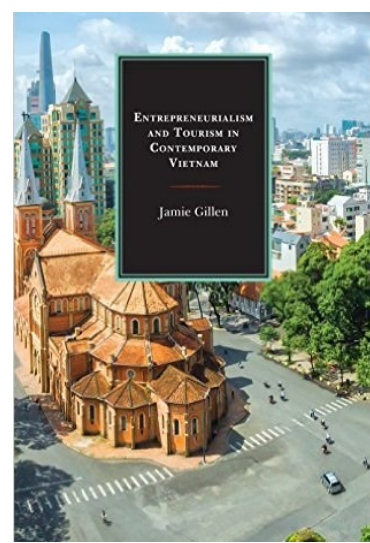
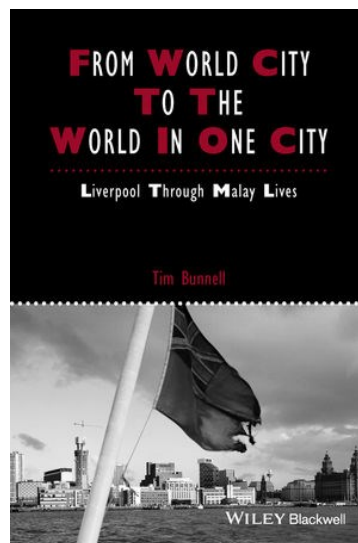
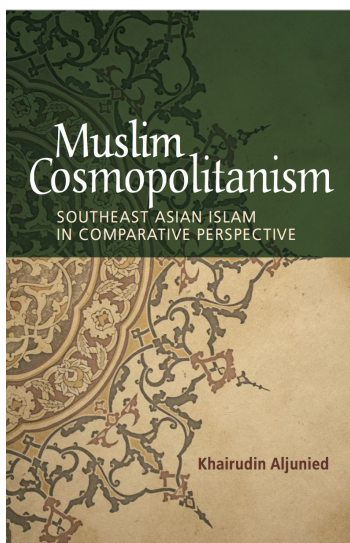


FASS Bookshare March 2017

FASS Research Division

Featuring Khairudin Aljunied,
Tim Bunnell, and Jamie Gillen



Research Division Seminar Room, Thursday 2nd March

11:45-1:05pm with light lunch

Register at www.eventbrite.com/e/fass-bookshare-march-2017-tickets-31215134307

Introduction

FASS Bookshare celebrates and showcases books authored by faculty members who have dedicated years of research into their publications.

In previous years **Bookshare** has highlighted '*Books with an Asian Focus*', '*Books by our Young Scholars*', '*Books on Asian Mobility, Power, and Representation*', '*Books on India and Indians*', '*Development, Migration, and Protest in Asia*', and '*Books on Philosophy*'. The eighth edition of **Bookshare** focuses on '*Southeast Asian Cosmopolitanism, Urbanism, and Tourism*' published during the past year.

Today three faculty members will share their research experiences and motivations, they are:

Dr. Khairudin Aljunied

Dr. Tim Bunnell

Dr. Jamie Gillen

Please read on for more information about their books.

Pages 7-19 of this brochure cover the books published by FASS Faculty from April 2016 through March 2017.

Programme

11:45am-12pm: Registration and Refreshments

12-12:05pm: Lionel Wee introduces the authors and books

12:05-12:20: Khairudin Aljunied presents [Muslim Cosmopolitanism: Southeast Asian Islam in Comparative Perspective](#)

12:20-12:35: Tim Bunnell presents [From World City to the World in One City: Liverpool Through Malay Lives](#)

12:35-12:50: Jamie Gillen presents [Entrepreneurialism and Tourism in Contemporary Vietnam](#)

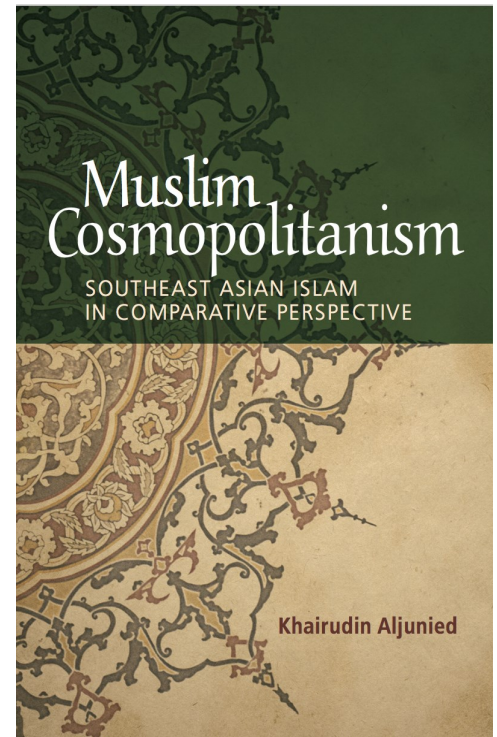
12:50-1:05: Q & A session

1:05: Light Bites

Muslim Cosmopolitanism:
Southeast Asian Islam in Comparative Perspective

Edinburgh University Press

Dr. Khairudin Aljunied
Associate Professor
Department of Malay Studies
mlsasmk@nus.edu.sg



This book is concerned with the historical sociology of Muslim cosmopolitanism in Southeast Asia. It investigates the complex ways by which cosmopolitan ideals have been creatively employed and carefully adapted by Muslim individuals, societies and institutions in Southeast Asia to bring about the necessary contexts for mutual tolerance and shared respect between and within different groups, particular between religious groups, in society. The book aims to demonstrate the ways in which historical actors have promoted dialogue and shared goals between Muslims and non-Muslims in the region. A work of reflexive and comparative historical sociology rather than narrative history or traditional chronologies, this book seeks to interweave the connected Muslim histories of the “Muslim Southeast Asia” where one of the largest percentage of Muslims in the world are found. I use edifying vignettes as well as informative case studies from across the Malay World since the rise of the networked society in the region in the 1970s up until in the early 21st century to provide a panoramic view of Muslim cosmopolitan practices, outlook and visions in the region.

Khairudin Aljunied is Associate Professor at the Department of Malay Studies, National University of Singapore. He specializes in the history of Islam in Southeast Asia, covering topics such as the Muslim networks, social movements, intellectual currents and minorities within and beyond the region. He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees at the National University of Singapore and completed his PhD at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. In late 2013, he was a Fulbright Visiting Professor at Columbia University, New York. More recently in early 2015, he was a Visiting Professor at the Universiti of Brunei Darussalam (UBD).

Dr Khairudin is currently working on two research projects. The first is a study of a renowned Southeast Asian scholar, Hamka, and his ideas on reforming Islam in the Malay World. The second project explores Malay-Singaporean diaspora in Melbourne, London, Dubai and Toronto.

From World City to the World in One City: Liverpool Through Malay Lives

Wiley-Blackwell

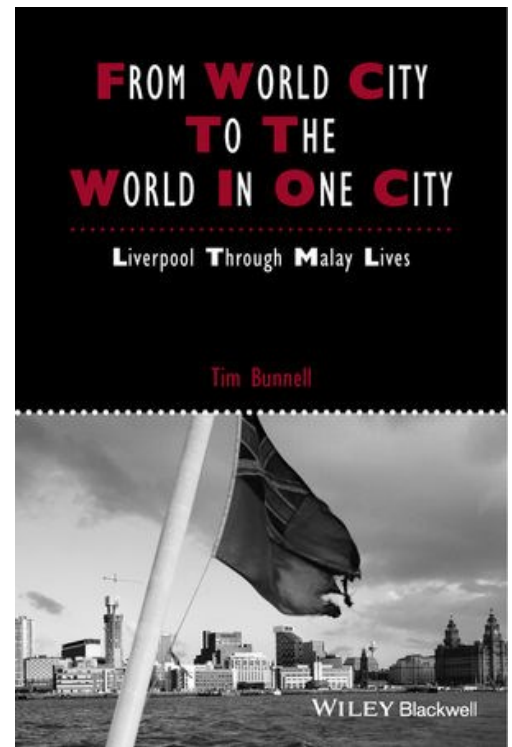
Dr. Tim Bunnell

Associate Professor

Department of Geography

geotgb@nus.edu.sg

From World City to the World in One City traces urban social geographies through and across the lives of Malay seafarers who arrived in Liverpool during its final years as a major imperial port. This includes examination of both changing urban landscapes, and the city's shifting external connections, particularly to Southeast Asia and across the 'Malay Atlantic'. Liverpool's Malay club is shown to have been not only a site for interaction among locally-based Malay men and their family members from the 1950s, but also a node in globe-spanning maritime social networks. Tim Bunnell thus provides evidence of long distance social relations in decades before scholars began to use terms such as 'transnationalism', and demonstrates how transnational social networks are anchored in specific sites and local urban geographies. The book draws upon interviews with people who met at the Malay club until its closure in 2007, as well as a range of archival, documentary and popular cultural sources.



