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Editor's note

This issue marks the end of my 5th year as the editor of *Berita* (quarterly vols. 27, 28, 29, 30 & 31 = 20 issues).

According to the MSB-SG constitution, the editor is elected for a term of 3 years, and may be reelected for a following 3 year term. I will complete the last year of my 2nd term (ending Nov 30, 2008), and help the next editor, who will have a first term beginning from Dec 1, 2008. The transition will be smoother the sooner she or he begins looking over my shoulder as I finish my tour of duty. I can help the next editor get started. rp

PERIODICALS PERIODICALS periodicals periodicals

>**Akademika: journal of the social sciences and humanities**

N.67, Jul 2005 -- 1) Mohd Syukri Yeoh Abdullan, "*Kosmologi dalam Welstanschauung Ulama Sufi Melayu*" [Discusses how Malay Sufi scholars express the cosmology system of the existence of Allah (The Unseen) -- The process of manifestation of God is without starting and ending, from the unknown to a clearer form without limitation -- Discussion clarifies the harmonious relationship between macro-cosmos (universe) and micro-cosmos (human) -- Thus the implication of civilized dialog between Islam and other cultures which was brought along into the Malay world, could increase the sensitivity of the Malays regarding involvement of existence of Allah (The Unseen) in the process of creating the universe], pp 3-22; 2) Kalsom Kayat, "*Penglibatan ahli komuniti dalam Program Pembangunan Komuniti: Program Homestay in Kedah*" [The Malaysian government is promoting tourism in rural areas to increase tourism product choices and to help in the development of these areas -- Discusses findings from a recent study aimed at exploring and describing the characteristics of community involvement in these programs -- A framework to understand factors that may influence local involvements in these programs], pp 75-100; 3) Mohd Darbi bin Hashim, "Of morality and individualism in Malaysia" [On "... the epic of the arduous culturo-moral struggles of the Malay-Muslims in this country" -- A recent controversy over the raid by JAWI (Federal Territory Religious Department) officers on a popular nightspot where 100 Muslim revelers, more or less, were arrested for alleged 'indecent behavior' as yet another sequel to the protracted religious-cultural quandary faced by the Malay-Muslim 'masses' in Malaysia... and more, including such incidents as young Chinese couples holding hands in shopping complexes, and countless *khalwat* arrests made by state religious authorities, involving popular local artists and

public figures -- The state should assume the role of a neutral arbiter among the self-interested agents of society], pp 101-106.

N.68, Jan 2006 -- 1) Katiman Rostam, "*Migrasi ke kawasan pinggiran wilayah metropolitan Lembah Klang*" [From the English Abstracts -- Since the mid 1980s, settlements in Klang Valley experienced rapid development thru growth of manufacture and service activity -- Apart from KL and Klang, new cities (e.g., PJ, Shah Alam, Subang Jaya, Selayang & Ampang Jaya) have also expanded -- Examines the patterns of population migration to the peri-metropolitan areas of Klang Valley, using unpublished data of the 2000 census and observations, such as the estimate that ca. 138,270 people migrated to Selangor state, while the Fed. Terr. of KL recorded a net loss of 54,700 (majority moved to the new cities & other new settlements in the peri-metropolitan areas of Klang Valley) -- Migration to the peripheries driven mainly by conditions related to dense population, traffic, express highways and introduction of commuter and light rapid transit transport services linking surrounding areas of the city], pp 3-27; 2) Sivamurugan Pandian, "A new deal for Asia - *Apakah 'Deal' Itu?*" [Review of Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad's thoughts in his book, *A New Deal for Asia*, written after the 1997 financial crisis -- Also examines the crisis, the "new deal", and suggests how Asian countries can reinstate the good times before the crisis -- And more], 29-41; 3) Ong Puay Liu, "*Rumah panjang tradisi Rungus dalam arus pembangunan: perbezaan pengertian*" [Although longhouses have long existed in rural Malaysia, especially among indigenous peoples of Sabah and Sarawak, other Malaysians in general have only a vague conception of longhouses as a housing pattern, with clear boundaries of public and private spaces for domestic families... just like families in modern forms of housing -- The longhouses of the Rungus of Kudat, Sabah and the Murut as examples], pp43-64; 4) Toru Ueda, "*Pembinaan dan perkebanggan konsep 'native' di Borneo Utara pada Zaman Kolonial*" [About the formation of the concept 'native' as was used in North Borneo during the colonial period and the changes it underwent from ten year population censuses from 1891 to 1960, except during the Japanese occupation in the 1940s -- Argues that it is important to seek a perspective of the colonial situation in its various social contexts, depending on the country or area involved], pp 65-89; 5) Heng Siam-Heng, "Beyond the ideas of economic growth and economic development" [In 1999, the Malaysian development economist Ishak Shari agrees that all approaches in development studies be critically reviewed so that an enduring solution to problems of underdevelopment, poverty and economic inequality can be found (Ishak 2002 -- Looks at the assumptions of development studies and suggests drawing on moral philosophy and spiritual traditions as a means of discussing beyond current discourse on development)], pp 95-101; 6) Tan Pok Suan, "*Kehidupan Rohingya di Malaysia: perjuangan dalam ketidakpastian hidup*" [The large scale migrations of the Rohingyas after the independence of Myanmar is related to complex historical and political factors -- Waves of migration to Malaysia by the end of the 1980s -- Focuses on the everyday life experiences of Rohingyas who have settled in Malaysia, with emphasis on: economic aspects, health, education, documents and safety -- the ambiguous status of Rohingyas has serious implications for every aspect

of everyday life], pp 111-122.

>**American anthropologist**

V.109,n.2 Jun 2007 – 1) Gordon T. Gray, review of John Postill, 2006, *Media and nation building: how the Iban became Malaysian*, 231 pp, NY: Berghahn [From the review -- An intellectually engaging, thought-provoking book that analyzes processes by which the Iban have been incorporated into & by the modern Malaysian state through various media, including not only television, radio, and newspapers but also clock and calendar time -- This inclusive definition of media combines with an ethnological approach that crosses boundaries of time, space and culture as a strategy to move media anthropology discourse out of the theoretical dichotomy of the production model of the Frankfurt School: early communications studies versus the reception model of British cultural studies -- Postill actively engages a wide array of theoretical paradigms that sometimes promote a 'top-down' approach to issues of media and nation building, which nevertheless places him within the theoretical literature -- A useful and provocative addition to understanding issues in media anthropology, nationalism, political anthropology, and the Iban], pp 411-412.

V.109,n.3 Sep 2007 – 1) Larry Merkel, review of Ann L. Appleton, 2006, *Acts of integration, expressions of faith: madness, death and ritual in Melanau ontology*, 361 pp, Monograph series n.9, Phillips: Borneo Research Council [From the review – Contributes to the ethnography of East Malaysia, particularly the Melanau of Sarawak, giving detailed descriptions of various Melanau ritual activities, building on Stephen Morris's earlier ethnographic descriptions and giving evidence of both continuity and change over time -- Continues the important conversation regarding the cultural shaping of illness and healing in Southeast Asia – Also, a valuable chapter detailing the careers of several healers and how they came to their healing careers -- The reviewer sees weaknesses in the proposed model of psychopathology which derives from a combination of the existential-phenomenological concept of Martin Heidegger and Maurice Merleau-Ponty's "being-in-the-world," the existential psychology of Rollo May, the ritual analysis of Victor Turner and Roy Rappaport, and certain Jungian concepts; and explains his concerns – And more], p 548; 2) Gene Ammarell, review of Rajindra K. Puri, 2006, *Deadly dances in the Bornean rainforest: hunting knowledge of the Penan Benalui*, 408 pp, Leiden, the Netherlands: KITKV Press [From the review -- Fills a significant gap in representing the first ethnographic study of hunting in a Bornean society and the first study of the Western Penan of East Kalimantan; thus providing some 'balance' of ethnographic attention and comparison to Penan groups in Sarawak, Malaysia -- Based on 26 months of fieldwork in 1993 & 2000, this ethnographic account is a richly detailed and compelling ethnographic account of hunting knowledge and practice of a contemporary semi-nomadic, small-scale society -- Within the text and 70 pages of appendices are presented: commonly captured animals, mostly mammals, but also other species of animals and plants apposite to hunting technology; names in Penan, Kenyah Badeng, Indonesian(Malay), Latin, and English; local uses of species (more details for mammals) – And much more], pp 578-579.

>**American ethnologist**

V.33,n.3 Aug 2006 – 1) From www.anthrosource.net -- Kee Howe Yong, "Silences in history and nation-state: reluctant accounts of the Cold War in Sarawak" [From the Abstract --Throughout the 1960s & 70s, thousands of rural Chinese Hakkas in Sarawak, like millions of other persons in the 3rd world during the Cold War, were targeted as

communists sympathizers and were detained in correction centers or relocated to barbed wire-controlled villages – Given that past, most of them remained reluctant to give their representation of this history, while the author wanted to expose this history -- contrary to most of the Hakkas, who did not want to discuss the matter, the author, who is a Hakka as well as an anthropologist, persisted in his research -- Shows that the cold war fought in Sarawak was not strictly an ideological battle between communism and democracy, but instead, how communism and democracy interlocked with the local discourse with *bangsa* (race/ethnicity) politics], pp 462-473.

