

Recent Books from Malaysia – March 2022

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Anthropology

Indigeneity and Food: Politics, Transnationalism and Social Inclusion / (Eds)
Eric Olmedo & Rachel Chan Suet Kay
Bangi, Selangor: Penerbit Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKMPress), 2021
286p.

Includes Index

9789672512141

1. Food.
2. Food – Social aspects.

\$ 20.00 / PB

422gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=784364>

The Assimilation of Chinese Minorities in the Henan Province of China – The
Hui Community / Senyao Zhai
Bangi, Selangor: Institut Kajian Etnik, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 2021
36p.

Siri Kertas Kajian Etnik UKM Bil. 67, Ogos 2021 (UKM Ethnic Studies Paper
Series No. 67, August 2021)

9789670741697

1. Hui (Chinese people) – China – History.
2. Assimilation (Sociology).
3. Hui (Chinese People) – Ethnic identity.
4. Ethnology – China.

\$ 8.00 / PB

70gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799749>

Bajautopia: Tales of Borneo's Sea Nomads: A Collection of Essays and
Architectural Research / Keng-Khoo Ng & Farah Aliza Badaruddin
Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information and Research Development Centre,
2022

188p.

9789672464341

1. Bajau (Southeast Asian people).
2. Bajau (Southeast Asian people – Social life and customs.
3. Architecture – Research.
4. Essays.

\$ 35.00 / PB

536gm.

Bajautopia is a book that aims to reflect on both the struggles and hopes of the Bajau Laut community. The book title Bajautopia comes from a combination of two words – ‘Bajau’ and ‘Utopia’. This edited volume does not pretend to be a comprehensive collection of writings about the world of the Bajau Laut. As a collection of essays and architecture research, its aim is to stimulate provocative ideas and debates for the betterment of the Bajau Laut.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791316>

Re-Imagining Ethnographic Fieldwork: The Place of the Researcher During and Post – Covid-19 Era / Jasmine L. S. Phang

Bangi, Selangor: Institut Kajian Etnik, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 2021
xviii, 20p.

Siri Kertas Kajian Etnik UKM Bil. 68, Ogos 2021 (UKM Ethnic Studies Paper Series No. 68, August 2021)

9789670741703

1. Ethnology.
2. COVID-19 (Disease) – Social aspects.
3. Anthropology.
4. Ethnology – China.

\$ 8.00 / PB

66gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799750>

Art

Birds of Malaysia in Watercolour: The Arts of Choo Beng Teong / Choo Beng Teong (Ed) Elena Koshy (Foreword) C. L. Chan

Butterworth, Penang: Choo Beng Teong, 2021

156p. ; 28.5x23.7cm. ; Colour illustrations

Includes Index

9789671874905

\$ 60.00 / HB

1052gm.

The Art of Choo Beng Teong showcases over a hundred of the prolific artist’s watercolour paintings of birds in their natural habitat. As you turn the pages of this book, you’ll be drawn into an incredible diversity of Malaysian birds that are our last, best connection to an already receding natural world. The remarkable artworks are likely to have a whole new audience reaching for the binoculars!

From pittas and kingfishers to raptors and jungle fowls, Choo’s vivid paintings gleam with dazzling avian beauty; but the best things about his art remain the lush colours and the happy realisation of the interconnectedness of nature.

These masterpieces weave an intricate skein of all the avian life he has seen and together, they’ve become a gorgeously painted love letter to birds.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799751>

A Glimpse of Malaysia in 60 Artworks / Azmir Zain (Ed) Sreejit Pillai

Kuala Lumpur: Zain Azahari Holdings Sdn Bhd, 2021

168p.

9789671688922

\$ 40.00 / PB

512gm.

In commemoration of the 60th anniversaries of one of Malaysia's oldest private art collections and its founder's nuptials, Galeri Z presents from the collection 60 artworks by 60 different artists, from the early days of Merdeka up to the present.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799752>

Mirrors of Beauty – Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia: Children’s Guide / Sharifah Zarah Albukhary & Ain Aqilah Abdul Razak (Ed) Lucien de Guise Kuala Lumpur: Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia, 2021

108p.

9789832591207

1. Islamic arts – Museums – Malaysia.
2. Art museums – Malaysia.
3. Art museums – Educational aspects – Malaysia.

\$ 20.00 / PB

448gm.

“Islamic art is never purely decorative, it is always functional” is at the heart of this guidebook, which is a children’s version of ‘Mirror of Beauty’.