Tim Bunnell is Associate Professor in the Department of Geography. He joined NUS as a Postdoctoral Fellow in 1999. Tim is a human geographer who works on issues of urban transformation in Southeast Asia (mostly in Malaysia and Indonesia) and connections between that region and other parts of the world. His latest book, *From World City to the World in One City: Liverpool Through Malay Lives*, emerged from a small NUS-funded research grant on the life histories and geographies of Malay ex-seafarers in the city of Liverpool. The book was published by Wiley in April 2016 as part of the International Journal of Urban and Regional Research book series on Studies in Urban and Social Change.

Entrepreneurialism and Tourism in Contemporary Vietnam

Rowman & Littlefield

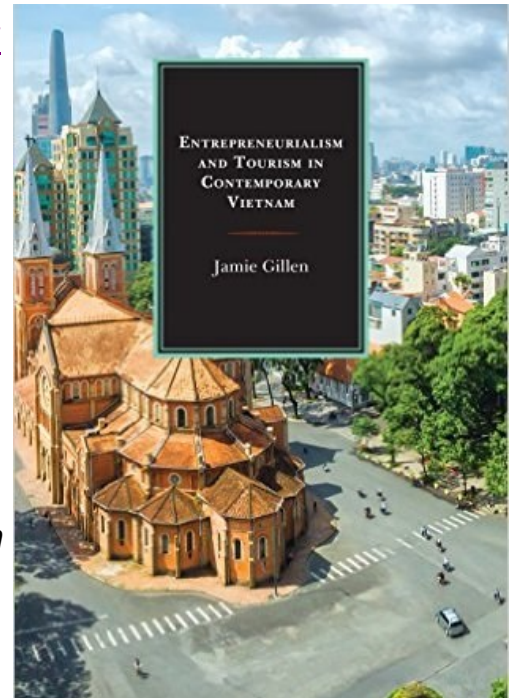
Dr. Jamie Gillen

Assistant Professor

Department of Geography

geotgb@nus.edu.sg

Entrepreneurialism and Tourism in Contemporary Vietnam examines the intersection of entrepreneurialism and the tourism industry in modern-day Vietnam and uses case studies from tourism operators in Ho Chi Minh City to understand the effects of market reforms on Vietnam's society. The primary argument undertaken in this study is that in order to understand changes to the Vietnamese economy, one must take an approach that combines the "cultural" with the "economic." The tourism case studies presented here collectively demonstrate that there is no easy analytic distinction between the cultural and economic dimensions of the Vietnamese tourism industry. The empirical material is primarily drawn from interviews with private tour operators and participant observation on tours. This book also examines the collaboration between the private sector and the Vietnamese government in the tourism industry. These coordinative entrepreneurial relationships between two unlikely bedfellows are shaped by the interpersonal exchanges that produce the tourism cultural-economy. Lastly, there are links between entrepreneurialism, tourism, and other case studies in urban Southeast Asia illustrated in the conclusion.



Jamie Gillen studies cultural, urban, and social geographies in Vietnam and Southeast Asia. He is interested in entrepreneurialism and tourism as well as the politics of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and has published on culture's value to the Party. Jamie's work is broadly situated in the state-society field in contemporary Vietnam. Additionally, he has published papers advocating that we push some "peripheral" fieldwork activities such as money/gift exchange, alcohol consumption, motorbike riding, and off-the-record conversations to the center of discussions of the politics of the field. Jamie is currently researching comparisons of the Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi tourism industries, Vietnamese state power and resistance to neoliberalism, expressions of nationalism in the tourism industry, and views on the "Asian century".

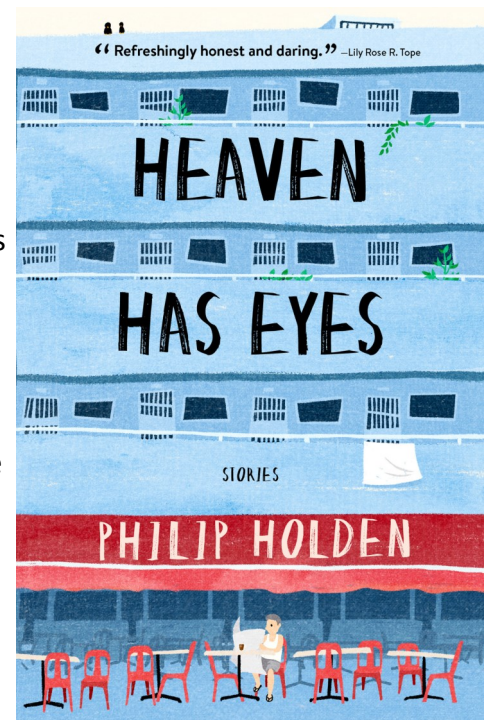
Department of English Language and Literature

Heaven Has Eyes

Philip Holden

Epigram

A teacher and his wife get caught up in the drama of election politics and a Channel 8 soap opera. An invalid house-sits for his sister and has to care for his nephew's pampered pet pig. A daughter travels overseas to convince her elderly father to move home with her. An academic must navigate an opaque bureaucracy to renew his Re-Entry Permit. A young Lee Kuan Yew finds camaraderie with a future Canadian Prime Minister in England, and relentless tenacity from a British student in Canada desperate for an interview. Heaven Has Eyes dramatises these small moments of transcendence in everyday life, and more.

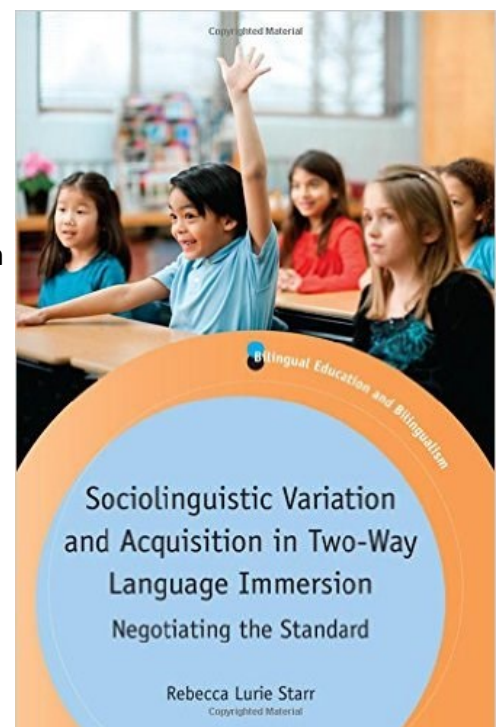


Negotiating the Standard: Sociolinguistic variation and acquisition in two-way language immersion

Rebecca Starr

Multilingual Matters

This book investigates the acquisition of sociolinguistic knowledge in the early elementary school years of a Mandarin-English two-way immersion program in the United States. Using ethnographic observation and quantitative analysis of data, the author explores how input from teachers and classmates shape students' language acquisition. The book considers the different sociolinguistic messages conveyed by teachers in their patterns of language use and the variety of dialects negotiated and represented. Using analysis of teacher speech, corrective feedback and student language use, the author brings together three analyses to form a more complete picture of how children respond to sociolinguistic variation within a two-way immersion program.



