

Recent Books from Malaysia – Oct 2017

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Ecology/Environment

Amazing Rainforest of Borneo / Huang Yi-Feng (Translator) Chan Pei See

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Natural History of Publications (Borneo), 2017
English Edition
xiv, 249p.

Includes Index
9789838121781
\$ 45.00 / HB
700gm.

In January 2000 the author left Taipei and headed south for an assignment shooting nature documentaries in the Borneo rainforest. He became so enchanted with it that he got involved with rainforest conservation and was involved in the formation of the Society of Wilderness in Sarawak. This book collects the author's records and experiences that he collected for over ten years, so that more people will get to know and understand tropical rainforests better.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=247405>

The Genus *Saurauia* in Borneo : A revision with 62 new species / K. M. Wong

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah/Singapore: Natural History Publications (Borneo) & National Park Board, 2017

x, 310p.

Includes Index

9789838121804

\$ 110.00 / HB

1200gm.

Saurauia, related to *Actinidia*, the Chinese gooseberry or kiwi-fruit genus, is a group of treelets of small to medium-size trees with an amphi-Pacific distribution, found in the South, Eastern and Southeast Asian regions, as well as parts of tropical America. Its richest representation is in the Malay Archipelago, where landscapes are highly varied in geology and topography, and populations are separated and differentiated on the very many islands. There, the species of Borneo have held fascination for great botanists of the past, but there has never been a collective account of this genus for this iconic tropical island, where much of the plant life has remained little documented. For the first time, Borneo's *Saurauia* species are specially assessed, enumerating 85 species that include 62 newly described in this monograph. Emerging knowledge of rainforest trees such as *Saurauia* grant us a better understanding of the flora, revealing how the diversity may correlate with terrain, geology, vegetation across Borneo, and even helping us gauge the effectiveness of the conservation areas we have set up. This work exemplifies the intricacies of rainforest botany in recognising species and related groups (constructing a 'taxonomy'), considering aspects of biology that may have brought on the perceived patterns of biodiversity, and providing a first look at how this rainforest plant

genus has responded in evolutionary and ecological terms to landform and habitat in Borneo.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=247403>

Economics/Development Studies

A Guide To Rebuilding Our Nation, Volume 1 : 5 Steps to Solve 50% of Our Nation's Problem / Rafizi Ramli & Eric Lee

Research result from Louise Tan & the team from INVOKE Center for Policy Initiatives (I-CPI)

Kuala Lumpur: CPI Research Sdn Bhd, 2017

88p.

9789671508411

\$ 15.00 / PB

196gm.

(This book) contains radical policy ideas that inject meaning into the goal of reformation (which I and a large number of Malaysians have been working on for a long time). But the content, narratives, and targets for such ideas need to be democratized so that as many Malaysians as possible can understand. The reason for this is that our country is being increasingly damaged and the process of rebuilding our nation can no longer be monopolized by certain groups only. Rebuilding our nation requires the participation and input of every individual regardless of class or background.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=249157>

Economic Reform in Malaysia : The Contribution of Najibnomics /
Bruce Gale

Petaling Jaya, Selangor: Pelanduk Publications (M) Sdn Bhd (MPH
Group Publishing Sdn Bhd), 2017

x, 114p.

Includes Index

9789679789881

1. Economic development – Malaysia
2. Malaysia – Economic conditions

\$ 40.00 / HB

380gm.

When Najib Razak became Prime Minister of Malaysia in April 2009 he was immediately faced with a crisis. A precipitous decline in exports in the wake of the global financial crisis had left the economy teetering on recession, while efforts to release the country from the fiscal straitjacket imposed by heavy fuel and other subsidies inherited from previous administrations had produced a surge in inflation.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=246506>

General

Living The Dream ... Or Enduring The Nightmare? : British Football
Meets Foreign Billionaires / Bob Holmes

Petaling Jaya, Selangor: Bob Holmes, 2017

xvi, 272p.

9780995566637

\$ 25.00 / PB

438gm.

One thought his club was a BBQ restaurant. Another had never seen a match. There are messiahs and men on the run, philanthropists and fraudsters, a gun-runner, fake sheikhs and others who don't exist. Some even like football. The adventures of British football's foreign legion of owners are as diverse as their backgrounds. Even the successes are scarcely credible: an oligarch and a sheikh rescued their

clubs from the abyss, turning them into grateful global enterprises. In these fascinating tales, the Sun sports writer & BFM pundit Bob Holmes takes us to oblivion and back – and lives to tell the tale.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=249158>

No Boundaries : Beyond Race, Religion and Colour / Abbi
Kanthasamy & Shahriar Kan

Petaling Jaya, Selangor: Beagle Books, 2016

201p.