This children’s guidebook aims to shed light on the often intricate world of Islamic arts and culture to its young readers. Though a carefully curated range of artefacts belonging to the Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia, each chapter delves into a specific topic, ranging from calligraphy to architecture, culminating in the ‘Islamic Art of the Malay World’. At the end of each chapter, the readers are invited to explore and study an artefact in detail. An added feature allows viewers to listen to our museum curators’ explanations on selected artefacts.

Whether for young readers or those seeking to learn more, this book is an ideal introduction into the Art of the Islamic World.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799753>

Biography/Memoirs

Parliament, Unexpected: Recollections Of Parliament, Politics And Pandemic In Malaysia / Tan Sri Ariff Yusoff & Lutfi Hakim Ariff

Petaling Jaya: Matahari Books (Buku Fixi Sdn Bhd), 2022

304p.

Includes Index

9789672328780

\$ 30.00 / PB

322gm.

The Speaker of the Dewan Rakyat, despite the name, is seldom heard.

In this recollection of his short tenure as the Dewan Rakyat Speaker, Tan Sri Ariff Yusof, reveals his side of the story – dissecting the events and procedures of Parliament while providing an insider’s view of the unprecedented political developments that led to the fall of the Pakatan Harapan government in 2020 and his eventual removal. Meanwhile, a global pandemic starts to rage and is met with a faltering response from the government, and a suspension of Parliament.

Can we expect change to come from the Parliament, in the current scheme of things? Is there political interest to find new ground to move beyond race and

religion? Can a Speaker alone change how things are done, independent of the other branches of government?

Parliament, Unexpected brings readers through an autobiographical journey to understand the sources of our political dysfunction, and what needs to be done to reset and retell the Malaysian story for a fairer, kinder and more equitable tanah air for all.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=792117>

Local Outsider: A Sabahan's View of West Malaysia / Sherra Yeong
Subang Jaya: Sherra Yeong, 2021

144p.

Includes Index

9729678563204

1. Yeong, Sherra, 1993 – Anecdotes.
2. Anecdotes.
3. Travel writing – Malaysia.
4. Malaysia – Social life and customs.

\$ 12.50 / PB

150gm.

From the shores of Sabah to the hills of Penang, Local Outsider highlights true stories and revelations of Malaysian life as told by one of its own. A local. An outsider. A local but an outsider. Discover what makes Malaysians so similar to each other yet easily distinguishable by subtle nuances. A single word, an awkward gesture, the one look that tells the natives you are a foreigner even if you speak the same language, wear the same clothing or have lived in the same country your whole life. Experience Malaysia through the eyes of a Local Outsider.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=784367>

Cookbooks

Recipes Are For Sharing: Favourite Everyday Dishes Shared and Compiled for Family and Friends / Kalsom Taib, Ungku Balkis Ungku Abdul Hamid & Ungku Murhamah Shereen Ungku Abdul Hamid

Malaysia: Kalsom Taib Publishing, 2022

1v.

9789675859106

\$ 50.00 / PB

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791863>

Recipes Are For Sharing: Favourite Everyday Dishes Shared and Compiled for Family and Friends / Kalsom Taib, Ungku Balkis Ungku Abdul Hamid & Ungku Murhamah Shereen Ungku Abdul Hamid

Malaysia: Kalsom Taib Publishing, 2022

1v.

9789675859090

\$ 75.00 / HB

A collection of 200 Malaysian recipes that are simple and speedy to make elevating everyday eating into no-fuss feasts.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791864>

Penang Makan: Heritage Street Food Recipes / Dayana Wong
Georgetown, Penang: Bulan Press Sdn. Bhd., 2021

152p.

Includes Index

9789672562603

\$ 60.00 / HB

720gm.

"Let me take you on a stroll through the streets of multicultural Penang and show you the heritage street food I grew up eating; the food I long for most when I am away from home."

'Penang Makan' is infused with little tales of life on the island and shines the spotlight on its famous hawker culture and authentic street food recipes. Featuring over 50 recipes from Asia's most diverse street food city – from wok-hei flavoured char kuay teow and spicy coconut broth curry mee to thirst quenching pink ais tingkap and much more, these recipes will transport you from your kitchen to my island food paradise.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799755>

Heritage Spiced Beverages: Their Health Wonders / Mohamad Nazri Zayapor
& Aminah Abdullah

Cyberjaya, Selangor: Universiti Islam Malaysia, 2018

208p.

