

Just What's Wrong with Research on Southeast Asia?

Professor Hans Dieter-Evers dissects the big question



Colonial regimes promoted the idea of the “lazy native” to legitimize their activities in Southeast Asia. The label has stuck even if the natives do not see themselves that way and presently there are still foreigners perpetuating such stereotypes about Southeast Asian societies. This is an example of how important it is for societies to generate knowledge about itself rather than rely on — and fall victim to —

knowledge produced by global elites. Professor Hans Dieter-Evers examined this and other questions in his seminar “Local and Global Knowledge: Social Science Research on Southeast Asia” at ISEAS.

Dieter-Evers said the capacity to benefit from knowledge was governed by two basic elements: the ability to acquire and to apply knowledge that already existed, and the ability to produce new knowledge. Central to this enquiry was a concern with academic dependency.

Just how well do Southeast Asian scholars rate in the production of knowledge about their own societies? Using analysis of bibliometric data of articles published in international journals between 1970 and 2000, Dieter-Evers said the output of Southeast Asian social scientists had increased considerably over the decades. The number of social science articles written by scholars from Southeast Asian countries had more than tripled when comparing the 1970s with the 1990s. There were, however, considerable differences between countries, both in terms of the knowledge available about them and the contribution of local social scientists to that knowledge. He suggested that these differences might be a result of Southeast Asian countries having different political systems, development strategies and different experiences of the financial crisis of the 1990s. Indonesia had a low but stable output of local knowledge, whilst Malaysia and the Philippines had relatively high but declining local outputs and Singapore had a high and increasing local knowledge production.

However, Dieter-Evers struck a cautionary note by pointing to the possibility that the producers of local knowledge were simply not published in international journals and therefore not disseminated globally. For example, take the case of Indonesia where several high-quality research works were published in their local language by reputable institutions such as the Population Studies Center at Gadjah Mada University.

The speaker concluded with a few open questions on the future of Southeast Asian studies: Were there different profiles of local and global research topics? What was the relative influence of international versus local journals? Were the contents of “tier-one-journals” of relevance to local needs, i.e., in solving development problems or improving knowledge on social issues? Was academic dependence declining or growing?

The seminar also drew attention to the growing global tyranny of the market over academic agendas. The dominance of US research interest over the rest of the world was also noted. Another intrusive force was politically motivated funding to facilitate research agendas such as democratization, liberalization and the promotion of a world market economy.

Dieter-Evers is Director of the Centre for Development Research, University of Bonn. The seminar took place on 3 May. The full paper will be published in *SOJOURN*, the Institute’s journal on social and cultural issues. ■

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Thaksin Bends the Wind



Hungary for a Hub

A number of major Asian nations consider Hungary as the hub of their activities in central and southeastern Europe. As an investment destination, Hungary offers skilled labour, a rapidly expanding infrastructure network, and various incentives to set up production facilities and logistical/service centres for the European operations of Asian companies. On the other hand, the dynamic Asian markets provide extensive trading opportunities and an alternative source of capital and modern technology for Hungarian firms. In a nutshell, Hungarian Foreign Minister Dr Ferenc Somogyi would like people to know that his country wants to engage Asia. He said this at a 10 May seminar “Foreign Policy of Hungary: The Imperative of Having an Asia Strategy” at ISEAS.

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

Thai Prime Minister Thaksin’s foreign policy throbs with bold initiatives, which is a departure from a long-standing practice of bending foreign policy according to the winds of international relations. This was what Dr Thitinan Pongsudhirak, an ISEAS Visiting Research Fellow shared with the audience at his seminar “Bending the Wind: Thai Foreign Policy under Thaksin” on 28 April.

Of Thaksin’s several key policy initiatives, the broadest would be the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) for inter-regional cooperation, which focuses on the Asian land mass with Thailand as the epicentre. ACD membership has grown from 18 in 2002 to 26 this year. Four ministerial meetings have been held, with the next in Qatar, followed by South Korea in 2007. A key ACD initiative has been the Asia Bond Market, which proposes the mobilizing of Asia’s substantial savings for the continent’s financing needs.

Another initiative meant to ensure and sustain a sphere of influence for Thailand and possibly to create a Bhat Zone was the Ayeyawady–Chao Phraya–Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy in which Thailand is the net aid donor, having turned down grant aid from countries such as Japan. Thaksin has set

up a 10 billion baht (US\$250 million) aid and a soft loan package which requires procurement contracts to be signed with Thai firms and the currency of exchange to be in Thai baht.

