

Exhibition and Dance Drama Explore Ramayana Legacy in Southeast Asia

On 14 September, President of Singapore Mr S.R. Nathan and Mrs Nathan officially launched an ISEAS-sponsored exhibition of 50 photos depicting *Ramayana* performances in Southeast Asia. The exhibition named “Panoramayana – Depictions of *Ramayana* in Southeast Asia” is at the NUS (National University of Singapore) Museums till 17 December.

The collection by Bali-based photographer Garrett Kam took him through Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. Kam’s works offer a panoramic sweep of puppetry, dance and opera as well as the religious rites behind some of the performances.

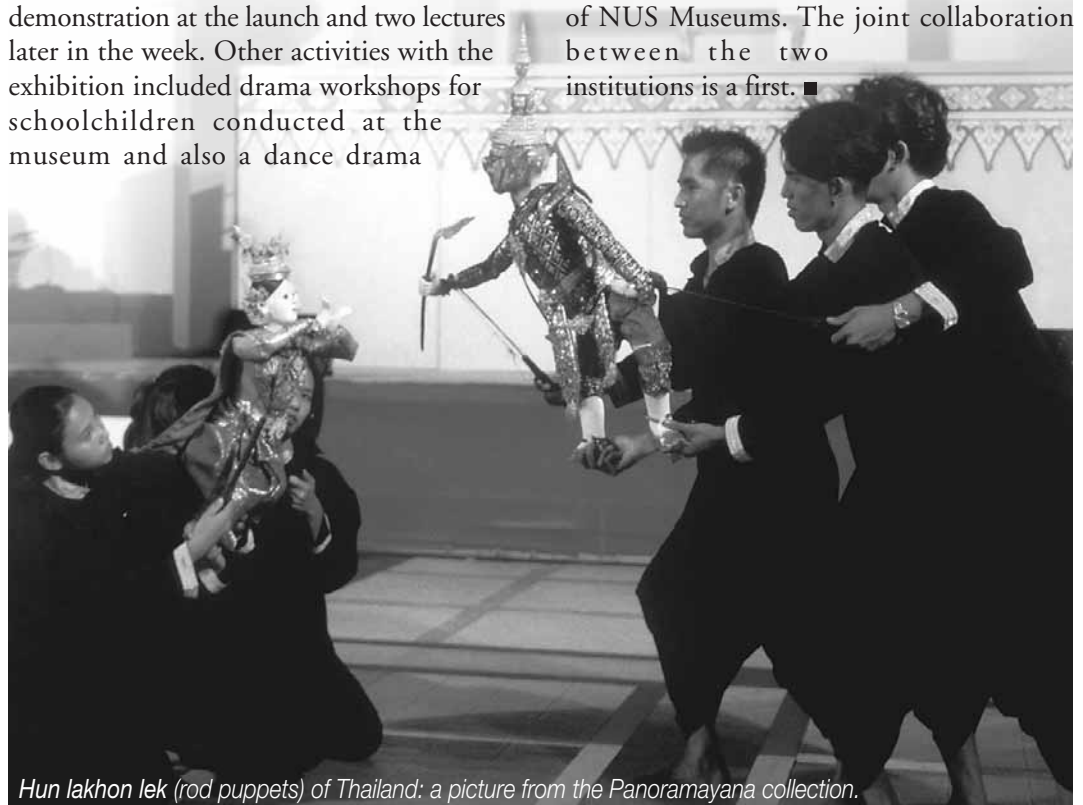
Hawaii-born Kam is also a scholar who has written extensively on Southeast Asian art and culture. His major work *Ramayana and the Arts of Asia* was published in 2000. Trained in classical Javanese dance, Kam gave a dance demonstration at the launch and two lectures later in the week. Other activities with the exhibition included drama workshops for schoolchildren conducted at the museum and also a dance drama



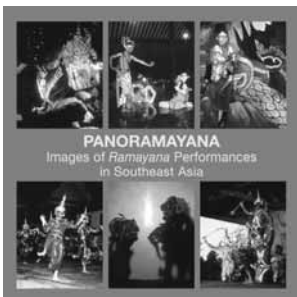
Scene from dance drama “Ram”.

“Ram” performed by the Shriram Bharatiya Kala Kendra from India.

