

Advance Title Information

World Rights

MALAY POLITICS: PARLOUS CONDITION, CONTINUING PROBLEMS

by

Khoo Boo Teik

Pub. date: 16 Dec 2020

About the AUTHOR

Khoo Boo Teik is Professor Emeritus, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo, Japan, and Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore (Sep to Nov 2020).

About the BOOK

In late February 2020, the Mahathir Mohamad-led Pakatan Harapan (Harapan, or Pact of Hope) government ended abruptly. Amidst ensuing confusion, Muhyiddin Yassin led defecting Harapan Members of Parliament, joined by UMNO and PAS, in an ad hoc Perikatan Nasional (PN, or National Alliance) coalition to form a “backdoor government”.

The PN protagonists cast themselves as a “Malay-Muslim front” for preserving Malay dominance. Yet they unwittingly exposed the parlous state of their “Malay politics”, as shown by an absence of “Malay unity”, strongly contested claims to represent the Malays, intense party factionalism, and subverted leadership transitions.

The parlousness of Malay politics emerged from the failure of the Malay political class to meet many challenges between 1997 and 2018. As the New Economic Policy and Vision 2020 political orders shed their combined twenty-five-year hegemony, Malay politics could not recover its declining popular support and legitimacy, or craft a fresh, broadly supported settlement.

The present is an unsettled conjuncture: the old order is passing while Harapan’s experimental regime has been subverted. Yet Malay politics is unable to reform or tackle current issues authoritatively. Instead Malay politics has turned inwards and precipitated a disorder of the political system.

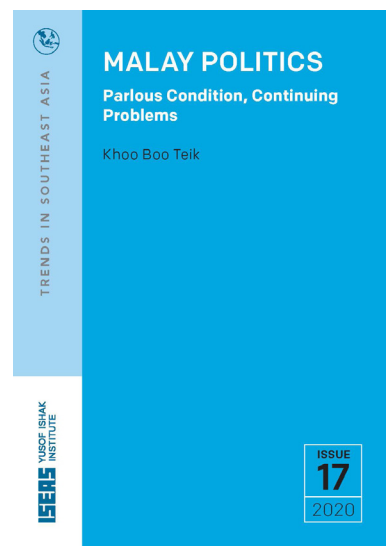
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Soft cover: 978-981-4951-29-6

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Subject: Malaysia, Politics



Advance Title Information

World Rights

THE MAKING OF ANWAR IBRAHIM'S "HUMANE ECONOMY"

By Khoo Boo Teik

Pub. date: 4 January 2021

About the Author

Khoo Boo Teik is Professor Emeritus, National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo, Japan, and Visiting Senior Fellow, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore (Sep to Nov 2020).

About the BOOK

Anwar Ibrahim, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, 1993–98, and Opposition Leader, 2008–15 and since March 2020, is associated with two lasting, seemingly contradictory images. Those were of the young Anwar as a radical Islamist for whom economics seemed not to matter, and as a pro-market reformer during the 1997 East Asian financial crisis for whom Islam no longer mattered.

Yet there was economics in the young Anwar's Islam and, conversely, Islam in the mature man's economics. Between them lay certain "moral ambivalences" that occupied Anwar during the pre-crisis period when economic growth, prosperity and ambitions were dogged by rent-seeking, corruption and institutional degradation.

Anwar had expressed various thoughts on "Islam and economics", notably when he was President of Angkatan Belia Islam Malaysia (ABIM, or Malaysian Islamic Youth Movement), Minister of Finance (1991–98), and leader of the post-Reformasi opposition. His thoughts formed the core of a "humane economy" that he envisioned and advocated upon his return to active politics from 2006 onwards.

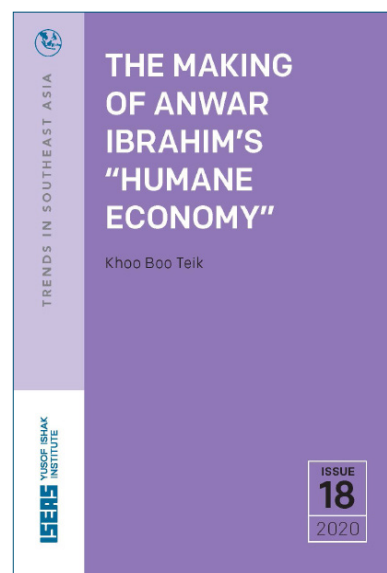
The vision of a "humane economy" holds personal, ideological and political significance at a specific political juncture in Malaysian history.