In addition, Thaksin has pursued an increasing number of bilateral FTAs with strategic partners, underlining the new Thai trend of trade policy determining foreign policy and with trade diplomacy being regarded as vital in Thailand’s relations with the US, China and Japan.

It was too early to gauge Thaksin’s performance in foreign policy, as the ACD, ECS and bilateral FTAs were all still in their formative stages. But it was clear that Thailand’s post–Cold War foreign policy was now firmly rooted in a bold and daring vision. Thitinan went on to liken Thaksin’s proactive policy as a grand strategy to set wind conditions where possible. Thus, instead of bending with any prevailing wind of international relations, Thaksin was intent on bending the wind.

Thitinan is Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations, Chulalongkorn University. He often contributes to the international and Thai media. ■

War, Natural Disasters, Poetry, National Development and Women

ISEAS Gender Studies Programme moves into gear

In April, ISEAS launched a gender studies programme to focus on issues related to women and development. In its wake, a stream of women have given talks or provided feedback on what they thought the programme should cover.

A female Saudi poet Nimah Ismail Nawwab offered the first seminar in the programme on 19 April when she spoke about “Youth in Saudi Arabia”. Dispelling popular notions of the Saudi woman as a much-oppressed figure in a conservative Islamic society, she stressed that change was coming so fast to Saudi society that it was felt on a monthly, if not weekly, basis. Therefore there was no such thing as a typical Saudi woman any more. A range of education opportunities at the highest level was fast becoming available to women. In addition, a recent statistic revealed that 22,000 commercial business licences had been given out to women. The Saudi woman of today was branching out into various occupations that included IT, public relations, advertising, etc.

At a public forum held on 18 May billed as “War and Natural Disasters: Rebuilding Nations”, the Institute invited three women — a journalist, an activist and a United Nations employee — to speak of their experience in Iraq, where a war is raging, and Aceh, also ravaged by military conflict and most recently, the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami.

Ms Suraiya Kamaruzzaman, founder and chairperson of

the Flower Aceh movement, said that going by the figures she collected at eight refugee camps, the tsunami took a heavier toll on women than on men. There were twice the number of male survivors aged 18–55 compared with females. A possible explanation was the long dresses or sarongs of women which had made it difficult for them to move quickly or swim. According to Islamic shariah law (in force in Aceh since 2002), in addition to having to cover up, women were forbidden to wear trousers and jeans. She also spoke of how women had to carry the burden of the long civil war in Aceh.

The other two women spoke about Iraq. Ms Meutyah Hafid, an Indonesian television reporter, recounted how she was kidnapped by anti-US resistance while reporting the war in that country. Ms Basma AlKhateeb, an Iraqi working for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) programme in Iraq, spoke of her work to empower and educate women about voting during the elections at the beginning of the year. This contributed to the successful turn-out of more than 60 per cent of women voters.

Iraq has a gender-sensitized government assembly and in June 2004, for the first time in Iraqi history, six women ministers were appointed. Basma was also training Iraqi women parliamentarians (87 of them) on constitutional law, preparing them for the constitutional referendum in October 2005.

Ms Braema Mathi, who joined ISEAS on 1 April, coordinates the Gender Studies Programme. She is a familiar figure in Singapore civil society, having served a term as a Nominated Member of Parliament and currently heads the Association of Women for Action and Research (AWARE) and Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2). The latter is an NGO that seeks better working conditions for foreign workers. ■

Teaching of Islamic Leaders

Given the ever-growing role of religious leaders in the administration of Muslim-majority societies, a 19–20 May workshop on “The Education of Southeast Asian Islamic Leadership” sought to answer these questions:

- In which Islamic centre do they prefer to study?
- What is their socio-economic and political profile?
- How have their post-graduation careers been?

The workshop was jointly organized by ISEAS and the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden University, the Netherlands.

ISEAS–East-West Center Fellowship

The ISEAS–East-West Center Fellowship for this year has been awarded to Dr Joseph Liow Chinyong of the Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore; and Dr Chandranuj Mahakanjana of the National Institute of Development Administration, Thailand. Dr Liow is researching radical Islam in Pattani and Mindanao while Dr Chandranuj will look at the impact of decentralization on stability in Southern Thailand. The fellowship provides for a field trip in Southeast Asia, and residency in ISEAS and the East-West Center, Washington, DC. Only nationals of Southeast Asia are eligible. Those interested in applying for 2006, please visit websites:

www.eastwestcenter.washington.org & www.iseas.edu.sg or email Washington@eastwestcenter.org.

