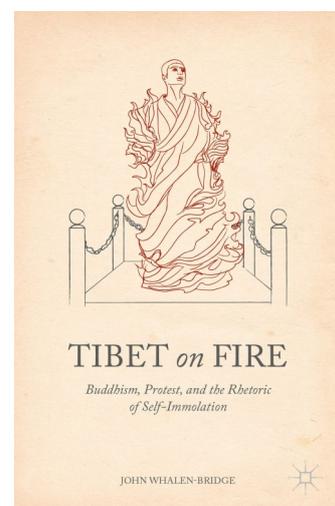
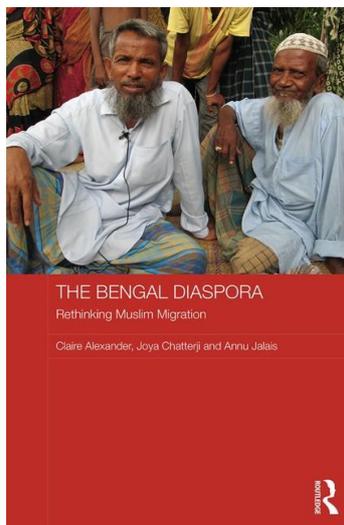


# FASS Bookshare 2016

## FASS Research Division

Featuring Jonathan Rigg, Annu Jalais, and  
John Whalen-Bridge



FASS Faculty Lounge, Monday 28 March, 4-5pm with tea  
Register at [fassresearchevents@nus.edu.sg](mailto:fassresearchevents@nus.edu.sg)

# Introduction

**FASS Bookshare** celebrates and showcases books authored by faculty members who have dedicated years of research into their publications.

In previous years **Bookshare** has highlighted '*Books with an Asian Focus*', '*Books by our Young Scholars*', '*Books on Asian mobility, power, and representation*', '*Books on India and Indians*', and '*Books on Asian Nations in the Discipline of Political Science*'. The sixth edition of **Bookshare** focuses on '*Development, Migration, and Protest in Asia*', featuring books published during the past year. Today three faculty members will share their research experiences and motivations, they are:

Dr. Jonathan Rigg

Dr. John Whalen-Bridge

Dr. Annu Jalais

Please read on for more information about their books.

Pages 6 to 10 of this brochure cover the longlist of books published by FASS Faculty from late 2015 through Spring 2016.

**Challenging Southeast Asian Development:  
The Shadows of Success**

*Routledge*

**Dr. Jonathan Rigg**

Professor

**Department of Geography**

*jonathan.rigg@nus.edu.sg*

Over the course of the last half century, the growth economies of Southeast Asia – Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam – have transformed themselves into middle income countries. This book looks at how the very success of these economies has bred new challenges, novel problems, and fresh tensions, including the fact that particular individuals, sectors and regions have been marginalised by these processes.

Contributing to discussions of policy implications, the book melds endogenous and exogenous approaches to thinking about development paths, re-frames Asia's model(s) of growth and draws out the social, environmental, political and economic side-effects that have arisen from growth. An interesting analysis of the problems that come alongside development's achievements, this book is an important contribution to Southeast Asian Studies, Development Studies and Environmental Studies.



**J**onathan Rigg is a development geographer concerned with highlighting and explaining patterns and processes of social, economic and environmental change in the Asian region and the impacts of such changes on ordinary people and everyday life. In his work, he has tried to give a 'face' to the individuals buffeted by modernisation and ascribe to such people an agency which is sometimes absent in higher level interpretations of change. He has been concerned to treat ordinary people as special and the geographical contexts in which they live – and which they help to shape – as distinctive. Jonathan joined the Department of Geography as a Professor in 2013. Before that he was a Professor of Geography at Durham University in the UK. In January 2016 he took on the position of Director of the Asia Research Institute.