Panoramayana continues an ISEAS’ cultural outreach programme initiated in 2003. This involves screening films and hosting cultural performances at ISEAS. The Panoramayana pictures, however, require proper exhibition facilities for a period of four months. This prompted ISEAS to seek the assistance of NUS Museums. The joint collaboration between the two institutions is a first. ■



Hun lakhon lek (rod puppets) of Thailand: a picture from the Panoramayana collection.



The 50 photos of Panoramayana with explanatory captions are available as a CD-Rom at \$10 each. Get the CD-Rom at the ISEAS bookshop or the exhibition venue. For details see <http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg>

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In the event of war over Taiwan independence, Beijing expects a US naval blockade...

...of China's eastern coast. Hence, China is giving priority to counter such a US strategy by promoting close links with neighbouring states bordering its southern Yunnan province. Dr You Ji of Australia's University of New South Wales and a Visiting Research Fellow at the East Asian Institute, National University of Singapore, said this in his presentation at the ISEAS Forum on Regional Strategic & Political Developments. Dr You believed that Taiwan would be Beijing's main strategic challenge over the next 20 years.

But things perhaps would not turn out so stark over the Taiwan issue, if forum keynote speaker Kishore Mahbubani, Dean of the newly-established Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, proves his prescience. He canvassed the view that the level of political

misunderstanding and tension in the region is not as bad as that usually portrayed by analysts and the media, although the level of misunderstanding is still much higher than necessary. Indeed, the Taiwan issue and the North Korean nuclear impasse are regional hotspots but are unlikely to erupt into war. War is a sunset industry even as defence expenditure is a sunrise industry. Buying more arms does not necessarily increase the likelihood of war because states realize that the costs of war today are very high.

Once a year, the forum provides an opportunity for leading academics and opinion-makers from around the world to take the pulse of the region and examine major trends. This year's event, the 8th in the series, drew a large turnout of 260 participants. ■

Forum on Regional Strategic & Political Developments
19 August 2004

The forum featured a total of 12 presentations. Some observations about a few key ASEAN countries include:

On Indonesia

Results of the April 2004 parliamentary elections show that democracy has sunken firm roots. But a potentially worrying trend is the ongoing strengthening of political Islam. Overall prognosis for Indonesia is optimistic.

Professor Merle Rickle
University of Melbourne
Australia

On Thailand

Opposition to Prime Minister Thaksin's authoritarian approach to politics is growing and may undermine his popularity and political legitimacy. Thaksin's critics now include prominent public figures who were once close to him.

Dr Surin Maisirikrod
James Cook University
Australia

On Malaysia

New Prime Minister Badawi faces three key challenges. They are: fighting corruption within Malaysian society; dealing with a divided Malay-Muslim community; and bringing about unity within the ruling party UMNO itself.

Professor AB Shamsul
Universiti Kebangsaan
Malaysia

Pablo Neruda Award

The Chilean government conferred the Presidential Medal of the Centennial of Pablo Neruda on ISEAS Director Mr Kesavapany on 12 July. The poet Neruda was Nobel Laureate for Literature in 1971. The Chilean award went to 100 individuals from 65 countries, who were active in cultural, academic and public affairs.

Looking at Maritime Security from Yemen

On 10 August Yemen Ambassador Dr Ahmed Salem Saleh Al-Wahishi gave an ISEAS seminar to highlight how his country has prioritized port and coastal security after terrorist attacks on two ships in its waters. Yemen is located along one of the world's busiest waterways through which pass 3.3 million barrels of oil daily.

Established as an autonomous organization in 1968, ISEAS is a regional research centre for scholars and other specialists concerned with the problems of security, economic development, and political-social-cultural change in modern Southeast Asia. Its three main research programmes are:

- Regional Economic Studies
- Regional Strategic and Political Studies
- Regional Social and Cultural Studies

