

Indonesian Political Biography: In Search Of Cross-cultural Understanding

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REVIEWS

Suharto as he guided controversial adjustment measures supported by his economics ministers and past hostile critics in the armed forces and elsewhere.

Perhaps the main lesson from the successful reforming regimes in ASEAN in the 1980s is that there must be a strong central decision-maker who is convinced of the necessity of economic reform and who is prepared to stake his or her political survival on getting the reform measures implemented. It is clear from the Thai, Malaysian and Indonesian examples that without the support of Prem, Mahathir and Suharto to insist on central banks, finance ministries and planning agencies would have been powerless. Certainly the coalition with business groups but such coalitions would be toothless tigers if the central decision-makers were indifferent hostile to their demands. The case of the Philippines, the dismal scratching from the ASEAN growth stakes in the 1980s, shows only too graphically what happens when able technocrats find that they have no political support at the highest level. The chapters by Sisera Jayasuriya and the late Charles Lindsey discuss in detail the failure of Virata and others to persuade Marcos to persevere with trade reforms in the early 1980s, and the failure of Monson and the University of the Philippines economists to persuade Mrs. Aquino to grasp the nettle of policy reforms a few years later.

To sum up, this is a useful and stimulating set of essays which most students of economic development in South-East Asia will benefit from reading. The idea of getting two authors to write on each country (except Papua New Guinea) was presumably intended to produce viewpoints from economists and political scientists; this in fact leads to some duplication which more editing might have avoided. There are a few disappointing contributions; David Lim on Malaysia indicates that there was a rapid acceleration in export growth in the early 1980s compared with the years 1970 to 1980 but fails to clarify what policies caused it. MacIntyre discusses Sukarno's 'extreme statist economic adventures' in the early 1960s, but in fact there is no evidence to support his claim that the government used foreign borrowings and oil revenues at this time to finance the development of state enterprises. Government revenues fell sharply in the early 1960s mainly because of the sharp fall in export prices, and the growth of smuggling; such revenues as the government did manage to obtain, and almost all the foreign borrowing, went to finance government consumption expenditures and defence procurements. The entire period from 1950 to 1965 can in fact be seen as one of a gradual attenuation of government control over the economy, and in the light of the discussion of 'statism' in the introduction it seems very odd to apply that term to policy-making in Indonesia in the years 1960-1965.

The editors (if not all the authors) seem to have accepted the once fashionable view that development economics is no longer a theoretically distinct sub-discipline, and that the same set of analytical tools and policy prescriptions are suitable for Sweden and Zaire, or in this case, the ASEAN nations, Papua New Guinea

and Australia. In fact a careful reading of these essays shows just how silly this claim really is. Most of the authors writing on the ASEAN countries agree that organized labour was not an important pressure group: as Pasuk Phongpaichit points out in the case of Thailand, 'Thailand did not have to deal with an industrial labour force disaffected by the depression and powerful enough to obstruct structural change'. The Hawke government in the years from 1983 to 1990 had to make dealing with such a labour force its central priority. Kanishka Jayasuriya in his chapter on politics and strategy in Australia has some interesting things to say about the accord negotiated between the government and the ACTU, which he argues was 'the most important tool in economic management in the 1980s'. If such a tool does exist in the Thai, or Indonesian policy-kit, it has become rusty with disuse over the last three decades. If future governments in ASEAN ever need it again, they will know who to turn to for advice on its use!

ANNE BOOTH

ANGUS MCINTYRE (ed.): *Indonesian political biography: in search of cross-cultural understanding*. (Monash Papers on Southeast Asia, no. 28.) xi, 327 pp. Clayton, Victoria: Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Monash University, 1993.

The Centre of Southeast Asian Studies at Monash University here offers a second monograph (the first was entitled *Problems in Indonesia*) devoted to the subject of biography. The editor makes it clear that both are intended as a counter to the dominant mode of categorical analysis of Indonesian society. The volume introduces, in the volume, Angus McIntyre discusses Sukarno and the problems of writing biographies of Indonesians. Jacques Leclerc writes on Amir Sjarifuddin, Lindsay Rae on Sutan Sjahrir and Y. B. Mangunwijaya, Siauw Tiong Din on his father Siauw Ghoi Tjhan, Margot Lyon on Soeharto and mysticism, and David Hill on Mochtar Lubis. McIntyre tells us that 'Indonesianist biographers have continued to ply their trade in the face of social science disapproval' (p. vi). Though such frowns are surely a cross very lightly to be borne, any distress may be founded on a confusion. Biography neither replaces nor rivals social studies. The two pursuits ask different questions and therefore obtain different answers; they are complementary, not competitive. Biography, normally considered a branch of literature rather than of social studies, needs no ulterior justification; its sole and sufficient reason is to render an account which satisfies peer opinion.

This approach is well represented in the piece on Amir Sjarifuddin by Leclerc, whose knee never so much as wobbles in the direction of social studies. Amir, a Protestant, Batak, acquired secondary schooling in Holland, rose rapidly through the nationalist movement and

Indonesia - Indonesian Political Biography: In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding. Edited by McIntyre Angus. Clayton, Victoria: Centre of Indonesian Political Biography: In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding. Front Cover. Angus McIntyre. Centre of Southeast Asian Studies, Monash University. Indonesian political biography: in search of cross-cultural understanding / edited by Angus McIntyre. Creator: McIntyre, Angus. Publisher: Clayton, Vic.: Centre. ANNE BOOTH. ANGUS MCINTYRE (ed.): Indonesian political biography: in search of cross-cultural understanding. (Monash Papers on Southeast Asia, no.). least because of the cultural importance which the Nuaula attach to agreeing with Indonesian Political Biography: In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding. Indonesian political biography: in search of cross-cultural understanding /? edited by Angus McIntyre. Other Authors. McIntyre, Angus, ; Monash University. Indonesian political biography: in search of cross-cultural understanding / edited by Angus McIntyre. Book Subjects, Politicians -- Indonesia -- Biography. The Paperback of the Indonesian Political Biography: In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding by Angus McIntyre at Barnes & Noble. SEARCH OF CROSS CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING. FREE DOWNLOAD indonesian political biography in pdf -. Mon, 09 Jul The Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI) and the Decline of the New Order Indonesian Political Biography: In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding, Monash. Indonesian Political Biography. In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding, Monash Paper on Southeast Asia; no. 28, Clayton (Victoria): Centre of Southeast . Indonesian Political Biography: In search of cross cultural understanding, Melbourne: Centre of Southeast Asian Studies, Monash University, translated from. A Critical Biography of Mochtar Lubis () as Editor and Author David T. Indonesian Political Biography: In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding. It was also this newspaper that first published the Indonesian Raya, the in Indonesian Political Biography: In Search of Cross-Cultural Understanding, ed. [BOOK] Easy Download Indonesian Political Biography In Search Of In Search Of Cross Cultural Understanding that can be search along. Established in , ACICIS was praised in the government's Australia in the . Indonesian political biography: in search of cross-cultural understanding.

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