Germany.

J. D. Kenneth Boutin

American Technology Policy: Evolving Strategic Interests after the Cold War

Washington, D.C.: Potomac, 2013. ISBN: 978-1-57488-866-9

American Technology Policy analyses the on-going efforts of politicians, legislators, policymakers, and industry leaders to balance their often-conflicting technological requirements. J. D. Kenneth Boutin examines recent trends and developments in American technology policy as it strives to support high-technology firms without undermining national security. He then considers issues of autonomy, relations between the federal government and industry, and the time frame involved in formulating and implementing policy initiatives, all in the context of globalisation.

Norman Vasu, Yolanda Chin and Kam-yee Law

Nations, National Narratives and Communities in the Asia-Pacific

Routledge, 2013. ISBN: 978-0-415-81972-5

Many states in the Asia Pacific region are not built around a single homogenous people, but rather include many large, varied, different national groups. This book explores how states in the region attempt to develop commonality and a nation and the difficulties that arise. It discusses the consequences which ensue when competing narratives clash, and examines the nature of resistance to dominant narratives which arise. It considers the problems in a wide range of countries in the region including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

Farish A. Noor

Diaspora: The Story of the South Asian Muslim Diaspora in Southeast Asia Today

Malaysian Social Research Institute, 2013. ISBN: 978-967-5214-03-5

The role played by Indian Muslims in the history of the Malay Archipelago in general and early Malaya and then Malaysia in particular has been recognized by various scholars as largely unrecorded. This pioneering work by well-known Malaysian political scientist and historian Professor Farish A. Noor, Senior Felllow at Nanyang Technological University Singapore, will help to close this historical gap, As economic, cultural as well as religious activities of Indian Muslims in the region are covered, this well-researched book, drawling on sources from archives in the wider region, is an introduction to this topic and may also serve as an impetus for others to research these areas in greater details.

UPCOMING EVENTS

16AUGUST 2013

S. T. LEE DISTINGUISHED
PUBLIC LECTURE
BY PROFESSOR SIR
STEVE SMITH, S. T. LEE
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER
ON "THE RACE TO THE
TOP - REFLECTIONS ON
THE MAJOR TRENDS IN
HIGHER EDUCATION AND
KNOWLEDGE ECONOMIES"

20 AUGUST 2013

RSIS DISTINGUISHED
PUBLIC LECTURE BY
DR WAYNE MAPP, RSIS
DISTINGUISHED VISITING
FELLOW ON "CHANGING
DYNAMICS OF NEW
ZEALAND'S RELATIONSHIP
WITH A RISING ASLA"

22 AUGUST 2013

RSIS SEMINAR BY DR WAYNE MAPP, RSIS DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW ON "IS THERE AN ARMS RACE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC?"

6 SEPTEMBER 2013

RSIS DISTINGUISHED
PUBLIC LECTURE BY
PROFESSOR STUART
CROFT, PROFESSOR OF
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY,
ON "THE GLOBALISED
THREAT OF FAR RIGHT
WHITE TERRORISM"



Adri Wanto Benjamin Ho Bernard Chin Chang Jun Yan Cheryl Lim Sze Hui Jennifer Yang Hui Joel Ng Kuang Jong Kaewkamol Pitakdumrongkit Mervin Kok Ristian Atriandi Supriyanto Theresa Robles

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