Singapore Business' China Blues

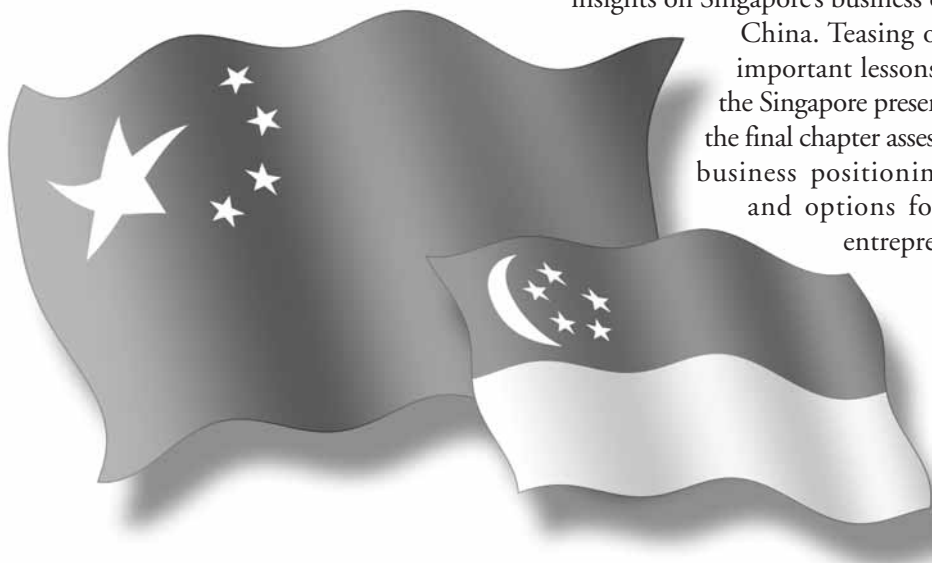
ISEAS-commissioned research looks at the problem

A general consensus holds that “getting it right” is critical for Singapore business in China but “the winning formula” has yet to be perfected. Sree Kumar, Sharon Siddique, and Yuwa Hedrick-Wong conducted an intensive six-month study, which included interviews with businessmen, bureaucrats, and academics in Singapore and China. A team from the Chinese Marketing Research Centre of Fudan University Business School managed the China portion of the study. Interviews in China were conducted in Shanghai, Liaoning, and Zhejiang provinces - chosen because of Singapore’s extensive existing involvement, and current focus on expanding business relationships.

The research findings will be published as *Mind the Gaps: Singapore Business in China* (Singapore: ISEAS, forthcoming). The first chapter compiles quantitative and comparative data in both countries to highlight an increasing asymmetry in Sino-Singapore economic relations. Singapore is much more dependent on China than the other way round. To manage this asymmetry, Singapore should target emerging provinces and cities in China, and become a more significant player by building networks of provincial and city government and business relations.

The second chapter draws largely on interviews with Singapore and China business players, and analyses their observations and insights on Singapore’s business operations in

China. Teasing out the more important lessons learnt from the Singapore presence in China, the final chapter assesses successful business positioning in China and options for Singapore entrepreneurs. ■



Imelda for a Good Cause

ISEAS sponsors premiere of controversial film on Mrs Marcos

Claiming that it pokes fun at her unfairly, erstwhile First Lady of the Philippines, Mrs Marcos tried but failed to stop the screening of “Imelda” in Manila. In public memory, Imelda Marcos, wife of the disgraced late President Marcos, is notorious for having three thousands pairs of shoes in her wardrobe even though her people were poverty-stricken. Ramona Diaz, the director, said she made the film with Mrs Marcos’ co-operation and gave the latter a chance to present her case to the public.

ISEAS helped sponsor the premiere of this film on Sunday, 19 September organized by film distributor Festive Films. Diaz also flew in from the United States to give a master class that followed the screening at the Alliance Française. As part of the Sight&Sound@ISEAS series, a programme that screens films on Southeast Asia for discussion, “Imelda” is the

first Sight&Sound offering shown outside ISEAS and with an admission charged. From the tickets sold, Festive Film pledged a donation to Transient Workers Count Too, an NGO promoting the welfare of foreign domestic workers. ■



Malaysian Workshop

ISEAS’ Malaysia Study Programme held a workshop on “The Political Economy of Malaysia: Current Trends and Future Challenges”, 8 – 9 September. Its coverage extended to issues like race, religion, education and foreign policy.

Singapore as an Oil Centre?

That is all very well but first where is the institutional research into energy issues, asked Dr Tilak Doshi, energy expert working on the Middle East. In his seminar “Singapore as an Oil Centre: Observations on Some Key Issues” on 5 August, Doshi called on research institutes to provide a neutral venue for industry, government and academia to discuss energy-related issues in a policy-relevant manner.

