



NZASIA

New Zealand Asian Studies Society Inc

Newsletter No. 12, December 2002

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1. "What the Bali Incident Means for Indonesia" - by Anthony L Smith



Photo: Sarah Turner

Indonesian government has announced its belief that Al Qaeda is behind the Bali bombing. This announcement was probably premature given that it was made before the collation of evidence, but now the Australian government also accepts that Al Qaeda is behind the attack, considering the evidence collected so far.

The blast itself has a number of implications for Indonesia. First of all, it has forced the Indonesian government to take the terrorist threat far more seriously. After September 11, both Singapore and Malaysia made arrests of activists with an organization known as JI. Singapore claimed that JI had planned to blow up various targets in Singapore, including the US Embassy. Attempts by both Singapore and Malaysia to convince Indonesian authorities to arrest two suspects – JI operations leader, Hambali, and JI spiritual leader, Abu Bakar Ba'asyir – were met with resistance. Indonesian authorities argued that there was little or no evidence against JI leaders. Open criticism by Singapore led to a nationalist reaction in Jakarta. This was compounded by the use of this issue by President Megawati's domestic opponents, chief of which turned out to be her own Vice President, Hamzah Haz. Haz, since September 11, 2002, has poured scorn on America's foreign policy, the global war on terrorism, and, by extension, Indonesia's relations with the US. Haz also publicly courted Ba'asyir, and visited the jailed Ja'far Umar Thalib, the leader of Laskar Jihad (Jihad Force) – the latter used his supporters to cause havoc in the civil conflict in Ambon. Megawati, whose Islamic credentials are weak (not only is she a female leader, but is considered "secular" within Indonesia), seemed particularly sensitive to the charge of being anti-Islamic, or America's puppet. In the weeks prior to the Bali blast, there were indications of change. Various civilian and military leaders admitted that there were terrorist groups in Indonesia. However, when the CIA released details provided by Al Qaeda operative, Omar al-Faruq, of operations within Indonesia (see *Time Magazine*, 15 September 2002), there was much public disbelief. Based on this evidence the US Embassy closed over the first anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Haz accused the United States of deliberately trying to ruin Indonesia's reputation and economy. Megawati's own sister, Rachmawati, dismissed the US reports as "rumours" designed

to undermine Islam and control Indonesia (*Tempo Interactive*, 20 September 2002), while Solahuddin Wahid, head of Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) and the brother of ex-president Wahid, stated that this was a propaganda trick.

The Bali explosion, however, has caused the government to take more drastic action, and in doing so is supported by both NU and Muhammadiyah – Indonesia's largest and most important Muslim groups. Aside from the government announcement that Al Qaeda is the culprit, Hamzah Haz has publicly moved away from his links with radical Islam. The coordinating minister of security made a thinly veiled criticism of Haz for good measure and urged him and others not to deny the threat of terrorism any longer. The government also passed more hard-line anti-terrorist laws, which will allow terrorist suspects to be detained for six months, and classified material to be introduced in court hearings. Human rights groups are deeply concerned about the implications of these new laws, especially given Indonesia's not too distant authoritarian past. While some interested foreign governments have lauded the changes to the law, this does not entirely get around Indonesia's political reluctance to deal with the problem. For example, two of Indonesia's most radical groups, Islamic Defenders Front and Laskar Jihad, have routinely broken the law with near impunity – the former by raiding bars and hotels, the latter by sending *jihadi* to Ambon and Sulawesi – yet until very recently none of the leaders were put on trial. The new anti-terrorist legislation is not needed to bring such groups into the courtroom. Immediately after the Bali blast, after almost a year of saying there was no evidence against Ba'asyir, the JI leader was arrested on charges of the 2000 church bombings. This will add to the suspicion in Indonesia that Ba'asyir was arrested on trumped up charges as the result of foreign pressure.

