

BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF
SELECTED
PUBLICATIONS
IN
MALAYSIAN
STUDIES
1957-2021

Compiled by

GLOBAL MALAYSIAN STUDIES NETWORK (GMSN@KITA)



“A book certainly is not enough to really capture the breadth and depth of Malaysian studies. For that reason, GMSN@KITA made a tremendous effort to bring about the current book entitled Bibliography of Selected Publications in Malaysian Studies 1957-2021, a first step and a pathway for those interested in Malaysia especially in building a more solid knowledge-based interest on Malaysia.

In the context of Malaysia’s recent effort to establish its own “Cultural and Language Diplomacy” this book is a most welcomed addition to exploring further about culture and language of Malaysia and the society.”

Dato’ Seri Saifuddin Abdullah
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia

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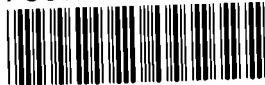
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Foreword

The field of Malaysian studies as an academic endeavor became consolidated with the establishment of the Malaysian Social Science Association (MSSA) in 1978. The Association brought together Malaysians and foreigners who have expressed interest on Malaysia as a form of knowledge as well as a reality. To date, MSSA has some 2000 members. In 1997 MSSA launched its First Biennial International Malaysian Studies Conference (MSC) and in 2024 it shall convene its 13th MSC expecting some 500 participants from near and afar.

There is now a substantial number of scholars, researchers and interested individuals who support and promote not only Malaysian studies but also ‘knowing Malaysia’ as a cohesive society. Hundreds of papers, journal articles and books have been published about Malaysia by well-known international publishers, such as, Routledge, Oxford University Press, University of California Press, Kyoto University Press, and others. Locally, University of Malaya Press, UKM Press, USM Press and UPM Press are the major publishers of researched-based academic books, both in Malay and English.

When Global Malaysian Studies Network (GMSN) was established in 2021 as part of the Institute of Ethnic Studies (KITA), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), it quickly became a global hub for Malaysian studies, with network and support in North America, the UK, Australia, and ASEAN. It publishes its first book entitled *Readings on Malaysia: Selected Essays by Shamsul A.B.*, a Malaysian social scientist who was the Founding Honorary Secretary of MSSA in 1978 and became the Founding Co-Leader of GMSN@KITA in 2021. He devoted his life in contributing to Malaysian studies. For this he has been elevated to the position of a Distinguished Professor – to

date one of the only five – by the Ministry of Higher Education, Malaysia, in 2010.

The book which I had the privilege to launch in May 2022, was edited by Datuk Dr. Anis Yusal Yusoff, the other Founding Co-Leader of GMSN@KITA and Principal Fellow at KITA, UKM.

A book certainly is not enough to really capture the breadth and depth of Malaysian studies. For that reason, GMSN@KITA made a tremendous effort to bring about the current book entitled Bibliography of Selected Publications in Malaysian Studies 1957-2021, a first step and a pathway for those interested in Malaysia especially in building a more solid knowledge-based interest on Malaysia.

In the context of Malaysia's recent effort to establish its own "Cultural and Language Diplomacy" this book is a most welcomed addition to exploring further about culture and language of Malaysia and the society.

I must congratulate both Distinguished Prof. Datuk Dr. Shamsul A.B. and Datuk Dr. Anis Yusal Yusoff for their leadership in pushing for GMSN to be recognized internationally and for taking the initiative to compile this very timely Bibliography. I wish both of them the very best and look forward to their many more contributions in helping to shape our cultural diplomacy through Malaysian studies.

Dato' Sri Saifuddin Abdullah

Minister of Foreign Affairs Malaysia

Preface

The Global Malaysian Studies Network (GMSN) is a programme initiated by the Institute of Ethnic Studies (KITA) at the National University of Malaysia (UKM) and supported by the Malaysian government.

Our vision is for a more nuanced and balanced understanding of Malaysia through evidence-based scholarship and collaboration with other like-minded research institutions. GMSN@KITA functions as a platform for the many voices of Malaysian studies so they can share and debate a wide range of issues thus providing an opportunity for others to learn from the insights of those scholarly voices.

GMSN@KITA was founded as a collaborative network made up of academic institutions and civil societies, both local and international. Through sharing resources, partners of GMSN@KITA can tap into a wider pool of resources, tools and expertise in order to tackle the issues of our time.