Remove your Blinkers and Admit to Coloured Visions

A moving call at ISEAS seminar to awake to global racism

Every race, not just white people, is guilty of racism. The problem is that public discourse in most countries seldom wants to tackle the subject. There have been very few books about Chinese and Japanese racism. Why is this so? Provocative observations and questions followed one after another at an ISEAS seminar “The Global Hierarchy of Race” on 2 September. Speaker Dr Martin Jacques, Visiting Research Fellow, Asia Research Centre at the London School of Economics would have upset many a politically-correct liberal but for the fact that his audience believed he was speaking from a very deep personal and sincere engagement with the problems of racism in a non-white society.

His wife, Harinder Veriah, a Malaysian, had died in a Hong Kong hospital in January 2000, where she had suffered serious racial discrimination. The international criticisms that followed her inquest eventually forced the Hong Kong Government to announce in June 2003 that it would introduce anti-racist legislation. Moving to Hong Kong in 1998 forced Jacques to rethink racism in a

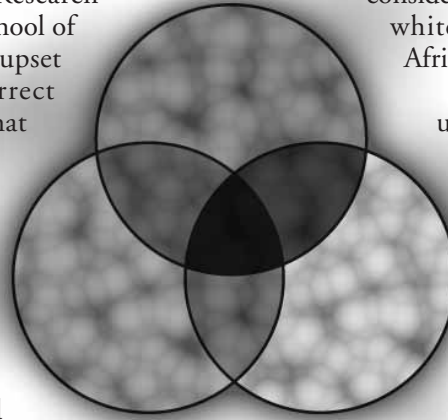
global context. While he was treated with deference and respect, his wife, Hari had been treated with outright prejudice.

Every race showed racism to those whom they considered inferior. Jacques posits that people, in this case Hong Kongers, subscribe to a global hierarchy of race. Whites were at the top of this ranking order, followed by the Chinese and Japanese, who might even consider themselves to be superior to whites. Near the bottom were Africans and others.

People seldom want to own up to racism. Firstly, every race having vested interests to defend and privileges to retain, would not want to concede them unless forced to do so. Secondly, every dominant race was oblivious to its own prejudices. However, each type of racism was different, each had its own specificity as

it was embedded in a different culture. Chinese racism in Hong Kong was of the exclusionary type: besides the Chinese and whites, others were treated as “invisible”.

Jacques predicted that racism would be a rising issue in the global agenda. ■



Talk about Elections

With President Arroyo freshly elected, a 5 July ISEAS seminar looked at “The Prospects of the Arroyo Administration”. Four Filipinos – Ambassador Rodolfo Severino, former ASEAN Secretary-General; Mr G.M. Luz, Executive Director, Makati Business Club; Dr C. Habito, Department of Economics, Ateneo de Manila University; and Dr Mely C. Anthony, Assistant Professor, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Singapore – analysed the Philippine political system; the elections’ impact on the business climate; the future of the society and the need for institution-building.

More Talk About Elections

At a 6 August ISEAS seminar “What Can We Learn from the First Round Results of the Indonesian Presidential Elections”, ISEAS researchers – Dr Leo Suryadinata, Dr Aris Ananta and Dr Evi N. Arifin – use statistical analysis to forecast who would be President.

Yet More Talk About Elections

At his seminar “Economic Growth, Governance and Voting Behaviour: An Application to Indian Elections” on 2 September at ISEAS, Dr Arvind Virmani explored a hypothesis that relates standard economic analysis of consumer utility to voting behaviour. He is Director and Chief Executive at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi.

Little Substance in ASEAN Corporate Governance Reforms

Although corporate governance reforms have been initiated to varying degrees in the Southeast Asian states, in terms of real substance they have been rather moderate. It would be difficult to envisage a convergence of corporate governance practices in the region *vis-à-vis* other regions, partly because of differences in culture, legal tradition and history. Dr Wu Xun, of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore said this in the paper he presented at the ASEAN Roundtable organized by ISEAS to look at “Reforming Corporate Governance in Southeast Asia: Economic Realities, Political Institutions and Regulatory Frameworks”.

