

Recent Books from Malaysia – March 2020

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Art

Living Art : The Inspired Lives of 14 Malaysian Artists and Their Art Practice / Emelia Ong

Penang: Areca Books Asia Sdn Bhd, 2020

136p. ; 20.3x26.6cm.

9789675719400

1. Art – Malaysia.
2. Artists – Malaysia – Anecdotes.
3. Art, Malaysian.

\$ 30.00 / PB

492gm.

Snapshots of contemporary Malaysian art practice, revealed through insightful interviews with 14 professional artists. In their own voices, these artists share intimate stories of their first exposures to art. They reveal their learning processes, unique approaches and creative strategies, explaining their choices of space, materials and styles. A book to inspire those embarking on their own journey into the world of art.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687054>

Eclectic Cultures For All : The Development of the Peranakan Performing, Visual and Material Arts in Penang / (Ed) Tan Sooi Beng

Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2019

xxviii, 312p.

Includes Index ; CD

9789674614065

1. Art – Malaysia – Pulau Pinang.
2. Peranakan (Asia people) – Malaysia – Pulau Pinang – Social life and customs.
3. Eclectism in art – Malaysia – Pulau Pinang.

\$ 30.00 / PB

544gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687055>

The Art of Wall : Street Art in Penang / Nikko Tan
Penang: Miku Books (Clarity Publishing), 2019

Iv.

9789671429792

\$ 20.00 / HB

250gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687056>

Impressions : George Town / Howard Tan
Penang: Miku Books (Clarity Publishing), 2019

Iv.

9789671765715

\$ 20.00 / HB

250gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687057>

Street Eats Penang / Jodi Hinds
Penang: Miku Books (Clarity Publishing), 2019

Iv.

9789671765708

\$ 20.00 / HB

250gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687058>

Biography/Memoirs

Welcome Home : Lesson in Saying Goodbye / Julia Yeow
(Foreword) Ambassador Dennis Ignatius

Petaling Jaya: Gerakbudaya Enterprise, 2020

xvi, 112p.

9789670311487

1. Yeow, Julia – Anecdotes.

2. Immigrants – Anecdotes.

3. Anecdotes.

\$ 11.50 / PB

148gm.

“Leaving, according to the familiar political narrative, was a sign that someone was giving up on their country or wasn’t proud of his or her identity. Those who decided to emigrate were pigeonholed as dissidents. This stereotype was not only inaccurate, but made us one-dimensional in our apparent single-mindedness to leave behind a country we supposedly felt was no longer good enough.”

Migration is a sensitive topic, especially for over one million Malaysians who choose to venture abroad. The act of leaving their own lives behind is fraught with challenges, ranging from loneliness to the elusive search for a better quality of life. But at the heart of their actions is the fact that their lives and identities are never going to be the same. In veteran journalist Julia Yeow’s book, her departure for Australia becomes a series of lessons about the personal and political aspects of leaving. Deeply personal and fiercely observant, *Welcome Home* is a book for an age of intolerance and new boundaries.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684783>

From Jail to Jail, Volume I / Tan Malaka (Ed, Translator & Intro) Helen Jarvis

Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information & Research Development Centre, 2020

cxlvi, 194p.

Includes Index

9789672165743

1. Revolutionaries – Indonesia.

2. Nationalism – Indonesia.

3. Indonesia – Politics and government.

\$ 22.50 / PB

466gm.

From Jail to Jail is the political autobiography of Sutan Ibrahim gelar Tan Malaka, an enigmatic and colorful political thinker of twentieth-century Asia, who was one of the most influential figures of the Indonesian Revolution. Variouslly labeled a communist, Trotskyite, and nationalist, Tan Malaka managed to run afoul of nearly every political group and faction involved in the Indonesian struggle for independence. During his decades of political activity, he spent periods of exile and hiding in nearly every country in Southeast Asia. As a Marxist who was expelled from and became a bitter enemy of his country's Communist Party and as a nationalist who was imprisoned and murdered by his own government's forces as a danger to its anticolonial struggle, Tan Malaka was and continues to be soaked in contradiction and controversy.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684774>

From Jail to Jail, Volume II & III / Tan Malaka (Ed, Translator & Intro) Helen Jarvis

Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information & Research Development Centre, 2020

viii, 276p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9789672165750

1. Revolutionaries – Indonesia.
2. Nationalism – Indonesia.
3. Indonesia – Politics and government.

\$ 32.50 / PB

662gm.