Includes Index; Bibliography

9789671502402

\$ 30.00 / PB

324gm.

With increasing awareness among population on keeping healthy, this publication contains another source of information on the nutritional diet, as it highlights the varieties of heritage spiced beverages developed and consumed in Indonesia, India, Iran, Turkey and other Muslim countries, that contribute to good health. In Indonesia, the heritage spiced drinks include Jamu, Loloh, Bandrek, Bajigur, Sarabba and Wedang Uwuh developed and consumed in the various provinces of this vast Island Archipelago. Among the favourite heritage beverages of the various regions of the Indian sub-continent included Kashaya, Jaljeera, Tambuli, Kokum, and Kahwa. Sharbat is popular in the Middle Eastern countries. The book provides details of the types of herbs and spices used, categorised natural sweeteners, flavourings and colorants that are formulated in these beverages. The health benefits accrued from consuming them are contributed by the phytochemicals constituting of phenolic and sulphurous compounds, terpenes and lignin with anti-oxidant and enhancing immune system properties, contained in the herbs and spices used in the formulations. These information will be useful, particularly to those who adopt and practice natural medicine for happy living and healthy ageing.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799756>

Ecology/Environmental Studies

Morning Glories of Thailand and Southeast Asia / George Staples, Nelly Bouilhac & Kongkanda Chayamarit

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd., 2021
xii, 168p.

Includes Index

9789838122009

\$ 90.00 / HB

790gm.

Every Thai person, and a great many visitors to Thailand, knows what phak bung (ผักบุ้ง) is. This plant, ubiquitous throughout the Kingdom, is a kind of morning glory and as such phak bung is a worthy ambassador to introduce a large assortment of beautiful and interesting plants. Species classified as members of the Convolvulaceae are found all over the world in tropical and warm temperate climates including every ecosystem and habitat from temperate fields and meadows to ever-wet tropical forests, ocean beaches, dry deserts and high steppes. There are almost 2,000 species known. Thailand has a rich diversity of Convolvulaceae in its flora: there are 147 species documented within the Kingdom's borders and new species are discovered every year. Some Thai species, like phak bung, are very abundant where people live; others are quite rare and found only in pristine natural areas. All of them are fascinating, many are beautiful, and each has a unique place in the natural world around us. Their stories are told here.

This book combines knowledge about Convolvulaceae from three people who specialize in botany and horticulture. These authors introduce you to the Convolvulaceae world-wide, as garden ornamentals, as food plants, in the unique cultural environment of Japan, and finally through a selection of the morning glories of Thailand. Many of the same species found in Thailand grow throughout Southeast Asia and this book is also a field guide to morning glories throughout the region.

Beautifully illustrated with colour photographs throughout there are also illustrations for horticultural practices and propagation techniques that were specially prepared for this book. In total all 27 genera of Thai Convolvulaceae are included and 80 selected species, including several of the rarest and some of the most beautiful among them.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799757>

A Taxonomic Guide to the Stick Insects of Peninsular Malaysia, Volume I /

Francis Seow-Choen

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd., 2021
x, 950p.

Includes Index

9789838122016

\$ 250.00 / HB

3018gm.

This volume is the seventh in a series of Taxonomic Guides to the Stick Insects of South East Asia and the tenth book on stick insects by the author. It is the third book by the author on the stick insects of Peninsular Malaysia. The present book is different from the authors first two books on Peninsular Malaysian stick insects. This present book follows the concept of the first six volumes by the author in this series: which are A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Borneo (2016), A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Borneo Volume II (2017), A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Singapore (2017), A

Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Sumatra Volume I (2018), A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Borneo Volume III (2019) and A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Sumatra Volume II (2020). This seventh volume is once again lavishly illustrated with beautiful colour photographs of the various species of stick insects being discussed in the book. This book enables anyone with any interest in stick insects to be able to identify any stick insect one may come across in Peninsular Malaysia. This is possible by the use of the carefully constructed keys or with the help of the numerous colour photographs of all described species of Peninsular Malaysian stick insects.

This latest volume, A Taxonomic Guide to Stick Insects of Peninsular Malaysia Vol 1 (2021) lists 14 new species, two new genera, ten lectotype designations, one neotype designation, seven new specific synonyms, eight revised statuses, three new combination names as well as the description of the unknown sex of five species. The number of recognized species in Peninsular Malaysia stands at 136.