He addressed the following peculiarities found in the corporate sectors of most ASEAN member countries: high proportion of ownership concentration, which permeated pyramiding and cross-holding to enhance

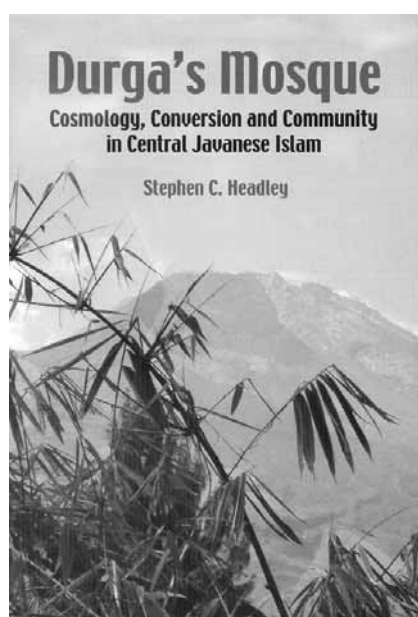
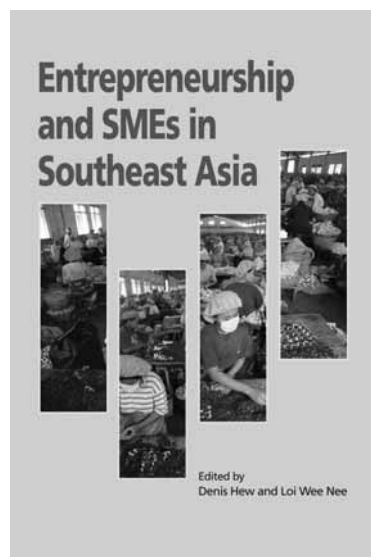
control; high concentration of insider ownership; families and government dominance; control and management tend not to be separated; minority shareholders being exploited by the insiders. Invariably, all these elements have posed as stumbling blocks to observance of good corporate governance. Furthermore, the quandary had been compounded by the perverseness of politics in the economic ordering by way of vote buying and money politics. This phenomenon has been particularly visible in countries such as Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines.

A total of 15 papers were presented at the Roundtable and specific country papers dealt with Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Initiated by ISEAS in 1986, this year’s conference on 25 & 26 August was sponsored by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung. ■

Entrepreneurs Needed

ISEAS Fellow, Dr Denis Hew, co-ordinated the project on “Entrepreneurship and SMEs in Southeast Asia” that culminated in the edited book of the same title. Economic development in Southeast Asia was until recently largely driven by multinational corporations and by strategies that favoured foreign direct investment. However, the financial crisis of 1997-98 and the subsequent regional economic slowdown in 2001 forced policy-makers to re-evaluate their economic policies.

This study looks at the increasingly important role of entrepreneurship and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as agents of development. It also focuses on new policy initiatives by the different governments as they address the issues affecting the development of SMEs themselves. ■



Durga's Mosque

This unique book, just launched by ISEAS, is the culmination of many years of research in Central Java. The author, Dr Stephen Headley, is based at the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) Paris. The book has already received outstanding accolades:

“...At a time of so much misunderstanding about Islam and the way it has rooted itself in local cultures, there could not be a more important book than this.”

Professor Peter Carey, Trinity College Oxford

“...The result is a rich, multi-layered, and fascinating study, one that changes forever our understanding of Javanese tradition in Java becoming Islamic.”

Professor Robert Hefner, Boston University

Uses and Abuses of Jihad in Islam

Jihad from the word *jahada* means self-exertion, whether physical or intellectual, to advance a cause of great merit to gain the pleasure of God. Self-exertion did not necessarily mean fighting and may be undertaken through peaceful as well as other means. In its Qur’anic usage, especially in the early Meccan revelations, the emphasis was mainly on the peaceful meaning of jihad, on the effort that the individual made for self-improvement or which sought to persuade others for the advancement of Islam. This was the emphasis of Mohammad Hashim Kamali, Professor of Islamic Law and Jurisprudence at the International Islamic University Malaysia, during his 15 July seminar at ISEAS on “Uses and Abuses of Jihad in Islam: An Examination of the Source Evidence”. Beginning in the 1970s, the term “jihad” unfortunately has been intensely politicized by Islamists in their attempts to challenge a regime in power or retaliate against a perceived enemy in their own countries or beyond.

With increased public interest in the Islamic discourse, ISEAS has organized a regular series of talks on the subject by eminent scholars:

- “Religion in Contemporary Society”. Professor Ibrahim Abu-Rabi’, Duncan Black Macdonald Centre for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations. 12 August.
- “Islamic Law, Terrorism and the Current Political Turmoil”. Professor Wael Hallaq, McGill University. 17 August.
- “Negotiating Secularism: The Process of Reforming Islamic Thought in the Modern Muslim World”. Professor Nasr H. Abu Zayd, Leiden University. 10 September. ■

ISEAS Books Travel

To ensure that our books reach targeted audiences, ISEAS Publications arranges book displays all over the world. Recent events include:

Canberra: Asian Studies Association of Australia Conference, Canberra, 29 June – 2 July.

