Conference

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

07 – 08 September 2017

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
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  Rosalia 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
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 Bíró (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
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 Conservativism 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
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 Rosalia 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)