This latest publication on the phasmid fauna of Peninsular Malaysia, extends our knowledge of the stick insects of the whole of South East Asia. It will enable conservationists, entomologists and amateur enthusiasts world-wide to better identify, understand and study these insects. Efforts to plan for their conservation as well as for the preservation of their habitats will therefore be achieved in a more scientific way.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799758>

Vampire Moths: Behaviour, Ecology and Taxonomy of Blood-Sucking Calyptra / Hans Banziger

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd., 2021
viii, 232p.

Includes Index

9789838121996

\$ 125.00 / HB

976gm.

The book is introduced with the author's scientific odyssey in the quest for the secretive vampire moths, initiated more than half a century ago in Southeast Asia and nearby regions. The main part of the book presents a synthesis of three decades of research based mainly on his nocturnal field investigations in or near forest habitats. What would appear as perverted feeding habits in insects generally thought as gentle flower visitors are exposed as sophisticated adaptations developed in a select group of less than ten of the 180 000 known species of Lepidoptera. Calyptra's unique skin-piercing blood-sucking methods are detailed in photographs and diagrams. The moths' victims range from elephants and rhinoceroses, to tapirs, horses, cattle, deer and pig, and occasionally humans. Other aspects treated include distribution, behaviour, ecology, phenology, and physiology. An identification key facilitates recognition of all Calyptra species (not all are blood suckers), enhanced by illustrations and descriptions of moth adults, their caterpillars and host plants. The moths' veterinary-medical implications are discussed in the light of their being among the largest of all blood-sucking insects, combined with their unorthodox mode to bleed their quarry. The book is rounded off reviewing the most probable scenarios of the moths' evolutionary pathway into blood suckers, and added with a comprehensive list of the subject's literature.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799759>

The Hairy Rhinoceros: History, Ecology and Some Lessons for Management of the Last Asian Megafauna / John Payne

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd., 2022
xviii, 198p.

Includes Index

9789838122047

\$ 75.00 / HB

898gm.

Species do not suddenly go extinct. Behind every extinction is a long history. Until a century ago, human actions were only a part of that history. Now, preventing extinctions depends entirely on human interventions. The days of small groups of dedicated people taking actions to try to prevent extinctions ended in the 1960s. The management unit that addresses endangered wildlife now is the nation state. Governments make the wildlife policy decisions. But governments are influenced by nongovernmental advisers and public opinion. Five concepts in population biology show that leaving Hairy rhinos in the wild was never going to be successful in preventing the species extinction: the species-area curve, sufficiency of habitat in protected areas, extinction debt, the Allee effect and ecological tipping points. On top of that, a quintet of human cognitive biases mean that no decisions and wrong decisions are made repeatedly: shifting baseline, risk aversion, us-and-them, fashions and opinions.

Like many other endangered large mammal species, the Hairy rhinoceros is drifting to extinction not primarily because of ongoing and future habitat loss or poaching. Those impacts started hundreds and thousands of years ago, and were the issues of immediate concern in the twentieth century. The issue to address now is paralysis in making the best decisions on what exactly to do about the remaining and mostly non-viable clusters.

Interventions necessary for recovery might include treating all surviving members of a species as a single metapopulation, ensuring that remnant clusters have sufficient quality habitat to sustain viable numbers, putting in place measures to ensure that all fertile females achieve high birth rates, ensuring that every remaining individual contributes its genes to future generations, and addressing inbreeding risks. Such interventions have been too little, too late or, more commonly, are non-existent.

The story of the Hairy rhino, told here from a Malaysian perspective, can help to inform governments on how to prevent further megafauna extinctions, through targeted interventions for population recovery.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799761>

Pelagus National Park: Biodiversity Above the Rapids: Life From Headwaters to the Coast / (Ed) Andrew Alek Tuen (et al.)

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Natural History Publications (Borneo) Sdn. Bhd., 2021
xii, 878p.

9789672298588

\$ 37.50 / PB

226gm.

Pelagus, located along the middle reaches of the Rajang River, in central Sarawak, was gazetted as a National Park in the year 2009. It covers an area of

circa 2,041 hectares of pristine and old secondary forests, the latter being reminders of logging activities from the early 1960s. Here, at the heart of Sarawak's Iban country, visitors can spend a leisurely day or two, walking on some of the nature trails, while on the lookout for birds, frogs and mammals, and enjoying calls of gibbons and hornbills.