Increasing Synergy in Research Agenda

ISEAS fine-tunes its research programmes

ISEAS has begun to introduce a sharper multi-disciplinary focus to its research agenda, which will facilitate more creative interactions among the existing expertise at the institute and encourage wider engagement of the research communities in Singapore and the region. The prevailing research structure at ISEAS tends to divide research into three broad programmes, namely, Regional Strategic and Political Studies, Regional Economic Studies, and Regional Social and Cultural Studies. Researchers in these programmes could benefit from the greater synergy that will arise through the cluster approach. With this approach, individuals across the three distinct disciplinary compartments can meld into, say, a regional integration or regional community building cluster. For example, an economist looking at regional integration can mesh his work with that of a colleague who is studying integration from a political science or international politics perspective or with a sociologist or socio-anthropologist observing the socio-cultural aspects of regional community-building. Similarly with environmental issues, regional conflict management, political change, or regional diasporas (just to name a few), the use of a multi-disciplinary approach will draw out a more holistic understanding of the underlying challenges. Identifying these clusters within a clearly defined Southeast Asian context will enable the research community outside ISEAS to know about possible areas of research collaboration.



The following are clusters which have been identified, and work on some of them has already begun:

- ASEAN Community Building
- ASEAN States: Comparative Foreign Policies
- Conflict Management/Resolution
- Environmental issues
- Leadership Transition and Political Change
- Population Dynamics and Development
- Social Stratification
- Governance and Public Policy Formulation
- Regional Diasporas and Beyond

With this approach to research, ISEAS hopes to increase the number of comparative and integrative studies in its programmes. ■

Myanmar on Our Minds

ISEAS engages the vexed Myanmar issue

Members of Parliament in the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Myanmar Caucus held a meeting at ISEAS on 2 June where they were briefed by Myanmar specialists based at the Institute. The MPs in this informal group want their governments to take a firm stand against Myanmar and ensure that its ruling junta keeps to the promise of democratic reform.

The ISEAS meeting was the fifth by the caucus since it was formed in November last year. Present were 16 MPs from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. One Myanmar MP previously elected and an activist both living in exile were also present.

On 4 July, ISEAS held a seminar entitled “Myanmar: Examining Internal and External

Pressures for Change — Problems and Prospects”.

These activities represent an ongoing effort by ISEAS to engage the Myanmar issue. Early last year, ISEAS organized a week-long workshop in Singapore and Yangon where the leaders from Myanmar NGOs, peace groups and other development-oriented organizations could express their views.

ISEAS has just published a book *Myanmar: Beyond Politics to Societal Imperatives*. In the book, seven scholars look beyond the day-to-day headlines and judgemental comments on developments in Myanmar to get under the surface and look at the underlying issues which the country faces regardless of its political future. ■

Vatican Foreign Minister on Papal Diplomacy

ISEAS organized a 17 June public lecture for Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, the Vatican's Secretary for Relations with States, where he talked about “Nature and Function of Papal Diplomacy”. The lecture traced the history of diplomacy practised by the Holy See and its contemporary guiding principles.

Diplomatically Speaking

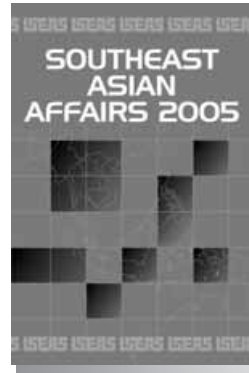
ISEAS continues to host diplomats in a series of public seminars. In April, the Swiss Ambassador Dr Daniel Woker gave a seminar entitled “Europe, as Seen from an Alpine Perch”. In June, Mr Dasho Paljor J. Dorji, a former ambassador and ex-Deputy Minister for the Environment from Bhutan, talked about “Evaluation of the Kyoto Protocol's Carbon Trading: The Bhutanese Experience”. His presentation was followed by the screening of a video on the protection of the Black Neck Crane, a highly endangered species.

