

Recent Books from Singapore – February 2009

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Economics

Financial Crisis 2008 / Ivan Png (Ed)
Singapore: Saw Centre for Financial Studies, NUS Business School, 2008
xi. 83p,; 22cm
ISBN-13: 9789810820961(HB)
Saw Centre Financial Studies No. 5
\$ 15.00
ID: 104362

The City in Southeast Asia: Patterns, Processes and Policy / Peter J Rimmer & Howard Dick
Singapore: NUS Press, 2009
xxii. 340p,; 23cm
Includes bibliographical references and index
ISBN-13: 9789971694265

1. Cities and towns – Southeast Asia
2. Urbanization – Southeast Asia
3. Globalization

\$ 28.00
ID: 104364

The extended metropolitan regions of Southeast Asia are the dynamic cores of their national economies and societies and the frontiers of accelerating globalization. The City in Southeast Asia explores ways of moving beyond outmoded paradigms of the Third World City or a Southeast Asian city 'type'. It begins by contrasting the acknowledged world cities of Singapore and Hong Kong with the aspiring world city of Kuala Lumpur and the still disorganized cities of Bangkok, Jakarta and Manila, and draws comparisons with the national second cities of Chiang Mai, Surabaya, Penang and Cebu.

The authors analyze the changing relationships between people and place brought about by temperature controlled environments, the industrialization of consumption through large-scale shopping malls, the role of cities as platforms for the globalization strategies of Asian multinational corporations, and the transformation of public space into private space. They also examine public policy in terms of markets, land use and urban planning, and draw out the implications for research, business and policy makers. This joint effort by a geographer and an economist will be of interest to economists, geographers, planners, political economists and sociologists.

Political Economy in a Globalized World / Jorgen Orstrom Moller; Foreword by Surin Pitsuwan

Singapore : World Scientific, 2009
464pp.
978-981-283-910-7
\$ 48.00

General Books

Boon Lay ... Blending with Food / Yim Chee Peng & Sim Jui Liang
Singapore: Boon Lay Community Centre Management Committee, 2008
144p,; 24cm
ISBN-13: 9789810822743
\$ 19.90

Boon Lay ... Blending with Food is a book tracing the history and development of a small constituency of Singapore. It attempts to capture the mood and atmosphere of Boon Lay, a poorer constituency, whose early inhabitants were the farmers and fishermen resettled from Jurong and Tuas.

This book is also a collaborative project to raise funds for the less fortunate in the community. Like kueh lapis, a delicate yet full-bodied dessert, which is painstakingly prepared layer, countless residents, friends and well-wishers selflessly shared their closely guarded family recipes to bring about this collection of recipes.

History

Asian Port Cities 1600 – 1800: Local and Foreign Cultural Interactions / Haneda Masashi (Ed)
Singapore: NUS Press, 2009
xvi. 233p,; 23cm
ISBN-13: 9789971694630
\$ 29.90

Asian port cities in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries were the site of intensive cultural contact involving a broad spectrum of participants from across the world. These interactions raised questions of communication for merchants who conducted business in the port cities and of regulation and control for the officials who governed them.

By drawing comparisons among the port cities of East, Southern and South Asia where European East India Companies maintained trading centres, this volume goes beyond national histories to examine cultural interactions on a regional basis. The authors draw on the rich literature relating to cross-cultural interactions between the Dutch and the Japanese in Nagasaki indiscussing issues that range from architecture, mercantile and artistic communication, business transactions and dispute settlement to family issues, clothing, housing, and social relations associated with food. Their work yields intriguing new interpretations of the Asian maritime world that will interest historians concern with Europe or Asia during the early modern period, as well as students of material culture.

Chinatowns in a Globalizing Southeast Asia / Leo Suryadinata & Ang Cher Kiat (Eds)
Singapore: Chinese Heritage Centre, 2009
169p,; 26cm
Includes bibliographical references
ISBN-13: 9789810821845

1. Chinatowns – Southeast Asia
 2. Chinese – Southeast Asia – Social life and customs
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3. Chinese – Southeast Asia – Social conditions
4. City and town life – Southeast Asia
5. Culture and globalization – Southeast Asia

\$ 45.00

Chinatowns are an inalienable part of the ethnic Chinese identity in Southeast Asia. Far from being merely clusters of buildings and shops with Chinese architectural styles and/or motifs, Chinatowns in Southeast Asia have a human facet that tells the stories of their dwellers and visitors. This project attempts to do just that through the highly accessible medium of photography and aims to capture the sights of the human side of Chinatowns in Southeast Asia in face of rapid globalization.