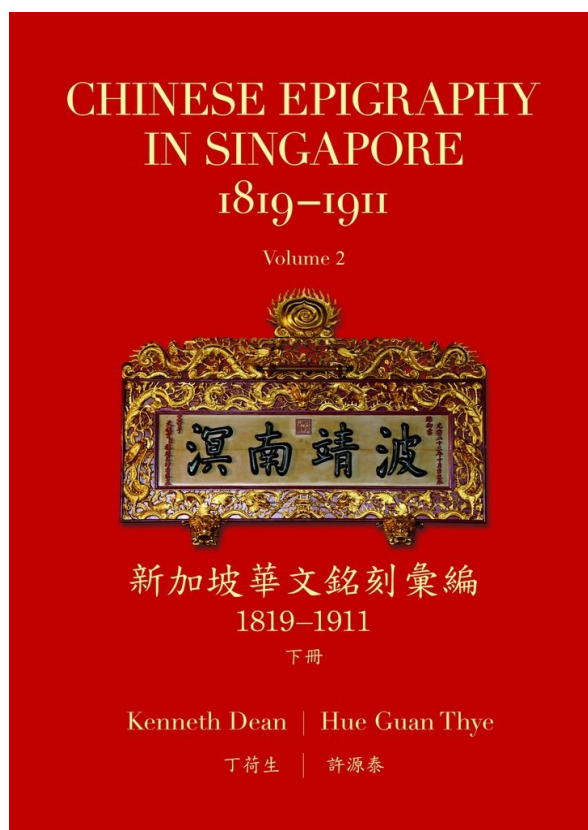
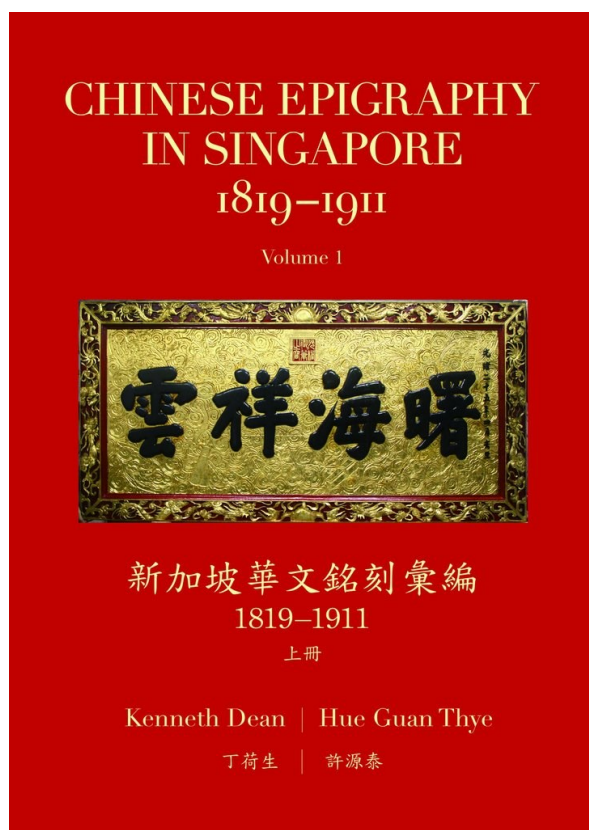
Department of Chinese Studies

Chinese Epigraphy in Singapore: 1819-1911

Kenneth Dean and Hue Guan Thye

NUS Press

The history of Singapore's Chinese community is carved in stone and wood: in the epigraphic record of 62 Chinese temples, native place associations, clan and guild halls, from 1819 to 1911. These materials include temple plaques, couplets, stone inscriptions, stone and bronze censers, and other inscribed objects found in these institutions. They prove first-hand historical information on the aspirations and contributions of the early generation of Chinese settlers in Singapore. Early inscriptions reveal the centrality of these institutions to Chinese life in Singapore, while later inscriptions show the many ways that these institutions have evolved over the years. Many have become deeply engaged in social welfare projects, while others have also become centers of transnational networks. These materials, available in Chinese and in English translation, open a window into the world of Chinese communities in Singapore. These cultural artifacts can also be appreciated for their exceptional artistic value. They are a central part of the heritage of Singapore.



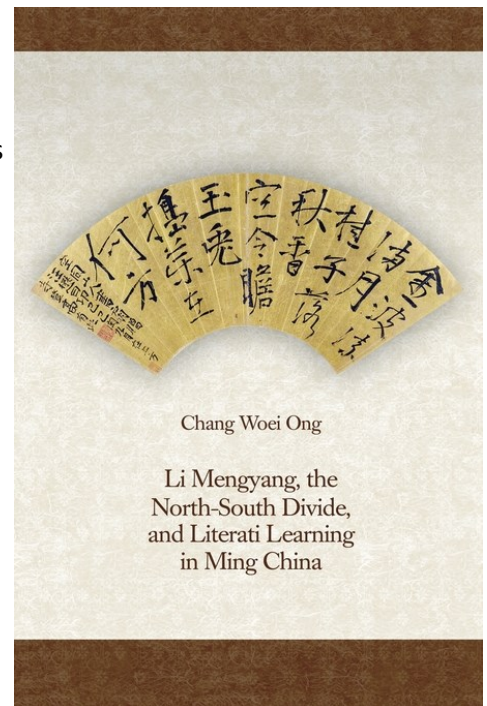
Li Mengyang, the North-South Divide, and Literati Learning in Ming China

Ong Chang Woei

Harvard University Press

Li Mengyang (1473–1530) was a scholar-official and man of letters who initiated the literary archaist movement that sought to restore ancient styles of prose and poetry in sixteenth-century China. In this first book-length study of Li in English, Chang Woei Ong comprehensively examines his intellectual scheme and situates Li's quest to redefine literati learning as a way to build a perfect social order in the context of intellectual transitions since the Song dynasty.

Ong examines Li's emergence at the distinctive historical juncture of the mid-Ming dynasty, when differences in literati cultures and visions were articulated as a north–south divide (both real and perceived) among Chinese thinkers. Ong argues that this divide, and the ways in which Ming literati compartmentalized learning, is key to understanding Li's thought and its legacy. Though a northerner, Li became a powerful voice in prose and poetry, in both a positive and negative sense, as he was championed or castigated by the southern literati communities. The southern literati's indifference toward Li's other intellectual endeavors—including cosmology, ethics, political philosophy, and historiography—furthered his utter marginalization in those fields.



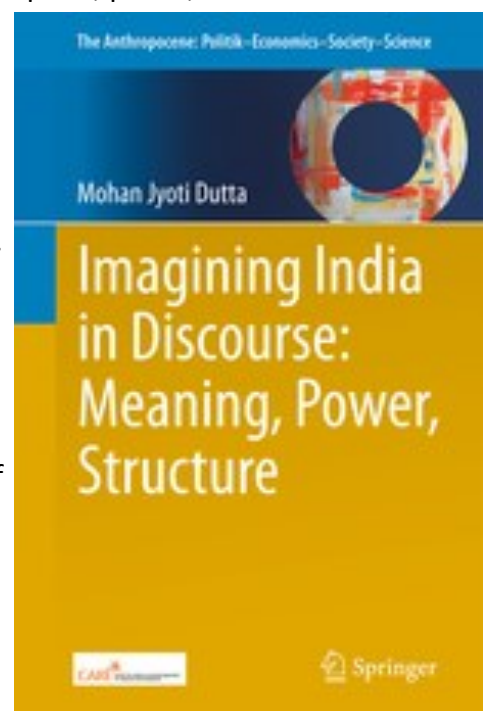
Department of Communications and New Media

Imagining India in Discourse: Meaning, Power, Structure

Mohan Dutta

Springer

The economic liberalization of India, changes in global structures, and the rapid emergence of India on the global landscape have been accompanied by the dramatic rise in popular, public, and elite discourses that offer the promise to imagine India. Written mostly in the future tense, these discourses conceive of India through specific frames of global change and simultaneously offer prescriptive suggestions for the pathways to fulfilling the vision. Both as summary accounts of the shifts taking place in India and in the relationships of India with other global actors as well as roadmaps for the immediate and longer term directions for India, these discourses offer meaningful entry points into elite imaginations of India. Engaging these imaginations creates a framework for understanding the tropes that are mobilized in support of specific policy formulations in economic, political, cultural, and social spheres. Connecting meanings within networks of power and structure help make sense of the symbolic articulations of India within material relationships.