New Publications from ISEAS

Southeast Asian Affairs 2005

Edited by Chin Kin Wah and Daljit Singh

Since its inception 30 years ago, *Southeast Asian Affairs (SEAA)* has been an indispensable annual reference for policy-makers, scholars, analysts, journalists and others. Succinctly written by regional and international experts, *SEAA* illuminates significant issues and events of the previous year in each of the ten Southeast Asian nations and the region as a whole. ■



Population Policies and Programmes in Singapore

By Saw Swee-Hock

This is a comprehensive account of the government's initiatives to influence the course of fertility, and hence the rate of population growth, in Singapore since the 1950s. This case study of the public policy of a country in the area of population with regard to fertility and

population growth discusses the fundamental population issue of low below-replacement fertility, coupled with its adverse consequences. It is a convenient source of detailed information on all the existing pronatalist incentives, financial or otherwise. ■

ISEAS-ANU Collaboration

The Politics and Economics of Indonesia's Natural Resources, edited by Budy P. Resosudarmo examines the pressing challenges of proper utilization and management of natural resources from a political, socio-economic and environmental standpoint.

ISEAS has a long-standing joint publishing arrangement with the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University, which organizes the annual Indonesia Update. *The Politics and Economics of Indonesia's Natural Resources* is the result of the 2004 Indonesia Update conference; *Business in Indonesia: New Challenges, Old Problems*, of the 2003 conference. ■



Reforming Corporate Governance in Southeast Asia: Economics, Politics, and Regulations

Edited by Ho Khai Leong

This multi-disciplinary volume, written by legal specialists, corporate practitioners, economists and political scientists, provides a critical examination of corporate governance reform in Southeast Asia, especially after the Asian financial crisis in 1997. ■

Africa of Hope at latest Singapore Lecture

On 21 April South African President Thabo Mbeki delivered the 26th Singapore Lecture to a packed audience and called for a joint partnership with Asia to banish hunger, disease, poverty and underdevelopment from the face of the earth. He declared confidently that "this is Africa's Season of Hope — the process of democratization is irreversible".

Indian Opportunities for Southeast Asia

Dr Arun Shourie, the 23rd Lee Kuan Yew Exchange Fellow, gave a public lecture "India's Current Economic Strategies: Impact and Opportunities for Singapore and Southeast Asia" on 7 April. Arun was Minister for Disinvestment under the former Prime Minister Vajpayee and was outstanding for accelerating economic reform in India. ISEAS organized the lecture with the Institute of South Asia and the Lee Kuan Yew Exchange Fellowship.

Books Online

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

- new titles
- special offers

Marshall's Private Papers at ISEAS Library

A number of prominent local individuals have deposited some of their private papers at the Institute. One of the most substantive collections is that of the first Chief Minister of Singapore, Mr David Marshall. His private papers comprise 526 folios containing over 18,000 documents, 24 caricatures and cartoons, 1,600 photographs, 22 audiocassettes and 7 videocassettes. All the drawings and audio-video cassettes as well as 790 photographs have been digitized. The ISEAS Library has just submitted a proposal for de-acidifying the original papers, digitizing the manuscripts and microfilming the rest of the collection for long-term conservation. ■

ASEAN Research Students

Twenty research students from ASEAN countries registered with the ISEAS Library and were given an orientation tour on 5 April 2005. The students were on postgraduate fellowships at the Asia Research Institute (ARI) of the National University of Singapore where they would undertake research and library work for the April-June quarter. They included three Filipinos, five Indonesians, two Malaysians, one Myanmarese, five Thais and four Vietnamese.

Latest Bibliography

The Library has compiled a select bibliography *Islamic Movements, Intellectual Tradition and Education in Southeast Asia*. It consists of 435 entries of books, journal articles, microform and audio-visuals, mainly in English, Indonesian and Malay, which were published from 1990 onwards. The bibliography was compiled in conjunction with the Workshop on the Education of Southeast Asian Islamic Leadership organized by ISEAS and the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden University, the Netherlands, 19-20 May 2005. This 37-page bibliography is for sale at S\$10.00 per copy.



A caricature of Mr Lee Kuan Yew, then a member of the 1955 Legislative Assembly and a political cartoon from the David Marshall collection. Artist Badior and cartoonist Peng worked for *The Straits Times*.

ISEAS Helps with Polytechnic Library Training

The ISEAS Library has been providing internship to students of the Information Management diploma course at Temasek Polytechnic as part of the Institute's corporate social responsibility.