>**Archipel**

V.73 2007 -- 1) Monique Zaini-Lajoubert, "*Euvres malaises modernes inspirees de traditions anciennes (depuis les annees 1940)*" [From the Abstract -- *Sejarah Melayu and Hikayat Hang Tuah*, traditional 17th C. Malay literary works connected with the Malacca Sultanate (1400-1511) also related to oral traditions, have inspired modern Malaysian authors -- Article attempts to make a global analysis, without claiming to be exhaustive, of literary works and films produced since the 1940s -- Only some characters, a great number of women, and some events (notably the Hang Tuah / Hang Jebat duel) hold the attention of the authors -- Before the independence of Malaysia (1957), these works were especially related to the Malay nationalist movement; Afterward, these works mostly reflected concern about the new social and political context in Malaysia (democracy/social justice)], pp 195-228..

>**Asian and Pacific migration journal**

V.15,n.3 2006 -- 1) Nicola Piper, "Migrant worker activism in Singapore and Malaysia: freedom of association and the role of the state" [The political space given to NGOs to respond to economic & legal problems experienced by migrant workers is heavily restricted in Malaysia & Singapore – There is some research on their political weakness, raising questions on what this implies for migrant labor activism -- Explores differences and similarities among the various organizations involved in migrant worker issues in-country as well as across countries -- Investigates the role of state authoritarianism in shaping the landscape of migrant labor activism in Malaysia and Singapore, assessing the pressure non-union civil society organizations can bring to bear on both the state-sponsored and traditional labor movement organizations which have been co-opted by the state in Malaysia and Singapore -- Argues that migrant labor and growing political activism, especially transnational activism, contributes to the reinvigoration of labor activism in general by highlighting the many-folded problems of foreign workers], pp 359-380; 2) Raghwan, "Migrant workers: an emerging concern of trade unions in Asia" [Describes the growing trend of trade unions in Asia becoming involved with issues affecting migrant workers -- This involvement observed not only in trade unions' attempts to support migrant workers, but also in cooperating with other stake holders such as NGOs working with migrants ... Examples from Malaysia, Thailand, South Korea and Hong Kong], pp 403-414.

>**Asian journal of social science**

V.35 2007 -- 1) Mohd Hazim Shah, "Historicising rationality: the transmission of rationality and science to the Malay States under British rule" [From the Abstract -- Looks at the process of modernization of Malay society under British rule, from 1874-1957, from the perspective of Weber's theory of rationalization -- Examines the process of rationalization in spheres of public

administration, education, science and technology -- Argues that rationalization, as it occurred under colonization in the Malay States during late 19th & early 20th centuries, requires a different explanatory model, in that the rationalization that occurred was primarily instrumental and utilitarian in nature, not involving value-change, and in which science was not institutionalized prior to its professionalization -- This reversal in sequential order, compared to the European process of rationalization, results in a different set of consequences and poses a problem for cultural stability and the indigenization of science and technology in Malaysia], pp 216-241; **2)** Yow Cheun Hoe, review of Gregor Benton & Hong Liu (eds), 2004, *Diasporic Chinese venture: the life and work of Wang Gungwu*, 246 pp, London & NY: RoutledgeCurzon, ISBN 0-415-33142-0 [Reviewer begins with "Ethnic Chinese living outside China have gone through many critical changes", and follows with some of Wang Gungwu's own diasporic travels and academic adventures, before treating the various chapters by different authors written -- A brief but interesting review], pp 266-267.

>Asian journal of women's studies

V.13.n.2 2007 -- 1) Doobo Shim, "Korean wave and Korean women television viewers in Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Against the backdrop of cultural globalization and regionalization, theorizes Asian transnational television consumption and cultural flows by examining ways women of the Korean diaspora enjoy homeland television drama while living in Singapore -- Finds that Korean drama viewing provides cultural resources to resist male dominance; i.e., they acquire semiotic power to produce resistive reading from the resources of the text, in which the Korean Wave phenomenon plays an interesting role -- The rise of the position of cultural industries in the Korean economy has allowed the expertise about Korean television drama to empower women in familial relations, and raised their ethnic pride in relations with other Asians, producing new meanings and serving new cultural interests for women], pp 63-82; **2)** Evelyn Gaik-Hoon NG, review of Cecilia Ng, Maznah Mohammad & tan beng hui, 2006, *Feminism and the women's movement in Malaysia*, 210 pp, London & NY: Routledge [From the review -- A book for feminists who are interested in the recent 'her-story' of Malaysian women, and for embattled activists involved in the struggle for gender equality in Asia -- The authors are evidently 'participant observers' -- Notes that the multi-ethnic composition of the Malaysian population "... conjures up a contradictory mass of images" regarding the women's movement; and that "in order to rise above sectarian interests, one commonplace strategy has been to stress the issue of 'violence against women'", and that the Domestic Violence Bill of 1994 was especially important because it transcended the jurisdiction of *syariah* laws -- And more in this important and interesting book and review], pp 108-114.

>Asian perspectives: the journal of archaeology for Asia and the Pacific

V.46.n.2 Fall 2007 -- 1) Karen Mudar & Douglas Anderson, "New evidence for Southeast Asian Pleistocene foraging economies: faunal remains from the early levels of Lang Rongrien Rockshelter, Krabi, Thailand" [Recent excavations at Lang Rongrien Rockshelter in the upper watershed of the Krabi River, on the West side of the Malay Peninsula in Krabi

Province Thailand have revealed evidence of human habitation (gatherer/hunters during a period (43,000 - 27,000 BP ... contemporary with Niah Cave in Borneo) of the Pleistocene epoch that pre-date the Last Glacial Maximum at approximately the time of the earliest human colonization of Australia and New Guinea], pp 298-334.

>Asian survey

V.xlvii, n.3 May/June 2007 -- 1) Fumitaka Furuoka, "Malaysia-Japan relations under the Mahathir Administration" [Analyzes Malaysia-Japan relations under the Mahathir administration, focusing on 2 case studies, the 'Look East' policy and Japanese direct investment in Malaysia, which suggest that Mahathir's policies were dictated by his nationalism and anti-Western stance, which tended at times to alienate the Japanese government], pp 505-519.

>Commonwealth & comparative politics

V.45.n.2 Apr 2007 -- 1) Marzuki Mohamad, review of Meredith Weiss, 2006, *Protest and possibilities: civil society and coalitions for political change in Malaysia*, pp xi + 324, Stanford CA: Stanford University Press [From the review -- The author seeks the locus of political change in Malaysia, as have others, especially regarding 1998-1999, but they had to put a caveat on their words -- This author is not keen to over-emphasize what is 'new' in Malaysian politics, and categorically states that that the 1998 *reformasi* movement was one of a series of opposition attempts to forge a new political alternative grounded on justice rather than in 'race' and patronage -- Reviewer summarizes the chapters: a) Chs1&2, Theoretical underpinnings of contentious politics & illiberal democracies; b) Ch3, political development in the colonial era; c) Ch4, deliberates on the perpetuation of race-based politics; d) Chs5&6, present evidence of the abilities of reformist civil society actors and political parties to bridge cleavages to form coalitions; Ch7 compares and contrasts Malaysia's political reform with that in Indonesia -- And more], pp 242-242.

>Contemporary Southeast Asia: a journal of international & strategic affairs

V.29.n.2 Aug 2007 -- 1) Clive Schofield, "Unlocking the seabed resources of the Gulf of Thailand" [From the Abstract -- Overlapping claims of maritime jurisdiction a key feature of the Gulf -- A proven source of seabed oil and gas which contributes to making maritime boundary delimitation agreements difficult -- To break the deadlock the neighboring states have repeatedly opted to create maritime joint development zones in order to exploit hydrocarbon resource believed to exist in areas of overlapping claims -- This remarkable practice reviewed and the prospects for further such arrangements examined -- Sections on: a) Maritime boundary delimitation and joint development; b) The Malaysia-Thailand joint development area; c) Cambodia-Vietnam: joint historic waters; c) Malaysia-Vietnam: joint 'defined area' agreement; d) Contrasting zones; e) Prospects for further joint development i) Vietnamese claims and the Thai-Malaysian JDA, ii) The Thai-Cambodian overlapping claims area, iii Conclusion], pp 286-308; **2)** Sam Bateman, Joshua Ho and Mathew Mathai, "Shipping patterns in the Malacca and Singapore Straits: an assessment of the risks to different types of vessel" [Provides an appreciation of the pattern of shipping traffic and the types of vessels using the Straits -- Based on the notion that statements about the number of ships passing thru

the Straits on a per day, month or year basis obscure more important assessments about the relative vulnerability of different types of ship -- Need consideration of types of vessels, routes and locations -- Distinguishes between through traffic transiting between the Pacific and Indian Ocean; local traffic operating between ports littoral or adjacent to the Straits; and other vessels such as fishing vessels working within the Straits; and identifies the types of vessel using the Straits that are most at risk], 309-332; **3)** Robert H. Taylor, review of Duncan McCargo (ed), 2007, *Rethinking Thailand's Southern violence*, 225 pp, Singapore: NUS Press, Pb [Essential reading for anyone interested in contemporary Thai politics -- All 7 contributors focus on the consequences of the upsurge in violence in southern Thailand -- Volume grew out of a special issue of *Critical Asian Studies*], pp 386-388; **4)** Anthony L. Smith, review of Jorn Dosch, 2007, *The changing dynamics of Southeast Asian Politics*, 269 pp, Boulder, Colorado, Lynne Rienner, Hb [Some ASEAN but not much MSB content in the review... Singapore in parentheses and no mention of Malaysia or Brunei], pp 389-391; **5)** Vijay Sakhuja, review of Kwahong Guan & John K Skogan (eds), 2007, *Maritime security in Southeast Asia*, 224 pp, London & NY: Routledge, Hb [Some Malaysia and Singapore content -- 14 chapters and an Afterward], pp 392-394.

