

Work-in-Progress SEMINAR SERIES

1 - 2.30 pm, Friday 13 November, 2009

Theatrette, Old Canberra House

INDONESIA IN EXILE: THE INDONESIAN LEFT ABROAD DURING THE LATE COLD WAR

Professor David Hill, Southeast Asian Studies, Murdoch University

This work-in-progress paper discusses the development of diasporic left-wing communities of Indonesian political exiles, who were unable to return safely to their homeland after the rise to power of the New Order of Major-General Suharto from 1 October 1965. It explores the circumstances which shaped these exilic communities, and their changing relationships with both host and hostile governments, as they struggled to survive the Cold War's thaw. After firstly putting Indonesia's relations with the Sino-Soviet bloc into the geo-political context of the Cold War, it will examine how the Indonesian exiles in those countries fared with the rise of the new Jakarta regime and within the changing dynamics of the Cold War and the Sino-Soviet split. Although the ranks of these original exiles have thinned with age and attrition, those that remain have sustained some sense of collective identity which traverses the boundaries of their various host countries, just as they have also maintained a vigorous claim for recognition by the Indonesian state and restitution of their rights of citizenship.

David T. Hill is Professor of Southeast Asian Studies, and Fellow of the Asia Research Centre at Murdoch University, Western Australia. He is the author of several books on Indonesian media, politics, literature, and culture, including The Internet in Indonesia's New Democracy and Media, Culture and Politics in Indonesia (both co-authored with Krishna Sen), The Press in New Order Indonesia, and Beyond the Horizon: Short Stories from Contemporary Indonesia. He is also the Consortium Director and Founder of the Australian Consortium for 'In-Country' Indonesian Studies (ACICIS), a non-profit network of 21 universities, which places foreign students into Indonesian universities for credit towards their home university degree.

All Welcome

Convenors: Ken Taylor and Stephen Foster

ALL WELCOME

Venue: Old Canberra House, Lennox Crossing, ANU

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