Two students, Ms Nordiana Ya'cob and Ms Aneesah Banu, from the polytechnic are on attachment from 24 May till 10 September 2005. They will be trained on the various aspects of library and information work including serials check-in, cataloguing and book processing, journal indexing, book inventorizing and other library projects. This



is the third batch of Temasek interns being hosted by the library.

The students are given a stipend by the library for their 16 weeks' immersion in the world of real library work. ■

For the Record

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the various types of eye diseases, especially in an urban and an ageing society, that may lead to blindness if left untreated and of the advances in treatment available in Singapore. The seminar also emphasized that 90 per cent of blindness was either preventable or curable. The preventive measures to adopt and the

In keeping with corporate social responsibility, ISEAS joined Rotary Club of Raffles City in a very successful day-long Regional Seminar on Advances in Prevention of Blindness on 7 May. Before and after the seminar there was free eye screening for members of the public. Some 120 people took advantage of this community service. The Seminar provided an opportunity for the public to be informed of

important role of diet, nutrients and eye supplements in eye disease and blindness prevention were also highlighted.

In May ISEAS organized its second research internship programme for students from the University Scholars Programme of the National University of Singapore. Under this programme each student with a research topic of his/her choice is paired with a mentor among ISEAS research staff who has the relevant expertise. The batch of 12 interns covered issues ranging from foreign investments in Vietnam to gay activism in Singapore. This is an ISEAS mission to go beyond its research function and contribute to the training of future researchers.

During the lunch break on 27 April, Ms Ch'ng Kim See, Head, ISEAS Library, introduced colleagues to Vipassana Meditation, an ancient meditation technique that helps people to take control of their own lives and channel their energies for their personal well-being and for the good of others. Kim See has been a VM practitioner since 1992. ■

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

- ▶ “A Firsthand Look at the Afghan and Iraqi Elections”, Mr Daniel Grant, International Consultant; and Mr Glenn Nye, former US Diplomat and a Consultant on International Development and Democratization
- ▶ “Islam in Multicultural Europe: Implications for Southeast Asia”, Ms Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, Journalist, Author, and Broadcaster
- ▶ “Europe as Seen from an Alpine Perch”, Ambassador (Dr) Daniel Woker, Swiss Ambassador to Singapore and Brunei Darussalam
- ▶ “Governance and Democratization: An International Overview”, Professor Axel Hadenius, Uppsala University, Sweden
- ▶ “India’s Current Economic Strategies: Impact and Opportunities for Singapore and Southeast Asia”, HE (Dr) Arun Shourie, 23rd Lee Kuan Yew Exchange Fellow
- ▶ International Oil Security Challenges and International Cooperation”, Mr James Haywood, Special Adviser, International Energy Agency, Paris
- ▶ “Youth in Saudi Arabia”, Ms Nimah Ismail Nawwab, Writer, Poet, and Photographer
- ▶ Workshop on “Ethnic Chinese Economy and Business in Southeast Asia in the Era of Globalization”
- ▶ 26th Singapore Lecture: “Africa’s Season of Hope: The Dawn of a **New Africa-Asia Partnership**”, HE Thabo Mvuyelwa Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa
- ▶ Gender Studies Programme — “Women in Southeast Asia”, Dr Jean D. Cunha, Regional Adviser/Programme Manager, UNIFEM
- ▶ “**Bending the Wind**: Thai Foreign Policy under Thaksin”, Assistant Professor Thitinan Pongsudhirak, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
- ▶ “Local and Global Knowledge: Social Science Research on Southeast Asia”, Professor Hans-Dieter Evers, Director, Centre for Development Research, University of Bonn, Germany
- ▶ “The Management of Vietnam’s Border Disputes: Implications of Recent Agreements Relating to the South China Sea”, Associate Professor Ramses Amer, Umea University, Sweden
- ▶ Regional Seminar on “Advances in the Prevention of Blindness”, ISEAS-Rotary Club of Raffles City
- ▶ “The Work of the **Mekong Institute Foundation**”, Mr Tej Bunnag, Chairman, Mekong Institute Foundation, Thailand
- ▶ “The Norwegian Oil Industry: Past, Present, and Future”, Mr Gunnar Sletvold, Vice-President (Crude Sales), Statoil, Norway
- ▶ “Foreign Policy of Hungary: The Imperative of Having an Asia Strategy”, HE (Dr) Ferenc Somogyi, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Hungary
- ▶ “**ASEAN Competitiveness** in the New Economy”, Associate Professor Mahendhiran Nair, Monash University, Malaysia
- ▶ “War and Natural Disasters: Rebuilding Nations — Three