>Critical Asian studies

V.39.n.2 Jun 2007 – 1) Kenneth Paul Tan & Gary Lee Jack Jin, "Imagining the gay community of Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Thru analysis of public responses to 2 separate but related events in Singapore (A church's claim that 'homosexuals can change' & a former PM's published comments about openly gay civil servants in his administration) explores how a 'gay community' has been imagined in Singapore, where homosexual acts remain illegal and where a 'conservative majority' is ideologically mobilized by the state and moral-religious entrepreneurs -- A close reading of the debates within the Singapore Gay News List and local mass media reveals ideological struggles -- A basic contradiction between Singapore's exclusionary laws and practices and official state rhetoric about active citizenship, social diversity, and gradual liberalization, aimed at attracting foreign talent and retaining mobile Singaporean talent in a globally integrated economy that is increasingly dependent upon creativity and innovation], pp 179-204.

>Current history

V.106, n.699 Apr 2007 -- 1) Bridget Welsh, "Malaysia at 50: midlife crisis ahead?" [It remains to be seen whether Malaysia will continue on its historic path of avoiding ethnic conflict, promoting economic growth, and allowing (limited) political choice -- Sections on: 'The ethnic divide', 'Debating Islam's role', 'The patronage state', 'Limits of debate', 'The stacked deck', and 'How to avert a crisis'], pp 173-179.

>Development

V.50.n.2 Jun 2007 -- 1) Josefa S. Francisco, "Gender inequality, poverty and human development in South East Asia" [From the Abstract -- Based on a survey of different forms of inequalities in SE Asia -- Looks at how gender inequality not only erodes human security, but also deepens festering structural conflicts, vulnerabilities and social

exclusions -- Argues that there are systematic barriers to more equitable distribution of opportunities: education, income, health and life chances that are reinforced by inequalities regarding resources, capacities and potentials -- Singapore, Brunei & Malaysia 1st, 2nd & 3rd best; then Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Laos], pp 103-114.

>Environment and planning

V.39.n.5 May 2007 – 1) James D. Sidaway, review of Xianming Chen, 2005, *As borders bend: transnational spaces on the Pacific Rim*, 331 pp, Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, Pb ISBN 0-7425-0093-4 [From the review -- A landmark statement drawing on examples from East And Southeast Asia, describing how the complex relationship between bridging and barrier roles (debordering & rebordering) has undergone some marked shifts, contending that the bridging role is now stronger than the barrier role, and focusing on extensive de-bordering in terms of strong links and heavy flows across a large number of international boundaries in several sub regional settings -- The arguments necessarily become quite complex, in part because of the number of cases -- The Southeast Asian cases include: The Greater Mekong, the Indonesia / Malaysia / Singapore Growth Triangle; and The Brunei/ Indonesia/ Malaysia/ Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area -- From his case studies and some comparisons with Europe and North America, he is able to describe what is distinctive about East and Southeast Asian cross-border regions... geopolitics is an important part of this], pp 1270-1271.

>Ethnos: journal of anthropology

V.72.n.2 Jun 2007 -- 1) Liana Chua, "Fixity and flux: Bidayuh (dis)engagements with the Malaysian ethnic system" [From the Abstract -- Explores conceptions of the Malaysian ethnic system from the perspective of certain Bidayuhs of Sarawak -- Recent scholarship has highlighted the 'fluid' and 'shifting' nature of Malay identity; but less attention paid to how ethnic minorities in the region depict Malayness -- Suggests that for many Bidayuhs, Malay-ness is marked by an inescapable fixity that stifles the fluidity intrinsic to the value of ethnicity is in Bidayuh-ness and other aspects of life -- This sense of fixity has been mapped onto their conceptions of the Malay dominated Malaysian ethnic system, in which they are inescapably entangled -- Investigates some of the consequent tensions arising from Bidayuh (dis)engagements with Malaysia's ethnic 'fixity', while tracing trends and changes in this relationship], pp 262-288.

>Far Eastern economic review

V.170.n.7 Sep 2007 -- 1) Terence Gomez, review of Joel Studwell, *Asian godfathers: money and power in Hong Kong and South-East Asia*, 352 pp, Profile Books [From the review -- A thought-provoking read about histories of Asia's business 'godfathers', traced thru growth of their enterprises and interviews with them and their close associates -- An insightful description of the conduct of power and effects on economic and enterprise development in the region; but important new political, economic and social topics are not adequately analyzed -- However, the mix of politics and business in the book cogently reveals how enterprise and economic development have been linked to political business thru access to government to capture control of key sectors of the economy... author asserts that these relationships are not

necessarily always corrupt or against national interests -- The reviewer insightfully outlines how the interesting themes and important topics of the book might be made even more so], pp 73-76.

>Institute of development studies bulletin (IDSB)

V.38,n.4 Jul 2007 -- (Editors: Ricardo Gottschalk, Stephany Griffith-Jones & Yung Chul Park) -- See for Malaysian and Singapore content: **1)** Stephany Griffith-Jones & Ricardo Gottschalk, "Introduction: sources of strengths, remaining vulnerabilities and new policy challenges for Asia", pp 1-6; **2)** Yung Chul Park & Charles Wyplosz, "Emerging economies in East Asia: are they safe from future crises", pp 7-28; **3)** Azidin Wan Abdul Kadir, "The Malaysian economy: vulnerability to crises", pp 59-71; and **4)** Stephany Griffith-Jones & Ricardo Gottschalk, "Policy suggestions for greater financial stability"[Summaries and comments about the other articles], pp 113-124.

Inter-Asia cultural studies

V.7,issue1 1 Mar 2006 -- **1)** David C. L. Lim, "Cruising Mat Motor: Malay biker masculinity and queer desire in/through *KL Menjerit*" [From the Abstract -- Examines the construction of working-class 'Malay biker' masculinity and queer desire as presented in the film, "*KL Menjerit*", focusing on the 'queer moments' in the film -- Takes into account both filmic elements and the sexual geography of Kuala Lumpur, where shifting biker spaces sometimes intersect with homosexual cruising sites -- Argues that the film's representation of the Mat Motor protagonist as unbendingly straight and heterosexually *jantan* (male), while imaginably gratifying to the core audience of Mat Motors -- Actually belies the opposite reality of KL's underside, where gender and sexuality are much more fluid and malleable than is sanctioned by society and the state], pp 62-80.

V.8.n.2 Jun 2007 -- 1) Khoo Gaik Cheng, "Just-do-it-(yourself): independent filmmaking in Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- Provides a brief introduction to the current independent film movement in Malaysia -- Analyses some of the short films thru theories of cosmopolitanism and space to talk about subjectivities-in-the-making -- What are the 'qualities' of these films and do their makers necessarily identify their works as Malaysian? -- For purposes of the article, selects films to give an overall perspective of 'diversality' that is reflective of cosmopolitanism in current Malaysian independent filmmaking], pp 227-247; **2)** Sophia Siddique Harvey, "Nomadic trajectories: mapping short film production in Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Short film form in Southeast Asia a potent form of cultural production that contributes to the development and continued growth of the region's moving image culture -- Provides a preliminary theoretical framework for mapping the intricacies of short film within Southeast Asia and provides a case study of short film production in Singapore -- It identifies and examines two key traces in contemporary Singapore film production: *merantau* & motley urbanisms], pp 262-276; **3)** Hassan Abdul Muthalib, "From mouse deer to mouse: Malaysian animation at the crossroads" [From the Abstract -- Long-form animation began commercially in 1995 on a Government initiative -- Since then an unprecedented production of animation for television and cinema, far surpassing several ASEAN countries that have studios providing animation services for foreign countries but

do not have their own, homegrown, series or features -- Malaysian animation is at a crossroads -- This paper explores the state of the industry to see what needs to be done to appeal to a global audience], pp 288-297; **4)** Ho Tzu Nyen, "The afterimage - traces of otherness in recent Singaporean cinema" [Attempts to unearth a subterranean narrative that threads thru three films produced by three male Singaporean directors: *Mee Pok Man* (1995) by Eric Khoo; *15* (2003) by Royston Tan; and *Zombie Dogs* (2004) by Toh Hai Leong -- This narrative of unconsciously repeated motifs that migrate from film to film is in turn analyzed as a recurrent symptom that haunts a number of Singaporean cinematic productions from the 1990s onwards -- And more], pp 310-326.