9789671016947

1. No Boundaries – Cricket – Sri Lanka

\$ 75.00/ HB

1550gm.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=249159>

History

My Johor Stories : True Tales, Real People, Rich Heritage / Peggy Loh
Petaling Jaya, Selangor: MPH Group Publishing Sdn Bhd, 2017

xiv, 154p.

9789674154264

1. Peggy Loh – Anecdotes
2. Muar (Johor, Malaysia) – History

\$ 17.00 / PB

284gm.

My Johor Stories: True Tales, Real People, Rich Heritage is a collection of cherished memories of post-Independence Johor during my growing-up years to the present. Thanks to my dad who had a hobby in photography, I have a huge collection of photos that go a long way in helping me share my Johor stories more vividly. So, travel back in time with me to explore the Johor I once knew. Experience the old and familiar through my memories and true tales about people and places.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=246504>

Historical Imagination and Cultural Responses to Colonialism and Nationalism : A Critical Malay(sian) Perspective / Azhar Ibrahim
Petaling Jaya, Selangor: Strategic Information and Research Development Centre (SIRD), 2017
xii, 256p.
Includes Index ; Bibliography

9789670960227

1. Malays (Asian people) – Ethnic identity – Malaysia
2. Malays (Asian people) – Social conditions – Malaysia
3. Malays (Asian people) – Politics and government – Malaysia

\$ 20.00 / PB

414gm.

'The basis of our historical imagination is the intellectual's (or historian's) critical thinking and their solidarity with the people, with their destiny and predicament, with the consistent aim of emancipating and liberating the subjugated, the oppressed, and the marginalised.'

History conditions the way that society discusses its problems. Treating history as a form of 'imagination', Azhar Ibrahim invites readers to probe the colonialist and nationalist tampering, suppression, and distortion of narratives on the Malays. In this thought-provoking book, the author encourages contemporary historians to move beyond the practice of Orientalist scholars: collecting data and describing facts. Instead, he promotes an alternative reading of history, one that departs from mainstream versions. Reflecting a strong understanding of classical Malay texts, the author also touches on broad themes such as psychological feudalism, orientalism, and the contestation of nationalist and colonialist perspectives on the community. Azhar's book is a welcomed contribution and a must-read for those interested in alternative discourses in Malay Studies.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=249160>

Return of the 'Orangutan' : A substantive thank you from the British Volunteer Service Overseas to the People of Sabah North Borneo for the kind hospitality received / M. Z. Atun Wee
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Opus Publications Sdn Bhd, 2016
367p.
9789833987542
\$ 30.00 / HB
1500gm.

Dr. Atun Wee was the first native of North Borneo to qualify as a doctor and, subsequently, the last of a breed of multi-skilled surgeons in the fields of neurological, orthopaedic and reconstructive plastic surgery. After training in the UK for 20 years he returned to Sabah to serve his own people. The paradigm shift in social outlook made his 30 years' experience of dedicated service in Sabah and Brunei an adventure of snags and challenges well worthy of note, especially for young members of the medical profession. His research activities have left a legacy of many pioneering 'firsts' and advanced discoveries in knowledge and skills which may not become generally known for some time. On the other hand, his story shows that success in a career does not depend on knowledge, skills and ability or conscientiousness alone.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=247406>

The Kinabatangan Remembered, 1967-1972 / Charles Folland
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah: Natural History of Publications (Borneo), 2017
172p.
9789838121798
\$ 45.00 / HB
558gm.

This is the story of the Sungai Kinabatangan and its people, as it was precisely 50 years ago. It follows the great river as it meanders its way across central Sabah, from its source in misty montane forests, through vast tracts of rainforests to its immense estuary of mangrove swamps fronting the Sulu Sea. Between source and mouth it is a river of marked contrasts: of crystal-clear headwaters flowing over boulder-strewn beds; of fast-flowing upper reaches, subject to rapid fluctuations of level, and of a broad floodplain periodically inundated by angry swirling waters.