## Tibet on Fire: Buddhism, Protest, and the Rhetoric of Self-Immolation

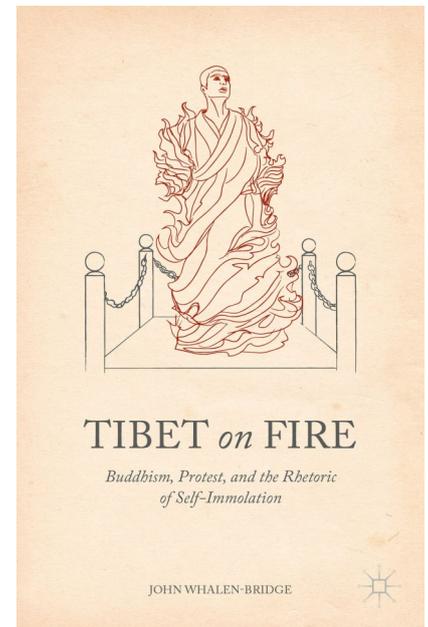
Palgrave Macmillan

Dr. John Whalen-Bridge

Associate Professor

Department of English Language & Literature

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Extreme conditions lead to extreme protest, and contradictions between the Buddhist-inflected rhetoric of non-harm and the agony of self-immolation have been accounted for variously. The interpreters reate descriptions that reflect, select, and sometimes deflect the reality of the burning corpse, calling attention to a certain place and time. In this volume, John Whalen-Bridge applies Kenneth Burke's interpretive suggestions to the phenomenon of a Buddhist-inflected self-immolation movement. *Tibet on Fire* considers the possibility that the self-burnings could be interpreted as an extension of the struggle that constitutes part of what Kenneth Burke called a 'logomachy.' The volume seeks to: open up the possibility of multiple motivations, explain the significance of shifting contexts, and explore the pervasive substitutions in which the self-immolator and the Dalai Lama trade places in attempts to understand the Tibetan situation.

**J**ohn Whalen-Bridge is from the northeast of the United States and came to NUS in 1998 after five years in Japan. He has a doctorate from the University of Southern California, and researches (most broadly) trans-Pacific cultural exchange, usually from Asia and towards the USA. He teaches courses on American literature, sometimes focusing specifically on writers (and filmmakers) interested in politics, ideology more generally, and religion. John is the author of *Political Fiction and the American Self* (1998) and has co-edited (with Gary Storhoff) the SUNY series, *Buddhism and American Culture*. This series includes *The Emergence of Buddhist American Literature* (2009), *American Buddhism as a Way of Life* (2010), *Writing as Enlightenment* (2010), and *Buddhism and American Cinema* (2015).

## The Bengal Diaspora: Muslim Migrants in Britain, India and Bangladesh

Annu Jalais, Claire Alexander, and Joya Chatterji  
*Routledge*

**Dr. Annu Jalais**

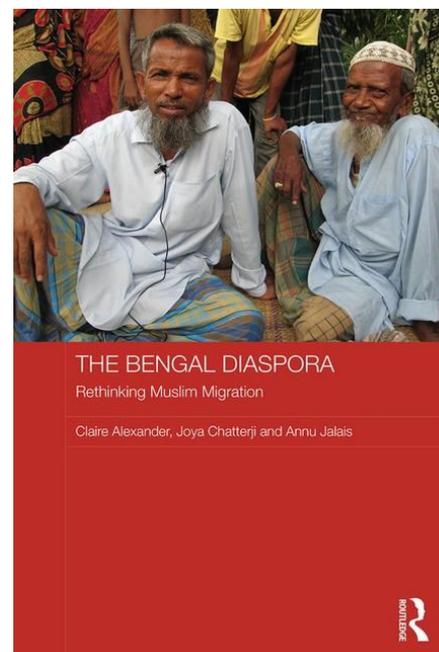
Assistant Professor

South Asian Studies Programme

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Recent decades have witnessed the growth of a new interest, both scholarly and political, in migration and diaspora. This book focuses on three groups of Muslim Bengali migrants. One group had migrated across international borders after partition and settled in Britain; the second had crossed borders but had settled in the neighbouring nation state of East Pakistan/Bangladesh in South Asia itself; the third had crossed no borders but had been internally displaced within West Bengal in India, or within Bangladesh after it was formed in 1971.

Based on groundbreaking new research in India, Bangladesh and the United Kingdom, this is the first study to compare internal displacees with international migrants and refugees. The analysis pays attention to the vitally important inter-connections and interactions between the different groups. The authors offer a historical perspective, exploring different phases of migration and settlement, evolving legal frameworks and the shifting formations of 'community'. They also use the life history approach to present the diverse voices and experiences of migrants. Finally, the book describes the hidden experiences of marginalised and silenced groups, such as women, refugees, 'infiltrators', illegal workers and brides. The combination of these historical, sociological and anthropological methods and materials result in an interdisciplinary approach to diaspora and migration, which makes this book a unique contribution to the field.