Being a network hub, GMSN@KITA aims to provide mechanisms for experts to interact and pool their expertise and resources together. One of the many activities of GMSN@KITA is to compile a bibliography of selected publications on Malaysian Studies.

In 2021, the project originally started as a database of Malaysianists. But Datuk Dr. Anis Yusal Yusoff, GMSN Founding Co-Leader, suggested that we take advantage of the database to produce a bibliography of reputable academic publications in the field of Malaysian Studies. Encompassing 14 diverse fields from Anthropology to Sociology, it lists academic studies published between 1957 and 2021 by experts on Malaysia. Due to time constraints, no more than five publications are listed for each author in this tentative bibliography.

The project began in June 2021 with our first Research Assistant, Ms. Mary Ellen Gidah and our student Intern Mr. Ahmad Arman Al-Huzaifi Sakir Husein under the supervision of Mr. Fareen Ali, our Research Manager. We then sought the help of Dr. Adil Johan and Dr. Shazlin Hamzah of KITA, together with their student interns, Ms. Sherry Aryani and Ms. Nur Amalina, to join in building the database. The Bibliography only took its present form in 2022 with the advice of Dr. James T. Collins, Distinguished International Professor at KITA, who brought his passion and years of experience to the project. The weekly deadlines and consultations enhanced the work that you see in the book today. The members of the GMSN Secretariat who were tireless in the research and editing of the book are Ms. Nurul Azrina Husri and Ms. Nurul Kamila Mohd Yusof. They all deserve a big thank you.

We hope that this modest bibliography can assist researchers in the field of Malaysian Studies and also other scholars seeking a better understanding of Malaysia. By identifying credible and authoritative materials written by experts based in Malaysia as well as overseas, the bibliography marks the first of many steps towards making Malaysian Studies more accessible in the long term.

We owe a special debt to Dato' Seri Saifuddin Abdullah, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Malaysia, for his support for GMSN and cultural diplomacy. The interactions we had developed our understanding of diplomacy and possible contribution by Malaysian Studies. We also thank the Vice Chancellor of UKM Professor Dato' Ts. Dr. Mohd Ekhwan Hj. Toriman, who supported GMSN from the very beginning. We also appreciate the support given by Perpustakaan Tun Sri Lanang of the National University of Malaysia (UKM) and everyone who contributed to the publication of this book.

We wish to re-emphasise that this is very much an unfinished and on-going exercise so please forgive us for any errors and short-comings. Please support us by sending your suggestions, ideas and materials.

Distinguished Professor Datuk Dr. Shamsul Amri Baharuddin

Founder Director of KITA and GMSN Founding Co-Leader

Global Malaysian Studies Network (GMSN@KITA),

Institute of Ethnic Studies (KITA),

The National University of Malaysia.

22 April 2022

Introduction

Background

Most of us have assembled bibliographies for our own theses, articles and books. All of us, then, know that even putting together a list of only ten or twenty publications referred to in our writings is often challenging. Perhaps we have misplaced the note we jotted down; we don't know the page number; we didn't write down the year of publication; we can't double check because our institution's library doesn't receive the journal we cite. Certainly, in the last decade or so we have been able to use online resources to help us track down the bibliographic details of those cited publications. Nonetheless, the task of using online resources is time-consuming and often unsuccessful. If organizing a list of references in our own field of study is challenging, obviously the problem is only exacerbated if we are tasked with developing a bibliography that comprehends not only our personal academic specialization but ten or twenty other academic fields as well.

As noted in the Preface, in June 2021, in the midst of the pandemic, the Global Malaysian Studies Network (GMSN) of the Institute of Ethnic Studies (KITA) decided to take on the daunting task of assembling and publishing a bibliography of Malaysianists. A team of KITA's research fellows and student interns began the task of identifying Malaysianists and collecting the citations of their publications. Perhaps due to the social turmoil and restrictions of the pandemic, some email queries to authors went unanswered and team turn-over occurred. In January 2022,

the focus of the bibliography project was sharpened. No longer was it to be a bibliography of Malaysianists, but rather a bibliography of **Malaysian studies**. Soon after this adjustment, an adviser was appointed. Because of the limited time-frame of this project, in a subsequent meeting some parameters were established. The span of coverage was limited to scholarly publications dating from 1957-2021, although the topics taken up in those publications might pre-date 1957. Moreover, the contents of the bibliography should not encompass creative and artistic publications; only academic studies of quality would be included. Again, for this first version of the bibliography, the number of publications for each author would be limited to a maximum of five. In order to ascertain which five articles or books were most relevant, authors were to be contacted and asked to select the five publications they themselves chose for this bibliography. Reluctantly, we realized that the production schedule did not permit including annotations or even descriptions of the publications.

