

Recent Books on Lao PDR – Sept 2022

Mary Martin Booksellers Pte Ltd
Blk 231, Bain Street
#03-05, Bras Basah Complex
Singapore 180231
Tel : +65-6883-2284/6883-2204
info@marymartin.com
www.marymartin.com

Anthropology

From Tribalism to Nationalism : The Anthropological Turn in Laos – A Tribute to Grant Evans / (Eds) Yves Goudineau & Vanina Boute
Copenhagen K, Denmark: NIAS Press, 2022
xiv, 400p. ; 25 illus. (4 in color) ; 10 maps
Includes Index
9788776943035
NIAS – Nordic Institute of Asian Studies: Studies in Asian Topics, No. 76
\$ 32.00 / PB
606gm.

For many years, fieldwork was impossible in Laos due to the wars and then because of the overthrow of the royal power and the establishment of a revolutionary regime. Yet this country – where, to this day, very diverse ethnic minorities make up more than half the population – has long been considered by ethnologists as a quite unique place of study. Although limited in number, several good ethnographies were conducted during colonial times and after independence until the 1960s, both among certain ethnic minorities and among Lao villagers. But, with rare exceptions, they adopted a narrow focus, producing ethnic monographs or even village studies.

It was not until the 1990s that some international researchers were able to return to the field in Laos, often in difficult and precarious conditions. While recognizing the value of some early ethnographies, their approach deliberately turned towards anthropological questioning with new theoretical perspectives. The book brings together several of these anthropological studies representative of a new generation of researchers engaged in fieldwork, often in collaboration with Lao researchers in joint projects. Among other aspects, their research demonstrates the value of studying the political role of the state in the management of multi-ethnicity as well as in the management of religion. But they also re-situate the study of a particular ethnic minority in the broader field of interethnic relations at the regional or national level.

Published in collaboration with the École française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO), the book is a tribute to the late Grant Evans, whose work remains emblematic of this "anthropological turn" in Lao studies.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=789260>

Politics/Current Affairs

Sustainable Development Goals in Laos / Supitcha Punya

Glienicke, Germany: Garlida Verlag, 2022

xxii, 194p.

9783962032159

Insights from Southeast Asia: Multiple Approaches towards the Region, Volume 7

\$ 83.00 / PB

376gm.

This book provides an insight on the development of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR or Laos) under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) since 2015 by analyzing how the SDGs have shaped Lao domestic institutions and developed policies. It also investigates the relationship and partnership of the Lao government and the international community as a partner. Post-socialist approach is applied to reveal the politics of development and legitimation. Moreover, this book contributes an in-depth discussion on Lao development that serves as a point of reference for scholars who are interested in Laos and Southeast Asian studies.