>International education

V.18.n.1 Mar 2007 -- **1)** Charlene Tan, "Narrowing the gap: the educational achievements of the Malay community in Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Discusses the educational gap between the Malay community and other ethnic communities in Singapore, using official statistics from 1980-2000 -- Although Malay students have made significant improvements over the years, they still lag behind those of other ethnic communities -- 3 educational challenges discussed, and recommends the introduction of a framework to integrate secular and religious subjects within an Islamic conception of knowledge], pp 53-64.

>International feminist journal of politics

V.9.n.2 2007 -- **1)** Shelia Nair, "Challenging the mullahs: Islam, politics and women's activism, interview with Zainah Anwar" [This a very abbreviated abstract -- A series of questions by Shelia Nair answered by Zainah Anwar -- Some examples of the questions: What is a 'Muslim feminist' and what about your involvement with Sisters in Islam?; What is your understanding of the relationship between patriarchy and the struggle for Muslim women's rights; How do you address those who criticize your views about these matters; What is your relationship with other feminist groups in the country; What is SIS (Sisters in Islam); What is your take on the role of advocacy groups and NGOs; What kind of Islam do you see SIS advocating? -- And the answers are as interesting as the questions], pp 240-248.

>International journal of sociology of the family

V.33.n.1 Spring 2007 -- **1)** Ernest Chui, "Changing norms and pragmatics of co-residence in East Asian countries" [From the Abstract -- 6 East Asian countries/regions of Singapore, Korea, Japan, China, Taiwan and Hong Kong all share the Confucian cultural heritage... both government and people share the normative & pragmatic concern of emphasis on family in taking care of elderly people -- co-residence of elderly people and their adult children has previously been prevalent -- But changing socio-economic configurations challenge sustainability of co-residence and the family function of elderly care -- Argues that a paradigm shift may be called forth by the governments of these 'Confucian welfare states' to shift from the 'development state role' to that of a more proactive role in welfare provision -- The emerging triadic relationship between state, family and individual has gradually surfaced in sharing the responsibility of welfare], pp 1-42; **2)** Kalyani K. Mehta, "Multigenerational relationships within the Asian family: qualitative evidence from Singapore" [Singapore a blend of Asian traditions, rapid modernization and a rapidly ageing society -- Focuses on qualitative data on 15 Singaporean 3-

generational families collected as part of the research project 'Grandparenting in selected Asian societies' -- Perceptions of each of the 3 generations within the same family form the data of the article -- Results of 45 face-to-face interviews reported -- Variables: perceptions, variation in generational differences; explanations for 'closeness', 'distance', 'independence', and 'interdependence'; and other family dynamics], pp 63-77; **3**) On-Kwok Lai, "Family consequences of economic miracle and hyper-modernization dynamics of inter-generational reciprocity in aging: Japan and beyond" [Mostly about Japan; but some Singapore and Malaysia content thru comparison], pp 95-122.

>International security

V.32,n.1 Sumr 2007 -- **1**) David Martin Jones & Michael L.R. Smith, "Making process, not progress: ASEAN and the evolving East Asian regional order" [From the summary -- Since 1997 regional scholars and diplomats have maintained that ASEAN represents an evolving economic and security community; and many contend that the ASEAN process has not only changed Southeast Asia's international relations, but has begun to build a shared East Asian regional identity with the expansion "ASEAN Plus 3" -- However, 3 case studies of ASEAN operating as an economic and security community demonstrate that ASEAN norms and practices do not create integration, but only sustain a pattern of limited intergovernmental and bureaucratically rigid integration -- Some Singapore, Malaysia, and Brunei content], pp 148-184.

>JMBRAS (*Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*)

V.80,pt.1,n.292 Jun 2007 -- **1**) Ian Proudfoot, "Abdullah vs Siam: early Malay edicts on British justice"[From the Abstract -- In Abdullah's 1838 critique comparing the Malay states unfavorably with British rule, written and published for a white audience, he illustrated the greater virtue of English law by how it ruled in his favor in a dispute -- A few years earlier, Siami, a Malay customs officer in Singapore, had written on the same issue for a local Malay audience; and, writing from a less privileged position, Siami was skeptical of British rule; he saw British motives as primarily economic; and related the conduct of a court case that was a facade to protect the white man's interest -- Abdullah would have known of Siami's writing and therefore his own treatment of British rule of law was a response], pp 1-16; **2**) Kevin Blackburn, "Heritage site, war memorial, and tourist stop: the Japanese cemetery of Singapore, 1891-2005" [From the Abstract -- The principal historic site of Singapore's Japanese Association is the Japanese Cemetery of Singapore because it is the remaining built heritage of 'Little Japan' which once existed along Middle Road -- The Association's promotion of Japanese heritage to Japanese school children in Singapore and Japanese tourists thru encouraging visits to the Japanese Cemetery; but it is problematic because the Japanese Cemetery has a memorial to the Japanese war dead; and other tourist sites such as Changi Prison, which similarly housed heroes, but also villains], pp 17-39; **3**) Nik Hassan Shuhaimi Nik Abdul Rahman, "Current issues on prehistory and proto-history in Malaysian archaeology" [From the Abstract -- In the 1930s to 1950s archeologists working in Malaysia adopted migration theory, Indianization or colonization to explain prehistoric cultural changes -- From the 1960s, however, both migration and the

colonist theories began to be challenged by archaeologists who studied new data from later research and discoveries -- And there seems to be no reliable data to support early proto-historic migrations from India], pp 41-57; **4**) Raimy Che'-Ross, "*Hikayat Hikamat*: The Malay memoirs of a Sumatran Christian" [From the Abstract -- Long regarded to have been lost and now forgotten, this *hikayat* has recently surfaced among Za'ba's private papers at the Arkib Negara Malaysia in KL -- It is a rare example of 19th century Malay autobiographical writing -- This unique work chronicles the remarkable memoirs of Hikamat, a Sumatran youth, who was saved from slavery and later educated and converted to Christianity at Rev. Benjamin Peach Keasberry's (1811-1875) Mission School at Mount Zion in Singapore -- An enigmatic and important example of Malay literature], pp 59-89; **5**) Holger Warnk, "The role of translations in the development of modern Malay literature, 1850-1950" [From the Abstract -- Deals with a neglected topic in the history of modern Malay literature -- Translations played a large role in the development of modern literature in colonial Malaya, but have been ignored by most literary historians -- Describes the place of translations in modern Indonesian literary history and compares the contexts in the Netherlands East Indies with literary activities in Malaya ca. 1900 -- The importance of the Sultan Idris Training College for the literary development in Malaya as well as its efforts in translating European texts -- Developments of the 1920s-1930s outside state-run institutions outlined and described broad intellectual literary efforts in colonial Malaya], pp 91-113; **6**) Chen Voon Fee, review of Julian Davison (photography by Luca Invernizzi Tettoni), 2006, *Black and White: the Singapore house, 1898-1941*, 147 pp, Singapore: Talisman Publishing, ISBN 981-0527-39-X [From the review -- Traces the history of the Black and White house, making clear that it did not appear suddenly in its complete form -- Its many defining features: the single raised dwelling standing on its grounds, high pitched roofs, lofty ceilings, surrounding verandas and shady, overhanging eaves, were part of the existing building vocabulary of the time -- Its features developed from the early Anglo-Indian bungalow (from Hindi *banggolo* = "belonging to Bengal"), from when British India brought it to the new island trading post via the East India Company -- Tettoni's photos of ravishing interiors -- An interesting, descriptive, review] pp 115-116; **7**) Yong Mun Cheong, review of Norman G. Owen (ed), 2005, *The emergence of modern Southeast Asia: a new history*, xxiii + 541 pp, Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, Pb ISBN 0-8248-2890-9 [From the review -- This book's predecessor was *In search of Southeast Asia*, first published in 1969 and revised in 1987 -- The reviewer states that his review is in terms of a textbook for undergraduates; and that the weakest chapters deal with Southeast Asia today, that these are new chapters that were not in the predecessor versions of the book, and that they were included upon the suggestion of the younger critics in 2001], pp 117-118.

