

THE POTENT DEAD

ANCESTORS, SAINTS AND HEROES IN
CONTEMPORARY INDONESIA

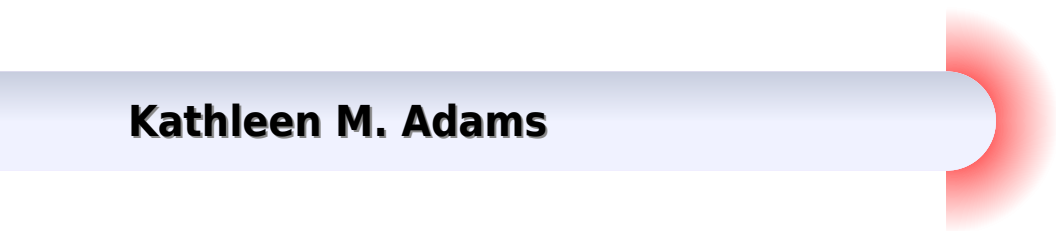
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Potent Dead Ancestors Saints And Heroes In Contemporary Indonesia

Kathleen M. Adams



Potent Dead Ancestors Saints And Heroes In Contemporary Indonesia:

The Potent Dead Henri Chambert-Loir, Anthony Reid, 2002-03-31 The dead are potent and omnipresent in modern Indonesia Presidents and peasants alike meditate before sacred graves to exploit the power they confer and mediums do good business curing the sick by interpreting the wishes of deceased forebears Among non Muslims there are ritual reburials of the bones of the dead in monuments both magnificent and modest This is the first book to assess the indigenous systems of belief in the spirits of ancestors A unique team of anthropologists historians and literary scholars from Europe Australia and North America demonstrate the continuing importance of the potent dead for understanding contemporary Indonesia At the same time they help us understand historic processes of conversion to Islam and Christianity by examining the continuing interactions of the spirit world with formal religion The Potent Dead is a collection of studies by leading scholars of Indonesian culture history and anthropology that examines the death practices and rituals of tribal groups in Indonesia It covers an important area of cultural and social history in Indonesia with pieces linking the death practices of so called tribal groups with historical changes in the country from on going changes in Islam to the roles of forms of modernity Contributors Henri Chambert Loir Elizabeth Coville James Fox Danielle Geirnaert Rodolfo Giambelli Claude Guillot Christian Pelras George Quinn Anthony Reid Minako Sakai Anne Schiller Bernard Sellato Klaus Shreiner For sale in Asia Australia and New Zealand by NUS Press Singapore

Official History in Modern Indonesia Michael Wood, 2005-08-01 Dealing with New Order perceptions of the past this study gives insights into how the past can be used for purposes of national building and regime legitimization and into the nature of the New Order The Suharto regime created a coherent history that is reflected in recent archaeological and historical research in popular histories and biographies in monuments and in school textbooks The author describes an official history stretching from the proto Indonesia of Majapahit through the Indonesian Revolution up to the birth of the New Order in 1965 He also gives a counterview to this history stressing Indonesia's place in the larger Islamic world The past emphasized political stability and national unity under the guidance of the military and socially disruptive ideas were to be avoided

The Encoded Cirebon Mask Laurie Margot Ross, 2016-08-29 In The Encoded Cirebon Mask Materiality Flow and Meaning along Java's Islamic Northwest Coast Laurie Margot Ross situates masks and masked dancing in the Cirebon region of Java Indonesia as an original expression of Islam This is a different view from that of many scholars who argue that canonical prohibitions on fashioning idols and imagery prove that masks are mere relics of indigenous beliefs that Muslim travelers could not eradicate Making use of archives oral histories and the performing objects themselves Ross traces the mask's trajectory from a popular entertainment in Cirebon once a portal of global exchange to a stimulus for establishing a deeper connection to God in late colonial Java and eventual links to nationalism in post independence Indonesia

Engaging the Spirit World Kirsten W. Endres, Andrea Lauser, 2012-03-01 In many parts of the contemporary world spirit beliefs and practices have taken on a pivotal role in addressing the discontinuities and

uncertainties of modern life The myriad ways in which devotees engage the spirit world show the tremendous creative potential of these practices and their innate adaptability to changing times and circumstances Through in depth anthropological case studies from Indonesia Malaysia Thailand Myanmar Laos and Vietnam the contributors to this book investigate the role and impact of different social political and economic dynamics in the reconfiguration of local spirit worlds in modern Southeast Asia Their findings contribute to the re enchantment debate by revealing that the spirited modernities that have emerged in the process not only embody a distinct feature of the contemporary moment but also invite a critical rethinking of the concept of modernity itself