Remains of a former luxury resort lend a curious twist to the place, the abandoned structure overlooking the mighty rapids and witness to numerous tragedies involving boats crashing on the rapids. Legends from nearby longhouses say these rocks were formed by a mythological being killed by an Iban warrior, and local communities continue to make offerings to the Rapids to this day.

The current work presents results from a joint Universiti Malaysia Sarawak and Sarawak Energy Berhad project, bringing to the general public information on key groups of plants and animals of the Pelagus region. The goal is to provide information of our natural heritage to stakeholders, management authorities, naturalists, researchers and the general public.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799762>

Education

Dual Language Programme in Malaysia: A Boon or A Bane / Ashairi Suliman, Mohamed Yusoff Mohd Nor & Melor Md. Yunus

Bangi, Selangor: Penerbit Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKMPress), 2020
170p.

Includes Index

9789672511489

1. Education – Malaysia.
2. Educational change – Malaysia.
3. Multilingual education.

\$ 15.00 / PB

268gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=784363>

Memories Not Memoir: 20 Months of Education Reform / Maszlee Malik
Petaling Jaya: SIRD-Strategic Information and Research Development Centre,
2022

xvi, 376p.

9789672464358

1. Malaysia. Kementerian Pendidikan.
2. Education – Malaysia.
3. Education and state – Malaysia.

\$ 30.00 / PB

572gm.

The blessing that is education has enabled us to both find this book and allowed the book itself to be written. A simple yet essential glimpse of how different our lives would be without education. That's how crucially entwined our fate is with education. (I took some liberties here as the direct translation sounds staccato in English)

Education and its deeply entrenched issues are discussed in several chapters, arranged from the most important stakeholders which is the spirit of

education itself, followed by society, the children, parents, teachers, lecturers, schools, scholars, and institutions.

Recalling MEMORIES AND NOT A MEMOIR in the writing of this book also calls up explanations for the many an accusation faced during the 20 months at the Ministry of Education Malaysia. This book serves as the evidence repository of the 20-month reformation efforts going beyond the sensationalized and politicized topics of Jawi and black shoes. This book is my witness.

Once – the educational reformational effort was begun, and now it must continue!

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799763>

History

Labuan 1947: The Recollections of Robert Knowles / (Eds) Ross Ibbotson & Stella Moo-Tan

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: The Sabah Museum, 2021

xiv, 110p.

9789839638387

\$ 54.00 / HB

608gm.

This book is based on a manuscript presented to the Sabah Museum in 1995, almost fifty years after the events, written by the late Robert Knowles recording his recollections and experiences, after arriving with his wife and two young children, on the island of Labuan, British North Borneo, in July 1947. Knowles, who had previously served in Colonial East Africa, joined the Government Service of British North Borneo as a Customs Officer and Labuan was his first posting. The Japanese Armed Forces had occupied Labuan and all British and Dutch Borneo in early 1942 and remained there until driven back by the Allies in 1945. In 1947 Labuan, like the rest of North Borneo, was still reeling from the deprivations of the occupation and the destruction of infrastructure caused by the Allied counter offensive. Knowles gives a vivid account of the difficulties he experienced carrying out his duties while at the same time providing for the needs of his two children after his wife had to be sent to Singapore for protracted medical treatment. Knowles, a keen amateur photographer, recorded some of the existing infrastructure and the improvements that were being made, particularly the development of the military airstrip at Labuan to serve as the international airport for North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak for the next decade. The book is illustrated with 67 photographs taken by Knowles.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799764>

The Orang Kemboja of East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia / Siti Nor Awang
Penang: Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), 2021

xii, 74p.

Includes Index

9789674615819

1. Cham (Southeast Asian people) – Malaysia.

2. Cham (Southeast Asian people) – History.

\$ 9.00 / PB

166gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=784362>

Strange and Paranormal Tales from Malacca / Dennis De Witt

Malaysia: Nutmeg Publishing, 2022

222p. ; 130x197mm.