From Jail to Jail is the political autobiography of Sutan Ibrahim gelar Tan Malaka, an enigmatic and colorful political thinker of twentieth-century Asia, who was one of the most influential figures of the Indonesian Revolution. Variouslly labeled a communist, Trotskyite, and nationalist, Tan Malaka managed to run afoul of nearly every political group and faction involved in the Indonesian struggle for independence. During his decades of political activity, he spent periods of exile and hiding in nearly every country in Southeast Asia. As a Marxist who was expelled from and became a bitter enemy

of his country's Communist Party and as a nationalist who was imprisoned and murdered by his own government's forces as a danger to its anticolonial struggle, Tan Malaka was and continues to be soaked in contradiction and controversy.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684782>

Ecology/Environment

Fungi, Insects and Spiders of Merbok / (Eds) Siti Azizah Mohd Nor, Suhaila Ab. Hamid & Nik Ahmad Irwan Izzauddin Nik Him

Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2019
xiv, 120p.

Includes Index

9789674613143

1. Fungi – Identification – Kedah – Merbok.
2. Insects – Identification – Kedah – Merbok.
3. Spiders – Identification – Kedah – Merbok.

\$ 18.00 / PB

212gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687059>

Royal Belum–Temengor Rainforest : The Hidden Treasure of Perak / (Eds) Nik Ahmad Irwan Izzauddin Nik Him, Suhaila Ab. Hamid & Zarul Hazrin Hashim

Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2019
xii, 298p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9789674614041

1. Forest and forestry – Perak – Hutan Simpan Belum.
2. Forest and conservation – Perak – Hutan Simpan Belum.
3. Government publications – Malaysia.
4. Hutan Simpan Belum (Perak).

\$ 70.00 / HB

806gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=681439>

Creating Future-Proof Cities : How to Navigate the Climate Crisis / Murali Ram & Rexy Prakash Chacko (Ed) Khoo Salma Nasution & Manasi Dhanorkar

Penang: Arecca Books Asia Sdn Bhd, 2019

88p. ; 23.8x16.7cm.

9789675719394

- 1. Climatic changes – Malaysia – Pulau Pinang.**
- 2. Climatology.**
- 3. City planning – Climatic factors.**

\$ 15.00 / PB

234gm.

What can you do to help your city adapt to the realities of climate change? This book demystifies the climate crisis and prescribes a localised response, using Penang, Malaysia, as a case study. Policymakers, social entrepreneurs and community practitioners can learn how to accelerate mitigation efforts and improve resilience.

This publication cuts through the jargon and serves as a practical guide to individuals, communities and cities to step up action to curb the rise of global temperatures and adapt to future norms. Collective and institutional approaches are urgently needed in the fields of culture, energy, mobility, waste, and land use. Action on these fronts begins with awareness.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687060>

Economics/Development Studies

Government and Homeownership : The Penang Scenario / Ernawati Mustafa Kamal (et al.)

Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2019

xii, 66p.

9789674613273

- 1. Homeowners – Malaysia – Pulau Pinang.**
- 2. Housing policy – Malaysia – Pulau Pinang.**

\$ 16.50 / PB

150gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687061>

Education

Creativity in Education / (Eds) Shukran Abdul Rahman, Munir Shuib & Glenda Crosling

Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2019
xxii, 278p.

Includes Index

9789674614003

1. Education – Methodology.
2. Teaching – Methodology.
3. Education, Higher – Malaysia.
4. Government publications – Malaysia.

\$ 20.00 / PB

508gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687062>

University-Community Engagement Leadership Toolkit :
Sharing Best Practices / Syed Yusof Syed Kechil (et al.)

Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2019
xx, 88p.

Includes Index ; Bibliography

9789674614294

1. Community and college – Malaysia.
2. Universities and colleges – Malaysia.
3. Education leadership – Malaysia.

\$ 15.00 / PB

176gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687063>

New Horizon of Psychological Assessment in Education / (Eds)
Melissa Ng Lee Yen Abdullah, Lim Hooi Lian & Hairul Nizam
Ismail

Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2019
xiv, 290p.