Philippines: 8th Philippine Academic Book Fair, University of the Philippines, 12 –16 July.

Malaysia: 4th International Malaysian Studies Conference, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Bangi, 3 – 5 August

Paris: European Association of Southeast Asian Studies Conference, Sorbonne, Paris, 1 – 4 September.

Books Online

<http://bookshop.iseas.edu.sg>

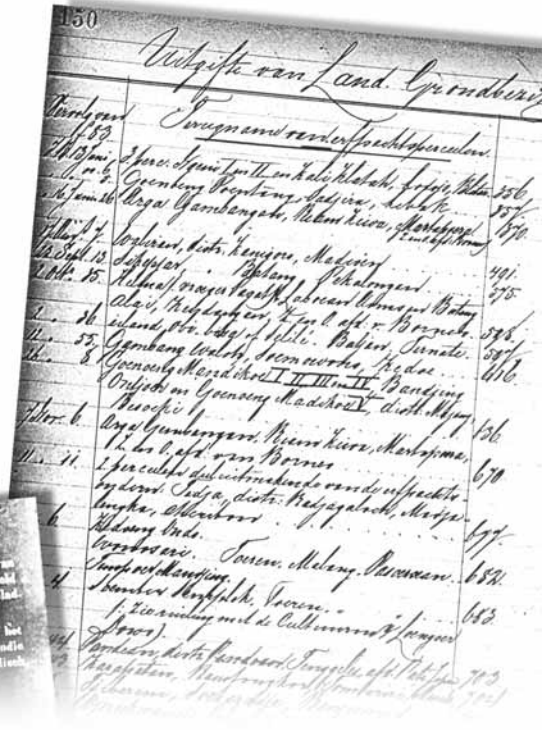
- new titles
- special offers

Mailrapporten / Mail Reports from the Netherlands East Indies, 1869 – 1940

ISEAS Library augments archival collection

With the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, the Dutch authorities of the Ministry of the Colonies in The Hague were able to improve communications with the East Indies. New rapid English and later Dutch mail boats plied the route through the Suez to the East ensuring regular and reliable postal services for the first time in the history of the colonies. The so-called Mailrapporten were dispatched from September 1869 up to the eve of World War II, sustaining a steady flow of information to the Ministry on a weekly or more frequent basis.

The final of the four-part set of Mailrapporten, comprising 9,712 microfiches, has just been acquired by the ISEAS library. ■



Digitizing Microform Titles from Regional Libraries

ISEAS Library continues to host the Masterlist of Southeast Asian Microform (MSEAM) Database, a project aiming to digitize all romanized microform titles held by 60 libraries in the region. This project is a good example of an intra-regional co-operative library venture and to date, the MSEAM database contains some 16,599 records contributed by libraries from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

ISEAS Library has been the Regional Co-ordinating Agency of the project since its inception in 2001. Funded by the Japan Foundation, the project was based on the recommendation of the Head of ISEAS Library Miss Ch'ng Kim See in a paper "The Potential for Regional Co-operative Preservation Management" presented at an international conference in Chiang Mai in 2000. ■

Stats from the Library

- Finally done: a \$1.2 million retrofitting and renovation work lasting FOUR years to meet National Archives guidelines on temperature and relative humidity levels, a system that will save \$9,000 for the Institute's monthly power bill, or a 30 per cent reduction.
- Mounted in July 2003, the search hit rate for the new library on-line catalogue SEALion has reached 32,163 in a year.

Bibliographies Available

- ISEAS library has added three more select bibliographies to its list, prepared in conjunction with the Institute's conferences
- ASEAN-China relations
 - Corporate governance in Southeast Asia
 - Maritime security, maritime terrorism and piracy in Asia

They are available in exchange or for sale at S\$10.00 – S\$15.00 each. Please send enquiries to iseaslib@iseas.edu.sg Over the counter purchases are discounted.

The Cultural Politics of Globalization

Research interest of latest scholarship returnee

ISEAS' new Fellow, Terence Chong King Shan, returns with a Ph.D. from the University of Warwick where he worked on the cultural politics of globalization using Singapore as a case study. His other areas of interest are Malaysian domestic politics and cultural resistance. Chong's study was funded by an ISEAS scholarship.

