



Max-Planck-Institut für ethnologische Forschung
Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology

Conference

Conceptualizing the Bureaucratization of Islam and its Socio-Legal Dimensions in Southeast Asia: Anthropological and Transdisciplinary Perspectives

07 – 08 September 2017

Organiser: Emmy Noether Research Group 'The Bureaucratization of Islam and its Socio-Legal Dimensions in Southeast Asia', Department 'Law & Anthropology'
Convenors: Dominik Müller, Fauwaz Abdul Aziz, Tímea Gréta Biró, Rosalia Engchuan, Annika Benz

– Concept –

Summary

The first workshop of the Emmy Noether Research Group will explore the bureaucratization of Islam by bringing together a group of international scholars from various disciplines (Anthropology, Law, Area Studies, History, Film Studies) whose empirically grounded research focuses on multiple facets of state-Islam relations in contemporary Southeast Asia. The Group's meta-analytic framework and its sub-projects will be presented and critically discussed with the invited experts, who will also present their own work-in-progress or a recent publication speaking to the Group's epistemic interests. This workshop is designed to contribute to the group's endeavor to conceptualize "the bureaucratization of Islam" as a social phenomenon from an anthropological perspective.

– Programme –

Thursday, 07 September 2017

08:30 Registration

INTRODUCTION

08:50 – 08:55 **Marie-Claire Foblets** (MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)
Welcome Address



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PART I: INTRODUCING THE EMMY NOETHER RESEARCH GROUP

Chair: **Dominik Müller** (MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)

- 08:55 – 09:40 **Dominik Müller** (Principal Investigator; MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)
The Bureaucratization of Islam and its Socio-Legal Dimensions in Southeast Asia: Outlines of a Collaborative Research Project and Some Empirical Examples
- 09:40 – 09:55 Q&A
- 09:55 – 10:15 *Coffee break*
- 10:15 – 10:45 **Fauwaz Abdul Aziz** (PhD Student, MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)
Bureaucratization of Islam in a Christian-Majority State: An Ethnography of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF)
- 10:45 – 11:00 Q&A
- 11:00 – 11:30 **Tímea Gréta Biró** (PhD Student, MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)
The Bureaucratization of Zakat: An Ethnography of the Culture of Giving in Malaysia
- 11:30 – 11:45 Q&A
- 11:45 – 12:15 **Rosalía Engchuan** (PhD Student, MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)
Negotiating the Boundaries of 'Appropriate' Sexuality Through Film: A Quest into State-Based Bureaucratic Film Censorship in Indonesia and the Negative Space Making It
- 12:15 – 12:30 Q&A
- 12:30 – 13.30 *Lunch Break*



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PART II: GUESTS' PRESENTATIONS

SESSION I: THE BUREAUCRATIZATION OF ISLAM IN CONTEMPORARY SOUTHEAST ASIA: ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVES

Chair: **Fauwaz Abdul Aziz** (MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)

- 13:30 – 13:55 **Patricia Sloane-White** (University of Delaware, USA)
'Ethnography by Appointment': Studying Muslims in Corporate and Bureaucratic Settings
- 13:55 – 14:20 **Michael Feener** (University of Oxford, UK)
Shaping Shari'a Imaginaries: State Structures and Public Pedagogy in Contemporary Aceh, Indonesia
- 14:20 – 14:45 **Dian Abdul Hamed Shah** (Centre for Asian Legal Studies, National University of Singapore)
Constitutions, Religion, and Politics in Asia: Indonesia, Malaysia and Sri Lanka
- 14:45 – 14:50 Discussant's Comments (linking Session to project theme) – **Michael Peletz** (Emory University, USA)
- 14:50 – 15:30 Q&A
- 15:30 – 15:45 *Coffee break*

SESSION II: MALAYSIA AND THE PHILIPPINES

Chair: **Tímea Gréta Biró** (MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)

- 15:45 – 16:10 **Alicia Izharuddin** (University of Malaya, Malaysia)
'Free Hair': Narratives of Unveiling and Reconstruction of the Self
- 16:10 – 16:35 **Michael Peletz** (Emory University, Atlanta, USA)
Are Women Getting (More) Justice? Malaysia's Sharia Courts and in Ethnographic and Historical Perspective
- 16.35 – 17:00 **Kerstin Steiner** (La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia)
Banning Books in the Name of Islam: A Case Study from Malaysia



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- 17:00 – 17:25 **Scott MacLochlainn** (University of Göttingen, Germany)
The Corporation as Religious Subject (Philippines)
- 17:25 – 17:30 Discussant's Comments (linking Session to project theme) – **Patricia Sloane-White** (University of Delaware, USA)
- 17:30 – 18:15 Q&A
- 19:00 *Dinner at Restaurant Palmyra, Geiststr. 10, 06108 Halle*
- 20:30 Wrap-up & Discussion

Friday, 08 September 2017

SESSION III: INDONESIA

Chair: **Rosalia Engchuan** (MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)

- 09:00 – 09:25 **Mirjam Künkler** (Institute for Advanced Study 'Law as Culture',
University of Bonn, Germany)
*Law, Legitimacy and Equality: The Bureaucratization of Religion and
Conditions of Belief in Indonesia*
- 09:25 – 09:50 **Intan Paramaditha** (Macquarie University, Australia)
*'Not the Guardian of Your Faith': Islamic Conservatism and the
Secular Cultural Producers in Indonesia*
- 09:50 – 10:15 **Saskia Schäfer** (FU Berlin, Germany)
*The Strategies of the Council of Indonesian Islamic Scholars and their
Consequences for Indonesian Politics*
- 10:15 – 10:20 Discussant's Comments (linking Session to project theme) – **Michael Feener** (University of Oxford, UK)
- 10:20 – 11:00 Q&A



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PART III: INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS BETWEEN EXPERT ADVISORS AND PHD STUDENTS

- 11:00 – 11:10 Preparation of Informal Individual Meetings Students & Advisors
- 11:10 – 12:30 Informal Individual Meetings (each meeting 40 minutes)
- 12:30 – 13:30 *Lunch*
- 13:30 – 16:10 Informal Individual Meetings (each meeting 40 minutes)
- 16:10 – 16:25 *Coffee break*

PART IV: RESPONSE AND REFLECTION

- 16:30 – 17:30 PhD Students Summarize Advice and Reflect Upon it in the Plenum (interactive)
16.30 – 16.50 **Fauwaz Abdul Aziz**
16.50 – 17:10 **Tímea Gréta Biró**
17:10 – 17:30 **Rosalía Engchuan**
- 17:30 – 18:10 Open Discussion on Group Project: *Conceptualizing an Anthropological Perspective on the Bureaucratization of Islam – How precisely?*
- 18:10 – 18:15 Closing Remarks
Dominik Müller (MPI for Social Anthropology, Halle, Germany)

Optional Dinner (Individual Arrangements)