>Journal of current Southeast Asian Affairs

V.xxvi,n.1 2007 -- **1**) Christopher M. Dent, "The international political economy of ASEAN economic integration and bilateral FTAs" [From the Abstract -- Important issues are rising in the relationship between bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs) and economic regionalism in Southeast Asia, underpinned by micro-regional projects such as 'polygons' -- Singapore and

Thailand have been ASEAN's 'pathfinder' states in developing bilateral FTAs with various trade partners -- Quite a bit of Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei content --, pp 15-50; 2) Three other articles related to Dent's article, with MSB content: a) Jurgen Ruland, "The politics of pragmatism: Southeast Asia's new free trade bilateralism" [An editorial] , pp 7-13; b) Stephen Hoadly, "U.S. free trade agreements in East Asia: politics, economics, and security policy in the Bush administration", pp 51-75; and c) Astrid Fritz Carrapatoso, "The integration of trade and environmental policies in free trade agreements in South-east Asia", 76-105"]

V.xxvi.n.2 2007 -- 1) Julian C.H. Lee, "Barisan Nasional - political dominance and the general elections of 2004 in Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- Examines how the *Barisan Nasional* coalition has held power in Malaysia since independence (1957) -- 2 perspectives: a) looks at the practical impediments to opposition party participation during general elections -- This refracted thru the prism of the 2004 general campaign of a *Parti KeADILan Rakyat* candidate; b) looks at the broader cultural environment in which elections occur -- The *Barisan Nasional* plays upon popular fears of a recurrence of ethnic violence that occurred in 1969 when opposition parties won more than expected in the polls -- Examination of both practical mechanisms and the cultural environment allow s a more complete understanding of how *Barisan Nasional* maintains its political dominance.], pp 40-65.

>Journal of East Asian studies

V.7.n.2 May-Aug 2007 -- 1) Benjamin Reilly, "Electoral systems and party systems in East Asia" [From the Abstract -- In the last 2 decades, many East Asian states have made transitions to democracy -- One distinctive aspect of democratization of these states is the way they have sought to manage political change by institutional innovations that aim to influence the development of party systems -- Typically, these reforms were to have promoted stable centrist politics by promoting reduction of numbers of parties... in some cases nascent 2-party systems -- Malaysia and Singapore as two cases among many], pp 185-202.

>Journal of Muslim minority affairs

V.26, Issue 3 Dec 2006 -- 1) Syed Muhd Khairudin Aljunied, "Making sense of an evolving identity: a survey of studies on identity and identity formation among Malay-Muslims in Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Proposes several new vistas in the study of identity and identity formation -- Categorizes the approaches of these studies into 3 categories: a) socio-anthropological, b) historical-political, and c) exploratory; but these approaches are not necessarily exclusive -- These categorizations show how particular disciplines have dominated the study of Malay-Muslim identity in Singapore at the expense of other relevant perspectives -- Aims to provide a 'sketch map' that can be analyzed and extended into future investigations], pp 371-382.

>Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society

V.17, pt.3 Jul 2007 -- 1) Ahmed Ibrahim Abushouk, "*Al-Manar* and the Hadhrami elite in the Malay-Indonesian World: challenge and response" [From the Abstract -- *Al-Manir* was an Arabic and reformist journal founded in Cairo in 1898, which examined the decadence of Muslim political institutions and the

danger of European colonialism in the Muslim world -- Attempts to examine the intellectual influence of *al-Manar* among the Hadhrami elite in the Malay-Indonesian world, and critically assess its role as the mouthpiece for the propagation of Ābduh's doctrines and accomplishment of his reforms -- Addresses the mission of *al-Manar* as a reformist journal and examines the religio-cultural background of the Hadhrami elite who were influenced by the reformist mission of *al-Manar* -- Finally, highlights the impact of al-Manar on the religio-political and social structure of the Hadhrami diaspora in the Malay-Indonesian world, discussing how this impact resulted in establishment of a revivalist movement that rejected the conservative attitude of blind imitation (*taqlid*) of the four schools of Islamic law, and denounced the Sufi practices that were not in harmony with the fundamentals of Islam], pp 301-322.

>Malaysian business

Mar1st-15th 2007 -- 1) A Kadir Jasin, "The PM and the politics of development" [It seems that PM Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi wants to score as many political points as possible from development projects initiated by his administration -- Abdullah not a political pushover, nor is he about to entertain the thought that he is an interim PM -- He is here to stay... for 2 terms or longer], pp 8-9; 2) Charles Raj, "Commentary: hiding behind the OSA" [When public documents are classified as secrets under the Official Secrets Act, questions are bound to arise -- What are politicians and government officials trying to hide? -- If greater transparency is what the people want, then it is what they should get... nothing less -- In what is seen as a major policy change, the government decided to take steps toward making public the highway concession agreements between itself and the operators; this after the Works Minister had strenuously defended why the concession agreements should not be made public], p 11; 3) S C Chan, "Taib soldiers on" [Veteran Sarawak Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud shows no sign of stepping down, as indicated by his remarks at the conclusion of Parti Pesaka Bumiputra Bersatu assembly in Miri -- What he has, however, is a succession plan, in which 3 players have emerged as frontrunners for the most coveted position in the resource-rich state], pp 12-13.

Apr1st-15th 2007 1) A Kadir Jasin, "Other thots: the main stream media vs the internet ... the public gains" [From the Abstract + -- Technology, in the form of internet news sites and web blogs, however chastised, will continue to be an alternative source of information to the masses -- A good example would be the recent Net murmurings of a rift between the two most powerful men in the country, which warranted a denial by the Number 2 himself -- Perhaps a freer mainstream media would help -- A challenge against Abdullah now would be suicidal for Najib -- He stands a better chance of making it to the top by being a loyal and obedient number 2], pp 6-8; 2) Charles Raj, "Commentary: high expectations, poor delivery... Despite repeated reminders and directives from the highest level of government, the public delivery system remains as lackadaisical as ever... When will things ever change" -- So you have a situation where you lose your land due to corruption in the land office and nobody can help you... not even the courts... Surely, it can't get worse than this], p 10; 3) Johannes Ridu, "EDF's RHB buy: a boon or bane?" [There was no widespread celebration when the Employees Provident Fund

won the fight for the Utama Banking Group's stake in RHB -- In fact the controversy has triggered fear in the minds of EPF's 11,000,000 contributors about the security of their life savings], pp 21-23; 4) Related articles: a) Charles Raj & Johannes Ridu, "A good investment: the banker in Datuk Azlan Zainol speaks out", 24-26; b) Johannes Ridu, "MTUC wants 'watchdog' role", p 27; c) Prathaban V, "Lessons from Sime Bank", p 28; d) James S, "What next?", pp 29-32.

>National identities

V.9,n.1 Mar 2007 -- 1) Vejai Balasubramaniam, "A divided nation: Malay political dominance, *Bumiputra* material advancement and national identity in Malaysia" [From the Abstract -- National identity in Malaysia is defined by Malay culture and politically associated with ethno-nationalism for advancing bumiputra generally and Malay-bumiputra particularly -- This entailed transforming ethnic occupational structure to increase bumiputra ownership in corporate wealth to 30% by 1990 -- By 2000 Malaysia had entered the service stage and expanded the middle class -- The popularity of UMNO shows that Malay aspirations and national identity are still relevant, but Malaysia remains a nation with a divided polity], pp 35-48.

>Ophthalmic epidemiology

V.14,n.1 Jan 2007 -- 1) Athena W.P. Foong, Sang-Mei Saw, Jing-Liang Loo, Sunny Shen, Seng-Chee Loon, Mohamad Rosman, Tin Aung, Donald T.H. Tan, E. Shyong Tai, & Tien Y. Wong, "Rational and methodology for a population-based study of eye diseases in Malay people: the Singapore Malay eye study (SiMES)" [From the Abstract -- Burden and risk factors of blinding eye diseases are unknown for the 200 million Malays living in Asia -- Summarizes the rationale and study design of a population-based cross-sectional study of eye diseases of Malays in Singapore -- Sampling frame of Malays aged 40-79 in designated study areas in southwestern Singapore -- Random sample of 5,600 (1,400 from each decade of 40-9, 50-9, 60-9 & 70-9 years)... target sample size of 3,150 persons -- Data: blood pressure, anthropometry, presenting & best-corrected visual acuity, subjective refraction, ocular biometry, Goldmann tonometry, slit-lamp bio-microscopy, optic disc imaging, digital lens, and retinal photography; blood & urine samples & brachial blood pressure... matters related to prevalence and risk factors for age-related diseases in people of Malay ethnicity in Singapore], pp 25-35.

>The economist

Jul14th-20th 2007 -- 1) "Dengue in Southeast Asia: the prosperity bug" [Seasonal rains sweeping across Southeast Asia bring a surge of dengue fever -- Malaysia has had over 20,000 cases, as have Thailand and Vietnam... Indonesia (where the rains come earlier) had almost 100,000 cases ... even Singapore, which has a sophisticated dengue-control program, has many cases], pp 46&48.

Jul21th-27th 2007-- 1) "Malaysian conservation: Dolly goes swimming" [The fishing department considers cloning leatherback turtles -- 50 years ago there were 6,000-10,000 leatherback turtle nests every summer, in 1984 there were only 800, and in 2006 there were only 5; presumably because local people love to eat leatherback eggs, and because every year fishermen catch about 25% of the Pacific Ocean's leatherbacks

-- Some officials want to clone leatherbacks as a rapid means of reproducing a sustainable population -- Others, critique the technique, noting that it might be easier to bully fishermen and buy incubators], p 43.

Jul28th-Aug3rd 2007 -- 1) "Sovereign-wealth funds: keep your T-bonds, we'll take the bank" [The governments of China and Singapore take stakes in Barclays, giving some clues about how sovereign investors plan to operate], pp 75-76.