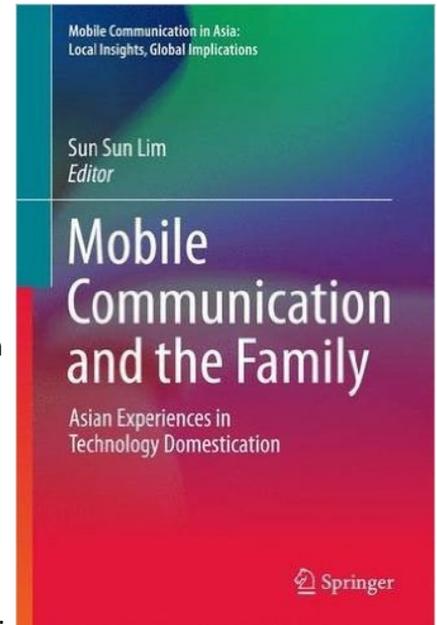
**A**nnu Jalais was born and educated in Calcutta (now Kolkata), and her fascination for stories about the Sundarbans, the largest natural habitat of Bengal tigers – famous for their man-eating habits – eventually led her to anthropology. She undertook fieldwork between 1999 and 2001 in the West Bengal Sundarbans and was awarded a PhD in Anthropology at the London School of Economics in 2004. She taught and lectured at the departments of Anthropology, London School of Economics, Goldsmiths College and the School of Oriental and African Studies (UoL) for a short period before embarking (between 2007 and 2009), with Professors Joya Chatterji and Claire Alexander, on post-doctoral research on the 'Bengal Muslim Diaspora' funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), UK. This was followed by research fellowships in the Agrarian Studies Program, Yale, New Haven; the International Institute for Social History (IISH), Amsterdam; the International Institute of Asian Studies (IIAS), Leiden; Jawaharlal Nehru Institute for Advanced Studies (JNIAS) at JNU, New Delhi; and, more recently, the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), Cambridge, UK.

### Department of Communications and New Media

#### Mobile Communication and the Family: Asian Experiences in Technology Domestication

Edited by Lim Sun Sun  
*Springer*

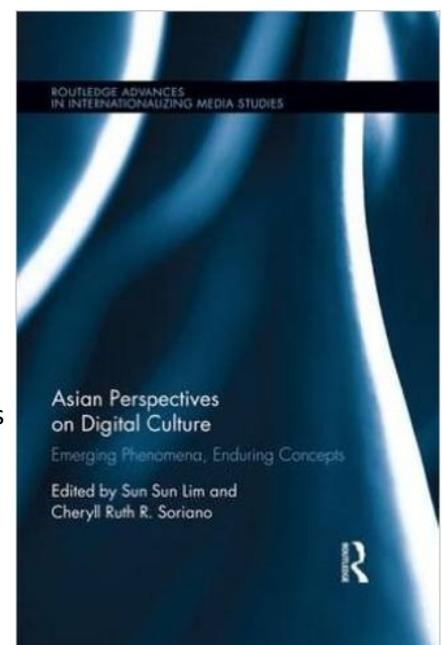
This volume captures the domestication of mobile communication technologies by families in Asia, and its implications for family interactions and relationships. It showcases research on families across a spectrum of socio-economic profiles, from both rural and urban areas, offering insights on children, adolescents, adults, and the elderly. While mobile communication diffuses through Asia at a blistering pace, families in the region are also experiencing significant changes in light of unprecedented economic growth, globalisation, urbanisation and demographic shifts. Asia is therefore at the crossroads of technological transformation and social change. This book analyses the interactions of these two contemporaneous trends from the perspective of the family, covering a range of family types including nuclear, multi-generational, transnational, and multi-local, spanning the continuum from the media-rich to the media have-less.