Once the team had recognized the limitations of time constraints and human resources, new procedures were set in place to ensure the on-time delivery of the quality product that had been envisioned in 2021. In the following paragraphs, some of those procedures will be discussed as well as information about the structure of the bibliography and suggestions to the reader about using the bibliography.

Building the data base step by step

In the early stages of this project, the names of Malaysianists were collected by checking the lists of faculty members at Malaysian universities and by soliciting additional input from scholars at the National University of Malaysia. That initial approach was a valid starting point; but when the project was reoriented to focus on Malaysian studies, a more comprehensive and precise list was imperative. At first, team members were advised first to look at published bibliographies of similar but narrower scope. Among these sources were:

Rogayah Haji Md. Yasin. 1990. *Bibliografi sarjana pengajian Melayu*. Bangi: Perpustakaan Cabang IBKMM; dan,

Collins, James T. 2018. *Bibliografi dialek Melayu Semenanjung Tanah Melayu*. Kuala Lumpur: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka.

Both of these books yielded information about scholarly contributions in the twentieth century as well as ideas about formatting the data. Many of those contributions could be checked using online resources; see below. Again because of time limitations some other potentially relevant bibliographic resources were not consulted.¹

Furthermore, closer inspection of the data that had been collected in the earlier stages of the project indicated the need for intensifying the search for publications related to academic studies about Sabah and Sarawak. For example, the team began to access the data found in Combrink, H.J.B., C. Soderberg, M. E. Boutin dan A. Y. Boutin. 2006. *Indigenous Groups of Sabah: An annotated bibliography of linguistic and anthropological sources Parts 1 & 2*. Kota Kinabalu: Sabah Museum. Another tactic was to check articles published in the *Sarawak Museum Journal* and the *Borneo Research Bulletin*. It was deemed important not only to seek relevant articles in these journals but to review the references cited in those articles. Based on these excursions, sites available through the internet could be more fruitfully consulted. In some early versions of the bibliography, coverage of ethnic minorities was limited, for example the Peranakan Chinese and the Aslian communities. Although the team did not find specific bibliographies for these groups, coverage was expanded by referring to the online resource OLAC (Open Language Archives Community).

Another strategy was an old-fashioned one: Examining print publications. The team scoured previously published books and articles, especially in the fields of anthropology, history and geography. Unfortunately, this procedure, focused on a manual search for and of print materials, was less systematic and rather time-consuming. Nonetheless, it yielded data that were entered into the evolving data base, and more importantly clues and indications of topics and authors that could be searched online, for example, by using <worldcat.org/identities>. The combination of twentieth-century bibliographic methods with twenty-first century technological resources enhanced and expanded both the coverage and the reliability of the bibliography.

¹ Among sources that were considered but not consulted were Ding Choo Ming. 1981. *A bibliography of bibliographies on Malaysia*, Petaling Jaya: Hexagon Elite Publications; and Kamariah Abu Samah & Wan Salhah Hj. Megat Ahmad. 1990. *Katalog koleksi bahasa Melayu Perpustakaan Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka*, Kuala Lumpur: Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka.

On the other hand, some of the earlier entries in the data base required editing. In particular, by reading the abstracts or the publications themselves, we found that some of the initial entries were not about Malaysia at all, or sometimes Malaysia was only mentioned in the broader context of “Asia” or “East Asia”. There were even authors who had never conducted research about Malaysia and who wrote, for example, about groups in Sulawesi and the Philippines. Without doubting the scholarly value of these publications, they simply did not belong in this bibliography about Malaysian studies, not Malay studies or Malay World studies. There were also entries that could not be verified, entries that were merely popular newspaper articles, entries by the same author that had already been entered. These entries were also removed from the bibliography.

Organizing the materials for the users.