Aug4th-10th 2007 -- 1) "ASEAN: past it at 40?" [Southeast Asia's regional block claims that they agreed to create a regional human-rights watchdog -- But once again a supposed 'victory for human rights' disappoints, because the summit's final communique made no commitment to setting up such a rights body; all the summit's ministers did was persuade Myanmar not to veto discussion of the proposal at a summit of ASEAN heads of government in November (when they celebrate ASEAN's 40th birthday) -- And more], pp 36-37.

Aug11th-17th 2007 -- 1) "Asia's rich and poor: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more" [Income inequality in emerging Asia is heading towards Latin American levels -- Income inequality is usually measured by a country's Gini coefficient (0 is perfect equality, 1 is perfect inequality) -- Income inequality has increased over the past decade in 15 of the 21 countries studied by the Asian Development Bank -- The 3 exceptions are Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand, the 3 countries worst hit by the 1997 financial crisis -- The biggest increases in inequality were in China, Nepal and Cambodia -- And more], p 36.

Sep1st-7th 2007 -- 1) "Malaysia at 50: tall buildings, narrow minds" [From the article -- After 50 years, Malaysia should stop treating a third of their people as not-quite-citizens -- Much to celebrate: has good living standards, education, health services and sanitation, electricity, and skyscrapers -- The hollow ring to the festivities is the rising resentment by ethnic Chinese and Indians, more than one-third of the population, because of the continuing, systematic discrimination they suffer in favor of the majority *bumiputra* and creeping 'Islamization' in what has been a largely secular country -- As criticism grows UMNO leaders say that nobody should question the 'social contract' of Malays as natural citizens; while Chinese and Indians, whose ancestors were also born and raised in the country, are merely 'granted' citizenship, and are not provided some of the 'perks' of the Malay 'natives'], pp 11-12; 2) "Offshore service locations" [Malaysia 3rd best of 18 countries (including Thailand 4th, Indonesia 6th, Philippines 8th, and Singapore 11th) rated for attractiveness to which to move back-office operations, according to the 2007 Global Services Location Index compiled by A.T. Kearny], p 85.

Sep8th-14th 2007 -- 1) "Business jets in Asia: hot tickets" [A vast new market for private jets is finally starting to open up -- The economic health of Singapore and Hong Kong is tied so strongly to the quality of their airports and positions as transport hubs that both could use a rolling suitcase as their city logos... all this traffic has been handled by commercial airlines, which are growing fast (40% in China alone in one year) -- But the bonanza of making and selling more and more aircraft... Boeing and Airbus... as many as 5,500-7,200 airliners needed in Asia in the next 20 years ... is not Asian based -- And more], p 69.

Sep15th-21st 2007 -- 1) "Magnets for money" [Singapore 8th in contribution of financial services to employment and GDP

(latest year available ... New York 1st followed by London, Paris, Chicago, Tokyo, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Singapore, Frankfurt, Zurich, Geneva, and Dubai last)], pp 3-4; **2)** "All shapes and sizes" [Singapore 4th biggest Asian financial center (Tokyo 1st, Hong Kong 2nd, Shanghai 3rd -- See especially p 12 of the pp 3-20 of a special section between regular pp 62-63].

>The journal of Asian studies

V.66,n.3 Aug 2007 -- **1)** Helen Creese, "Curious modernities: Early Twentieth-Century Balinese textual explorations" [From the Abstract & the text [The engagement of Balinese writers and intellectuals with the modern world began well before the final incorporation of the island into the Dutch colonial state in 1906-8 – Analyzes 3 Balinese texts, each belonging to a different traditional Balinese literary genre, that were written around the beginning of the 20th century, which deal with world events and geography and are Balinese re-workings of material from printed sources into indigenous forms of textual representation, and represent some of the earliest documented shifts toward modernity as a way of understanding the West and coming to terms with new technologies; providing insights into how elite Balinese understandings of modernity were being constituted at the turn of the century – Malay language and publications as a most frequent, important influence and major theme in the 'curious modernities' in early 20th Century Balinese textual explorations], pp 723-758;

>The journal of international communication

V.13,n.1 2007 -- **1)** Yan Jin, Augustine Pang & Glen T. Cameron, "Different means to the same end: a comparative contingency analysis of Singapore and China governments' management of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) crisis" [In 2003, the world lay under siege of a contagious virus that seemed to be pneumonia, but was more lethal -- Singapore readily acknowledged that some of its citizens had SARS, while China (the source) was in denial; but China eventually joined Canada, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan on the SARS list -- Singapore and China took different approaches to resolving the crisis: Singapore adopting a transparent approach praised by WHO as 'exemplary'; and China was blamed for escalating the crisis thru failure to curb the disease earlier and trying to hide the rapid outbreak -- The article attempts to compare the approaches taken by the Chinese and Singaporean governments in the crisis communication of SARS at 3 levels: **a)** at the organizational levels, to identify & compare strategies the 2 governments employed to manage perceptions and emotions of their different publics & the contingent factors underlying each of their strategies; **b)** at the public level, to identify key publics and their transitions in the crisis, to examine the publics' perceptions and emotions in response to government performance, and examine the contingent factors that undergird these strategies; and **c)** taking a contingency approach in examining how the organizations and their publics moved along the continuum thru-out the life cycle of the crisis -- Data for the analysis were generated from content analyses of newspaper articles from the media of both countries -- Main sections of the articles: **1)** Literature review & research questions; **a)** development of crisis theories in public relations research; **b)**

tables of internal and external variables that affect an organization's response; **c)** Crisis communication strategy along the continuum, Publics in crisis, Publics' perception and emotions in a crisis, Crisis communication thru the media; **2)** Method; **3)** Sample; **4)** Coding, training & instrument; **5)** Results; **6)** Discussion; **7)** Implications; References], pp 39-70.

The Pacific review

V.20,n.2 Jun 2007 -- **1)** Cherian George, "Consolidating authoritarian rule: calibrated coercion in Singapore" [From the Abstract -- Despite persistence of authoritarian forms of rule, studies of state domination have seen little need to analyze use of force against citizens -- Argues that, while state violence is elemental, it is not straight-forward -- States have a range of repressive tools, which they need to deploy rationally and with finesse if they are to consolidate authoritarian systems -- This essay suggests the concept of calibrated coercion, which represses challengers with minimum political cost, and illustrates it thru an in-depth case study of press controls in Singapore], pp 127-145; **2)** Martin Painter & Shiu-fai Wong, "The telecommunications regulatory regimes in Hong Kong and Singapore: when direct state intervention meets indirect policy instruments" [From the Abstract -- Successful economic liberalization paradoxically requires high levels of state capacity, while "deregulated" markets deploy new regulatory mechanisms that, rather than diminishing state power, reconfigure it -- A comparative case study into the recent liberalization reforms of the telecommunications sectors of the two city-states -- Results of the reform processes in each are quite similar; However, the routes taken by which this result came about tell different stories about the manner in which governments balance domestic interests in the process of liberalization], pp 173-195.

BOOKS BOOKS books books

>Auty, R M (ed) –2004-- Resource abundance and economic development. 356 pp. Oxford U. Press. Pb ISBN13: 9780199275786 [Chapters in this collection draw on historical analysis and models to show that a growth collapse is not the inevitable outcome of resource abundance and policy counts – Malaysia, a rare example of successful resource-abundance development, is contrasted with Ghana, Bolivia, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, and Argentina, all of which experienced a growth collapse – Demonstrates the importance of initial conditions for successful economic reform – See especially, Mahani Zainal Abidin, Ch9, 'Competitive industrialization with natural resource abundance: Malaysia'.]

>Bianchi, Robert R –2004—Guests of God: pilgrimage and politics of the Islamic World. 384 pp. Oxford U. Press. Hb ISBN13: 9780195171075 [Describes the Hajj as 'magical': melding social science analysis, history, public policy, Islamic studies, personal narrative, and travelogue... taking readers on a Hajj of their own ... from Saudi Arabia to Pakistan, Malaysia, Turkey, Nigeria, and elsewhere; revealing the mechanics, politics, and spiritual dimensions of perhaps the world's greatest regularized movement of people (each year about two million pilgrims from over 100 countries converge on Mecca).]

>Biswas, Asit & Olli Varis –2005-- Integrated water resources management in South and South East Asia. 370 pp. Oxford U. Press. Pb ISBN13: 9780195669329 [Analyzes the extent to which Integrated Resource Management has

been applied to improve water management practices and processes in South and Southeast Asia, based on a series of comprehensive case studies prepared by leading authorities from Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam, and the Mekong River as a whole – See especially, Ch6, “Institutional setup for integrated management for the Klang River Basin, Malaysia”.]

