Recent Books on Politics and Current Affairs - April 2010

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Political Reform in Indonesia After Soeharto / Harold Crouch Singapore: ISEAS Publishing, 2010 xi. 390p. ; 23cm. ISBN-13: 9789812309204 1. Indonesia - Politics and government - 1998-\$ 39.90

Three decades of authoritarian rule in Indonesia came to a sudden end In 1998. The collapse of the Soeharto regime was accompanied by massive economic decline, widespread rioting, communal conflict, and fears that the nation was approaching the brink of disintegration. Although the fall of Soeharto opened the way towards democratization, conditions were by no means propitious for political reform. This book asks how political reform could proceed despite such unpromising circumstances. It examines electoral and constitutional reform, the decentralization of a highly centralized regime, the gradual but incomplete withdrawal of the military from its deep political involvement, the launching of an anti-corruption campaign, and the achievement of peace in two provinces that had been devastated by communal violence and regional rebellion.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=119005

Problems of Democratisation in Indonesia: Elections, Institutions and Society / Edward Aspinall & Marcus Mietzner (Edited) (Indonesia update series) Singapore: ISEAS Publishing, 2010 xix. 359p. ; 23cm. ISBN-13: 9789814279901

- 1. Democratization Indonesia Congresses
- 2. Elections Indonesia Congresses
- 3. Decentralization in government Indonesia Congresses
- 4. Women Political activity 1998 Congresses
- 5. Indonesia Politics and government 1998 Congresses
- \$ 24.90

Alternately lauded as a democratic success story and decried as a Flawed democracy, Indonesia deserves serious consideration by anyone concerned with the global state of democracy. Yet, more than ten years after the

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collapse of the authoritarian Suharto regime, we still know little about how the key institutions of Indonesian democracy actually function. This book, written by leading democracy experts and scholars of Indonesia, presents a sorely needed study of the inner workings of Indonesia's political system, and its interactions with society. Combining careful case studies with an eye to the big picture, it is an indispensable guide to democratic Indonesia, its achievements, shortcomings and continuing challenges.

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Building-Democracy on the Sand: Advances and Setbacks in Indonesia / Willy Purna Samadhi & Nicholaas Warouw (Editors) Indonesia: PCD Press & DEMOS, 2009 xi. 291p. ; 21cm. ISBN-13: 9789791704915 \$ 35.90

It is true that most political actors in Indonesia have adjusted to The existing rules and regulations within the procedures of democracy. But giving priority to the outcome and general habits (culture) is to neglect that the democratic infrastructure is far from sufficient. The alternative actors in particular are short of capacity to use and promote the means of democracy. Organised democracy and especially the system of representation is monopolised by the powerful elite. This collected essays, based on survey of democracy, suggests that Indonesia's democracy is held back. It is true that all people are allowed to vote, but women (who are not well connected), the poor and subordinated people are de-facto prevented from standing as candidates and sometimes even from voting, thus from trying to develop popular representation. Basic issues of equal civic rights and political equality thus present a similar challenges but also an opportunity as did the movements for the right to vote in the old democracies. Hence, the immediate need to develop well-organised and non-party-dominated political blocs - among others, is to foster independent polular influence within organised politics; to alter the current relations of power through more popular representation and participation; and to increase bargaining power to foster compromises that move towards rights-based sustainable development.

http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=119007

From Monologue to Dialogue: Radio and Reform in Indonesia / Edwin Jurriens Netherlands: KITLV Press, 2009 190p. ; 24cm. ISBN-13: 9789067183543 \$ 42.00

From monologue to dialogue: Radio and reform in Indonesia analyses how radio journalism since the late 1990s has been shaped by and contributed to Reformasi, or the ambition of democratizing Indonesian politics,

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economy and society. The book examines ideas and practices such as independent journalism, peace journalism, meta-journalism, virtual interactivity, talk-back radio and community radio, which have all been designed to renew audience interest in media and societal affairs. It pays special attention to radio programmes that enable hosts, experts, listeners and other participants to discuss and negotiate the very rules and boundaries of Indonesias newly acquired media freedom. The author argues that these contemporary programmes provide dialogic alternatives to the official New Order discourse dominated by monologism.

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Global Regional and National: Strategic Issues & Linkages / Jusuf Wanandi Indonesia: Centre for Strategic and International Studies, 2006 467p. ; 25cm. ISBN-10: 9798026934 \$ 35.00

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The Can Do Leadership: Inspiring Stories from SBY Presidency / Dr.

Dino Patti Djalal Diary of Presidential Spokesperson Dr. Dino Patti Djalal Indonesia: Red & White Publishing, 2008 433p. ; 21cm. ISBN-13: 9789791008273 \$ 30.00 http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=119010

Islamism in Indonesia: Politics in the Emerging Democracy / Bernhard Platzdasch Singapore: ISEAS Publishing, 2009 xxxvii. 412p; 23cm ISBN-13: 9789814279086 1. Islam and state - Indonesia 2. Islam and politics - Indonesia 3. Democracy - Religious aspects - Islam - Indonesia \$ 42.90

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Mbeki and After - Reflections on the Legacy of Thabo Mbeki Johannesburg, South Africa : WITS University Press, 2010 256p.; 220 X 150 mm. ISBN 9781868145027 \$ 65.00 http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=119237

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My Personal Narrative: The Faith and Love of my Parents and Brothers / Jovito R. Salonga Mandaluyong City: Regina Publishing Co. Inc., 2009 lii. 385p. ; 23cm. ISBN-13: 9789719279198 (HB) \$ 29.50

The Faith and Love of My Parents and Brothers is a beautiful Blending of the author¹s personal journey with his family and an exciting and purposeful adventure in Philippine politics.

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State, Politics and Nationalism Beyond Borders: Changing Dynamics in Filipino Overseas Migration / Jorge V. Tigno (Edited) Quezon City: Philippine Social Science Council, 2009 v. 169p.; 23cm. ISBN-13: 9789718514320 Philippines - Emigration and immigration - Political 1. aspects 2. Philippines - Emigration and immigration - Economic aspects 3. Philippines - Emigration and immigration - Social aspects 4. Philippines - Emigration and immigration - Government policy \$ 20.00 http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=119337

Philippines 2030 Journey to Nationhood: Towards a National Community of Responsible Citizens / Jesus P. Estanislao Makati City, Philippines: Institute for Solidarity in Asia, Inc., 2006 xiii. 247p. ; 23cm. ISBN-13: 9789719328735

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1. 1. Nation-building - Philippines
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Revisiting Marxism in the Philippines: Selected Essays / Patricio N. Abinales (Editor) Pasig City: Anvil Publishing, Inc., 2010 xxiii. 183p.; 22cm. ISBN-13: 9789712722004 \$ 12.00

"The more important value is that the issues and concerns expressed in these essays continue to be relevant to scholars, political observers, cadres, and activists in general. The Left debates on strategies for social change and revolution continue to resonate in Philippine society today." - Teresa Tadem, Director, Third World Studies Center

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