9789671668610

\$ 14.50 / PB

The ancient port town of Malacca is an old town rich in history. Since the beginning of Malacca, its community was made up of a colourful potpourri of cultures and beliefs. The different communities have their own understanding of the powers of the supernatural. As far back as the year 1421, there was a written account from Chinese records of the strange and paranormal witnessed in Malacca. These stories continued in Portuguese, Dutch and British eras, up to modern times. There were accounts about hauntings, poltergeists, cryptozoology, giants, spirits, sorcery, witchcraft, shapeshifting creatures, simulacra, magical cures, strange phenomena, unusual human powers and other bizarre tales. Many of these stories have now become obscured and forgotten to us. This book contains a collection of 60 strange and paranormal stories reported from past reports, news, accounts, statements and descriptions that were officially recorded in books, journals, articles and newspapers.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=792113>

Colonialism In The Malay Archipelago: Civilisational Encounters / (Eds)

Osman Bakar, Ahmad Murad Merican & Wan Ali Wan Mamat

Kuala Lumpur: ISTAC-IIUM Publications, 2020

xx, 330p.

Includes Index

9789839379709

\$ 35.00 / PB

550gm.

In this book fourteen leading scholars and intellectual-activists provide a collective treatment of the theme of colonialism in the Malay Archipelago from the as yet little explored perspective of civilisational encounters. The centuries-long Western colonial presence in the Archipelago had generated both peaceful and violent encounters that were to prove consequential on the civilisational history of the region. The book's chapters attempt to present new civilisational encounters and their significance for the life and thought of contemporary Malay Archipelago that now comprises the modern nation-states of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Timor Leste.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791313>

Law

Maqasid Al-Shariah: The Face and Voice of Shariah / Tan Sri Dr Mohd

Daud Bakar

Kuala Lumpur: Amanie Media Sdn Bhd, 2022

560p.

9789671665510

\$ 49.50 / PB

110gm.

In Islam, a Divine text is never void of any insight or intent of some kind. Maqasid Shariah is the aggregator of all the insights and intents of the Divine Texts. In the end, maqasid Shariah has the ability to create policies and best practices to ensure a good and purposeful life, which could be far-reaching in the whole dimension of life; personal and communal. Shariah was never faceless and voiceless.

In the past, the discourse and appreciation on Maqasid Shariah did not mean anything for man on the street. Issues such as the environment, social justice, governance, humanity values, life dignity and corruption, fiduciary duty, integrity, sustainability, food security and clean water are the new manifestations of maqasid Shariah, i.e by blending the old device of maqasid Shariah with the new hard data of life. This has been made clear, visible and tangible (as well as easy) via big data analytics and artificial intelligence (A.I.). The time has come to make Shariah digitalised and data-driven. This may become Shariah's last bastion to restore its prominence and credentials, amidst secularism prevailing almost everything in life.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=788785>

Literature

Folklore, Fun and Fandoms: Discerning the Cultural Logic and Gamified Practices of Fan-Driven Multimedia Translations / Rachel Chan Suet Kay
Bangi, Selangor: Institut Kajian Etnik, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, 2021
40p.

Siri Kertas Kajian Etnik UKM Bil. 69, Ogos 2021 (UKM Ethnic Studies Paper Series No. 69, August 2021)

9789670741710

1. Translating and interpreting.
2. Chinese fiction – Translations into English.
3. Chinese literature – Translations into English.

\$ 8.00 / PB

72gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799766>

The Pensioner / Adam Said

Petaling Jaya: Gerakbudaya Enterprise, 2019

viii, 284p.

9789670311401

1. Malaysian fiction (English).
2. English fiction.

\$ 15.00 / PB

288gm.

Khalid Arshad lives in retirement with his wife Azizah in a suburb of George Town, Penang. He has had a disappointing career in the civil service, the result both of adverse circumstances at work and of innocent missteps on his own part. Having initially enjoyed retired life he begins to show symptoms of boredom until he runs into Bala, a friend from his schooldays, who introduces him to the joys of reading. In the course of his regular trips into town in search

of second-hand books, he begins to discover aspects of his native city that had previously remained hidden from him.

Although the story is about the life of one individual, it also shows how easily a country's politics, administration and culture can change within a single lifetime. The events and characters that we encounter may not have required any particular setting to be brought to life, but the fabric on which the narrative is woven makes this a distinctively Malaysian novel.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=634153>

The Stockade / Zakaria Ali

Malaysia: Kedai Hitam Putih, 2022

310p.

9789671872222

\$ 15.00/ PB

Novel. An American, aloof and haughty, a Malay, hesitant and confused, and Orang Asli, suspicious and resentful, they yielded to learning the meaning of humility the Belum jungle had taught them?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791938>

A Strange and Wicked Magic: Poetry and Short Stories / Zack Shah

Malaysia: Penwings Publishing, 2022

1v.