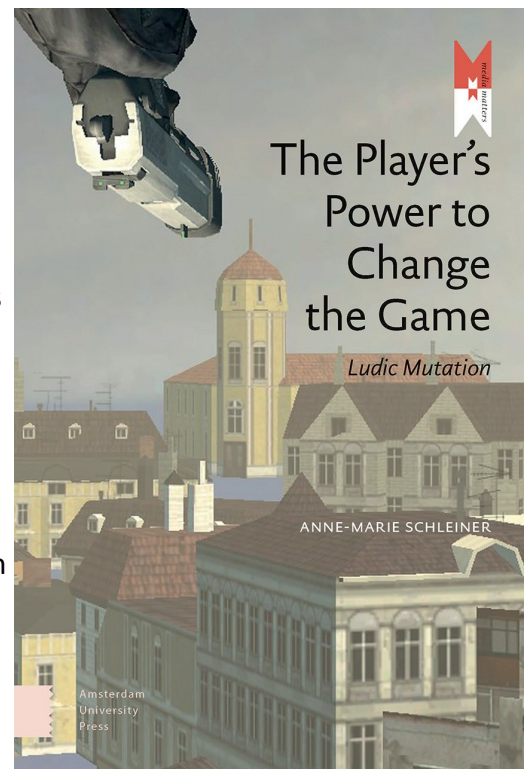


The Player's Power to Change the Game: Ludic Mutation

Anne-Marie Schleiner

Amsterdam University Press

In recent decades, what could be considered a gamification of the world has occurred, as the ties between games and activism, games and war, and games and the city grow ever stronger. In this book, Anne-Marie Schleiner explores a concept she calls “ludic mutation,” a transformative process in which the player, who is expected to engage in the preprogrammed interactions of the game and accept its imposed subjective constraints, seizes back some of the power otherwise lost to the game itself. Crucially, this power grab is also relevant beyond the game because players then see the external world as material to be reconfigured, an approach with important ramifications for everything from social activism to contemporary warfare.



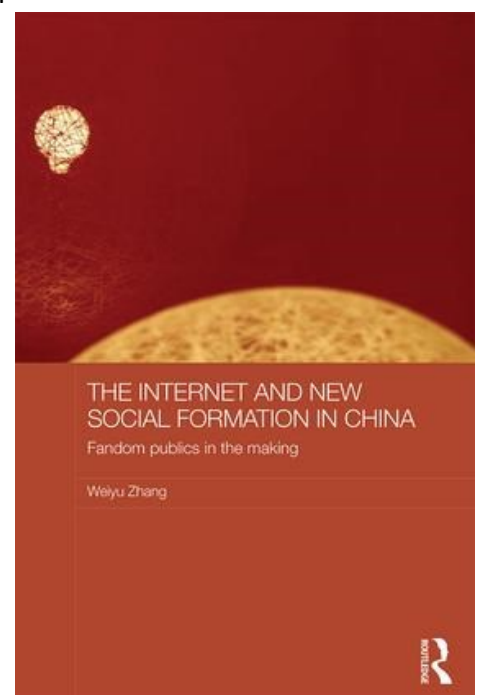
The Internet and New Social Formation in China:

Fandom Publics and Netizens in the Making

Weiyu Zhang

Routledge

There are billions of internet users in China, and this number is continually growing. This book looks at the various purposes of this internet use, and provides a study about how the entertainment-consuming users form into publics through the mediation of technologies in the era of network society. It questions how individuals, mediated by new information and communication technologies, come together to form new social categories. The book goes on to investigate how public(s) is formed in the era of network society, with particular focus on how fans become publics in a society that follows the logic of network. Using online surveys and in-depth interviews, this book provides a rich description of the process of constructing a new social formation in contemporary China.



Department of Geography

Strategic Coupling:

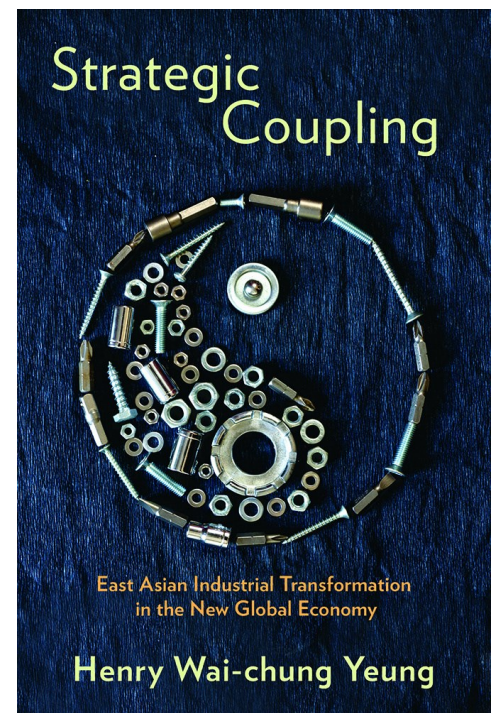
East Asian Industrial Transformation in the New Global Economy

Henry Yeung

Cornell University Press

In *Strategic Coupling*, Henry Wai-chung Yeung examines economic development and state-firm relations in East Asia, focusing in particular on South Korea, Taiwan, and Singapore. As a result of the massive changes of the last twenty-five years, new explanations must be found for the economic success and industrial transformation in the region. State-assisted startups and incubator firms in East Asia have become major players in the manufacture of products with a global reach: Taiwan's Hon Hai Precision has assembled more than 500 million iPhones, for instance, and South Korea's Samsung provides the iPhone's semiconductor chips and retina displays.

Drawing on extensive interviews with top executives and senior government officials, Yeung argues that since the late 1980s, many East Asian firms have outgrown their home states, and are no longer dependent on state support; as a result the developmental state has lost much of its capacity to steer and direct industrialization. We cannot read the performance of national firms as a direct outcome of state action. Yeung calls for a thorough renovation of the still-dominant view that states are the primary engine of industrial transformation. He stresses action by national firms and traces various global production networks to incorporate both firm-specific activities and the international political economy. He identifies two sets of dynamics in these national-global articulations known as strategic coupling: coevolution in the confluence of state, firm, and global production networks, and the various strategies pursued by East Asian firms to attain competitive positions in the global marketplace.



Space, Place, and Environment

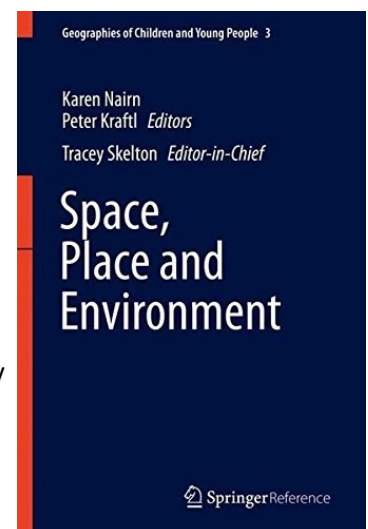
Edited by Karen Nairn, Peter Kraftl, and Tracey Skelton

Springer

This volume demonstrates the multiple ways that space, place and environment interact with children and young people's lives. The contributors offer a suite of cutting-edge tools and lively examples for theorising how space, place and environment are (con)figured in children and young people's lives. They demonstrate how the social borders between childhood and adulthood, and spatial borders between rural and urban, countries, neighbourhoods, and institutions, are relationally produced.

The volume is organised into five sections: Indigenous Youth: Space and Place; Children, Nature and Environmental Education; Urban Spaces; Home/less Spaces; and Border Spaces. These themes signal the major issues in cutting-edge children's geographies scholarship. Diverse geographical contexts are covered in this volume – including Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Peru, Slovenia, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.

All of the contributors advocate greater recognition of children and young people's spatial rights, whether in the home, outdoors, at school, crossing borders, in public and digital spaces, or simply looking for a safe place to sleep. Children and young people's perspectives on space, place and the environment, and their desire for places to call their own, tie the volume together. The volume is a testament to the politics of the spaces and places of childhood, highlighting how many children and young people face obstacles to living well and to living where they desire.



