

# CSEAS Weekly Bulletin

Center for Southeast Asian Studies at Northern Illinois University • Sept. 13, 2010



*Marking the moment: Indonesian women pray during the first night of Ramadan on Aug. 10 in Jakarta. The month-long period of fasting and prayer ended Sept. 10 with the celebration of Eid al-Fitri. (ADEK BERRY/AFP/Getty Images)*

## Best wishes to the center's Muslim colleagues and friends on the celebration of Eid al-Fitri

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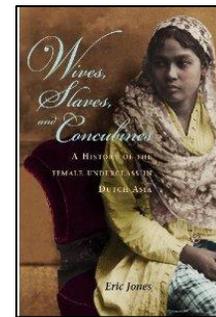
### 1. This week's center lecture: Princeton historian Michael Laffan on Indonesian Islam



Princeton University historian Michael Laffan will present "The Makings of Indonesian Islam" at noon Friday, **Sept. 17**, in Room 110, Campus Life Building. Laffan's talk is based on his forthcoming book of the same title. [Bring your lunch and feed your mind.](#)

### 2. Eric Jones' new book to be feted at NIU reception Friday

The history department, the center and NIU Press are co-hosting a reception to celebrate the publication of associate history professor and center associate Eric Jones' new book *Wives, Slaves, and Concubines: A History of the Female Underclass in Dutch Asia* from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Friday, **Sept. 17**, at the Center for Black Studies, 600 Lincoln Terrace Drive. Jones will speak about the book and take questions, followed by comments by Princeton University historian Michael Laffan. Jones' book is part of a new Southeast Asia series published by NIU Press and the center.



### 3. Third International Ramayana Conference opens Saturday



The Third International Ramayana Conference, a two-day event focusing on the Asian epic, the [Ramayana](#), will be held this weekend **Sept. 18–19** at the Holmes Student Center. Co-sponsored by the center, the University of Illinois Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, and the International Ramayana Institute of North America, the conference will include presentations on such topics as the influence of the Ramayana story on various cultures and civilizations, the political aspects of the Ramayana, and a Ramayana-based teacher workshop. Pre-registration required. See the [conference website](#).

### 4. Seeking host families for Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program

NIU is actively looking for area families to act as hosts **Oct. 31–Nov. 11** for 28 high school students and seven adult leaders from Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam participating in the fall session of the center's Southeast Asia Youth Leadership Program (SEAYLP). Students are placed in pairs and adults may be placed as singles. Host family orientation will be at 7 p.m. **Oct. 25** in the Heritage Room of the Holmes Student Center. For details, contact NIU host family coordinator Leslie

Shive at 815-753-9546 or e-mail [lshive@niu.edu](mailto:lshive@niu.edu). For information about the fall SEAYLP program, see the [center website](#).

### 5. Seeking coats for SEAYLP participants



The center is collecting fall and winter jackets for its Southeast Asian guests participating in the SEAYLP program. Look for collection boxes in the Stevens Building, Founders Library and various dormitories. Youth and adult sizes are needed. For more information, call 815-753-1981.

### 6. Got a head for business? CSEAS needs you

Center office manager Nancy Schuneman is looking for a half-time (10 hours per week) graduate assistant for fall semester, with possible renewal in spring, to work on accounting and budget management. The salary is \$675 per month, plus a tuition waiver. **Experience with Quicken Deluxe is required.** See the [center website](#).

### 7. Expand your interests: Southeast Asia Club to meet Sept. 20

The Southeast Asia Club invites members new and old to its first meeting at 5 p.m. Monday, **Sept. 20**, at the Holmes Student Center. This year's club officers are S. Mirah Kertayuda, president; Brett McCabe, vice president; Ika Lambogo, treasurer; Melanie Francia, secretary; Mike Deinzer, communications/marketing coordinator; Jon Hohnstadt, social chair coordinator; and Robert Kollas, student conference coordinator. The club presents culture nights and a student conference among its yearly activities. For details, contact Melanie Francia at [melaniefrancia@gmail.com](mailto:melaniefrancia@gmail.com) or Mirah Kertayuda at [kertayuda\\_school@yahoo.com](mailto:kertayuda_school@yahoo.com).



*This year's Southeast Asia Club officers, from left to right: Ika Lambogo, Jon Hohnstadt, S. Mirah Kertayuda, Brett McCabe, Melanie Francia, Robert Kollas and Mike Deinzer.*

### 8. Catherine Raymond to give two talks this week on 'Legacy in Lacquer' exhibit



Art history professor and Center for Burma Studies Director Catherine Raymond will give two curator talks this week in conjunction with the 'Legacy in Lacquer: A Living Art from Burma' exhibit on display through **Oct. 2** at the NIU Art Museum in Altgeld Hall. Following a reception from 5 to 6 p.m. in the museum Thursday, **Sept. 16**, Raymond will present an exhibit overview in Room 315 Altgeld. At 2 p.m. Saturday, **Sept. 18**, she will discuss "Narratives in Burmese Lacquer" in the same location.