Second, the blast has seriously tarnished the image of several leading political figures in Jakarta. Most obviously, Hamzah Haz's flirtation with radical Islamist figures has backfired. Yet, and quite unexpectedly, Megawati's own reputation has taken a serious dive over this issue despite the fact that the incident should have strengthened the cause of secular/nationalist leaders. Megawati's handling of the Bali incident has disappointed even prominent members of her own party, while her popularity in opinion polls was in dramatic decline even before the Bali incident. She has not shown any kind of leadership during an event that is also a major crisis for Indonesia itself (not least of all because it will scale down economic growth projections), and her management of the aftermath is marked by her characteristic silence. But there is another aspect to this as well. The Bali blast reveals that the Indonesian population is not yet convinced that *Jihadi* groups represent a danger to Indonesia – prominent Indonesian newspapers report that they are just as ready to believe that it is either the work of the military or even a plot by the CIA. What this means is that many Indonesians will probably not support the Indonesian government's decision to characterize the attack as the responsibility of radical Islamic elements.

Third, the blast now firmly establishes Southeast Asia, and Indonesia by extension, as the "Second Front" in efforts to confront international terrorism. Although some Australian commentators suggested that Australia was being targeted because of its "deputy sheriff" role to the United States, Osama bin Laden's threat to Australia at the end of 2001 was actually due to Australia's perceived role in detaching East Timor from Indonesia. If this is indeed the case, then it means that Australia must now invest time and energy into meeting this new threat – both as a threat to Australian citizens and as a threat to the security of Australia's northern neighbour. But what is the nature of this "Second Front"? Radical theocratic versions of political Islam, such as those held by Al Qaeda or the Taliban, would seem to require a sympathetic population, a sympathetic government, or a break down in law and order, in order to operate – or relocate. Indonesia, and the rest of Southeast Asia, is not a natural home for such ideologies, at least from the point of view of the way the region's Muslims view governance. This would seem to mitigate against large numbers of Southeast Asian Muslims, most of whom are not radicalized or alienated from the state, from joining Al Qaeda. However, a small number of individuals have clearly formed such links. The attacks of September 11 demonstrate the threat posed by even a small number of *jihadi* – and this remains a threat in Southeast Asia. What such groups have been able to exploit is Indonesia's reduced state capacity and lack of political will to investigate radicalized groups – a problem compounded by the prevalence of remote regions, scattered across some 13,000 islands.

What the Bali bombing should not indicate is widespread support for radical versions of Islamism within Indonesia. This should be seen as the work of a minuscule minority. The fact that many Muslim Indonesians still will not accept this threat is probably in large part because they struggle to come to terms with the transmogrified version of their faith being used to justify terror – which has led to denial of the problem. The last election results, in 1999, strongly demonstrate that there is no chance of an Islamic government being established in Indonesia. The electorate overwhelmingly voted for secular parties, or, in the case of the two largest "Islamic parties", parties that appealed to a Muslim voting bloc but advocated a secular state. Roughly 10% of the vote went to more hard-line Muslim parties who wish to make an explicit mention of Islam in the Indonesian constitution, and thus make Islam the state religion (bringing Indonesia in line with Malaysia). Even this change is a political non-starter, let alone more radical versions of political Islam that the Taliban might recognize.

Lastly, there is a growing concern that the blast could well play in to the hands of the military. The Bali blast is the latest in a long list of problems to beset Indonesia, and sections of the political and business elite are beginning to openly talk about the stability of life in more authoritarian times. The military may be seen as the only means to restore order, and that may make much needed reforms difficult to push through the legislature. Furthermore, various political and military leaders, including the President herself, have attempted to link the problem of global terrorism with the problems in Aceh and Papua. Independence movements in both provinces have been labelled terrorist by the Indonesian government. There is some open speculation in the media that Jakarta will now press its external partners, the US in particular, to assist in crushing separatist movements, especially in Aceh. Linking these struggles with the war on global terrorism would be a mistake, and the US government, and others, have not shown any hint of conflating these two different phenomena.