9789671422779

\$ 20.00 / PB

A dark but familiar sequel to the best-selling "More than Words", Zack Shah returns with a much-anticipated second volume of poetry and prose titled "A Strange and Wicked Magic".

Haunting, beautiful and provocative, this new collection unravels the dichotomous nature of love, how it is neither good nor bad but both: venom and nectar, poison and cure, heaven and hell.

This book will take you through the highs and lows of it all, the pain and the pleasure, the chaos and the calm, the hurting and the healing.

A bittersweet read for the lovelorn, the lonely and the lost.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791942>

Crème De La Crime: PI Romy and The Have-Haves / Elina Abdul Majid

(Illustrator) Rayyan Irfan Chai

Petaling Jaya: Fixi Novo (Buku Fixi Sdn Bhd), 2021

240p.

9789672328766

\$ 12.00 / PB

202gm.

Romy smiled disarmingly at the Datin. But with her Versace shades still firmly on and her Cassey Gan mask drawn equally firmly across her face, it was akin to trying to make eye contact with a ninja...

PI Romy is a small-time detective, working the angles to cari makan in a KL on the brink of dystopia because of Covid.

Plagued by the demons of his own past, he stolidly bumbles along through life in his socially awkward way, beguiled yet bemused by the antics of his atas clients, whom he describes to himself as ‘double confirm weird laidat.’

Distinctively Malaysian in essence and locale, the PI Romy detective stories are a nostalgic and irreverent glimpse into the cultural melting pot of 20th century Malaysia in a 21st century setting.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799768>

Official Publications

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Kuala Lumpur: Kasuya Management Sdn. Bhd., 2022

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In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, Malaysia is witnessing deplorable moral decay in the arena of politics and governance of the nation, which are unprecedented and brought about disastrous setbacks when the nation is at its weakest—at the point of survival for many. Therefore, this sorely needed book presents reasoned principles and practical guidelines which ought to be studied and implemented by Muslim leaders of all kinds, policymakers, business and industry players and simply concerned citizens to perform a major reset to our socio- political eco-system and within the next two to five years at the earliest bring our community back to a balanced harmony, wellbeing and resilience in preparation for even more challenging future global scenarios.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=791941>

The Plight Of The Muslim Uyghurs: Is There A Future?/ Mejar (B) Mohammad Qayyum bin A. Badaruddin

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The Malay Middle Class: Culture and Syariah in the Consumption of Foods / Kartini Aboo@Khalid

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56p.

Siri Kertas Kajian Etnik UKM Bil. 66, Ogos 2021 (UKM Ethnic Studies Paper Series No. 66, August 2021)

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Multi-level Marketing (MLM) has been criticized among the skeptics. It is due to the many unethical MLM business practices all over the world. Malaysia also has been affected to the situation. Therefore, this book is written to discuss whether the MLM business practice is in compliance with law and sharia perspective and the position of MLM from sharia views. The study is based on library research and interviewed some islamic scholars about the issue.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=799770>

Tabi'un : Those Who Followed / (Ed) Hotan Kheyrandish
Kuala Lumpur: Islamic Book Trust, 2021
xvi, 160p.

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“The best people are those of my generation, and then those who will come after them ...” – (Sahīh al-Bukhārī and Sahīh Muslim)

The Qur'an reveals to us that our beloved Prophet Muhammad (saw) is our definitive guide on how to conduct our daily lives according to our original purpose.

The Hadīth above further suggests that the next source of guidance for us is none other than the Companions of the Prophet (saw), followed by the Tābi'ūn, pious people who, like us, never met the Prophet (saw) but nonetheless manifested his sacred teachings and embodied his spirit to the best of their knowledge and capabilities.

This book focuses on the lives of those who followed the best of generations. Using authentic sources, it shares anecdotes about their lives, emphasizing their personalities, habits of worship, decision-making, social interactions, simplistic lifestyles, and, above all, their love for and obedience to Allah and His Messenger.

As the reader progresses through the book, he or she will quickly realize that many of these virtuous believers were confronted with the very same dilemmas we face as an ummah today, issues relating to division and civil strife among Muslims, religious extremism or fanaticism, love of worldly possessions, tyranny and oppression and a lack of respect for moral and spiritual values.

Sometimes, as this compilation will show, Allah only needs to inspire one person, who then succeeds in making a significant impact on society as a whole. Insha'Allah, this book will ensure that those who we should consider as our role models do not remain forgotten in history books.

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