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Advance Title Information

World Rights

NON-STATE CHINESE ACTORS AND THEIR IMPACT ON RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

BY ENZE HAN

Pub. date: 5 January 2021



About the AUTHOR

Enze Han, is Associate Professor at the Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR.

About the BOOK

International relations scholarship and the popular media tend to portray China as a great power with hegemonic designs for Southeast Asia. Moreover, studies on Chinese influence in Southeast Asia predominantly focus on the Chinese state. This paper argues that Chinese non-state actors and their daily encounters with local communities in Southeast Asia deserve equal attention as these interactions evidently produce friction at both the society-to-state and state-to-state levels.

The influence of Chinese non-state actors in Southeast Asia can be illustrated with three examples, namely, Chinese tourism operations in Thailand, Chinese market demand and agricultural transformations in Myanmar, and Chinese gangs within the casino economy in Cambodia.

As global prices of corn rose in 2011 and 2012, areas in Myanmar close to the Chinese border have increased corn cultivation to meet Chinese demands for that crop. This has led to deforestation in these areas.

Chinese gangsters fleeing their government's crackdown in China have settled down to operate in the casino economy in Cambodia. Consequentially, there has been a rise in crime rate involving online scams and deteriorating public security. Despite the Chinese government encouraging the Cambodian government to enforce a ban on online gambling, the actions of non-state actors from China continue to be associated with the Chinese state as a whole and there is rising resentment towards the Chinese in Cambodia.

The COVID-19 pandemic has temporarily halted cross-border trade between China and mainland Southeast Asia. This has negatively affected local farmers who are dependent on the Chinese market.

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Advance Title Information

World Rights

URBAN TRANSITION IN HANOI: HUGE CHALLENGES AHEAD

By Danielle Labbé

Pub. date: 15 January 2021

About the EDITORS

Danielle Labbé is Professor of Urban Planning at the Université de Montréal where she also holds the Canada Research Chair in Sustainable Urbanization in the Global South.

About the BOOK

Vietnam is in the midst of one of the world's most rapid and intensive rural-to-urban transitions.

In Hanoi, heritage preservation has gained significant policy attention over the last decades, but efforts continue to focus on the Old Quarter and Colonial City to the exclusion of collective socialist housing complexes and former village areas, and natural features such as canals and urban lakes.

Parks and public spaces are urgently needed to offset the high residential densities and to improve the quality of life of residents.

Motor vehicles continue to fuel the growth in transportation. Significant efforts were recently made to establish a mass transit system, but progress there is slow. More attention should be paid to improving the existing transportation system and to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. Investments in new housing estates have fuelled a speculative real estate market but failed to address adequately the needs of the vulnerable segments of the population.

Regional integration is a challenge as the city expands and swallows the peri-urban areas around the city.

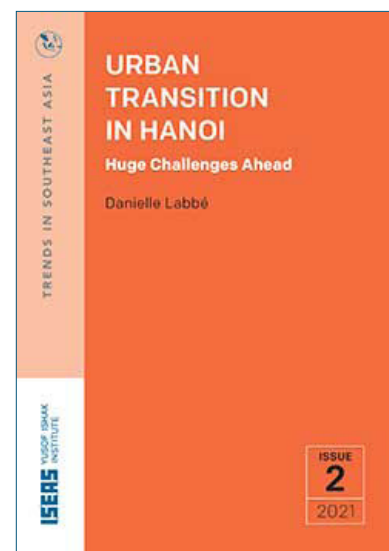
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Subject: Hanoi, Vietnam, Urbanisation



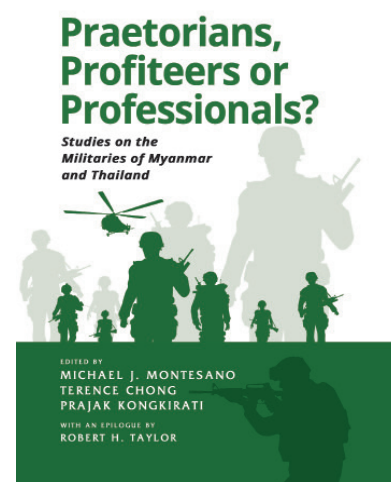
Advance Title Information

World Rights

PRAETORIANS, PROFITEERS OR PROFESSIONALS? STUDIES ON THE MILITARIES OF MYANMAR AND THAILAND

Edited By Michael J Montesano, Terence Chong and Prajak Kongkirati

Pub. date: 18 Dec 2020



About the EDITORS

- **Michael J. Montesano** is Coordinator of the Thailand and Myanmar Studies Programmes, ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
- **Terence Chong** is Deputy Director of the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore, and Head of ISEAS' Temasek History Research Centre.
- **Prajak Kongkirati** is Director of the Direk Jayanama Research Center and Deputy Dean for Research and Academic Service, Faculty of Political Science, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand.