In conclusion, the Bali blast will have important implications for Indonesia – both in terms of the way in which it sees radicalism, and the individual fortunes of some figures in the executive. The blast does establish Southeast Asia as the "Second Front". Of course, the problem of terrorism can strike in any region of the world – the attacks of September 11 are a case in point. Yet, Indonesia's reduced state capacity has been a boon for groups like Jemaah Islamiyah. Countries like the US, Australia, and Singapore, will seek to work with Indonesia's security forces in combating the problem of terrorism, but face a dilemma in working with those that stand accused of human rights violations (revelations that elements of the army may be complicit in the deaths of two Americans in Papua several months ago may prove to be another stumbling block). While investigators try to find more clues about who is responsible for the bomb blast, and why, the Indonesian government, and its foreign partners, are working on the assumption that Al Qaeda, an Al Qaeda affiliate, or a like minded Islamist group, is culpable for this terrible crime. The Bali attack will have a dramatic impact on Indonesia's future, with the most discernible short term outcome being the death of Bali's massive tourist industry.

(Anthony L Smith, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, Hawai'i)

(The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, US Pacific Command, the US Department of Defense, or the US government.)

2. News and Announcements

2.1 Asia 2000's First Diwali Festival of Lights

Asia 2000's first Diwali Festival of Lights attracted around 70,000 people to events in Wellington and Auckland. Diwali ran over two weeks, starting with a one day Festival in Wellington on 19 October, followed by a schools programme in Wellington and Auckland, and ending with a one day Festival in Auckland on 26 October.



This was the first time that Diwali had been celebrated on a large public scale in New Zealand. All events, including our Bollywood, rangoli and best-dressed stall competitions, proved extremely popular and received excellent community feedback. The Hindu Endowment Board in Singapore kindly donated Diwali decorations and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in Delhi generously provided two international groups: the Nagaland Performing Group and a rod-and-string puppet group from Karnataka. In addition Asia 2000 brought rangoli maker Abhay Gadkari from Gujarat for the Festival.

The schools programme was an important part of the Diwali Festival, as the event provided an opportunity for schools to experience first hand an authentic Asian Festival, interact with expert artists and learn

about an aspect of Indian culture which is outside their everyday experience. The programme included performance workshops by the international artists at Te Papa and Auckland War Memorial Museum. Visiting rangoli expert Abhay Gadkari supervised the rangoli-making workshops in both cities.

Over 2,300 children attended two day programmes at each venue. Teacher support was given with an on-line Diwali resource on Asia 2000's website at www.asia2000.org.nz/educate/diwali/index.shtml. Rangoli-making workshops were held prior to the Festival to encourage interest and develop skills which teachers could share with their colleagues and students.

(Pamela Barton)



2.2 New Zealand's Relations with Southeast Asia - Call for Contributors

Dr Anthony Smith is currently engaged in compiling a volume of New Zealand's relations with Southeast Asia (to be jointly published by the New Zealand Institute of International Affairs in Wellington and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore). The outline of the edited book, in broad terms, features three theme chapters and ten chapters analysing the emergence of bilateral ties with individual states in Southeast Asia (including East Timor). He is interested in hearing from anyone who thinks they would be willing to contribute a chapter on either (i) New Zealand's relations with Singapore, or (ii) New Zealand's relations with the Philippines. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade archives will be the main source of

primary documents for this (I can advise on how to go about this). Please contact Dr Smith if you are interested in hearing more about what this entails.

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2.3 New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies

The December 2002 issue of *NZJAS* is devoted to maritime Southeast Asia. Sarah Turner, formerly of the University of Otago and now at McGill University, Montreal, has been Guest Editor for this special issue. In addition to the articles listed below there will also be around twenty reviews of recently published books.

