

Book Launch & Discussion of the Book on

Religion and the Politics of Development

edited by *Philip Fountain, Robin Bush & R. Michael Feener*

Date 12 June 2015, Friday

Time 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Venue Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore
469A Tower Block, #10-01, Bukit Timah Road, Singapore 259770



PROGRAM

- 12:00 **WELCOME & INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**
A/P Michael Feener
Asia Research Institute &
Department of History, NUS
- 12:15 **BACKGROUND TO THE BOOK**
Dr Robin Bush
Research Triangle International (RTI), Indonesia
- 12:30 **PANELIST DISCUSSIONS**
Chairperson: Dr Tsung-Ling Lee
Asia Research Institute, NUS
Prof Lily Kong
Vice Provost (Academic Personnel), NUS
Dr Gregory Vanderbilt
Center for Religious and Cross-Cultural Studies,
Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia
Prof Jonathan Rigg
Department of Geography, NUS
- 13:00 **OPEN DISCUSSIONS**
- 13:15 **CONCLUDING REMARKS**
Dr Philip Fountain
Asia Research Institute, NUS
- 13:30 **LUNCH**

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Eschewing tired doctrines of strict demarcation between development, religion and politics, this volume takes up the task of critically analysing this triple nexus. The chapters brought together in this landmark collection draw on detailed empirical studies from around contemporary Asia. Through their engagements with Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, and secularism, among other traditions, the chapters argue persuasively for a new research agenda that attends to the ways in which development, religion, and politics are dynamically interconnected. In doing so, they deploy innovative conceptual approaches that rework taken-for-granted frames.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Philip Fountain is Senior Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore.

Robin Bush is Director for Research and Strategic Collaborations, Asia, for Research Triangle International (RTI), Indonesia. She is the author of *Nahdlatul Ulama and the Struggle for Power in Islam and Politics in Indonesia* (2009).

R. Michael Feener is Research Leader of the Religion and Globalization Research Cluster at the Asia Research Institute and Associate Professor in the Department of History at the National University of Singapore. His books include *Sharia and Social Engineering* (2013) and *Muslim Legal Thought in Modern Indonesia* (2007).

REGISTRATION

Admission is free, however registration is required.
Please RSVP to Minghua.tay@nus.edu.sg.