

Tobias Rettig

Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian Studies
School of Social Sciences
Singapore Management University

Degrees

- Ph.D., Department of History, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, 2004.
- M.A. in Area Studies (Southeast Asia), SOAS, 1997.
- M.Sc. in the Politics of Asia and Africa, SOAS, 1996. Distinction.
- B.Sc. (Econ) in International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), University of London, 1995. First Class Honours.

Dissertation

- ‘Contested Loyalties: Vietnamese Soldiers in the Service of France, 1927-1939’.
**Supervisor: Prof. Ian Brown
**Ph.D. Examiners: Prof. David Killingray (Internal),
Prof. Nguyễn Thê Anh (External).

Previous Positions

- Practice Assistant Professor of Political Science, Singapore Management University, 01 July 2006 – 30 June 2008.
- Adjunct Professor, Singapore Management University, 2005/06 (Term 1).

Visiting Positions

- Visiting Fellow, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore (6 July – 30 Sept 2005).

Research Interests

- Southeast Asian History and Politics
- Armies in Southeast Asia
- International Politics
- International History

Courses Taught (per Term & with Student Numbers)

Academic Year	05-06	06-07			07-08			08-09	
Course / Term	T 1	T1	T2	T3a	T1	T2	T3b	T1	T2
• Rise & Fall of the Great Powers	34	42	33	-	-	44	25	44	-
• Globalisation of World Politics	-	44	36	26	39	11	-	-	-
• Govt & Politics of South East Asia	-	34	-	-	23	-	-	-	32
• Democracy	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-
• Senior Thesis	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
• Capstone Seminar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	60
<i>Total per Term</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>92</i>

Books (Published or Forthcoming)

- *Colonial Armies in Southeast Asia*, (editor with Karl A. Hack), New York; London: RoutledgeCurzon, 2006. [334pp.] [2009 reprint as paperback]
**13 chapters by 11 contributors: Hack and Rettig (intros 1 & 2), Geoff Wade, Sarah Womack, Henri Eckert, Gerke Teitler, Richard Meixsel, Robert H. Taylor, Abu Talib Ahmad, Karl Hack, Geoffrey Robinson, Kevin Blackburn.
- *Armies and Society in Southeast Asia, c. 1750-2000*, (editor with Marie-Eve Blanc, Gilles de Gantès), Paris: Les Indes savantes, forthcoming. [status: currently fine-editing the second proofs.]
**22 chapters in French or English by 23 contributors: de Gantès & Rettig (intro), Volker Grabowsky, Pheuiphanh Ngaosyvathn, Grégory Mikaëlian, George Dutton, Haude Le Guen, Roger Kershaw, Kees van Dijk, Xavier Huetz de Lempis, Marie-Eve Blanc, Guy Lubeigt, Pierre Le Roux, Joyce Lebra, Jean Baffie, Jean Deuve, Jun Honna, Geoffrey Gunn, Tim Huxley, Henk Smeets, Carlyle Thayer, Rosanne Rutten, Jean-Louis Margolin.

Articles and Chapters

- ‘Imperial Systems of Power, Colonial Forces, and the Making of Modern Southeast Asia’, (Karl Hack with Tobias Rettig), in *Colonial Armies in Southeast Asia*.
- ‘Demography and Domination in Southeast Asia’, (Karl Hack and Tobias Rettig), in *Colonial Armies in Southeast Asia*.
- ‘Introduction’, (Gilles de Gantès and Tobias Rettig), in *Armies and Society in Southeast Asia, c. 1750-2000*.
- ‘Old Security Dilemmas Resurfaced: French Military Policies in the Aftermath of the Yën Bay Mutiny, 1930’, in *South East Asia Research*, Vol. 10, No. 3 (November 2002), pp. 309-331. [available online via IngentaConnect]

Policy-Relevant Papers

- ‘Evolution or Chaos? Scenarios for a Post-Soeharto Indonesia’, Ebenhausen: Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, 1997. [in German]
- ‘Sabah, Suluh, Mindanao: Test Case for Regional Conflict Management’, Ebenhausen: Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, 1994. [in German]

Op-Ed Publications (Published or Forthcoming)

- Tobias Rettig, “Women Warriors in Asia”, (with Vina Lanzona) [Introduction to special thematic issue], *IIAS Newsletter* 48 (Summer 2008), p. 3. [1,570 words] http://www.ias.nl/nl/48/IIAS_NL48_03.pdf
- “Warrior Queens: The Rani of Jhansi Regiment”, *IIAS Newsletter* 48 (Summer 2008), pp. 8-9. [1,978 words] http://www.ias.nl/nl/48/IIAS_NL48_0809.pdf
- ‘Myanmar at Sixty: On the Brink of an Apocalypse or Reconciliation?’, in *Knowledge@SMU*, 04 June 2008 [1,850 words], see <http://knowledge.smu.edu.sg/>
- *7th Asian-European Editors’ Forum*, (editor with Werner vom Busch), Singapore: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, 2007. [134 pp.]
**7 contributions by: HE Lee Hsien Loong, Prof. Dr. Wang Gungwu, Mr. Ravindra Kumar, Dr. Lam Peng Er, Mr. Janadas Devan, Mr. Joachim Ihrcke, Mr. Suthichai Sae-yoon.