### 9. **Save the dates: Study Abroad fair; trickster tales of Southeast Asia**

- **Sept. 23:** NIU Study Abroad Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Duke Ellington Ballroom, Holmes Student Center. Want to learn more? Go to the Study Abroad Office in 417 Williston at 3:30 p.m. Wednesdays or Thursdays for Study Abroad 101.
- **Oct. 20:** The trickster tales of Sri Thanonchai, or Xiang Miang, as he is called in Laos, are part of a widely shared cultural package—about a prototypical hero with different names and traits as he moves across the Mekong and Southeast Asia. The attempt to translate the tales’ humor into English—in text or art—depends on both the intentions of the translator or artist and the receptivity of the audience. Language professor and center associate John Hartmann will present “Translating Humor: Examples from Southeast Asian Trickster Tales” at noon in 110 Watson, part of the Foreign Languages and Literatures department’s fall brownbag series. Political science graduate student Pinitbhand Paribatra, a Ph.D. candidate, helped research and write the presentation.

### 10. **International Student & Faculty office looking for lunchtime speakers**

The International Student & Faculty office is looking for speakers to participate in its weekly [Brown Bag Series](#), set to begin **Sept. 30**. For details, contact director Heesun Majcher at 753-8275.

### 11. **The Global Leadership Project: Southeast Asia experts needed**

The Global Leadership Project, a global database project about political leaders around the world, funded by the [Clinton Global Initiative](#), is seeking graduate students with expertise in Southeast Asia countries to help develop the database by filling out a Web-based survey instrument. This database, which will include information on presidents, prime ministers, cabinet members, executive staff, top judges, and other significant political figures, will be freely available online, according to project coordinators. Experts, who will be paid an honorarium, are needed for: Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, East Timor, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Contact project co-investigator Erzen Oncel at Boston University at [erzeno@bu.edu](mailto:erzeno@bu.edu).

### 12. **Loyola offers new undergraduate study abroad program to Vietnam**

Loyola University Chicago is offering a new undergraduate study abroad program for undergraduate students in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The program covers Vietnamese language, service learning, and elective course work in a variety of disciplines. Full program information can be viewed at <http://www.luc.edu/studyabroad/vietnam.shtml>. NIU students wanting to get NIU credit and to use NIU financial aid for this program must go through the NIU [Study Abroad Office](#).

### 13. **Money for study: Fellowships, scholarships and more**

- The Center for Khmer Studies, the American Overseas Research Center in Cambodia, invites applications from U.S. scholars in all disciplines who wish to

- conduct research in Cambodia. Ph.D. fellowships go up to eleven months for doctoral dissertation research. Senior fellowships also available to scholars who already hold a Ph.D. The fellowship is open to U.S. citizens only. **Deadline to apply: Nov. 15.** For details, e-mail [publishing@khmerstudies.org](mailto:publishing@khmerstudies.org).
- The National Security Education Program's David L. Boren scholarships and fellowships provide unique funding opportunities for American students to study in many countries, including Southeast Asia. Applications for the 2011–12 undergraduate scholarships and graduate student fellowships are online at the [NSEP](http://www.nsep.gov) website. Boren Scholarships provide up to \$20,000 for an academic year's study abroad. Boren Fellowships provide up to \$30,000 for language study and international research. **Deadlines to apply: Feb. 1 for fellowships; Feb. 10 for scholarships.** For details, e-mail [boren@ie.org](mailto:boren@ie.org) or call 800-618-NSEP.

#### 14. Conferences and calls for papers

- **Council on Thai Studies annual conference**, Oct. 29–30, University of Wisconsin-Madison. **Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals: Sept. 15.** Contact: Kathleen Gillogly at [gillogly@uwp.edu](mailto:gillogly@uwp.edu).
- **Fifth Annual International Workshop and Expo on Sumatra Tsunami Disaster and Recovery**, Nov. 23–24, Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Organized by Tsunami and Disaster Mitigation Research Center, Syiah Kuala University, and others. Tsunami area and historic Aceh tours Nov. 25. **Deadline for abstracts: Sept. 15.** See [conference](http://www.conf2011.org) website for details.
- **Power and Change in Malaysia and Singapore**, Dec 10–11, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. Sponsored by the [Malaysia and Singapore Society of Australia](http://www.malaysiasociety.org.au). **Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals: Sept. 15.** E-mail to [massa.colloquium@anu.edu.au](mailto:massa.colloquium@anu.edu.au). Some postgraduate registration fees will be waived on a competitive basis.
- **Hmong in Comparative Contexts**, March 4–5, University of Wisconsin-Madison. First biannual conference organized by the new University of Wisconsin-Minnesota Hmong Studies Consortium. Keynote speaker: French scholar and Hmong in Asia specialist Christian Culas. **Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals: Dec. 10.** For details about the conference or the [consortium](http://www.hmongstudies.org), contact Ian Baird at [ibaird@wisc.edu](mailto:ibaird@wisc.edu).
- **Governance, Human Rights and Development: Challenges for Southeast Asia and Beyond, First International Conference on International Relations and Development**, May 19–20, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand. Scholars and graduate students encouraged to submit abstracts. E-mail to [abstracts@icird.org](mailto:abstracts@icird.org). **Deadline: Oct. 30.** See [conference](http://www.conf2011.org) website for details.

#### 15. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- The Indonesian Consulate in Chicago offers **free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes** on weekends. For details, see the consulate [website](http://www.kemlu.go.id).

- The [Cambodian Association of Illinois](#) holds **free traditional Cambodian music and dance lessons** Sundays at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday and on weekends by appointment.

*If you are a person with a disability who may need assistance at any center-sponsored event, contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or [nschunem@niu.edu](mailto:nschunem@niu.edu). If you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.*

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