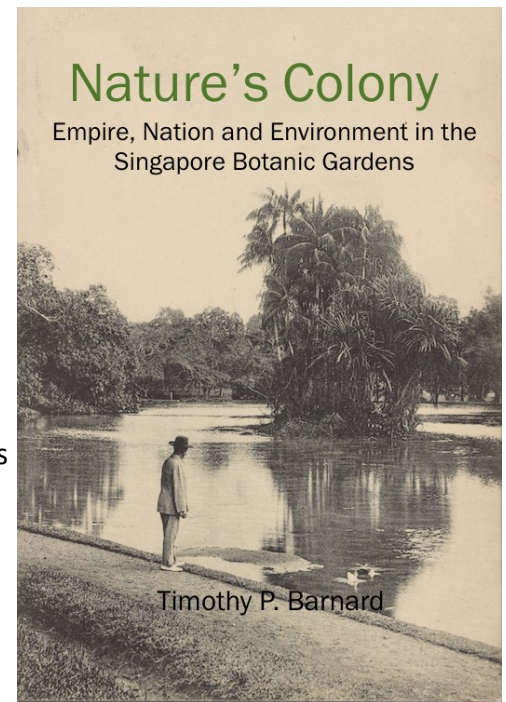
Department of History

Nature's Colony: Empire, Nation and Environment in the Singapore Botanic Gardens

Timothy P. Barnard

NUS Press

The Singapore Botanic Gardens, founded in 1859, has been a nexus of power and the natural world throughout its history. It is a site where colonial officials argued, scientists experimented, crocodiles were hunted, and an independent nation state developed one of its most important symbolic diplomatic tools, thus making it a park, a scientific institution, an economic testing ground, a World Heritage site, and a natural resource in service to the state. The Singapore Botanic Gardens has also exerted a tremendous influence beyond its grounds as the efforts of its scientists and gardeners to assert control over the surrounding environment reflect shifting understandings of power, science and nature among local administrators, as well as distant mentors in Britain. It was a colonizer in its own right, spreading a cultivation and manipulation of the environment that continues to touch lives throughout the region. The Singapore Botanic Gardens was nature's colony, where plants were collected, classified and cultivated to change our understanding of the region and world.

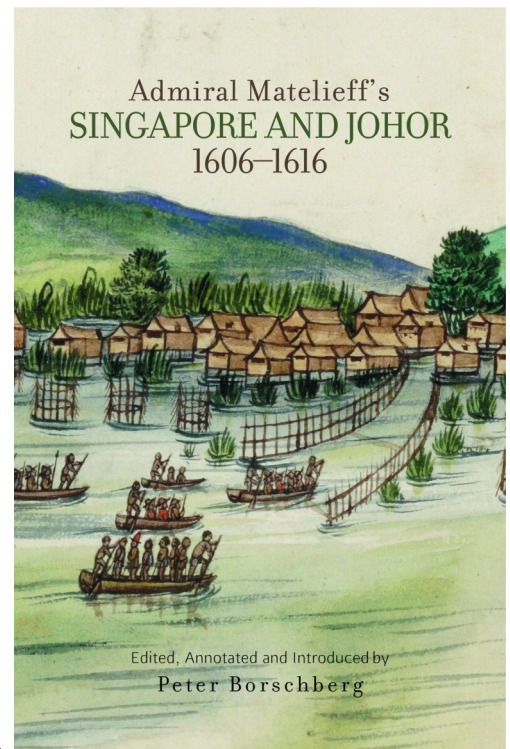


Admiral Matelieff's Singapore and Johor, 1606-1616

Edited by Peter Borschberg

NUS Press

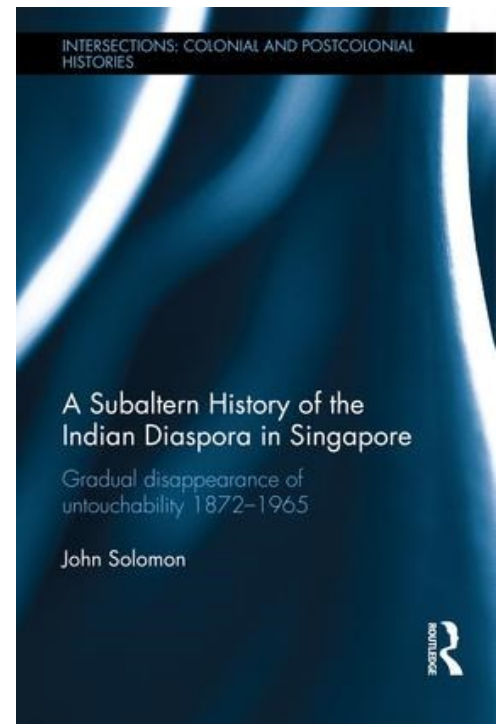
Few authors have as much to say about Singapore and Johor in the early 17th century as Cornelis Matelieff de Jonge (c.1570–1632). This admiral of the Dutch East India Company sailed to Asia in 1605 and besieged Portuguese Melaka in 1606 with the help of Malay allies. A massive Portuguese armada arrived from Goa to fight the Dutch at sea, break the siege and relieve the Portuguese colony. During his Asian voyage and on his return to Europe in September 1608, Matelieff penned a series of letters and memorials in which he provided a candid assessment of trading opportunities and politics in Asia. He advised the VOC and leading government officials of the Dutch Republic to take a long term view of Dutch involvement in Asia and fundamentally change the way they were doing business there. Singapore, the Straits region, and Johor assumed a significant role in his overall assessment. At one stage he seriously contemplated establishing the VOC's main Asian base at a location near the Johor River estuary. On deeper reflection, however, Matelieff and the VOC directors in Europe began to shift their attention southward and instead preferred a location around the Sunda Strait. This was arguably a near miss for Singapore two full centuries before Thomas Stamford Raffles founded the British trading post on the island in 1819.



**A Subaltern History of the Indian Diaspora in Singapore:
The Gradual Disappearance of Untouchability 1872-1965**

John P. Solomon
Routledge

Untouchable migrants made up a substantial proportion of Indian labour migration into Singapore in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. During this period, they were subject to forms of caste prejudice and discrimination that powerfully reinforced their identities as untouchables overseas. Today, however, untouchability has disappeared from the public sphere and has been replaced by other notions of identity, leaving unanswered questions as to how and when this occurred. The untouchable migrant is also largely absent from popular narratives of the past.



Superman: The Persistence of an American Icon

Ian Gordon Paperback – February 13, 2017
Rutgers University Press

After debuting in 1938, Superman soon became an American icon. But why has he maintained his iconic status for nearly 80 years? And how can he still be an American icon when the country itself has undergone so much change?

Superman: Persistence of an American Icon examines the many iterations of the character in comic books, comic strips, radio series, movie serials, feature films, television shows, animation, toys, and collectibles over the past eight decades. Demonstrating how Superman's iconic popularity cannot be attributed to any single creator or text, comics expert Ian Gordon embarks on a deeper consideration of cultural mythmaking as a collective and dynamic process. He also outlines the often contentious relationships between the various parties who have contributed to the Superman mythos, including corporate executives, comics writers, artists, nostalgic commentators, and collectors.

Armed with an encyclopedic knowledge of Superman's appearances in comics and other media, Gordon also digs into comics archives to reveal the prominent role that fans have played in remembering, interpreting, and reimagining Superman's iconography. Gordon considers how comics, film, and TV producers have taken advantage of fan engagement and nostalgia when selling Superman products. Investigating a character who is equally an icon of American culture, fan culture, and consumer culture, Superman thus offers a provocative analysis of mythmaking in the modern era.

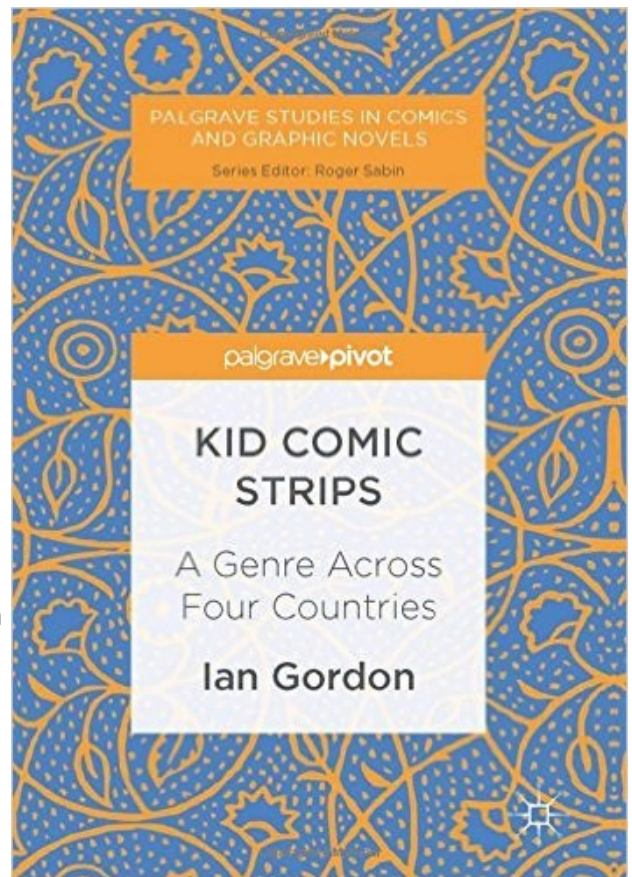


Kid Comic Strips: A Genre Across Four Countries

Ian Gordon

Palgrave

This book looks at the humor that artists and editors believed would have appeal in four different countries. Ian Gordon explains how similar humor played out in comic strips across different cultures and humor styles. By examining Skippy and Ginger Meggs, the book shows a good deal of similarities between American and Australian humor while establishing some distinct differences. In examining the French translation of Perry Winkle, the book explores questions of language and culture. By shifting focus to a later period and looking at the American and British comics entitled Dennis the Menace, two very different comics bearing the same name, *Kid Comic Strips* details both differences in culture and traditions and the importance of the type of reader imagined by the artist.