- *Covering Maritime Piracy in Southeast Asia*, (editor with Werner vom Busch), Singapore: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, 2006. [121 pp.]
**6 contributions by: Mr. Andreas Harsono, Mr. Eric Frécon, Dr. Sam Bateman, Mr. Jeffrey Chen, Mr. Mak Joon Num, Mr. Julian Gearing.
- *6th Asian-European Editors' Forum*, (editor with Werner vom Busch), Singapore: Konrad Adenauer Foundation, 2005. [134 pp.]
**8 chapters by: HE Dr. Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, HE Dr. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Dr. Kuntoro Mangkusubroto, Mr. Jusuf Wanandi, Dr. Bahtiar Effendy, Ms. Zainah Anwar, Ms. Sidney Jones, Mr. Stephen A. Schwartz.
- 'Exporting the Nation-State to Southeast Asia', in *Academia* 33, October 2003, pp. 27-29; see <http://www.eurac.edu/academia/33/academia33.pdf>
- 'The Leviathan's Military Arm: Colonial Armies in Southeast Asia'. Report on EUROSEAS Conference Panel in London, Sept. 2001', in *IAS (International Institute for Asian Studies) Newsletter* 27 (April 2002).
- 'Obituary: Prof Ralph B. Smith, 1939-2000'. Online publication (H-ASIA, VSG) in December 2000, and in the ASEAS-UK Newsletter, March 2001 (abridged version).

Book Reviews (Published or Forthcoming)

- Dror, Olga and K.W. Taylor eds., *Views of Seventeenth-Century Vietnam: Christoforo Borri on Cochinchina and Samuel Baron on Tonkin*. SOSEA-41. Ithaca, NY: Cornell Southeast Asia Program, 2006. Book Review for *Itinerario: International Journal on the History of European Expansion and Global Interaction*, Vol. 31, No. 2, 2007. [submitted 18 June 2007]
- Charney, Michael W.: *Southeast Asian Warfare, 1300-1900*, Leiden: Brill, 2004. Invited Book Review, *Journal of Asian History*, Vol. 40, No. 1, 2006, pp. 114-6.

In Preparation

- David Del Testa, Tobias Rettig, Sophie Quinn-Judge (eds.), *Red Soviets of Nghe Tinh, 1930-31: The Roots of Conflict in the Early Vietnamese Revolution* [latest status: mss rejected by Cornell University's Southeast Asia Program; last copy-editing of entire mss: June-July 2007]
**19 chapters by 17 contributors: Del Testa & Rettig (intro 1), Quinn-Judge (intro 2), Pierre Brocheux, Thomas Engelbert, Pascal Bourdeaux, Pham Xanh, Sophie Quinn-Judge, Bruce Lockhart, Nola Cooke, François Guillemot, Vinh Sinh, Pham Hong Tung, David Del Testa, John Kleinen, Nguyen The Anh, Vladimir Kolotov, Tobias Rettig, Henri Copin, Boi Tran Huynh, Jason Gibbs.
- 'Introduction' (with David Del Testa), in *Red Soviets of Nghe Tinh, 1930-31*.
- 'Absent, Understaffed, and Invisible Guardians of Empire: Tirailleurs and Garde indigènes in the Repression of the Nghe Tinh Soviets, 1930-31', in *Red Soviets of Nghe Tinh, 1930-31*.

Organisation of International Panels

- Initiator and co-organiser (with Vina Lanzona) of panel on 'Women Warriors in Southeast Asia', Fifth Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS 5), Kuala Lumpur, 04 Aug 2007.

- Co-initiator and co-organiser (with David Del Testa and Sophie Quinn-Judge) of panel '75 Years On: Re-Investigating Vietnam's Revolutionary High Tide of 1930/1', 4th EUROSEAS Conference, Paris, Sept 2004. Successful fundraising (Ford Foundation, Asia-Europe Foundation) for five participating Vietnamese scholars. www.geocities.com/rht2004
- Initiator and co-organiser (with Ian Brown) of panel 'Colonial Armies in Southeast Asia', 3rd EUROSEAS Conference, London, Sept 2001.

