## Book Launch & Discussion of the Book on

# Religion and the Politics of Development

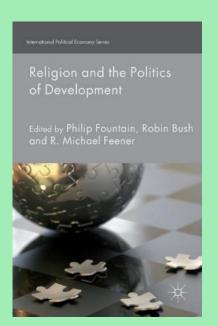
edited by Philip Fountain, Robin Bush & R. Michael Feener

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

## ASIA RESEARCH INSTITUTE National University of Singapor

## REGISTRATION

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

## **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).