Happy Ants: The Memoirs of Zhou Yu Chun / Zhou Yu Chun

Singapore: Zhou Yu Chun, 2008

124p,; 21cm

ISBN-13: 9789810811365

\$ 12.00

ID: 104285

The E&O Hotel: Pearl of Penang / Ilsa Sharp

Singapore: Marshall Cavendish Editions, 2008

192p,; 30cm

Includes bibliographical references and index

ISBN-13: 9789812614827

1. E&O Hotel – History
2. Hotels – Malaysia – Pinang Island (Pinang) – History

\$ 62.50

Established in 1885 by the Sarkies brothers, the Eastern & Oriental (E&O) Hotel, and in subsequent years its equally famous sister grand hotels—the Raffles in Singapore, and the Strand in Rangoon—attracted the likes of Noel Coward, Rudyard Kipling, Somerset Maugham and Hermann Hesse.

By 1927, The E&O was hailed as “The premier hotel east of the Suez, “boasting more than a hundred rooms, 40 of them with adjoining bathrooms, hot and cold running water, individual telephones and a 842-foot seafront, “the longest of any hotel in the world.”

Today, more than a century since its establishment, having survived two world wars, and more reversals of fortunes than it has had changes of ownership, the E&O has reclaimed its legacy. It is thus timely that its story is told at last, so that all may appreciate why, as one writer has put it, “those who have once visited this famous Hotel, regard the E&O as a heaven to be sought again and again, as the traveler to the home of his affection.”

Politics/International Relations

The Making of the ASEAN Charter / Tommy Koh, Rosario G Manalo & Walter Woon

Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Co Ltd, 2009

xxvi. 214p,; 24cm

ISBN-13: 9789812833907 (HB)

\$ 42.00

On the historic occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in 2007, the leaders of the ten-member countries signed the ASEAN Charter. This is an important milestone for the regional group as the Charter will make ASEAN stronger, more united and more effective. The Charter embodies the ASEAN

community's purposes and principles, organs and decision-making process; a new legal personality; a system for the settlement of disputes; and an ASEAN Human Rights Body.

The Making of the ASEAN Charter captures the insiders' views of the drafting of the Charter and hence is a must-read for anyone interested in ASEAN, international law and the art and science of negotiations.

Hard Choices: Security, Democracy, and Regionalism in Southeast Asia / Donald K Emmerson (Ed)

Singapore: ISEAS Publishing, 2008

xxi. 398p,; 23cm

ISBN-13: 9789812309143

1. National security – Southeast Asia
2. Regionalism – Southeast Asia
3. Democracy – Southeast Asia

\$ 29.90

Strategic Currents: Emerging Trends in Southeast Asia / Yang Razali Kassim (Ed)

Singapore: S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, 2009

viii. 184p,; 23cm

ISBN-13: 9789810818227

1. ASEAN
2. Regionalism – Southeast Asia – 21st century
3. Southeast Asia – Foreign relations – 21st century
4. Southeast Asia – Economic Integration – 21st century
5. Southeast Asia – Politics and government – 21st century
6. National security – Southeast Asia – 21st century
7. Islam – Southeast Asia – 21st century

\$ 22.90

Southeast Asia is going through a new phase. The region is experiencing new challenges as well as changes in its geostrategic and economic environment. Such changes have become more evident over the last few years, as manifested in a range of issues such as climate change, ASEAN identity, regionalism and religion. This volume reflects some possible emerging trends in the region, as captured in a series of essays written for the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University, largely between 2007 and early 2008.

The Geopolitics of Energy in South Asia / Marie Lall (Ed)

Singapore: ISEAS Publishing, 2009

xviii. 255p,; 24cm

ISBN-13: 9789812308276(HB)

1. Power resources – South Asia – Congresses
2. Energy policy – South Asia – Congresses

\$ 49.90

Energy security has become a central concern for all the countries in the Asian region and the search for sufficient sources of energy to fuel economic growth has drastically influenced relations among the South Asian countries as well as their respective relations with their neighbours China, Myanmar, Iran, and Afghanistan. The recent nuclear deal between India and the U.S. is also indicative of how energy and power politics are linked and how these new inter-linkages underlie relations between states. This book aims to give a South Asian perspective on the geopolitics of energy, with a central focus on India. The chapters address

how India's global and regional foreign policy-making has changed in light of India's search for energy and how this is affecting the relationship on a global level between India and the U.S., as well as on a regional level between India and the other Asian countries. The book also offers views from Pakistan and Bangladesh, as well as how this shifting reality is affecting relations between India and the Southeast Asia.

Religion - Christianity

Soft Sift in an Hourglass: Stories of hope and resilience at the end of life / Rasalie Shaw
Singapore: Armour Publishing Pte Ltd, 2009
xi. 147p,; 20cm
ISBN-13: 9789814222822
\$ 12.00

This collection of stories tells of her experiences. They are distilled from countless hours, days and often nights, spent caring for people and families who were living with dying. Her words speak not just of pain, loss and conflict, but also of courage, dignity, love and hope. Unflinching in their honesty, they bear witness to the struggles and triumphs of those facing the end of life, and allow the reader a rare glimpse into their lives through the eyes of a hospice pioneer.