Contents

Henry Johnson. Balinese Music, Tourism and Globalisation: Inventing Traditions Within and Across Cultures
Richard Seymour and Sarah Turner. Otonomi Daerah: Indonesia's decentralisation experiment
Malcolm Cone. Neo-Modern Islam in Suharto's Indonesia
Anthony Smith. Aceh: Democratic Times, Authoritarian Solutions
Anthony Smith and Angie Ng. Papua: Moving Beyond Internal Colonialism?
Edi Suharto. Human Development and the Urban Informal Sector in Bandung, Indonesia: the Poverty Issue
Naimah Talib. A Resilient Monarchy: The Sultanate of Brunei and Regime Legitimacy in an Era of Democratic Nation-States
Ché Charteris. Democratic Discourses in Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines
Pam Allen. Seno Gumira Ajidarma Destination: The Land of Never-ending Sunset
Nicholas Tarling. Review of R E Elson, *Suharto: A Political Biography*

Copies of this issue will be in the mail before Christmas. Those who are not subscribers but wish to become so should contact the secretary of NZASIA, Ken Henshall, Department of Asian Studies, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch, New Zealand.

(Brian Moloughney, Editor, *NZJAS*)

2.4 New ASEM Website

The International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) is pleased to announce the launch of the new ASEM (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) Research Platform's website. It offers all information we have so far collected on ASEM - events and activities, electronic document delivery, titles of academic articles and books and NGO reports. It will not only be updated weekly, but also offer new features of the ASEM process and its research. In a state of continuous evolution, the site will be useful to scholars, politicians, business and civil society representatives and all interested in Asia-Europe relations. Visit our website at www.iias.nl/asem/. We would encourage you to pass on this information to others who you feel may be interested. Of course, if you have any comments, queries or advice, please get in touch with us.

2.5 New NZASIA Website

NZASIA has obtained its own unique internet address. From December 2002 the address will be www.nzasia.org.nz. Update your bookmarks now!

2.6 Annual Central Eurasian Studies Society Conference - Report

The Annual Central Eurasian Studies Society Conference was held 17-20 October 2002 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Some early signs meant that I didn't expect to get much out of this conference. The programme was prepared just days before the event, the registration fee was a ridiculously low US\$30, and my field (Development Studies) lay on the periphery of the traditional core of area study programmes - history, language, culture and religion. I only showed up at the conference because I was passing through the US at the time and because there were other people and institutions that I wanted to visit on the UW-Madison campus. However, the conference turned out to be very impressive and worthwhile. It drew together scholars from the top three Central Asian programmes in the US (Harvard, Indiana State, UW-Madison) as well as academics from other US and overseas institutions. Central Asians, from the Caucasus in the west to Xinjiang in the east, were well represented among the participants. For those participants like myself that were not interested in the finer points of Tajik music or Kazakh language, there were always stimulating concurrent sessions dealing with the history, politics and societies of the countries that make up the region. The keynote and contributing speakers were on the whole excellent, and even some

topics on which participants had seriously conflicting views, such as 'Islamic fundamentalism' and 'ethnic separatism', were treated and discussed in a scholarly manner. However, many of the papers lacked empirical content, perhaps highlighting the political difficulty and safety issues associated with doing field research in large parts of the Central Asian region. Nevertheless there was a widespread feeling among participants that this was the best CESS conference since the society's foundation 3 years ago. The membership of CESS now stands at 850 people and interest in Central Asia is further growing in the wake of '9/11'. The next annual CESS conference, to be hosted by Harvard University, looks set to be even better than this one. I will definitely consider going again.

(Tony Banks, Massey University)

3. Reports from the Regions

3.1 News from Victoria University

The long-awaited review of Victoria's Asian Studies Institute recently concluded and the report of the Review Panel is now being circulated for consultation. The Panel, chaired by Professor Neil Quigley (Pro-Vice-Chancellor & Dean of Commerce and Administration, VUW) and including Michael Green from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade, was in large measure supportive of the various activities of the ASI in the past and convinced of the strategic importance of the Institute for the future. Among other things, their report recommends that the ASI be established as a separate budget centre (thus removing it from its present placement within the School of Asian and European Languages and Cultures) and that a professorial-level appointment of a Director (a position vacant since the resignation of Peter Harris in 1999) be made as soon as possible. The Director, once appointed, is to be joined by one other permanent academic staff member on secondment to assist with the teaching programme and a half-time administration assistant. The report recommends also that the ASI be divested of its managerial responsibilities in terms of student recruitment and institutional linkages in order that it may concentrate its energies more fully on its research and teaching programmes. Finally, the report also recommends that the ASI be charged with managing the relationships between VUW and similar Asia-focused centres in New Zealand and that it seek to engage in public debate on relevant issues. The Board of the ASI has welcomed the report and trusts that its recommendations will soon be implemented.