ISEAS finances a number of its M.A. scholarships from the Tun Dato Sir Cheng Lock Tan Scholarships Fund, which it administers. Those interested in knowing more

about ISEAS scholarship availability, please refer to www.iseas.edu.sg ■

Profile of ISEAS Scholarship Programme

No. of scholarships awarded (since 1969):
25 Ph.D.s & 29 M.A.s

Currently on ISEAS staff: 6 Ph.D.s & 1 M.A.

No. still studying: 1 Ph.D. & 3 M.A.s

For the Record

ISEAS had two royal visitors recently. First was His Royal Highness Raja Nazrin Shah, Crown Prince of the State of Perak, Malaysia, who gave a public lecture “The Monarchy in Contemporary Malaysia” on 27 July. The lecture explored the manner in which the monarchy has changed over time, and how it now navigates the tides of modernization and globalization. It addresses the issue of how the monarchy defines its role in the modern-day democratic process, and how the rulers discharge their duties as head of Islam in a society where people come from different religious, ethnic, cultural and linguistic backgrounds. The lecture at Raffles Hotel was co-organized by ISEAS and the Perak Academy. Later that day, Raja Nazrin paid a visit to ISEAS. In the Crown Prince’s delegation was also his brother Raja Dato’ Sri Ashman Shah.

Her Royal Highness, Princess Mahachakri Sirindhorn of Thailand, called at ISEAS on 3

September during a private visit to Singapore. At the Institute’s briefing on its current major projects, the princess was particularly interested to know more about the Panoramayana exhibition (see page 1 of this issue) and also a workshop on “Ageing and the Status of the Older Population in Southeast Asia”. Her visit to ISEAS included a tour of the rare books collection in its library. ■



Raja of Perak



Thai Princess

The following is a list of ISEAS-organized events in this period:

- “Urban Rivers and the Politics of Sustainability: The Cases of Bangkok and Manila”, Dr Donovan Storey, Massey University, New Zealand
- “*Post-Election Philippines: Prospects of the New Administration*”, Ambassador Rodolfo C. Severino, ISEAS; Mr Guillermo M. Luz, Makati Business Club, Philippines; Dr Cielito Habito, Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines; and Dr Mely Caballero-Anthony, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Singapore
- “Globalization: Vision and Reality”, Ms Piya Ram Mahtaney, Wigan and Leigh College, Mumbai
- “Singapore in China: Where’s the Business?”, Dr Yuwa Hedrick-Wong, MasterCard Asia and Mr Sree Kumar, Sreekumar Siddique & Co, Singapore
- “Uses and Abuses of Jihad in Islam: An Examination of the Source Evidence”, Professor Mohammad Hashim Kamali, International Islamic University Malaysia
- “Revisiting *Poverty Issues in Malaysia*”, Associate Professor Sulochana Nair, University of Malaya
- Seminar cum book launch: “Business in Indonesia: New Challenges, Old Problems”, Dr Chatib Basri and Dr Bambang Brodjonegoro, University of Indonesia, and Dr Ross McLeod, The Australian National University
- Public Lecture on “The Monarchy in Contemporary Malaysia”, Raja Nazrin Shah, Crown Prince of Perak, Malaysia
- “US Policy towards Southeast Asia: Post-September 11”, Ms Karen Brooks, Former Director for Asian Affairs, National Security Council
- “China’s Imperial Tributary System: Relevance to Contemporary Regional Relations”, Dr Eric Teo Chu Cheow, Singapore Institute of International Affairs
- “Developing Indicators of *ASEAN Integration* – A Preliminary Survey of a Roadmap”, Dr Zainal Aznam Yusof, Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Kuala Lumpur
- “Singapore as an Oil Centre: Observations on Some Key issues”, Dr Tilak K. Doshi, Oil Analyst
- “What Can We Learn from the First Round Results of the Indonesian Presidential Election?”, Dr Leo Suryadinata, Dr Aris Ananta and Dr Evi Nurvidya Arifin of ISEAS
- “Yemen Efforts on Maritime Security in its Territorial Waters”, Dr Ahmed Salem Saleh Al-Wahishi, Ambassador Extraordinary of the Republic of Yemen accredited to Indonesia, Brunei and Singapore
- “Religion in Contemporary Society”, Professor Ibrahim Abu-Rabi, Duncan Black Macdonald Centre for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations
- “Privatization of *Thai Energy Sector: Implications and Challenges*”, Professor Chai-Anan Samudavanija, Chairman, Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand
- “Islamic Law, Terrorism and Current International Political Turmoil”, Professor Wael B. Hallaq, McGill University, Montreal
- Forum on Regional Strategic and Political Developments
- “*Securing the Malacca Straits: Developments, Challenges and Opportunities*”, Associate Professor Robert C. Beckman, National University of Singapore; Mr Mushahid Ali, Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies; and Mr Michael Richardson and Mr Mak Joon Num of ISEAS
- ASEAN Roundtable 2004 – “Reforming Corporate Governance in Southeast Asia: Economic Realities,