About the BOOK

Praetorians, Profiteers or Professionals? contributes to the ongoing renaissance in scholarship on Southeast Asia's armed forces and their political, social and economic roles. This renaissance comes in an era in which the states of the region, and the societies and economies that they govern, have grown complex beyond all recognition. Nevertheless, understanding those states' armies remains crucial.

Emphasizing the ideologies and economic activities of the militaries of two large Mainland Southeast Asian neighbours, this volume transcends clichés about coups, coercion, caudillos and kings. Its findings will challenge the thinking of even long-time observers of the region, not least through its comparative perspective and the fresh understanding of the roles and orientations of the armed forces of Myanmar and Thailand that that perspective suggests.

BM597

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SGD25.90/USD19.90

Subject: Thailand, Military, Myanmar

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World Rights

INFILTRATING SOCIETY: THE THAI MILITARY'S INTERNAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

By Puangthong Pawakapan

Pub. date: 11 January 2021

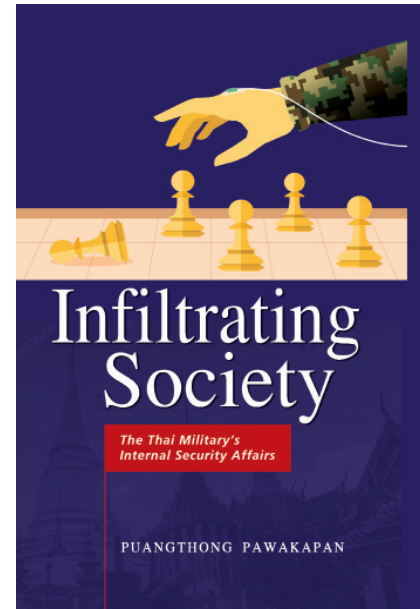
About the EDITORS

Puangthong R. Pawakapan is Associate Professor in the International Relations Department, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.

About the Book

"A truly monumental work about Thailand's military from the 1960s until today, this solid study focuses upon the armed forces' internal security role across Thai society, how the military has succeeded in legitimizing itself and boosting its power as a counterinsurgency force, guardian of monarchy and engine of development. The book also valuably looks at the military's establishment of mass organizations beginning during the Cold War and mobilization of royalists since 2006. The book thus illustrates how the military has been able to enhance and sustain its overwhelming influence and is thus a valuable study for anyone wanting to understand key power-brokers in Thailand."

Dr Paul Chambers, Center of ASEAN Community Studies, Naresuan University, Thailand



2021 / BM596

Hard cover 978-981-4881-71-5

Subject: Thailand, Military, Security, Politics

260 Pages; Size: 6" by 9"

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World Rights

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership Implications for Southeast Asia

**edited by Cassey Lee and Prithish
Bhattacharaya**

Pub. date: 15 January 2021

About the Author

- Cassey Lee is Senior Fellow and Coordinator of the Regional Economic Studies programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.
- Prithish Bhattacharaya is Research Officer under the Regional Economic Studies programme at the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

About the Publication

The Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) is a free trade agreement involving major countries across the Asia Pacific region. The trade pact, which entered into force on 30 December 2018, is considered by many to be the 'gold standard', given its ambitious scope and depth. This volume offers multi-dimensional insights into the CPTPP and its impact on Southeast Asia. It begins with broad analyses covering the historical, economic and geopolitical aspects of the CPTPP. Subsequent chapters focus on the nature and implications of three key path-breaking provisions in the trade agreement, namely investor-state dispute settlement, intellectual property rights and state-owned enterprises. The effect of the CPTPP on Southeast Asia in terms of regional production networks is also examined from the perspective of Japanese multinational enterprises. The potential economic impact of the agreement is analysed for member countries (Vietnam and Malaysia) as well as countries that aspire to join the CPTPP in the future (Indonesia and Thailand).