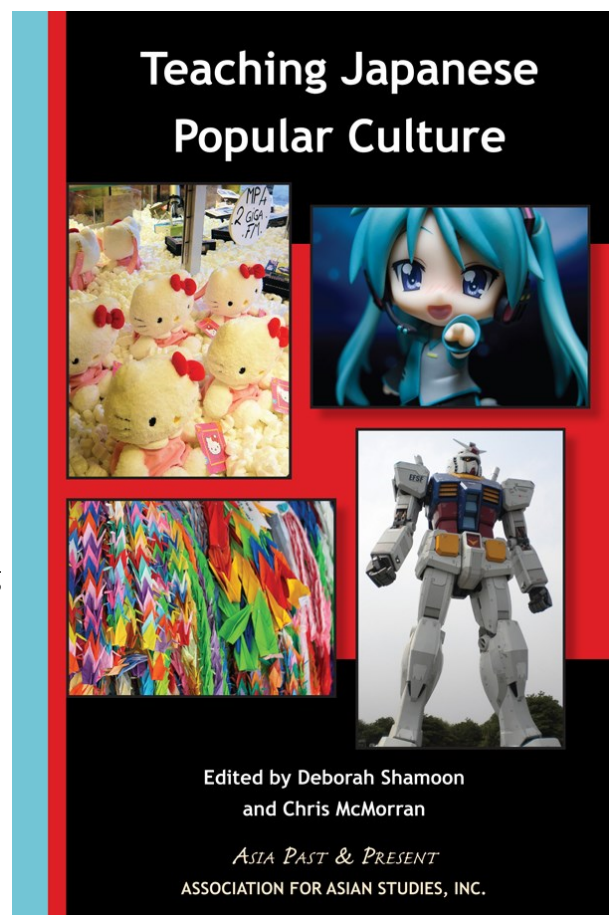
Department of Japanese Studies

Teaching Japanese Popular Culture

Edited by Deborah Shamoon and Chris McMorran

Association for Asian Studies

Interest in Japanese popular culture is high among students at all levels, driving enrollment in Japanese Studies programs. However, there has been little reflection on the pedagogy of teaching Japanese popular culture. Now is the time for critical reflection on teaching practices related to teaching about and with Japanese popular culture. This volume encompasses theoretical engagement with pedagogy of popular culture as well as practical considerations of curriculum design, lesson planning, assessment, and student outcomes. While the main focus is undergraduate teaching, there is also discussion of K–12 teaching, with authors discussing their experiences teaching Japanese popular culture not only in North America, but also in Australia, Germany, Singapore, and Japan, both in Japanese-language and English-language institutions.



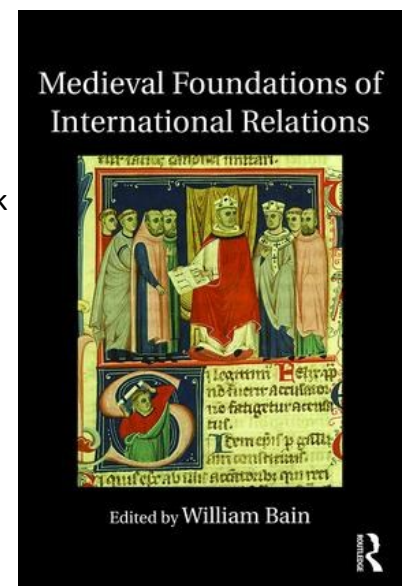
Department of Political Science

Medieval Foundations of International Relations

Edited by William Bain

Routledge

The purpose of this volume is to explore the medieval inheritance of modern international relations. Recent years have seen a flourishing of work on the history of international political thought, but the bulk of this has focused on the early modern and modern periods, leaving continuities with the medieval world largely ignored. The medieval is often used as a synonym for the barbaric and obsolete, yet this picture does not match that found in relevant work in the history of political thought. The book thus offers a chance to correct this misconception of the evolution of Western international thought, highlighting that the history of international thought should be regarded as an important dimension of thinking about the international and one that should not be consigned to history departments.



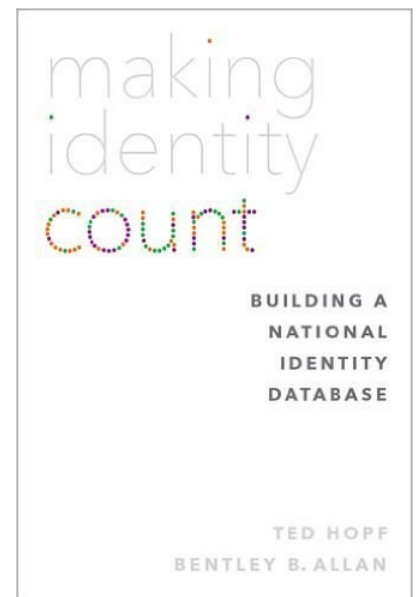
Making Identity Count: Building a National Identity Database

Edited by Ted Hopf and Bentley B. Allan

Oxford University Press

Constructivism, despite being one of the three main streams of IR theory, along with realism and liberalism, is rarely, if ever, tested in large-n quantitative work. Constructivists almost unanimously eschew quantitative approaches, assuming that variables of interest to constructivists, defy quantification. Quantitative scholars mostly ignore constructivist variables as too fuzzy and vague. And the rare instances in which quantitative scholars have operationalized identity as a variable, they have unfortunately realized all the constructivists' worst fears about reducing national identity to a single measure, such as language, religion, or ethnicity, thereby violating one of the foundational assumptions of constructivism: intersubjectivity.

Making Identity Count presents a new method for the recovery of national identity, applies the method in 9 country cases, and draws conclusions from the empirical evidence for hegemonic transitions and a variety of quantitative theories of identity. Ted Hopf and Bentley B. Allan make the constructivist variable of national identity a valid measure that can be used by large-n International Relations scholars in a variety of ways. They lay out what is wrong with how identity has been conceptualized, operationalized and measured in quantitative IR so far and specify a methodological approach that allows scholars to recover the predominant national identities of states in a more valid and systematic fashion. The book includes "national identity reports" on China, the US, UK, Germany, France, Brazil, Japan, and India to both test the authors' method and demonstrate the promise of the approach. Hopf and Allan use these data to test a constructivist hypothesis about the future of Western neoliberal democratic hegemony. Finally, the book concludes with an assessment of the method, including areas of possible improvement, as well as a description of what an intersubjective national identity data base of great powers from 1810-2010 could mean for IR scholarship.