Includes Index

9789674613723

1. Educational psychology.

2. Learning, Psychology of.
\$ 25.00 / PB
424gm.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687064>

History

Behind Barbed Wire : Chinese New Villages During the
Malayan Emergency 1948-1960 / Tan Peng Phee
Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information and Research
Development Centre, 2020
xxiv, 320p.
Includes Index ; Bibliography
9789672165798

1. Chinese – Malaysia.
2. Chinese – Malaysia – History.
3. Chinese – Malaysia – Social conditions.
4. Chinese – Malaysia – Social life and customs.
5. Malaya – History – Malayan Emergency, 1948-1960.

\$ 34.00 / PB
524gm.

This unique book revisits the moment in the Malayan Emergency when some 500,000 women, children and men were uprooted from their homes and moved into new settlements, guarded day and night by police and troops. A majority were rural Chinese: market gardeners, shopkeepers, rice farmers, tin miners and rubber tappers who had long made Malaya their home and had lived through the hardships of the Japanese Occupation. Based upon newly accessible archival materials and painstaking multilingual interviews with more than 80 informants in four New Villages, Tan Teng Phee rewrites the history of the Emergency, exposing the voices of those at the heart of this lauded ‘social experiment’.

In Francis Loh's words, these were ordinary villagers 'caught in the crossfire between the British security forces and the Malayan Communist Party' whose lives were turned inside-out and re-ordered completely, with daily curfews, body searches and food controls alongside the carrots and sticks of registration, (re)education, sanitation, psychological warfare and swift punishment. Highlighting the disciplinary aims of British policy, as well as the ways in which villagers resisted this discipline through 'weapons of the weak', this book forms a unique history from below of the Malayan Emergency, and of a resettlement programme which shaped the social and geographical landscape of Malaysia for generations to come.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=686344>

Literature

Two Heartbeats Away / KS Maniam
Petaling Jaya: Maya Press Sdn Bhd, 2019
vi, 90p.
9789832737605
\$ 10.00 / PB
170gm.

K. S. Maniam has been writing from his early teens. His stories have appeared in numerous journals around the world. His first novel, *The Return*, was published in 1981 and the second, *In a Far Country*, in 1993. He won the first prize for *The Loved Flaw: Stories from Malaysia* in The New Straits Times–McDonald's short-story contest (1987) and for *Haunting the Tiger: Contemporary Stories from Malaysia* in The New Straits Times–Shell contest (1990). He is the inaugural recipient of the Raja Rao Award for Literature (New Delhi, September 2000), for his outstanding contribution to the literature of the South Asian diaspora. He has been a lecturer (1980–85) and associate professor (1986–97) in the English Department, University of Malaya, in Kuala Lumpur. He lives with his wife, son, and daughter in Subang Jaya, Malaysia, and devotes his time fully to writing.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684776>

Ronggeng-Ronggeng : Malaysian Short Stories / (Ed) Malachi Edwin Vethamani

Petaling Jaya: Maya Press Sdn Bhd, 2020

xx, 330p.

9789832737599

\$ 17.50 / PB

536gm.

Ronggeng-Ronggeng is an important collection that brings into focus the hitherto little recognised variety and richness in Malaysian short-story writing. Twenty-eight stories from six decades, the writers's sharp observations and unflinching depiction of society's tensions, faultlines and human frailties make this an indispensable anthology.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684781>

The Evergreen Tea House : A Hong Kong Novel / David T.K. Wong

Petaling Jaya: Gerakbudaya Enterprise, 2020

viii, 436p.

9789670311470

\$ 30.00 / PB

644gm.

The Evergreen Tea House is a deftly crafted, provocative and poignant tale – blending mismatched love and twisted ambition with political intrigue and diplomatic mendacity. Set in Hong Kong during the twilight years of British rule, the characters live through tumultuous events – the Japanese occupation, the Korean War, the Cultural Revolution and the emotional trauma associated with the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

The unique and noteworthy element of this novel, beyond its strong evocation of time and place and its careful melding of facts with fiction, is its interpretation of historical events through a Chinese perspective.