#### Asian Perspectives on Digital Culture: Emerging Phenomena, Enduring Concepts

Edited by Sun Sun Lim and Cheryl Soriano  
*Routledge*

In Asia, amidst its varied levels of economic development and diverse cultural traditions and political regimes, the Internet and mobile communications are increasingly used in every aspect of life. Yet the analytical frames used to understand the impact of digital media on Asia predominantly originate from the Global North, neither rooted in Asia's rich philosophical traditions, nor reflective of the sociocultural practices of this dynamic region. This volume examines digital phenomena and its impact on Asia by drawing on specifically Asian perspectives. Contributors apply a variety of Asian theoretical frameworks including *guanxi*, *face*, *qing*, *dharma* and *karma*. With chapters focusing on emerging digital trends in Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Malaysia, Korea, Philippines, Singapore, and Taiwan, the book presents compelling and diverse research on identity and selfhood, spirituality, social networking, corporate image, and national identity as shaped by and articulated through digital communication platforms.

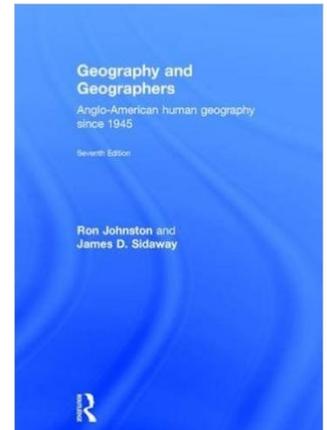


## Department of Geography

### Geography and Geographers: Anglo-North American Human Geography since 1945, 7th Edition

Ron Johnston and James Sidaway  
*Routledge*

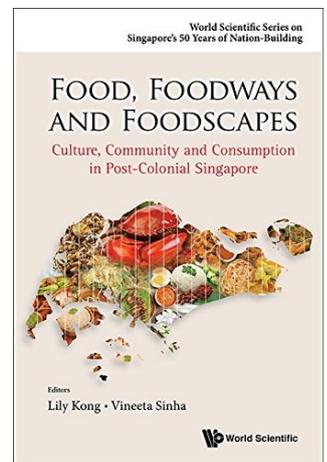
Geography and Geographers continues to be the most comprehensive and up-to-date overview of human geography available. It provides a survey of the major debates, key thinkers and schools of thought in the English-speaking world, setting them within the context of economic, social, cultural, political and intellectual changes. It is essential reading for all undergraduate geography students. It draws on a wide reading of the geographical literature and addresses the ways geography and its history are understood and the debates among geographers regarding what the discipline should study and how. This extensively updated seventh edition offers a thoroughly contemporary perspective on human geography for new and more experienced students alike.



### Food, Foodways and Foodscapes: Culture, Community, and Consumption in Post-Colonial Singapore

Edited by Lily Kong and Vineeta Sinha  
*World Scientific Publishing*

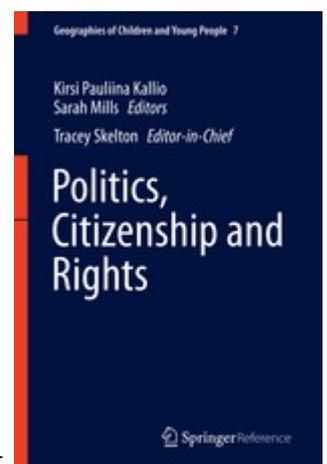
This fascinating and insightful volume introduces readers to food as a window to the social and cultural history and geography of Singapore. It demonstrates how the food we consume, the ways in which we acquire and prepare it, the company we keep as we cook and eat, and our preferences and practices are all revealing of a larger economic, social, cultural and political world, both historically and in contemporary times. Readers will be captivated by chapters that deal with the intersections of food and ethnicity, gender and class, food hybridity, innovations and creativity, heritage and change, globalization and localization, and more. This is a must-read for anyone interested in Singapore culture and society.



### Politics, Citizenship and Rights

Edited by Kirsi Pauliina Kallio, Sarah Mills, and Tracey Skelton  
*Springer*

This volume explores the political geographies of children and young people and aims to cement this research area within human geography and beyond. Indeed, the policies that specifically target young individuals and groups, and the politics in the everyday lives of children and youth across all scalar dimensions deserve broad attention. The book is structured in four sections with specific focus on the spatialities of the rights of the child, children and young people's agency in politics, youthful practice as political resistance, and active youth citizenship. In the 28 chapters, a total of 43 authors based in 14 different countries explicate how issues of youthful citizenship, children's rights, and children and young people's political agencies cross disciplinary, methodological and theoretical boundaries, with notable geographical variation. Particular attention falls on children and young people's active roles in different kinds of political situations, environments, processes, and practices. The volume also emphasises that there is scope for future research, not least because of the shifting (geo)political landscapes across the globe.