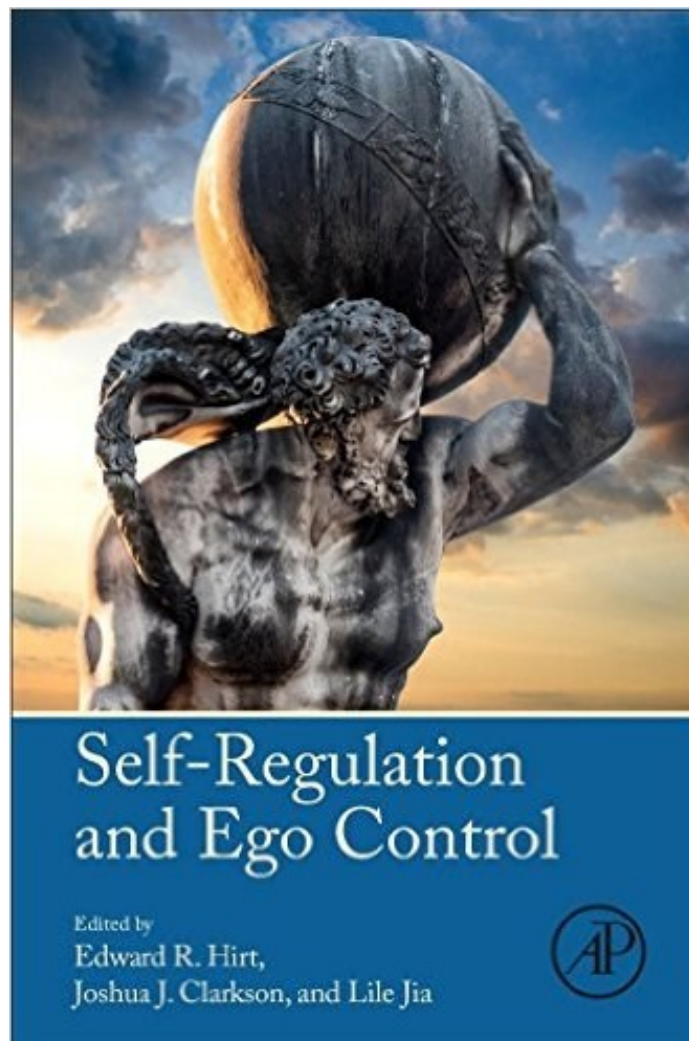
Department of Psychology

Self-Regulation and Ego Control

Edited by Edward Hirt, Joshua Clarkson, and Lile Jia

Academic Press

Self-Regulation and Ego Control examines the physiological effects of depletion, the effects of psychological variables in self-control depletion effects, the role of motivational and goal states on self-control depletion effects, and a number of cognitive perspectives on self-control exertion. This insightful book begins with an introduction of self-control theories, ego depletion phenomena, and experimental examples of research in self-control, and concludes by delineating more inclusive and comprehensive models of self-regulation that can account for the full spectrum of findings from current research. In recent years, researchers have had difficulty identifying the underlying resources responsible for depletion effects. Moreover, further research has identified several psychological and motivational factors that can ameliorate depletion effects. These findings have led many to question assumptions of the dominant strength model and suggest that capacity limitations alone cannot account for the observed effects of depletion. Self-Regulation and Ego Control facilitates discourse across researchers from different ideological camps and advances more integrated views of self-regulation based on this research.



Department of Social Work

A Tiger Remembers: The Way We Were in Singapore

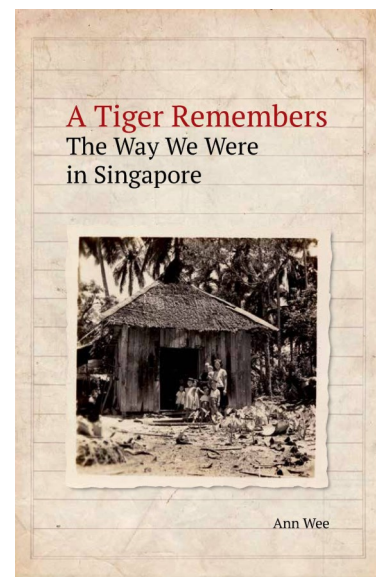
Ann Wee

NUS Press

Born in the Year of the Fire Tiger, Ann Wee moved to Singapore in 1950 to marry into a Singaporean Chinese family, travelling by ship into a world of cultural expectations and domestic rituals that she would eventually come to love. Her work in Singapore's fledgling social welfare department in the 1950s only deepened her cross-cultural learning and appreciation for the shapes and forms of the Singapore family.

One of Singapore's pioneering social workers, Ann shares her experiences frankly and with great humour. Her talent is for remembering the things that history books leave out: the embarrassing bits, questions of hygiene, terms of endearment, the emotional nuance in social relations, the stories of convicts, ghost wives and changeling babies, rural clan settlements and migrant dormitories, the things that disappeared when families moved into HDB estates.

Affectionately observed and wittily narrated, with a deep appreciation of how far Singapore has changed, this book brings to life the country's social transformation by talking about the family, "in its 101 different shapes and sizes, with its capacity to cope which ranges from truly marvelous to distinctly tatty: still, in one form or another, the best place for most of us to be".



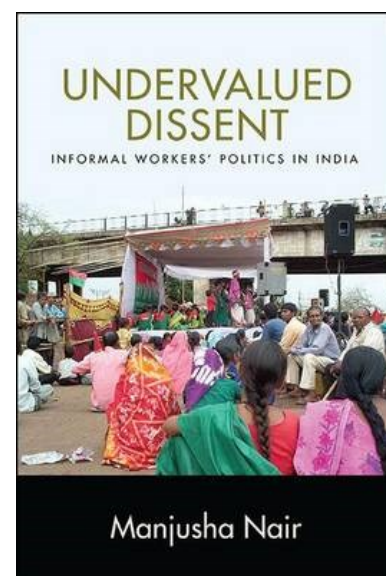
Department of Sociology

Undervalued Dissent: Informal Workers' Politics in India

Manjusha Nair

SUNY Press

Historically, the Indian state has not offered welfare and social rights to all of its citizens, yet a remarkable characteristic of its polity has been the ability of citizens to dissent in a democratic way. In *Undervalued Dissent*, Manjusha Nair argues that this democratic space has been vanishing slowly. Based on extensive fieldwork in Chhattisgarh, a regional state in central India, this book examines two different informal workers' movements. Informal workers are not part of organized labor unions and make up eighty-five percent of the Indian workforce. The first movement started in 1977 and was a success, while the other movement began in 1989 and still continues today, without success. The workers in both movements had similar backgrounds, skills, demands, and strategies. Nair maintains that the first movement succeeded because the workers contended within a labor regime that allowed space for democratic dissent, and the second movement failed because they contested within a widely altered labor regime following neoliberal reforms, where these spaces of democratic dissent were preempted. The key difference between the two regimes, Nair suggests, is not in the withdrawal of a pro-labor state from its protective and regulatory role, as has been argued by many, but rather in the rise of a new kind of state that became functionally decentralized, economically predatory, and politically communalized. These changes, Nair concludes, successfully de-democratized labor politics in India.

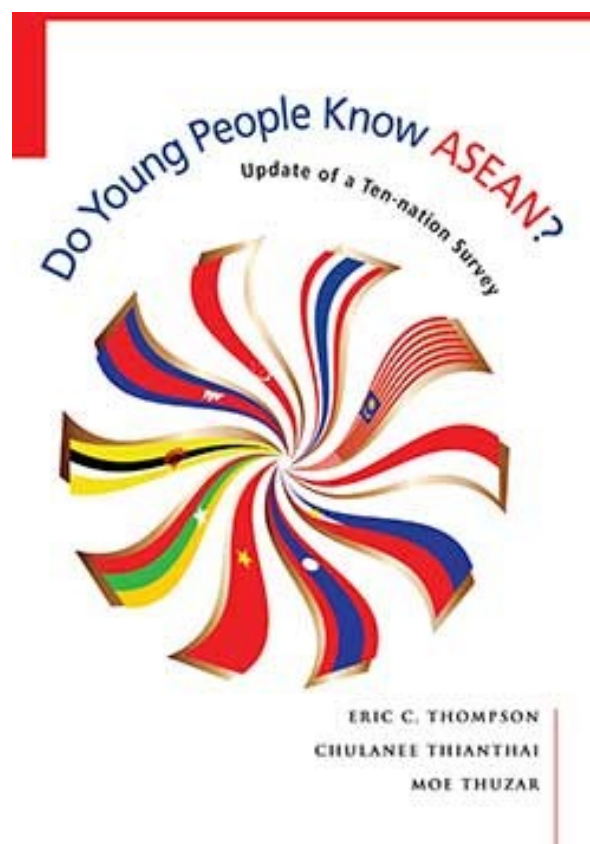


Do Young People Know ASEAN? Update of a Ten-nation Survey

Eric C Thompson, Chulanee Thianthai, and Moe Thuzar

ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute

In 2007, a survey — the first of its kind — was carried out to gauge young people's awareness of and attitudes towards ASEAN, following the decision by ASEAN heads of state and government to accelerate the date for accomplishing an integrated ASEAN Community by 2015. Views and attitudes from university undergraduates in the ten ASEAN member states who participated in the survey indicated a nascent sense of identification as citizens of the region as well as their priorities for important aspects of regional integration. An update to the 2007 survey was carried out in 2014–15 among the same target population but with an expanded scope of twenty-two universities and institutes of higher learning across the ten member states. In the updated survey, we found that there are more ASEAN-positive attitudes region-wide, but there are also increases in ASEAN-ambivalent attitudes at country-level in some ASEAN members. Young people's priorities for important aspects of regional integration have also shifted away from economic cooperation to tourism and development cooperation. New questions in the latest survey also allow us to demonstrate the descriptive vocabulary and cognitive maps students hold for the region and its nations. This book details the key findings of the updated survey compared to the earlier survey. These include nation-by-nation results and a summary of region-wide trends, as well as what they suggest for the prospects of ASEAN integration beyond 2015. These are assessed in a chapter providing broad recommendations for policymakers and educators in the ASEAN member states.