Prizes/Research Awards

The ASI's first MA student graduated earlier this year, with Distinction: sections of Stephen McDowall's thesis on the Chinese Ming dynasty writer Yuan Hongdao have been published recently in the ASI's Translation Papers series, under the title: "Four Months of Idle Roaming: The West Lake Records of Yuan Hongdao (1568-1610)".

Stephen is next year to take up one of the Asia 2000 China Scholarships. Two other students from VUW's Chinese Programme applied successfully for this Scholarship this year, and they are to join the three successful VUW students from last year, all of whose scholarships were renewed for another year. Limin Bai from this programme is presently on leave, to be spent in Beijing and Shanghai, and Mei Sun is to be on leave for the 1st Trimester 2003. In January, Duncan Campbell is to spend a week at Harvard University attending a workshop on an anthology of Chinese garden writing with which he is presently involved. From 2003, the Chinese Ministry of Education is to part-fund a lectureship in Chinese at VUW; it is hoped that this fourth lectureship will mean that the programme will be able to offer an Honours and MA programme in Chinese Studies from 2004.

New creative production

A series of four compact discs "South of the Clouds: Instrumental Music of the Yunnan Minority Nationalities". Field recordings of Zhang Xingrong of the Yunnan Art Institute, Kunming, edited and produced by Jack Body, Victoria University of Wellington, in collaboration with Helen Rees, University of California Los Angeles.

Published by Ode Records, Auckland (2002).

Conference Report

Dr Limin Bai was invited to present a speech on "Environment Appropriate for Children" at the 14th annual meeting of the International Business Leaders' Advisory Council for the Mayor of Shanghai. IBLAC was established in 1989 when premier Zhu Rongji was Shanghai's mayor. Since 1989 IBLAC has grown to a membership of 35 leaders from its original 12. The 14th annual meeting, held on November 3, 2002, discussed the issues of how to develop Shanghai into a world-class city. IBLAC members and invited speakers considered the ways for Shanghai to advance in the service industry, modern city management, human resources and the living environment. Dr Bai's speech analysed physical and psychological environment for children in Shanghai, and put forward 10 suggestions that cover the issues of curriculum reform, children psychological health, child abuse and children's safety.

(Sekhar Bandyopadhyay)

3.2 News from Massey University

The School of Language Studies has awarded the following MA degrees in Japanese with Distinction: Corder, Deborah Mary, "The QTKanji Project: An Analysis of the Relationship between Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) and the Development of Autonomous Language Learners" Crawford, Masako, "Language Learning Strategies: A Study of Strategies Used by Japanese Adults to Learn English in New Zealand, with Particular Reference to Perception and Production of Difficult Phonemes". Prof Srikanta Chatterjee and Dr Shamim Shakur of the Department of Applied and International Economics presented a paper at the 8th International Convention of the East Asian Economic Association (EAEA) in Kuala Lumpur in early November. The paper examined the implications of selected agricultural and manufacturing trade reform under the current round of WTO negotiations on the economies of New Zealand, Australia and several countries in East Asia. Srikanta Chatterjee chaired a panel on Multicountry Studies on Growth and Development Strategies at the EAEA Convention. In early November, he visited the National University of Singapore and presented a seminar in the economics department on income distribution in post-reform New Zealand.

Publications

Dr Geoff Watson (School of History, Philosophy and Politics), "1200-1800 Yillari Arasinda Bati'daki Orta Asya Imajii" in Hasan Celal Guzel, Kemal Cicek and Dr Salim Koca (eds), *Turkler*, Yeni Turkiye Publication House, Ankara, 2002, Vol 8: 334-44. English version "Western Images of Central Asia c 1200-1800" in Hasan Celal Guzel, C Cem Oguz and Osman Karatay (eds) *The Turks*, Yeni Turkiye Publication House, Ankara, 2002, Vol. 2: 795-804.