Fewer than 25,000 people lived in the area at that time and they looked to the river and its tributaries for their means of communication - there were no roads. With few exceptions their kampongs, of frail bamboo houses, were situated on the river banks. These self-sufficient communities obtained the essentials of life, food and shelter from the surrounding forests and the river itself, by hunting, collecting, fishing and tending their crops of rice and tapioca.

Fully illustrated with photographs, all taken at the time and written as surveys of the river catchment proceeded, the book rekindles memories of times past. With road networks now widely established, how many of us can remember how alive and vital this great river was to the heart of Sabah?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=247404>

Politics

Illusions of Democracy : Malaysian Politics and People Volume II / (Ed)

Sophie Lemiére

Petaling Jaya, Selangor: Strategic Information and Research

Development Centre (SIRD), 2017

xxii, 350p.

Includes Index

9789670960876

1. Democratization – Malaysia
2. Malaysia – Politics and government

\$ 25.00 / PB

566gm.

Bringing together a group of both international and Malaysian scholars, Illusions of Democracy: Malaysian Politics and People Volume II offers an up-to-date and broad analysis of the contemporary state of Malaysian politics and society. Transcending disciplinary boundaries, it offers a look at Malaysian politics not only through the lens of political science but also anthropology, cultural studies, international relations, political economy and legal studies touching on both overlooked topics in Malaysian political life as well as the emerging trends which will shape Malaysia's future. Covering silat martial arts, Malaysia's constitutional identity, emergency legislation, the South China Sea dilemma, ISIS discourse, zakat payment, the fallout from the 1MDB scandal and Malaysia's green movement,

Illusions of Democracy charts the complex and multi-faceted nature of political life in a semi-authoritarian state, breaking down the illusions which keep it functioning, to uncover the mechanisms which really underlie the paradoxical longevity of Malaysia's political, economic and social system.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=249161>

Religion-Islam

Islam and Diplomacy : The Quest for Human Security / (Eds)
Mohammad Hashim Kamali, Karim Douglas Crow & Elmira Akhmetova
Petaling Jaya, Selangor: Pelanduk Publications (M) Sdn Bhd (MPH
Group Publishing Sdn Bhd), 2017
xxii, 278p.
9789679789904
\$ 40.00 / HB
628gm.

ISLAM AND DIPLOMACY provides a wide-ranging discourse on the relevance of Islam to global well-being and human security from legal, spiritual, moral and historical perspectives. As prevailing realities in the Middle East and many other parts of the world amply demonstrate, the tools of modern secular diplomacy are not always adequate to address violent sectarian or religious clashes and social tensions, nor to suggest long-term workable solutions for them. This book expounds the largely untapped potential of a faith-based diplomacy and suggests integrating religious norms as an added

impetus to conventional diplomacy for the benefit of global peace and harmony. It also demonstrates that Islam possess a rich tradition of legal, spiritual and ethical values prioritizing peace and human security. Islamic heritage is also sufficiently nuanced to offer flexible paradigms for addressing problems of communal identity that may well be beyond the reach of traditional diplomacy, such as ethnic conflict, tribal warfare, and religious hostilities.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=249162>

Sociology

Childhood Matters : How We Adults Interact With Kids Makes A Big Difference / Sudha Kudva (Ed) Lorian Holland

Second Edition

Kuala Lumpur: Sudha Kudva, 2016

xxiv, 348p.

Includes Bibliography

9789671452318

1. Child development
2. Child psychology

\$ 35.00 / PB

500gm.

How we adults interact with kids makes a big difference.

This book shines a light on three major differences between a child's brain and an adult's brain. When we adults know about these differences, we can understand how much is lost in translation when we interact with children.

Without any intention from our side, children can pick up distorted messages about their own self-worth from our day-to-day interactions with them. This affects their beliefs about themselves and they can make shaky on the inside and defensive on the outside. 'Upset', 'angry' or 'super good' behaviors manifest.

When we adults realise that these behaviors are not deliberate and are a symptom of this shaky internal state, we adjust our attitude to the children in our lives. We can stop focusing in their behavior and we can step away from 'fixing' or 'rewarding' behavior. We can start to understand how children experience and interpret the world, and we can interact differently and reduce the distorted messages that get through to them.

In time children start feeling less shaky and more secure. Their self-worth grows. They manifest behaviors that show us they have skills of self-reflection, self-confidence and an ability to live responsibly in this world. Childhood does not become 'baggage' carried into their adult lives.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=249163>