In January, 2022, the team had entered partial drafts of 293 bibliographic entries, stored in Microsoft *Excel* spreadsheets. This cumbersome format with all the unnecessary information that had been entered was considered inappropriate and time-consuming. The data were moved to Zotero’s reference management software for annotated bibliographies, but this program was deemed rather inflexible. Finally, the team decided to rely on EndNote, a reference management software package, used to manage bibliographies. In retrospect, the project would have proceeded more effectively if EndNote had been chosen from the start.

When the data that had been stored were examined, another problem presented itself. Following the bibliographic tradition in Malaysia, the names of Malay authors had been entered by their personal (given) names or forenames, followed by the name of the father. Following the U.S. Library of Congress system, western names are cited in bibliographies according to their hereditary or family names, their surnames. So, each Western author’s name had to be reviewed, not John Smith but Smith, John. Moreover, there was some confusion about citing the names of East Asian authors. In the rubrics of bibliographies, Chinese, Japanese and Korean names are also cited by their surnames, that is their hereditary family names, not by their personal, given names. In the initial January 2022 list, the citation of East Asian names was not consistent and it took some time to use online resources to determine the surnames/hereditary names. There remains some uncertainty about other Asian names, for example Indian names and some names of Sarawak and Sabah authors.

We apologize if errors still remain and plan to address this nomenclature problem in future versions of the bibliography.

After the assembled data were rearranged in a bibliographic format (EndNote) and problems with citing names, eastern and western, were resolved, each entry was arranged following the American Psychological Association (APA) referencing style Format 6th Edition for bibliographic citations. However, there remained another troubling issue. From its inception, the bibliography had been planned as an alphabetical list of authors. Perhaps, because the team was accustomed to developing bibliographies for their own articles and books, or because at first the plan was a list of Malaysianists, a straightforward alphabetical list of authors' names was deemed appropriate. However, as the list took shape, the team focused its attention on the consumers of this product. Who did we envision as the users of the bibliography? If our target audience was composed of scholars and students seeking a better understanding of Malaysia, it might be best to assume that they would be motivated to search for publications in their respective disciplines. So, it became apparent that a list of authors' names in alphabetical order would not be helpful to users of the bibliography. After all, if they were newcomers to Malaysian studies, probably they would not be familiar with the names of authors writing about aspects of Malaysia that they were interested in.

With that in mind, each entry was assigned to one of fourteen fields of study; see the Table of Contents. These fields were based on academic specializations, largely drawn from the fields of study determined by Library of Congress Classification System. Readers can refer to <https://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsolcco/>. Within each of these fields, the citations are arranged in the alphabetical order of the author's name. If more than one scholar authored a publication, the entry is arranged by the name of the first author. Authors' and co-authors' names can be found in the index arranged in alphabetical order. If the reader knows the name of a specific author of interest, he/she should refer to the index. Because the number of fields is limited, some fields, such as ethnomusicology, might be listed within the field of Anthropology or Music. Another shortcoming in this bibliography is that each publication is only listed for one field of study, when in fact some publications are relevant to more than one field, for example both sociology and anthropology. A related peculiarity of this bibliography is that some authors have published studies that are focused on more than one field, for example anthropological issues but the same authors also published articles that are linguistic studies; thus, some of

those author's works will be in the Anthropology section and others in the Linguistics section. In a future version, perhaps, some entries can be listed within more than one academic field.

Concluding remarks

In 2021, when this project was begun, the implications and complications of the task were not yet clear. Although steps have been taken to overcome the problem of personnel turn-over, the increasing breadth, indeed depth, of the project has not allowed for short-time solutions. The fact is that the schedule for this project means that this bibliography cannot be comprehensive. Some authors and some academic fields have been overlooked. There may have been errors in assigning academic categories and perhaps some authors have been mistakenly included or excluded. The team can only hope that GMSN and KITA remain enthusiastically committed to revising and expanding this bibliography as well as providing easier access by cross referencing some of the publications. Comments and suggestions are welcome to help us improve the next version of this bibliography. Please email your suggestions to gmsn@ukm.edu.my

Thank you.

Datuk Dr. Anis Yusal Yusoff
GMSN Founding Co-Leader,
Principal Fellow at KITA, UKM

Prof. Dr. James T. Collins
GMSN Bibliography Project Advisor,
Distinguished International Professor,
KITA, UKM

Subject Categories

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