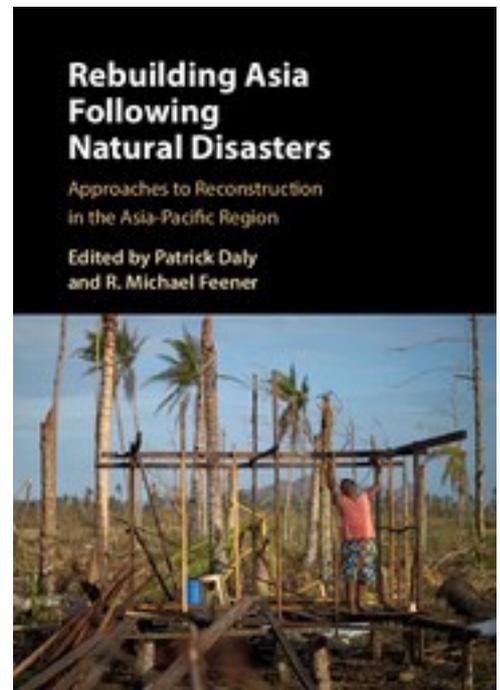


## Department of History

### **Rebuilding Asia Following Natural Disasters: Approaches to Reconstruction in the Asia-Pacific Region**

Edited by Patrick Daly and R. Michael Feener  
*Cambridge University Press*

Providing a detailed and comparative assessment of the humanitarian responses to a series of major disasters in Asia over the past two decades, including massive earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis, this book explores complex and changing understandings and practices of relief, recovery, and reconstruction. These critical investigations raise questions about the position and responsibilities of a growing range of stakeholders, and provide in-depth explorations of the ways in which local communities are transformed on multiple levels - not only by the impact of disaster events, but also by the experiences of rebuilding. This timely volume highlights how the experiences of Asia can contribute towards post-disaster responses globally, to safeguard future communities and reduce vulnerabilities. This is a valuable resource for academic researchers interested in post-disaster transformations and development studies, practitioners in NGOs, and government officials dealing with disaster response and disaster risk reduction.

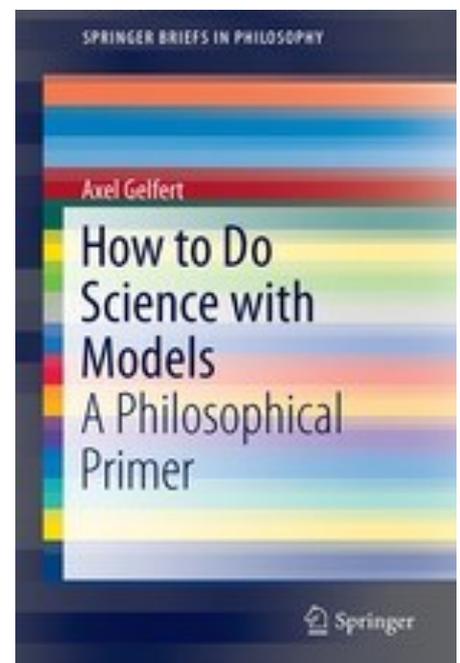


## Department of Philosophy

### **How to Do Science with Models: A Philosophical Primer**

Axel Gelfert  
*Springer*

Taking scientific practice as its starting point, this book charts the complex territory of models used in science. It examines what scientific models are and what their function is. Reliance on models is pervasive in science, and scientists often need to construct models in order to explain or predict anything of interest at all. The diversity of kinds of models one finds in science – ranging from toy models and scale models to theoretical and mathematical models – has attracted attention not only from scientists, but also from philosophers, sociologists, and historians of science. This has given rise to a wide variety of case studies that look at the different uses to which models have been put in specific scientific contexts. By exploring current debates on the use and building of models via cutting-edge examples drawn from physics and biology, the book provides broad insight into the methodology of modelling in the natural sciences. It pairs specific arguments with introductory material relating to the ontology and the function of models, and provides some historical context to the debates as well as a sketch of general positions in the philosophy of scientific models in the process.