Conference Papers and Presentations

- 'Vietnamese Soldiers 'Mort Pour la France' in France during WW1 – Preliminary Findings', Social Sciences and Humanities Seminar Series, School of Social Sciences, SMU, 17 Oct 2008.
- 'Gendered Political Economies of Imperial War Systems in Colonial Southeast Asia (with particular reference to French Indochina and the Netherlands East Indies)', Fifth Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS 5), Kuala Lumpur, 04 Aug 2007.
- 'Rationality, Morality, Identity: Recruitment Regimes, Military Labour Markets, and Desertion in French Colonial Indochina (c. 1885-1945)', Presentation to Vietnam – Cambodia – Laos Study Group, Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore, 7 April 2005.
- 'Recruitment of Vietnamese Soldiers into the French Colonial Army, 1858-1945', Presentation to Final Year History Students, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, National University of Vietnam, Hanoi, 16 Dec 2004.
- 'Absent, Understaffed, and Invisible Guardians of Empire: Tirailleurs and Garde indigènes in the Repression of the Nghe Tinh Soviets, 1930/31', 4th EUROSEAS Conference, Sorbonne, Paris, Sept 2004.
- 'Communists and Soldiers During a Time of Confrontation, Tet 1930 to Autumn 1931', Indochina Study Group, ARI, National University of Singapore, Apr 2003.
- 'Indochinese Soldiers in the Service of France, 1927-1945: Presentation of Work in Progress', Asia Pacific History Seminar, SOAS, Jan 2003; 'International Workshop on Pre-Colonial Warfare in Monsoon Asia', SOAS, Jan 2003; Institut de Recherche sur le Sud-Est Asiatique (IRSEA), Marseille, June 2002.
- 'French Military Policies in the Aftermath of the Yên Bay Mutiny, 1930', 3rd EUROSEAS Conference, London, Sept 2001.

Institutional Service Contributions: Professional Responsibilities

- SMU Senate: service since Apr 2009, representing the School of Social Sciences.
- Socscistan: The Little Republic: co-initiator and faculty editor of the first two issues of this student-faculty magazine / newsletter (since Dec 2008); see <http://www.socsc.smu.edu.sg/students/current/socscistan.asp>
- General Education (GE) Arts Committee (since Sept 2008).
- Student Affairs Committee, School of Economics and Social Sciences, Singapore Management University, Academic Year 2006/07.

Professional Service Contributions: Broadcasted Interviews

Insight, Channel News Asia (12 Oct 2009, 21:30): Commenting on the earthquake in Sumatra and flooding in the Philippines (typhoon Ketsana).

Focus, Channel 8 (26 May 2009): Commenting on the situation in Myanmar (Aung San Suu Kyi's unwelcome visitor).

Primetime Morning, Channel News Asia (16 Sept 2008): Live interview with Dominique Loh and Suzanne Jung on the leadership change in Thailand.

Channel NewsAsia (20 May 2008): Commenting on the tenth anniversary of Indonesia's Reformasi and today's rising commodities prices.

Focus, Channel 8 (17 Apr 2008, 22:30): Commenting on the Olympic torch protests.

Focus, Channel 8 (27 Dec 2007, 22:30): Previously unshown quote from the earlier interview on Myanmar.

Focus, Channel 8 (06 Dec 2007, 22:30): Commenting on the failed 29 November 2007 military coup d'état in the Philippines.

Primetime Morning, Channel NewsAsia (20 Nov 2007, c. 08:05), Live Interview with Augustine Anthuvan regarding the new ASEAN Charter.

360°, Channel NewsAsia (16 Nov 2007), 20:30, Melvyn Yong-moderated roundtable discussion on the new ASEAN Charter (with Barry Desker, Dean, Rajaratnam School of International Studies, NTU, and Ambassador Holger Standertskjöld, Delegation of the European Commission to Singapore).

Focus, Channel 8 (04 Oct 2007, 22:30): Commenting on the contemporary crisis in Myanmar [interviewer & anchor: Chun Guek Lay].

Languages

- Fluent German (mother tongue).
- English (fluent oral and writing skills).
- French (fluent oral and good writing skills).

Contact Information

Dr. Tobias Rettig
School of Social Sciences
Singapore Management University
Level 4, 90 Stamford Road
Singapore 178903
Republic of Singapore

Tel: +65-6828-0866
Fax: +65-6828-0423
Email: tobiasrettig@smu.edu.sg