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Active Day at Desaru

For this year’s Active Day outing on 11 September, 84 staff members and guests in two coaches headed for the Desaru beach, across the border in Johor. The day’s programme included a visit to a fruit farm, a stop at a confectionery shop and high tea at the 5-star Hyatt Hotel in Johor Bahru.

Visiting Delegations

Since July, the following foreign delegations have visited ISEAS: ASEAN-EC Management Centre of Prime Minister’s Office in Brunei, senior Japanese bureaucrats, New Zealand Command and Staff College, Korea’s Institute of Foreign Affairs & National Security and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Universitas Padjadjaran from Bandung and the New Zealand Defence Force.

Coming Soon

Vietnam Update 2004: Strategic and Foreign Relations

25 – 26 November 2004

Venue: ISEAS

Besides reviewing Vietnam's relations with key partners such as China, the United States, ASEAN and Russia, the conference will do a more holistic review of foreign policy by looking at its strategic defence dimension and the contending elite and institutional politics behind it.

Since 2001, ISEAS has co-sponsored this cutting-edge specialist conference that was initiated by the Australian National University in 1990. This year's Update will be the second time it is being held in Singapore. For more information, please refer to www.iseas.edu.sg/25nov04.html

The Update has a steady record of publishing its papers. The most recent title is *Getting Organized in Vietnam – Moving in and around the Socialist State*, edited by Kerkvliet, Heng and Koh (ISEAS 2003), from the 2001 conference.

ISEAS will be releasing the volumes from the Update 2002 and Update 2003 soon. They are:



Regional Outlook Forum

6 January 2005

An ISEAS flagship conference that is well-known for its useful analysis of strategic trends in Asia and forecasts of what to expect of Southeast Asian politics and economics. Check ISEAS website at www.iseas.edu.sg for latest details. ■

The Education of Southeast Asia Islamic Leadership

19 – 20 May 2005

Call for Papers

Jointly organized by ISEAS and the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) this conference in Singapore will look at centres of Islamic learning round the world, profiles of their Southeast Asian students and their post-graduation careers.

All abstracts to be submitted by 15 January 2005. For more details, please see www.iseas.edu.sg/dkcall.html ■

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Political Institutions and Regulatory Frameworks” • 2nd FEALAC Cross Pacific Economic Integration Workshop on “The Encounter of Two Continents” • “Economic Growth, Governance and Voting Behaviour: An Application to Indian Elections”, Dr Arvind Virmani, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi • “The Global Hierarchy of Races”, Dr Martin Jacques, London School of Economics • “The Political Economy of Malaysia: Current Trends and Future Challenges” Workshop • ISEAS Trade Policy Roundtable on “Global Trade Policy Developments: The WTOs, FTAs and Implications for ASEAN” • Panoramayana photo exhibition launch • “The Legal Aspects of the *China-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement*”, Dr Wang Jianguy, National University of Singapore • “Maritime Security, Maritime Terrorism and Piracy in Asia” Workshop • “World Development Report 2005: A Better Investment Climate for Everyone”, Mr Warrick Smith, World Bank • “The Latest *Bombing in Jakarta*: Facts and Perceptions on Terrorism in Indonesia”, Ms Sidney Jones, Southeast Asia International Crisis Group • “China's Current Energy Situation: An Overview”, Dr Elspeth Thomson, East Asian Institute, Singapore • “Developing an Asian Bond Market under Challenges of Globalism”, Dr Olarn Chairavat, Ministry of Finance, Thailand. ■



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ISEAS Annual Report

A burning ship sits on the cover of the recently-issued ISEAS Annual Report 2003-2004. Why? It best captures a new and major research area at the Institute: Maritime Security.

Editorial Committee

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Please send queries or feedback to newsletter@iseas.edu.sg