Geoff Watson, 'Images of Central Asia in the "Central Asia Question"', in Benjamin, C and Lieu, S, (eds), *Walls and Frontiers in Inner Asian History*, Silk Roads Studies Series vol. VI (Brepols, Turnhout 2002): 141-159.

Geoff Watson, "Representations of Central Asian Ethnicities in British Literature c. 1830-1914", *Asian Ethnicity*, 3(2) (2002): 137-51.

(Rosemary Haddon)

3.3 News from Otago University

Professor Dipesh Chakrabarty visited Otago University on 27-28 August. He gave a public lecture called 'History and Democracies: Subaltern Studies and After'. He also ran a smaller discussion session on 'Reconciliation and its Historiography', a topic on which he has recently published. His paper explored links between the work of the Subaltern Studies collective and the process of reconciliation in Australia, where he lived for many years. In the discussion session Dipesh was interested in exploring these issues in relation to contemporary debates in New Zealand. Dipesh Chakrabarty is Professor in the Department of History and in the Department of South Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. He is a founding member of the collective that produces *Subaltern Studies*. He is a co-editor of *Critical Inquiry* and a founding-editor of the journal *Postcolonial Studies*. He serves on the editorial committee of *Public Culture* and the *American Historical Review*. Two of his latest publications are *Habitations of Modernity: Essays in the Wake of Subaltern Studies* (2002); *Provincializing Europe: Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference* (2000).

(Brian Moloughney)

3.4 News from Canterbury University

Ken Henshall, Chris Seeley, and Henk de Groot have just completed for Tuttle a major updating and revision of Florence Sakade's classic kanji reference book *A Guide to Reading and Writing Japanese*. Amazingly, despite continuing to sell in large numbers and being one of the most popular kanji reference works ever, the book was last revised in 1961, and was not even updated during the major transition from Toyo Kanji to Joyo Kanji in 1981. This new updated edition is due for publication in December or January. Henk de Groot has also recently revised another Tuttle title, *Survival Japanese*. Ken Henshall and Junji Kawai are scheduled to work on a further language project for Tuttle over the summer months, entitled 'Welcome to Japanese'. Ken is also working on a book on the *Superfluous Man* (Turgenev's concept of the non-achiever), applied to the Meiji Period. Publication is envisaged with Routledge late 2003/early 2004. Anne-Marie Brady's *Friend of China: The Myth of Rewi Alley*, Routledge Curzon, 2002 has just been published. Her second book *Making the Foreign Serve China: Managing Foreigners in the People's Republic*, Rowman and Littlefield is due out in March 2003.

(Anne-Marie Brady)

4. Conferences

4.1 CLAIR Forum - Wellington, 6 December, 2002

The 2002 CLAIR Forum will host presenters from New Zealand, Australia, Singapore and Japan will be invited to speak on topics related to this year's theme - 'Form, Function and Funding - Evolution of Local Government in New Zealand' This marks the first time that the annual CLAIR Forum will be held in New Zealand. Japan has long held an interest in New Zealand's experience with local administrative reform, and we look forward to further discussions with international experts and those interested in this topic. The CLAIR Forum provides delegates with an excellent opportunity to hear case studies from government practitioners from across Oceania and Asia, as well as providing excellent international networking opportunities. For further information see www.jlgc.org.au/Forum/home_eng.htm.

4.2 ASEAN Inter University Seminar on Social Development, 2003

The School of Social Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia (in collaboration with the Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore and School of Social Development, Universiti Utara Malaysia) is organizing the Sixth ASEAN Inter University Seminar on Social Development to be held in Penang 20-22 May 2003. We would like to invite all those interested in coordinating panels and preparing papers to submit abstracts to the seminar secretariat by 15 January 2003.