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Energy Forum Talks Gain a Steady Following

Since its launch in June last year, ISEAS Energy Forum has organized 18 seminars. This series of talks has gained a regular following among policy-makers, civil servants and people in the energy sector. Some sessions attract as many as 100 people. Seminars in the last quarter featured these topics:

- “International Oil Security Challenges and International Cooperation”
- “The Norwegian Oil Industry: Past, Present and Future”
- “Changing Landscapes in Energy”
- “Gas to Liquids: The Future Is Gas — How Gas-to-Liquids Becomes the Reality That Replaces Oil”

The Powerpoint presentations of Energy Forum talks are made available on the ISEAS website www.iseas.edu.sg.

Congratulations

Dr Aris Ananta, Senior Research Fellow at ISEAS, has been invited to sit on the Scientific Review Board of *Population Review*, an international journal that covers demographic issues. The editorial board is based at the Australian National University. Aris also sits on the Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Population Research*.

Coming Soon

Danish Diplomat Joins ISEAS

Mr Jørgen Østrøm Møller, former Danish Ambassador to Singapore will join ISEAS for two years as a Visiting Senior Research Fellow beginning in September. Møller has a M.Sc. from University of Copenhagen and is an Adjunct Professor at Copenhagen Business School. He intends to look at the European integration process and its applications for ASEAN. Møller is the author of 29 books in Danish and English. Among the titles are *The End of Internationalism or World Governance?* (2000) and *The Future European Model* (1995), both published by Greenwood Publishing House. ■



Forum on Water Issues in Southeast Asia: Present Trends and Future Directions

16–17 August 2005

Change of Date

Water, sometimes referred to as oil of the 21st century, may run short globally with a potential for conflicts. This frightening scenario has gripped public imagination and worried policy-makers. This is a major regional forum, involving the business community, academics and the public sector, to discuss and examine trends of managing water in Southeast Asia. It will cover rural irrigation, watershed management, conservation, transboundary management, public-private sector partnerships, privatization, recycling, and desalination. For more information, please see our website at <http://www.iseas.edu.sg>. ■

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Women's Perspectives", Ms Meutyah Hafid, News Presenter, Indonesia; Suraiya Kamaruzzaman, Executive Director, Flower Aceh Foundation, Lecturer, Syiah Kuala University in Aceh; and Ms Basma AlKhateeb, Coordinator, UNIFEM, Iraqi Programme ▶ Workshop on "The Education of Southeast Asian Islamic Leadership" ▶ "Doing Business in the Philippines: Opportunities and Challenges", Mr Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II, President and CEO, Ayala Corporation, Philippines ▶ "Changing Landscapes in Energy", Mr Khoo Chin Hean, Chief Executive, Energy Market Authority, Singapore ▶ **"Japan-China Relations in Perspective"**, Mr Kenichi Suganuma, Minister and Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan ▶ "Gas to Liquids: The Future Is Gas — How Gas-to-Liquids Becomes the Reality That Replaces Oil", Director and Lead Consultant, TRI-ZEN International, Singapore ▶ Workshop on "Cultural Globalization in Southeast Asia" ▶ "Food Security and Food Sovereignty: The **Struggle of Indonesian Rice Farmers**", Dr Yunita T. Winarto, Senior Lecturer, University of Indonesia ▶ "Nature and Function of Papal Diplomacy", HE Archbishop Giovanni Lajolo, Vatican's Secretary for Relations with States, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Holy See ▶ "The Western Roots of Islamic Radicalization", Mr Olivier Roy, Research Director, French National Centre for Scientific Research ▶ Internship programme for undergraduates in the NUS University Scholars Programme ▶ "Evaluation of the Kyoto Protocol's Carbon Trading: The Bhutanese Experience", Mr Dasho Paljor J. Dorji, Former Diplomat, Bhutan ▶ "Combating Terrorism: The Cultural Element (the Role of Islam)", Professor Ahmed Kamal Aboulmagd, Cairo University. ■



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What It Should Have Been

In the April 2005 issue of the *ISEAS Newsletter*, the page 2 article announces in its headline that the ISEAS-organized show *Spellbound Odissi Live!* "Raises \$17,000 for Charity". Since then, with a few more contributions received, the final amount raised is about \$25,000.

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