Art as Politics Kathleen M. Adams, 2006-08-31 *Art as Politics* explores the intersection of art identity politics and tourism in Sulawesi Indonesia Based on long term ethnographic research from the 1980s to the present the book offers a nuanced portrayal of the Sa dan Toraja a predominantly Christian minority group in the world s most populous Muslim country Celebrated in anthropological and tourism literatures for their spectacular traditional houses sculpted effigies of the dead and pageantry filled funeral rituals the Toraja have entered an era of accelerated engagement with the global economy marked by on going struggles over identity religion and social relations In her engaging account Kathleen Adams chronicles how various Toraja individuals and groups have drawn upon artistically embellished traditional objects as well as monumental displays museums UNESCO ideas about world heritage and the World Wide Web to shore up or realign aspects of a cultural heritage perceived to be under threat She also considers how outsiders be they tourists art collectors members of rival ethnic groups or government officials have appropriated and reframed Toraja art objects for their own purposes Her account illustrates how art can serve as a catalyst in identity politics especially in the context of tourism and social upheaval Ultimately this insightful work prompts readers to rethink persistent and pernicious popular assumptions that tourism invariably brings a loss of agency to local communities or that tourist art is a compromised form of expression *Art as Politics* promises to be a favorite with students and scholars of anthropology sociology cultural studies ethnic relations art and Asian studies

Narratives of the Unspoken in Contemporary Irish Fiction M. Teresa Caneda-Cabrera, José Carregal-Romero, 2023-07-21 This Open access book is a collection of essays and offers an in depth analysis of silence as an aesthetic practice and a textual strategy which paradoxically speaks of the unspoken nature of many inconvenient hidden truths of Irish society in the work of contemporary fiction writers The study acknowledges Ireland s history of damaging silences and considers its legacies but it also underscores how silence can serve as a valuable even productive means of expression From a wide range of critical perspectives the individual essays address among other issues the conspiracies of silence in Catholic Ireland the silenced structural oppression of Celtic Tiger Ireland the recovery of silenced stories voices of the past and their examination in the present as well as millennial disaffection and the silencing of vulnerability in today s neoliberal Ireland The book s attention to silence provides a rich vocabulary for understanding what unfolds in the quiet interstices of Irish writing from recent decades This study also invokes the past to understand the

present and thus demonstrates the continuities and discontinuities that define how silence operates in Irish culture Grant FFI2017 84619 P AEI ERDF EU INTRUTHS Inconvenient Truths Cultural Practices of Silence in Contemporary Irish Fiction Funded by the Spanish Research Agency AEI <http://dx.doi.org/10.13039/501100011033> and by the European Regional Development Fund ERDF A Way of Making Europe

Towards the Indonesian Republic: Marxist Lineages in the National Revolution Geoffrey Gunn, 2025-05-22 Drawing on little known archival sources this work brings to the fore the salience of a schism in the Indonesian communist movement between pro Moscow loyalists and national communists reaching back to the 1920s which survived even the Japanese occupation and surfaced in the throes of the National Revolution 1945-49 At the heart of the rift lay contrasting visions of revolutionary tactics the salience of Islam in an Islamic majority society the vexed question of alliance between leftists and other anti colonial forces and even the concept and definition of state and national ideology As such we cannot ignore the lineages of Marxism in the National Revolution which trace their roots to the pioneer actions on Java by Dutch communists themselves influenced by the Bolshevik Revolution Contrary to the image of a non revolutionary peasantry and a nationalist leadership broken or tamed by colonial carceral practices the picture that emerges is one of acute agency on the part of an awoken population at a critical historical moment at the end of World War II There is no more complicated period in the history of the Indonesian national revolution than that of 1945-49 during the war with the Dutch colonial armies nor a more complicated strand in Indonesian history than that of its Marxist lineage Dr Gunn's book is a truly unique and fascinating account of both fusing perspectives from a range of colonial as well as indigenous sources Sukarno Hatta Sjahrir Amir Sjariffudin all appear but none more so than Tan Malaka It is as provocative a read as any well researched historical novel but it is not fiction but reality It is very well documented and needs to be read at least twice Max Lane Visiting Senior Fellow Indonesia Studies Programme ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute There have been numerous books on Indonesian independence movements that led to the birth of the Republic of Indonesia Nevertheless this book by Geoffrey Gunn differs from previous ones in the sense that it focuses on the role of Marxist radical movements especially that of Tan Malaka in the Indonesian anti colonial struggle It begins with the emergence of the Communist movement failed rebellions of 1926-27 the Japanese occupation the Madiun Affair and ends with the international recognition of Indonesia's independence in 1949 Using various newly available archives including that of the Russian and recently published articles and books on the subject the author has presented a revisionist history of Indonesian independence with a fresh perspective Leo Suryadinata Visiting Senior Fellow ISEAS Yusof Ishak Institute formerly Professor in Political Science National University of Singapore