The main theme for the Sixth ASEAN Inter University Seminar is "Re Forming Southeast Asia: Challenges & Prospects." Panels will be organized based on the following sub topics: Fragmentation & Cohesion; Politics & Environment; Gender, Culture and Power; Information Technology & the New Economy; Remaking Economy & Society; Wealth & Poverty; Rethinking Families: Survival & Integrity; Security & Strategic Issues in Asean; Globalization & Labour Reconstitution; Popular Culture & Youth; Religion, Ethnicity & Globalization; Issues in Sustainable Development.

The biannual conference usually attracts a good mix of social scientists and government officials from Southeast Asia, East Asia, Australia, Europe and North America. who are engaged in ASEAN-based research and public affairs. Abstracts of papers should be less than 250 words. Abstracts for panels should include the title, a list of participants, and abstracts for each paper. Electronic versions of completed, camera ready papers of not more than 20 single-spaced A4-sized pages should reach the secretariat by 31 March 2003. Selected papers from this seminar may be included in a future publication. For more information about submissions, please check the full Call for Papers locating on the following web pages (a recent version of Internet Explorer may be necessary).

Stephen Appold
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www.fas.nus.edu.sg/soc/asean/asean_inter.htm
www.soc.usm.my/social

4.3 Conference of Asian Association of Social Psychology, 2003

The 5th Biennial Conference of Asian Association of Social Psychology will be in Manila, the Philippines, July 29 to August 1, 2003. The conference theme will be "The Application of Social Psychology in Asian Cultures." The 2003 Manila Conference represents the AASP's continuing efforts to develop and promote social psychological research in Asia. The conference will highlight the rich variety of approaches in studying, practicing, and applying social psychology in Asian cultures. The conference shall also provide a venue for surfacing theoretical, methodological, and applied issues that may facilitate or hinder the growth of social psychology in Asia.

The conference will feature invited addresses by the following prominent psychologists who are leaders in the study and application of psychology in Asian cultures: Dr. Toshei Yamagishi (Hokkaido University), Dr. Kwok Leung (City University of Hong Kong), Dr. Sang-Chin Choi (Chung-Ang University, Korea), Dr. Chang Weining Chu (National University of Singapore), Dr. Sarlito Wirawan Sarwono (University of Indonesia), and Dr. Noraini Noor (International Islamic University, Malaysia). AASP President-Elect Dr. Kwang-Kuo Hwang (National Taiwan University) will deliver the Presidential Address.

The conference will serve as a venue for sharing research on the various fields and aspects of social psychological phenomena. There will be oral paper presentations, symposia, and poster presentations in a wide range of fields in basic and applied social psychology, and also other subfields of psychology that deal with the social dimension of the human experience. The official language of the conference will be English. The conference will be jointly hosted by three universities in Metro Manila: the

Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU), De La Salle University-Manila (DLSU), and the University of the Philippines, Diliman (UP). The call for abstracts can be found in the Conference website and the deadline for submission of abstracts is on January 30, 2003. For more information on the AASP 2003 Conference in Manila please check the conference website at www.dlsu.edu.ph/conferences/aasp or send e-mail to Dr Allan B I Bernardo at bernardoa@dlsu.edu.ph or aasp@dlsu.edu.ph.

4.4 NZASIA International Conference, 2003

The proposed dates for the 15th NZASIA International Conference are 21-24 November 2003. Auckland University will host the conference; Dr James Kember will be the Chair of the Organising Committee; and Dr Xin Chen the secretary. The suggested title of the conference is "Knowing Asia". We anticipate preparing a formal message for NZASIA members promptly and to begin work on the conference website soon.

4.5 Third International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS3 Singapore, 2003)

19-22 August 2003. Proposals on all aspects of Asian research are invited.. The submission deadline has been extended to 31 January 2003. Venue: Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore. Organised by National University of Singapore, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Asia Research Institute. Endorsed by Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA), Association for Asian Studies (AAS), International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS).