## Department of Political Science

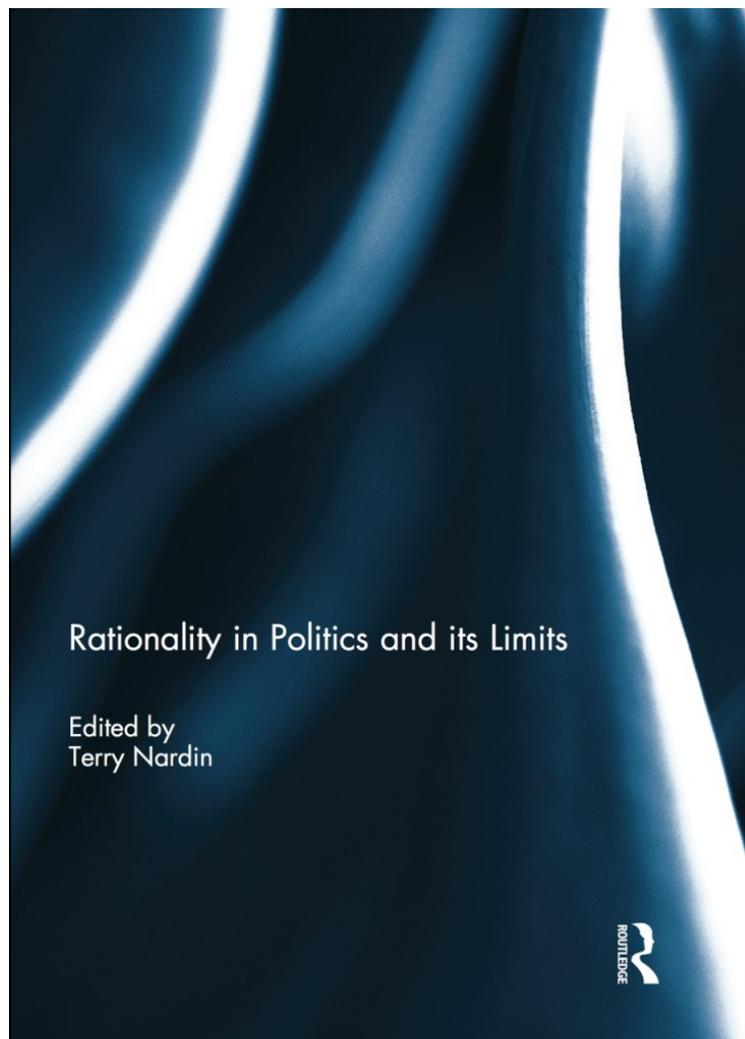
### Rationality in Politics and Its Limits

Edited by Terry Nardin

*Routledge*

The word 'rationality' and its cognates, like 'reason', have multiple contexts and connotations. Rational calculation can be contrasted with rational interpretation. There is the rationality of proof and of persuasion, of tradition and of the criticism of tradition. Rationalism (and rationalists) can be reasonable or unreasonable. Reason is sometimes distinguished from revelation, superstition, convention, prejudice, emotion, and chance, but all of these also involve reasoning. In politics, three views of rationality – economic, moral, and historical – have been especially important, often defining approaches to politics and political theory such as utilitarianism and rational choice theory. These approaches privilege positive or natural law, responsibilities, or human rights, and emphasize the importance of culture and tradition, and therefore meaning and context.

This book explores the understanding of rationality in politics and the relations between different approaches to rationality. Among the topics considered are the limits of rationality, the role of imagination and emotion in politics, the meaning of political realism, the nature of political judgment, and the relationship between theory and practice. This book was originally published as a special issue of *Global Discourse*.