>**Boomgaard, Peter (ed)** –2007—*A world of water: rain, rivers and seas in Southeast Asian histories*. 376 pp. Seattle: U. of Washington. Pb ISBN 978-90-6718-294-2 [**1**] (Preface) Peter Boomgaard, “In a state of flux: water as a deadly and life-giving force in Southeast Asia” -- **2**] (Part one: waterscapes): **a**) Heather Sutherland, “Geography as destiny? The role of water in Southeast Asian history”; **b**) Sandra Pannell, “Of gods and monsters: indigenous sea cosmologies, promiscuous geographies and the depths of local sovereignty”; **c**) Manon Osseweijer, “A toothy tale: a short history of shark fisheries and trade in shark products in twentieth-century Indonesia -- **3**] (Part two: hazards of sea and water) **a**) James F. Warren, “A tale of two centuries: the globalization of maritime raiding and piracy in Southeast Asia at the end of the 18th and 20th centuries”; **b**) Greg Bankoff, “Storms of history: water, hazard and society in the Philippines, 1565-1930” -- **4**] (Part three: water for agriculture) **a**) Robert C. Hunt, “Communal irrigation: a comparative perspective”; **b**) Willem Wolters, “Geographical explanations for the distribution of irrigation institutions: cases from Southeast Asia”; **c**) Jan Wissemann Christie, “Water and rice in early Java and Bali”; **d**) Franz von Benda-Beckmann, “Contestation over a life-giving force: water rights and conflicts, with special reference to Indonesia” -- **5**] (Part four: pure and impure water: health and disease); **a**) Foong Kin, “The role of waterborne diseases in Malaysia”; **b**) Okke Braadbaart, “Privatizing water: the Jakarta concession and the limits of contract”; **c**) Anton Lucas & Arief W. Djati, “The policies of environmental and water pollution in West Java” -- **6**] “About the authors” & “Index”.]

>**Burns, Peter M & Marina Novelli (eds)** –2007—*Tourism and politics: global frameworks and local realities*. 430 pp. Elsevier. ISBN 978-0-08-045075-9 [From www.elsevier.com – Only titles of chapters, no names of authors of chs – But see “The politics of tourism: ethnic Chinese spaces in Malaysia”.]

>**Castellino, Joshua & Elvira Dominguez Redondo** -- 2007—*Minority rights in Asia: a comparative legal analysis*. 320 pp. Oxford U. Press. Hb ISBN13: 9780199296057 [The absence of a regional system of human rights protection for Asia, and the ambivalence of some Asian states towards existing human rights regimes often results in a lack of awareness of the plight of minorities – Existing human rights literature about Asia tends to focus on the debate of cultural relativism, and minority rights literature largely ignores Asia – This book tackles this lacuna thru an analysis of the minority rights legal regimes in India, China, Malaysia and Singapore in the context of a wider debate on human rights in Asia.]

>**Chang, Sea-Jin (ed)** –2006-- *Business groups in East Asia: financial crisis, restructuring, and new growth*. 288 pp. Oxford U. Press. Hb ISBN13: 97801992287345 [The 1997 Asian crisis mostly affected Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Korea as well as other Asian countries heavily

dependent on intra-regional trade – While banks and other financial institutions quickly became insolvent and indebted, industrial firms went bankrupt; but business groups did not immediately collapse, and some even prospered – This book examines these business groups and presents important data about their restructuring following the Asian crisis – The slow and divergent development provides evidences against theories of rapid global convergence, yet some business groups face an uncertain future: foreign investor influence has increased since the crisis, and East Asian governments had to accommodate their demands to keep attracting foreign capital – But business groups will continue to be important vehicles for the sustained future growth of the region, and evidence of this is presented in the book – See especially: **a**) Sea-Jin Chang’s ‘Introduction: business groups in East Asia’; **b**) Lai Si Tsui-Auch’s ‘Singaporean business groups: the role of the state and capital in Singapore Inc.’; **c**) Edmund Terence Gomez’s ‘Malaysian business groups: the state and capital development in the post-currency crisis period’; and **d**) Donghoon Hahn & Kuen Lee, ‘Chinese business groups: their origins and developments’.]

>**Clave, S A** (translated by Andrew Clarke) –2007-- *The global theme park industry*. 352 pp. Oxford: CABI Publishing. Pb ISBN13: 9781845932084 [From OUP USA Home website -- See particularly: **a**) ‘Case 2, The New World in Singapore, an early XXth Century amusement park in Asia’; and **b**) ‘Case 9, Suncity, entertainment and property development in Malaysia’.]

>**Collins, James T** –2005—*Bahasa Melayu bahasa dunia*. Buku Obor. Pb ISBN 979-461-537-4 [From the Yayasan Obor Indonesia website: www.obor.co.id/DetailBuku -- The origin & dispersal from Borneo into Southeast Asia and beyond, early literacy, history and description.]

>**D’Avanzo, Carolyn** –2007—*Pocket guide to cultural health assessment*. 820 pp. Elsevier. Pb ISBN-13: 978-0-323-04834-7 [Discusses clinical implications of ethnic populations from over 170 countries – Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei included – Lots of information from languages spoken, to health care beliefs and practices, to eye contact – A comprehensive and portable resource for patient care.]

>**Girven, Stephen D** –2007-- *Carriage of goods by sea*. 766 pp. Oxford U. Press. Hb ISBN13: 9780198764588 [A lucid account of such ‘details’ as bills of lading and charter parties (voyage, time, and demise); and focuses also on each of the international conventions regulating the subject, extending into such issues as limitation, admiralty claims (in the cargo context), as well as maritime arbitration – Although written from the perspective of English law, it is cross referenced with major common law jurisdictions, especially Australasia, Malaysia and Singapore, as well as Hong Kong, and South Africa.]

>**Hirschey, Mark & Kose John & Anil K Makhija** –2004—*Corporate governance (Advances in financial economics, v.9)*. 394 pp. Elsevier. Hb ISBN 978-0-7623-1133-0 [14 research papers w/ theoretical & empirical treatment on financial aspects of corporate governance – See especially, F A Samad, “Ownership structure in the Malaysian corporate sector: its impact on corporate governance, performance, financing and investment patterns”.]

>**Hutchison, Charles S** –2005a--*South-East Asian oil, gas,*

coal and mineral deposits. 268 pp. Oxford U. Press. Pb ISBN13: 9780198526490 [The companion volume to the author's *Geological evolution of South East Asia* (1989) – The first book to provide an analysis of the oil, gas, and mineral deposits of Southeast Asia, including its economic geology – Stratigraphy, structure, hydrocarbon and coal deposits of the major Tertiary basins described, and regional similarities and differences analyzed – Featured areas are the copper and gold-silver deposits of the Philippines and Indonesia; the Sundaland peninsular core, considered the foremost source of tungsten and tin; and the declining tin mines of Malaysia & Thailand – See especially, Ch3, “Cinozoic oil and gas-bearing basins related to the Sarawak and Sabah Orogenies”, and Ch12, “Tin deposits”.]

>**Hutchison, Charles S** –2005b—***Geology of North-West Borneo: Sarawak, Brunei and Sabah.*** 444 pp. Elsevier Science. Pb ISBN: 978-0-444-51998-6 [From the website – A comprehensive compilation of all aspects of the geology of NW Borneo and the contiguous South China and Sulu Seas – Sedimentary formations are described, their palaeontology tabulated and ages discussed – Stratigraphic charts illustrate their relationships across the whole region – Detailed geological maps of selected areas are accompanied by cross sections based on outcrop patterns and drilling and seismic data offshore – Palaeocurrent maps presented and palaeogeography for different ages described and sedimentary provenance discussed – 31 chs and references.]

>**Innes, J L & G. Hickey & H F Hoehn (eds)** –2006—***Forestry and environmental change: socioeconomic and political change.*** 256 pp. Oxford U. Press. Hb ISBN13: 9780851990026 [See M. H. Phua & M. Minowa, Ch12, ‘Application of criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management to a GIS-based multiple criteria decision making approach for forest conservation planning in the Kinabalu Region, Sabah, Malaysia’.]

>**Kim, Suk-Joong & Michael McKenzie (eds)** –2007—***Asia-Pacific financial markets.*** 380 pp. Elsevier. Hb ISBN 978-0-7623-1471-3 [From the Web -- Chs utilize a variety of methods... theoretical, empirical & qualitative to highlight a range of issues across the region – See especially: Subramaniam S. Pillay & Gary John Rangel, “Evidence of bubbles in the Malaysian stock market” in Part III; and Wee Ching Pok, “Temporal causality of return of index futures and stock markets: evidence from Malaysia”.]

>**Kingsbury, Damien** –2005—***South-East Asia: a political profile.*** 464 pp. 2nd ed. Oxford U. Press. Pb ISBN13: 9780195517576 [OUP USA web – Intro to politics of SEA – Key themes and issues influencing the region, examining differences and trends, methods of achieving power, styles of government, and effects of modernization – Investigates relationships between authority and legitimacy; and civil and political rights – Also, economic development, security issues, terrorism, nationalism and communism – Examines each country individually, how politics are shaped by local conditions, history and other influences; and identifies key political procedures and institutions – And a useful overview of each country: a) Ch10, ‘Malaysia: inclusion and exclusion’; b)

Ch11, ‘Brunei: floating on oil’; c), Ch12, ‘Singapore: the corporate state’.]