Duration of each session is 1 hour 45 minutes. Organised Panels consist of 3 or 4 papers with a chairperson and/or discussant. Individual papers accepted will be organised into panels with each paper not running more than 20 minutes, excluding question time. Poster presentations in any language can be displayed, but proposals must be submitted in English. Please provide a title, 250-word abstract/description, names, institutional affiliations of participant/s (and individual paper titles & abstracts for panel presenters). Official proposal forms, funding and registration details may be found at www.fas.nus.edu.sg/icas3 or contact the icas3 secretariat at icas3sec@nus.edu.sg, Tel (65) 6874 3805, Fax (65) 6777 0751.

5. People in NZASIA

5.1 New Books

Charles Higham, *Early Cultures of Mainland Southeast Asia*. Bangkok: River Books, 2002. 371 pp. with over 350 colour and b/w illustrations. ISBN 1588860280. \$95 Aust. During the past decade, archaeology in Southeast Asia has forged ahead, with many new discoveries being made in all areas. This new synthesis begins with the early hunters and gatherers, and concludes with the early states, with particular reference to Angkor. It reflects the new maturity of our understanding of Southeast Asia's past, moving well beyond the claims of extraordinary early agriculture, bronze and iron that bedevilled the discipline in the 1970s. New ideas and interpretations abound. The hunter-gatherer sequence is now stretched back over 10,000 years, and continues to the present day. Where formerly the transition to rice culture was sought locally, it is now documented first in the Yangzi Valley whence, the author suggests, farming communities expanded southwards along the five major river valleys into a new, tropical world. This book stands as the only up to date synthesis of the early cultures of a huge area. Richly illustrated with many previously unpublished colour images, it is a unique compendium essential for all those interested in this region.

Anthony S K Shome. *Malay Political Leadership*. London: Routledge Curzon, 2002. ISBN 0700716297. Hbk £50.00, pp. 264. This book demonstrates how particular values and 'notions of leadership', which underpinned traditional Malay leadership, have played a crucial role in the political evolution of the modern Malaysian nation. The author discusses the nature of Malay 'notions of leadership', and considers this throughout the Malay world at the local as well as at the national level, and goes on to describe and analyse leadership from pre-independence leadership in the colonial period through the rule of Malaysia's four prime ministers. He draws on anthropology, psychology, and political and economic history to show how Malay leaders have kept within the established track of the Malay value system, responding in particular to the expectation of their people to provide a sense of national identity and unity against the complex background of the Malaysian 'mosaic', while addressing the needs of the wider multi-ethnic community. www.routledge.co.uk

Sarah Turner, *Indonesia's Small Entrepreneurs: Trading on the Margins*. Routledge Curzon, London, 2003. This book examines the livelihoods of small scale entrepreneurs in the city of Makassar, Sulawesi, Eastern Indonesia, and how they have adapted to the continuously changing economic and political environment in which they operate.

Also, look out for the December 2002 issue of the *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies* for which Sarah was the Guest Editor. Bringing together seven research papers, a student essay, a literary piece and a review article, the collection highlights the work that a group of researchers, connected in a variety of ways with New Zealand, are currently undertaking regarding different insular states and island populations in Southeast Asia.

5.2 Other News

Dr Sarah Turner, who was a Lecturer in Development Geography, at the University of Otago, has now moved to McGill University, Montreal, Canada to take up a position as Assistant Professor in Geography.

Prof Alan Williams, School of Aviation, has been appointed a Guest Professor in the Aetna School of Management, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China.

6. Membership

We remind you that the membership fee includes a subscription to the *New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies* (published twice yearly). The subscription period runs from 1 January to 31 December. Other benefits of membership include the *Newsletter*, conference participation with reduced rates (including reciprocity with ASAA conferences), the potential for networking with other members, the benefits of keeping abreast of developments in Asian Studies in NZ (including scholarship opportunities), and the opportunity to become actively involved in those developments. If your details in the *NZASIA Directory* are unchanged, a cheque for the subscription amount with a note of your name, institution and mailing address will be sufficient. If you are a new member and are not listed in the *Directory* (see the website), or if your details have changed significantly, please let us know using the form found on our website: www.nzasia.org.nz. Subscriptions should be sent to:

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