2021

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Subject: Economics, Southeast Asia

PIC 274

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Advance Title Information

World Rights

YOUNG SOEHARTO: THE MAKING OF A SOLDIER, 1921-1945

By
David Jenkins

Est. pub. date: Early 2021

About the EDITOR

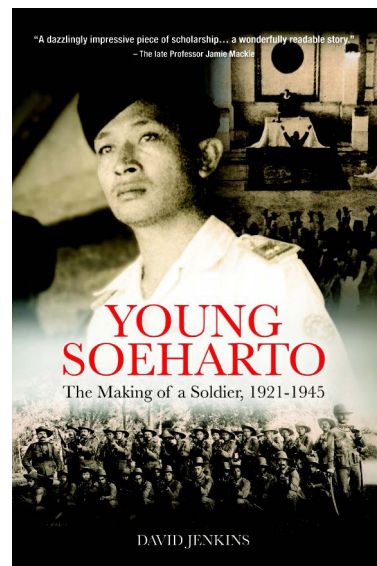
•**David Jenkins**, who graduated in Law (1965) and Arts (1967) from Melbourne University, was a foreign correspondent in Southeast Asia for many years. He was a co-winner of a Walkley Award, Australia's most prestigious journalism prize, for his contribution to the Herald's coverage from East Timor during the violent 1999 referendum on independence.

About the BOOK

When a reluctant President Sukarno gave Lt Gen Soeharto full executive authority in March 1966, Indonesia was a broken-back state, fractured along class, religious and ethnic lines. Soeharto took a nation in chaos, the largest in Southeast Asia, and transformed it into one of the "Asian miracle" economies—only to leave it back on the brink of ruin when he was forced from office thirty-two years later.

Drawing on his astonishing range of interviews with leading Indonesian generals, former Imperial Japanese Army officers and men who served in the Dutch colonial army, as well as years of patient research in Dutch, Japanese, British, Indonesian and US archives, David Jenkins brings vividly to life the story of how a socially reticent but exceptionally determined young man from rural Java began his rise to power—an ascent which would be capped by thirty years (1968–98) as President of Indonesia, the fourth most populous nation on earth.

Soeharto was one of Asia's most brutal, most durable, most avaricious and most successful dictators. In the course of examining those aspects of his character, this book provides an accessible, highly readable introduction to the complex, but dramatic and utterly absorbing, social, political, religious, economic and military factors that have shaped, and which continue to shape, Indonesia.



2020
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Advance Title Information

World Rights

FLYING BLIND: VIETNAM'S DECISION TO JOIN ASEAN

by Nguyen Vu Tung

Est. pub. date: Early 2021

About the EDITORS

Nguyen Vu Tung is a professor at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam. He gained a PhD degree in Political Science from Columbia University (New York, USA) and serves as Vietnamese diplomat in the United States of America and the Republic of Korea.

About the Publication

"This book discusses Vietnam's relations with ASEAN in the period from the early 1970s to mid-1990s. It focuses on the evolution of Hanoi's view on ASEAN, from denial to integration in the organization. Further, it reveals the reasons behind Hanoi's decision to join ASEAN in 1995 in the context of the transformation of the overall Vietnam's foreign policy when the Cold War ended. Relaxation of the Cold War conditions allowed Hanoi to improve understanding of ASEAN that resulted in better Vietnam-ASEAN relations and subsequent Vietnam's membership in ASEAN.

The author has had access to documents and interviewees that few other researchers can rival. And the richness of the empirical evidence of this book makes a significant contribution to the studies of Vietnam foreign relations in specific and Southeast Asian international relations in general.

"This is a uniquely well-informed account of Vietnam's serious internal debates leading to the decision to join ASEAN in 1995. The story starts with a probing analysis of Hanoi's regional diplomacy and relations with the Soviet Union, China, and the United States from the 1970s onward. Entering the 1990s, the narrative shows how Vietnamese policymakers struggled to reconcile ideological and pragmatic considerations as they navigated complex great-power and regional environments. Professor Tung dispels conventional balance-of-power explanations for Hanoi's embrace of ASEAN, and argues persuasively that the decision to join grew out of a shift from a revolutionary national identity to an identity centered on developmental state model of the Southeast Asian type. This honest and close-up view of policy debates offers a rare opportunity for readers to understand the logic of policymaking in one of the world's most complex diplomatic environments."

— Andrew J. Nathan, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Columbia University"

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