“David Wong is a brilliant observer of the tradition versus modernity problem, which had dogged China since the end of the 19th century … He also brings his own experience as a (very senior) Hong Kong civil servant into the story with illuminating anecdotes. There is a great deal to be learnt in this novel, as one races through the many-layered stories. And one is left with a strong sense of the author through the many-layered stories. And one is left with a strong sense of the author as a deep thinker and a man of high principles. – Review by Dr. Frances Wood, Curator of the Chinese Collections at the British Library, in the Royal Society for Asian Affairs journal

“David Wong has all the powers of empathy that a novelist requires above all other virtues. . . . It is the breadth and detail of the political picture and the imaginative involvement of contrasting and opposing points of view that give this novel its fascination.” – Review by Jeremy Trafford in the PEN International Magazine.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684779>

2020 : An Anthology / (Eds) Foo Sek Han & Leo Wing
Petaling Jaya: Fixi Novo (Buku Fixi Sdn Bhd), 2020
240p.

9789672328186

\$ 10.00 / PB

198gm.

Malaysians have been looking forward to this talismanic year for decades. In fact, we started anticipating it when our seventh Prime Minister was still our fourth. Is 2020 really the year when we suddenly become a modern, progressive society that is the envy of the world? Or have things stagnated and ossified beyond repair? Don't answer all at once! 2020: An Anthology brings together 20 pieces — mostly fiction, but some essays and a comic too — that reflect on our nation by focusing on our people, who continue to thrive and flail and exist in ways that will never be captured by even the most visionary slogans.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687068>

The Seat / Geetha K

Petaling Jaya: Fixi Novo (Buku Fixi Sdn Bhd), 2019

296p.

9789672328179

\$ 12.00 / PB

242gm.

It's a few days before the 14th General Election. The P117 candidate makes a strong bid for the seat.

“Segambut is symbolic for Malaysia. This is a crucial seat. When you go out to vote, remember, the nation is looking at you Segambut voters.”

The intriguing claim sets Satya off on a journey of Segambut memories – that left strong imprints, and some dark shadows. In the Disco era, Satya's father built his ideal house in Kampung Sungai Jerneh, a thriving commune along Segambut's grandest landmark, its railway line. Its settlers bonded through politics, pop culture, “river meetings” and the lure of curry and wajik.

As such hamlets morphed into a skyscraper township, the railway line became an obscure prop. Waterfalls and rivers vanished or went past teh tarik shade to become the grey of threatening skies on a bad monsoon day. True-blue natives slowly compromised, relocated, scattered.

Will Malaysia Baru really care?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687069>

Politics

Local Democracy Denied? : A Personal Journey into Local Government in Malaysia / Lim Mah Hui

Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information & Research Development Centre, 2020

xx, 148p.

Includes Bibliography

9789672165712

1. Local government – Malaysia.

2. Malaysia – Politics and government.
\$ 12.50 / PB
274gm.

There are plenty of books on federal government and politics in Malaysia but very few on local governments. Yet it is the level of government that is closer to us and impacts our lives most directly, and is the one least understood by the average person in the street. This book addresses that problem.

Local Democracy Denied? Take a unique and comprehensive approach to discussing local government - one that is political, analytical, personal, historical, and forward looking. It begins with an author's personal journey to becoming a councilor for six years on the Penang Island City Council, as a representative of civil society. It then provides a brief history of how local councilors. There follow an examination of the structure of local government, its relationship with state government, and some of the crucial functions it performs - planning, enforcement, and provision of urban services, filled with real stories of how council decisions are made and implemented, and the frequent gap between the two. The book ends with a call to revive local democracy by strengthening public participation in local government, empowering it and restoring local election preferably based on proportional representation rather than first past the post.
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684775>

Rebirth : Reformasi, Resistance, and Hope in New Malaysia /
(Ed) Kean Wong

Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information & Research
Development Centre, 2020

xiv, 214p.

9789672165811

1. Malaysia – Politics and government.
2. Politics – Malaysia.
3. Political culture – Malaysia.
4. Malaysia – Social conditions.