Listen to Him! The Last words of Jesus from the Cross / Bobby E K Sng
Singapore: Genesis Books & The Bible Society of Singapore, 2008
ix. 102p,; 20cm
ISBN-13: 9789814222273
\$ 9.00

The seven sayings of Jesus from the cross were not the despairing cries of a dying man; nor were they fortuitously recorded by the evangelists... The sayings reveal to us the innermost thoughts of Jesus as he was about to die. They help us to understand more fully the nature of the gospel. They are also intended to touch our hearts and move us to act.

Adultery I Survived: True stories of women who found hope and courage in the midst of betrayal / Leong Li Khim
Singapore: Genesis Books, 2008
xviii. 116p,; 20cm
ISBN-13: 9789814222419
\$ 12.00

This book was born out of grief turned to good. It is a reading not just for women, but for all men, especially husbands. It is a rare glimpse into true-life accounts of women who have gone through deep betrayal and pain because of an unfaithful spouse or parent. Find out about the sense of betrayal and rejection as one grieves over a languishing relationship, the loss of communication, the spouse's frequent late nights and absence from home. Be touched by the testimonies of these women's struggles and see how God brought His love, comfort and healing to those whose husbands and families had failed them.

To Care with Passion: Walking a loved one through cancer & taking on the ministry of pain / Sharon Soon
Singapore: Genesis Books, 2008
xxiv. 124p,; 20cm
ISBN-13: 9789814222457
\$ 12.00

To Care with Passion describes the author's experiences in her walk with her husband during his journey battling with colon cancer. It begins with a personal experience in living with cancer and concludes with the aftermath of bereavement. It will enlighten, prepare, encourage, enable and comfort caregivers going through the "roller-coaster" experience of caring for a cancer sufferer.

To the general reader, this book will enable them to draw insights into what can happen in our lives. Nursing tips are also included to provide practical help.

From Mission to Church: The Evolution of the Methodist Church in Singapore and Malaysia: 1885 – 1976 / Earnest Lau
Singapore: Genesis Books, 2008
xvii. 300p,; 22cm
ISBN-13: 9789814222426
\$ 19.95

From Mission to Church recounts how The Methodist Church in Singapore started as a Mission station in 1885 by Rev James Thoburn, its history and the challenges it faced. The efforts of missionaries and local workers began to bear fruit by the outbreak of the Pacific War, later setting the stage for the inauguration of the Southeastern Asia Central Conference in 1950. It was to lead to the autonomy of the Methodist Church in Malaysia and in Singapore after many twists and turns.

The Journal Once Lost – Extracts from the Diary of John Sung / Levi (Compiled)
Singapore: Genesis Books, 2008
xi. 551p,; 23cm
ISBN-13: 9789814222082
\$ 29.90

The Journal Once Lost attests God's faithfulness and sovereign purposes. Containing extracts from more than 40 of John Sung's diaries – miraculously recovered after they had gone missing for more than 18 years – it unveils immeasurable insights into the life of the Servant of God and his ministry.

Dr John Sung, considered by many as one of the greatest Chinese evangelists who ever lived, had fought valiantly for the Lord Jesus Christ in China and Southeast Asia during the first half of the twentieth century. He brought powerful revival to the Chinese Church as no one had ever done before. His influence is felt even to this day.

Sociology

Southeast Asia and the Middle East: Islam, Movement, and the Longue Duree / Eric Tagliacozzo (Ed)
Singapore: NUS Press, 2009
viii. 392p,; 23cm
Includes index
ISBN-13: 9789971694241

1. Southeast Asia – Relations – Middle East
2. Middle East – Relations – Southeast Asia
3. Islam – Southeast Asia
4. Islam – Middle East

\$ 29.90

Ties between Southeast Asia and the Middle East have been extremely important for well over seven hundred years, but historical linkages between the two regions have attracted little attention, and assessments of their significance are curiously lacking. Southeast Asia and the Middle East addresses this omission by exploring political, economic, familial, educational and religious bonds connecting these areas, both historically and in the contemporary world.

Islam in Southeast Asia is conventionally understood as a synthesis of Middle Eastern and local ideas. While accepting that such a distinction exists, this volume shows how ongoing interactions have helped determine the character of both regions, and Southeast Asia in particular. The pervasiveness of these influences makes it clear that they will continue to shape political and economic relations, migration patterns, the dissemination of knowledge, and radials of Islamic militancy for a long time to come. Such relationships contribute to regional and global events in many crucial ways, making the present volume timely and important not only for scholars but also for anyone interested in the future of Asia and the Middle East.