Department of Southeast Asian Studies

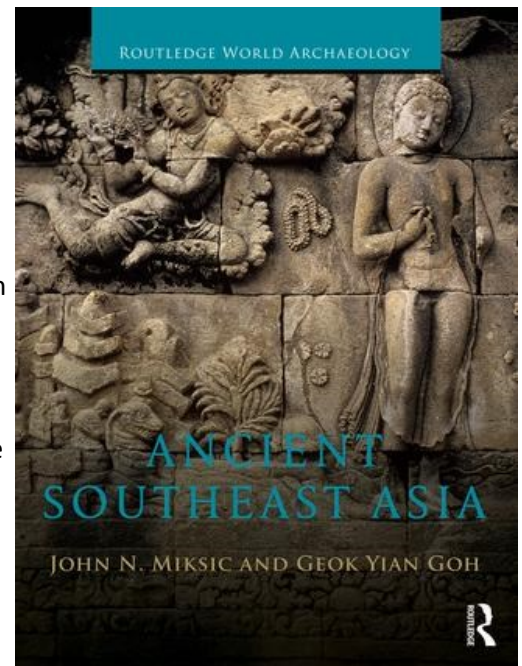
Ancient Southeast Asia

John Miksic and Goh Geok Yian

Routledge

Ancient Southeast Asia presents the evolution of complex societies in Southeast Asia during the period from the protohistoric period (beginning approximately 500 BC) to the arrival of Portuguese colonists in 1511. Southeast Asia has the most diverse habitat and cultural mosaic of any comparably-sized area on earth. The population exploited the abundant resources and favourable location on maritime transport routes along the south Asian coasts to create some of the most elaborate art styles and monumental complexes ever constructed. The unique combination of environment, topography, and long-distance communication provides opportunities for important comparative research with other centres of early socio-economic complexity.

Surprisingly, this rich and diverse region has not been well served by textbooks but this volume provides a comprehensive and integrated account of the factors which gave Southeast Asia its unusual character as a locus of cultural fusion and hybridization. Wide-ranging coverage, with chapters on the natural environment and the prehistoric period, allow the reader to understand the archaeology of this region in the round. It utilizes sources in French, Dutch, Chinese, Malay-Indonesian, and Burmese in addition to English, and synthesizes theoretical perspectives and data from archaeology, history, and art history. Finally, the region has a book that does justice to its importance in world history and its staggering diversity.

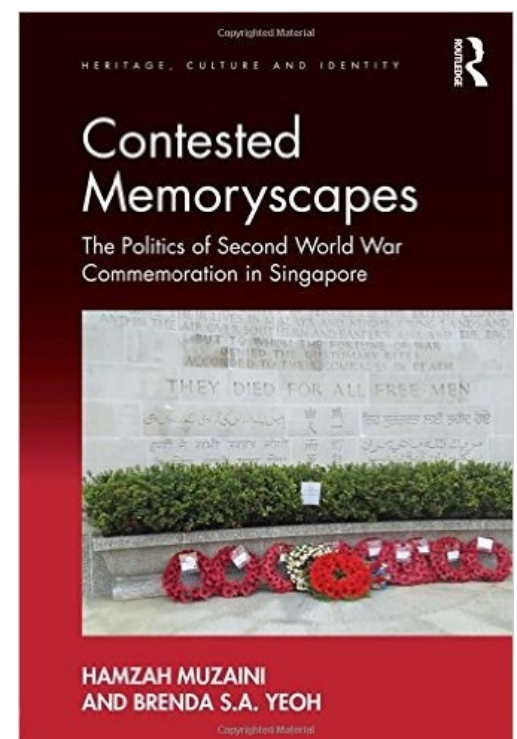


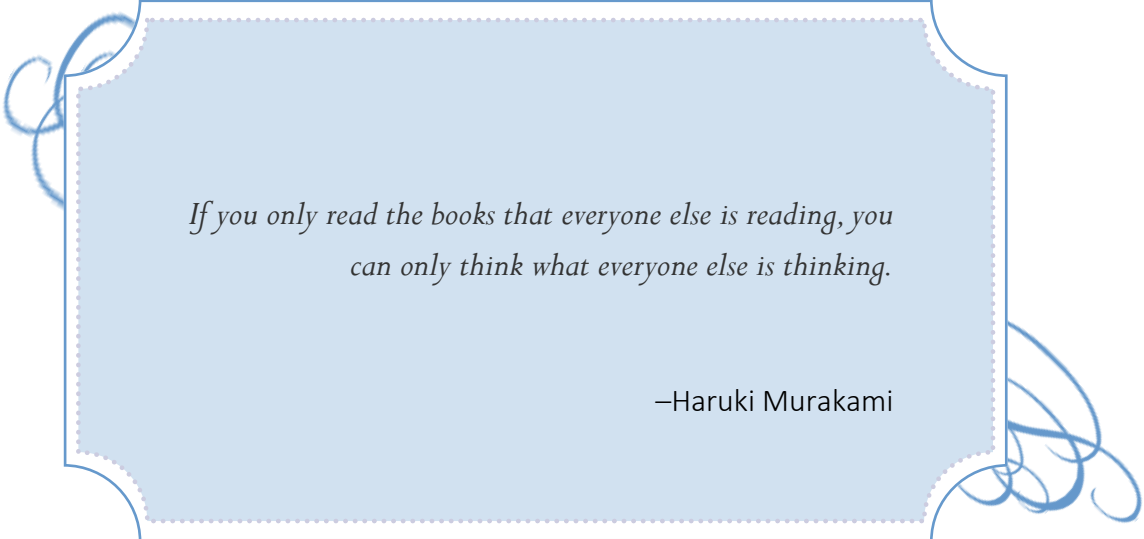
Contested Memoryscapes: The Politics of Second World War Commemoration in Singapore

Hamzah Muzaini and Brenda Yeoh

Routledge

This book sets itself apart from much of the burgeoning literature on war commemoration within human geography and the social sciences more generally by analysing how the Second World War (1941–45) is remembered within Singapore, unique for its potential to shed light on the manifold politics associated with the commemoration of wars not only within an Asian, but also a multiracial and multi-religious postcolonial context. By adopting a historical materialist approach, it traces the genealogy of war commemoration in Singapore, from the initial disavowal of the war by the postcolonial government since independence in 1965 to it being embraced as part of national historiography in the early 1990s apparent in the emergence since then of various memoryscapes dedicated to the event. Also, through a critical analysis of a wide selection of these memoryscapes, the book interrogates how memories of the war have been spatially and discursively appropriated today by state (and non-state) agencies as a means of achieving multiple objectives, including (but not limited to) commemoration, tourism, mourning and nation-building. And finally, the book examines the perspectives of those who engage with or use these memoryscapes in order to reveal their contested nature as fractured by social divisions of race, gender, ideology and nationality.





*If you only read the books that everyone else is reading, you
can only think what everyone else is thinking.*

—Haruki Murakami

For future Bookshare information please contact:
fasrda@nus.edu.sg, 65167328
AS7 Level 6, Research Division.

With thanks to the authors and Akshay Agrawal



Faculty of Arts
& Social Sciences