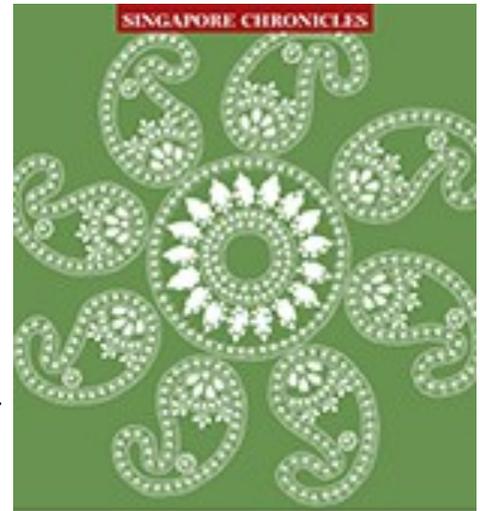
## Department of Sociology

### Singapore Chronicles: Indians

Vineeta Sinha

*Straits Times Press*

Though a small minority within the Singapore society, the Indian community displays deep diversity within its own fabric. This book seeks to unpack complex questions of identity in Singapore's Indian community. Discussing the story of Singapore Indians within the larger narrative of Indian displacement and placement globally, it goes on to contextualise the Indian presence in Malaya and Singapore historically. The author maps the socio-economic, religious and linguistic complexities of the community, which is further complicated by ongoing new arrivals from India. The dynamics of the Indian community is as rich as it is complex.



**INDIANS**

Vineeta Sinha

### Advancing the Regional Commons in the New East Asia

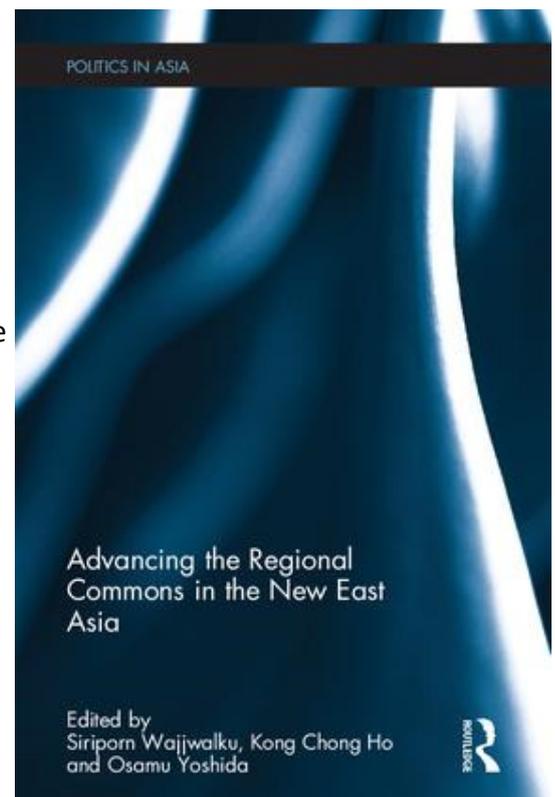
Edited by Siriporn Wajjwalku, Kong Chong Ho, and Osamu Yoshida

*Routledge*

Institutional activities have remarkably transformed East Asia, a region once known for the absence of regionalism and regime-building efforts. Yet the dynamics of this Asian institutionalization have remained an understudied area of research. This book offers one of the first scholarly attempts to clarify what constitutes institutionalization in East Asia and to systematically trace the origins, discern the features, and analyze the prospects of ongoing institutionalization processes in the world's most dynamic region.

Institutionalizing East Asia comprises eight essays, grouped thematically into three sections. Part I considers East and Southeast Asia as focal points of inter-state exchanges and traces the institutionalization of inter-state cooperation first among the Southeast Asian states and then among those of the wider East Asia. Part II examines the institutionalization of regional collaboration in four domains: economy, security, natural disaster relief, and ethnic conflict management. Part III discusses the institutionalization dynamics at the sub-regional and inter-regional levels.

The essays in this book offer a useful source of reference for scholars and researchers specializing in East Asia, regional architecture, and institution-building in international relations. They will also be of interest to postgraduate and research students interested in ASEAN, the drivers and limits of international cooperation, as well as the role of regional multilateralism in the Asia-Pacific region.



Advancing the Regional  
Commons in the New East  
Asia

Edited by  
Siriporn Wajjwalku, Kong Chong Ho  
and Osamu Yoshida



*A man will turn over half a library to  
make one book*

-Samuel Johnson

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With thanks to the authors



Faculty of Arts  
& Social Sciences