\$ 22.50 / PB
358gm.

More than a year after ordinary Malaysians did the extraordinary and voted out a government in power since 1957, a raw reality has set in. On the eve of a once-idealised ‘Vision 2020’ of modern Malaysia, *Rebirth: reformasi, resistance, and hope in New Malaysia* questions an uncertain nation’s possible futures.

In a special series on Malaysia from the ANU’s *New Mandala*, classic *Malaysiakini* reportage of the fraught 14th general elections, and new essays pondering the country’s future, the book also explores how Malaysia’s two decades of democratisation via movements such as *reformasi* and *Bersih* have forged ambivalent urges for change – and where prospects of a new Malaysia might lie.

Celebrating fact-based reporting and evidence-based policy debates, *Rebirth* examines the centrality of Sabah and Sarawak in any successful idea of Malaysia, its vexed federalism, an economy buffeted by trade wars and the climate emergency, and the exigencies of the racialised and religious politics bleeding the nation dry.

Was Malaysia saved from kleptocracy by the world’s oldest prime minister, and does it finally transform itself into a sustainable democracy with another longstanding putative leader? Is there a younger generation of Malaysians with the gumption to make that difference? These are the questions that inform this book.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684780>

From High Hopes to Shattered Dreams? : The Second Mahathirist Revolution / Azly Rahman

Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information & Research Development Centre, 2020

xviii, 194p.

9789672165781

1. Malaysia – Politics and government.
2. Malaysia – Social conditions.
3. Political culture – Malaysia.

\$ 19.00 / PB

334gm.

What is the meaning of Mahathir Mohamad's return as Prime Minister of Malaysia? And what does it mean for the future of the country? In *From High Hopes to Shattered Dreams?* Azly Rahman argues that, as against a more fundamental transformation of Malaysian society, the change of government which took place post-GE14 has continued to reproduce old trends which have long kept Malaysia from the promise of an equal and forward looking nation, from a feudal mentality, to religious exclusivism, racial divisiveness and the continuing 'bumi agenda'.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=684777>

New Narrative of Malaysian Foreign Policy / Azhari Karim
Pulau Pinang : Universiti Sains Malaysia, 2019
Xv, 126p.

9789674613464

1. International Relations – Malaysia
2. Malaysia – Foreign Relations
3. Malaysia – Politics and Government

\$ 15.00 / PB

300gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=624280>

Religion - Islam

Shari'ah Issues and Resolutions in Contemporary Islamic Banking and Finance / Dr. Achene Lahsasna
Second Edition (First Edition 2014)

Kuala Lumpur: Salihin Publication Sdn Bhd, 2020
xxxvi, 516p.

Includes Index

9789671687819

1. Finance – Religious aspects – Islam.
2. Banks and banking – Religious aspects – Islam.
3. Sharia (Islamic religious practice).
4. Finance (Islamic law).

\$ 75.00 / HB

926gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=687070>

Travelogues

The Cycle Empire : Reflections on Tibetan Culture / Eddy Izuwan Musa & Tristan Yap
Penang: Areca Books Asia Sdn Bhd, 2020
200p. ; 17.78x25.4cm.
9789675719387

1. Tibet Autonomous Region (China) – Description and travel.
2. Travel – Anecdotes.
3. Traveler’s writings, Malaysian.
4. Travel writing.

\$ 45.00 / HB
788gm.

The author travelled to a distant realm, seeking out a cultural world in complete contrast to his own Malaysian waterfront experience. The Cycle Empire is a journey of philosophical self-contemplation undertaken while exploring a foreign land that is Tibet – pondering the details of its geographical, sociological, and religious conditions, and its dissimilitude to the country of one’s birth.

What are the variables that define Tibetan culture and produce a civilization which sets itself apart from others? Although the telos is to learn about another culture without prejudice, comparisons are inevitably made – the gaze is not pure.

One can only note the progression of one’s thoughts which arise while witnessing an order of monks immersed in debate, or while bathing in the smoky fragrance of herbaceous incense. With tentative awe, one grasps the moment when the master apprehends the Yak, the mountaineer beholds the mountain, the Sanyasi contemplates the cycle of Samsara.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=686558>