>**Kymlicka, Will & Baogang He (eds)** –2005—***Multiculturalism in Asia.*** 376 pp. Oxford U. Press. Pb ISBN13: 9780199277636 [Explores different ways that ethnic and religious diversity is conceptualized and debated in South and East Asia – For a few decades after decolonization, talk of multiculturalism and pluralism was discouraged, as states attempted to unify and homogenize new nation-states; but more recently, many (but not all) states are debating policies to accommodate minorities – With case studies and thematic essays, this volume examines pre-colonial traditions, colonial legacies, and post-colonial ideologies that influence contemporary debates on multiculturalism in the region – Explores the areas of convergence and divergence between these different perspectives and possibilities of providing viable frameworks for managing ethnic and religious diversity in the region – See especially: **a)** Will Kymlicka’s “Liberal multiculturalism: Western models, global trends, and Asian debates”; **b)** Baogang He’s “Minority rights with Chinese characteristics” **c)** N. Ganesan’s “Ethnic accommodation in Malaysia”; **d)** Beng Huat Chua’s “The cost of membership in an ascribed community: the Singapore model”; **e)** Gurpreet Mahahan, “Indian exceptionalism or Indian model: negotiating cultural diversity and minority rights in a democratic nation-state”.]

Lee, W. O. (ed) –2005—***Citizenship education in Asia and the Pacific: concepts and issues.*** 328 pp. U. of Washington Press. Pb ISBN 962-809359-2 [From the website -- A landmark in citizenship education discourse, combining conceptual debates with case studies on whether the notion of Asian citizenship can be established, and if so, what its research agenda would be – polemic discussion, empirical data analysis, consultancy reflections, citizenship, citizenship education in Asian and Pacific countries – Covers Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Japan, China, Korea, Soloman Islands, Taiwan & Vanuatu.]

>**Postill, John** – 2006—***Media and nation building: how the Iban became Malaysian.*** 231 pp. NY: Berghahn Books. ISBN-10:184545135X & ISBN-13:978-1845451356 [From the Abstract on web@williamette.edu – Based on anthropological fieldwork and historical research, this study follows the diffusion, adoption and social uses of media among the Iban of Sarawak – It demonstrates the wide-ranging process of nation building that has accompanied the Iban adoption of radio, clocks, print media and television – For another case of complexity in ‘Malaysianization/modernization’ see a book review in this issue of *Berita* based on one by Gordon T. Gray under *American Anthropologist* V.109,n.2 Jun 2007 & a longer one by Sabina Mihelj at H-Nationalism@h-net.msu.edu.]

>**Rock, Michael T & David P Angel** –2005—***Industrial transformation in the Developing World.*** 264 pp. Oxford U. Press. Hb ISBN13: 9780199270040 [‘Grow first, clean up later’ environmental strategies in the developing economies of East Asia: China, Korea, Northeast Asia; and Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam in Southeast Asia... pose a critical regional and global sustainability challenge in this area of continuing rapid urban-based industrial growth... It is the most polluted region in the world – See especially, Ch7, ‘Impact of multinational corporations’ firm-

based environmental standards on subsidiaries and their suppliers: evidence from Motorola-Penang”.]

>**Sears, Laurie J. (ed) –2007-- *Knowing Southeast Asian subjects*. 296 pp. Seattle: U. of Washington Press. Pb ISBN 0-295-98683-2 [Asks how the rising preponderance of scholarship from SEA is de-centering SEA studies in the US – addresses recent changes & new directions within the field for research, pedagogy and institutional cooperation.]**

>**Taylor, Lance (ed) –2006-- *External liberalization in Asia, post-socialist Europe, and Brazil*. 528 pp. Oxford U. Press. Hb ISBN13: 9780195189322 [From OUP USA Home website: www.oup.com – Reviews the experience of 14 countries with external liberalization and related policies, based on papers by national authors following a common macroeconomic methodology summarized along with papers’ main results and policy implications in the editor’s introductory chapter – This new project is a significant extension of an earlier work (Lance Taylor, ed, 2001, *External liberalization, economic performance, and social policy*) in that it focuses principally on: **a)** formerly socialist European economies (Hungary, Poland, Russia); **b)** Asian economies (consistently growing China, India, Singapore & Vietnam; 1997-98 crisis victims Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia & Thailand; and cyclically stagnant Philippines & Turkey); **c)** with Brazil an important comparator – A distinguishing feature of the book is the common methodology – Also, authors of the papers bring a wealth of insight into their thick descriptions a la Clifford Geertz’s Balinese cockfight about how diverse economies responded to rather similar reform packages & offer lessons about ongoing institutional change.]**

>**Taylor, Philip –2007—*Cham Muslims of the Mekong Delta: place and mobility in the cosmopolitan periphery*. 304 pp. Honolulu, HI: U. of Hawai’i Press. Pb ISBN 978-0-8248-3154-7 [From the website – Readable ethnographic study traces settlement history and origin narratives of the Cham Muslims of the Mekong delta, describing religious practices, material life, relationship with the states of Vietnam & Cambodia, and everyday life – Original insights into sources of religious and ethnic differentiation in the Mekong delta enrich the comparative study of pluralist societies, the study of Islam, cosmopolitanism, trade, rural development and resistance, and understandings of Vietnam, Cambodia, and the Malay diaspora.]**

>**Wee, C. J. W.-L. –2007—*The Asian Modern: culture, capitalist development, Singapore*. 246 pp. Washington U. Press (distributed by Hong Kong U. Press). Hb ISBN 962-209-859-2 [From the website www.washington.edu/uwpress -- An account of how the modernization processes for postcolonial societies in Asia, ones such as India, Malaysia & Singapore are fraught with collaborations and conflicts between different socio-political, historical, economic & cultural agents – Refuses to accept the uncritical interpretation of the modernizing processes in Asia as liberation from the hegemony of Euro-American capitalism, and does not concede that all cultural initiatives in postcolonial societies are denied all power to devise alternative forms of expression.]**

CONFERENCES, PAPERS & MANUSCRIPTS

>**AAS Meeting** – Hyatt Regency, Atlanta, GA., April 3-6, 2008.

>**Call for papers for the Third Issue Indigenous Politics: Migration/Citizenship/Cyberspace (2008)** – Final issue might focus on relations between race and space in conceiving the indigenous (from URBANTH-L mailing list) – Special issues: 1) clear thinking about the term ‘indigenous’; 2) resources for scholarly programs integrating indigenous issues; 3) conceptual foundations for policy and activist institutions as distinct from programs for one particular indigenous community; and 4) a platform for further empirical & theoretical research within and outside the academy – Submit an abstract by November 30, 2007 to Petrice Flowers at pfflowers@hawaii.edu or Jungmin Seo at seoj@hawaii.edu -- Abstracts should be about 1000 words describing the argument, methodology, theory and description of the case study – Don’t send completed manuscript at this time.

>**Political Ecology Society (PESO) announces the Eric Wolf Prize** for the best article-length anthropology paper based on dissertation research. We seek papers based in substantive anthropological field research that make an innovative contribution to Political Ecology, widely conceived. To be eligible for the competition, scholars must have received their Ph.D. within the two years prior to publication of this announcement and must be nominated by a faculty member. A cash prize of \$500 accompanies the award and the paper will be published in the *Journal of Political Ecology*. The preferred format for papers is electronic, but CDs and paper will also be accepted. Please use the style guidelines provided on the *Journal of Political Ecology* webpage: www.jpe.library.arizona.edu/. Electronic copies should be sent to twcollins@utep.edu and paper and CD copies to: Tim Collins; Department of Sociology & Anthropology; University of Texas at El Paso; 500 West University Avenue; El Paso, TX 79968. The deadline for submission is January 15, 2008.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL (From Margaret John, Amnesty International Canada, Malaysia & Singapore coordinator.) Prominent human rights defender and opposition leader, Dr Chee Soon Juan has been imprisoned again – It is a result of his attempt to leave Singapore in April 2006 to attend a World Movement for Democracy conference in Turkey – The Singapore High Court dismissed his appeal on 3 Sept 2007 against his conviction of attempting to leave Singapore as an un-discharged bankrupt for failing to pay Lee Kuan Yew & Goh Chok Tong S\$500,000, who had won a civil defamation suit against him – He was fined S\$4000 or 3 weeks in prison in default of payment – He was last imprisoned more than 2 weeks in late 2006 under similar circumstances – He was made bankrupt by the courts for not paying the former PMs S\$500,000 in 2001 for defaming them in election campaigns.]

PROSPECTUS

Berita is a quarterly bulletin board, forum and publication for all of the scholarly disciplines concerned with Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Studies. It is published and distributed mid-month in February, May, August and November.

Address all correspondence and submissions for publication to rprovenc@juno.com or to Ron Provencher, P.O. Box 13336, Burton, WA 98013. Submissions should be sent: (1) as an attachment to an e-mail message to the above e-mail address; OR (2) as a typed manuscript by snail mail.

RESEARCH & PRODUCTION STAFF

Barbara L. Provencher, M.A. (History)

Haron Omar Abdullah, B.A. With Distinction in Anthropology