[A History of Modern Indonesia](#) Adrian Vickers, 2013-03-25 Since the Bali bombings of 2002 and the rise of political Islam Indonesia has frequently occupied media headlines Nevertheless the history of the fourth largest country on earth remains relatively unknown Adrian Vickers book first published in 2005 traces the history of an island country comprising some 240 million people from the colonial period through revolution and

independence to the present Framed around the life story of Pramoedya Ananta Toer Indonesia's most famous and controversial novelist and playwright the book journeys through the social and cultural mores of Indonesian society focusing on the experiences of ordinary people In this new edition the author brings the story up to date revisiting his argument as to why Indonesia has yet to realise its potential as a democratic country He also examines the rise of fundamentalist Islam which has haunted Indonesia since the fall of Suharto

Mesoamerican Osteobiographies Gabriel D. Wrobel, Andrea Cucina, 2024-07-23 Drawing from a variety of sites throughout Mesoamerica this volume presents a collection of osteobiographies which analyze skeletons and their surroundings alongside historical archaeological ethnographic and other contextual data to better understand the life experiences of individuals

Metropolitan Identities and Twentieth-Century Decolonization Lena Tan, 2015-10-14 This book focuses on the role of the processes and mechanisms involved in metropolitan identity construction maintenance and change in twentieth century decolonization an event integral to world politics but little studied in International Relations

Contemplating Sufism Khairudin Aljunied, 2025-04-14 A pioneering study on Islamic spirituality in Southeast Asia presenting a fresh approach to the longevity of the Sufi dialogical tradition *Contemplating Sufism* explores the factors and forces that have enabled Islam to assert and embed itself in Southeast Asia Using a unique contemplative histories methodology Khairudin Aljunied reveals the multiple undercurrents that continue to influence Sufi thought and practices The book argues that the Sufis employed creative and spirited dialogues with themselves and those they encountered to sustain their importance in Southeast Asia for many centuries Engaging and highly readable *Contemplating Sufism* is filled with vignettes and anecdotes of Southeast Asian Sufism including the author's ethnographic observations and personal experiences living and learning about Sufism Concise chapters illustrate the inventiveness of the Sufis in spreading their ideas while highlighting their influence on ideological emotional cultural political and social changes in Southeast Asia Uncovering how and why Sufism became an energetic force in Southeast Asian history this book Provides an accessible and coherent synthesis of the latest scholarship in the field Explores the various modes of Sufi engagement across Southeast Asia with special attention paid to dialogue and the making of traditions Offers vivid descriptions and rich analyses of texts ideas people practices and institutions that aided in the development of Sufism Incorporates new data from repositories in Singapore Malaysia Indonesia Brunei South Thailand Britain Australia the Netherlands and the United States *Contemplating Sufism Dialogue and Tradition across Southeast Asia* is an excellent textbook for undergraduate and graduate courses on Sufism across disciplines such as philosophy political science history religious studies and anthropology It is also a valuable resource for academics analysts social scientists legal scholars and historians with an interest in the subject

The Politics of the Periphery in Indonesia John H. Walker, Glenn Banks, Minako Sakai, 2009-01-01 *The Politics of the Periphery in Indonesia* is a thought provoking examination of local politics and the dynamics of power at Indonesia's geographic and social margins After the fall of Suharto in 1998 and the introduction of a

policy of decentralization in 2001 local stakeholders secured and consolidated decision making power and set about negotiating new relations with Jakarta The volume deals with power struggles and local national tensions looking among other things at resource control the historical roots of regional identity politics and issues relating to Chinese Indonesians The authors develop information in ways that transcend the post colonial territorial boundaries of Indonesia in the Malay Indonesian archipelago and use case studies to show how the changes described have galvanized Indonesian politics at the cultural and geographical peripheries

Keramat, Sacred Relics and Forbidden Idols in Singapore William L.

Gibson,2024-08-29 Keramat holy graves and shrines represent physical markers of Singapore s history as a multi ethnic maritime trading center They offered sanctified spaces not only for Muslims but also for the entire community in which they emerged Maintained by self appointed caretakers the stories of keramat often interweave fact with folklore that mirror the history and sensibilities of the community While once an abundant part of the social landscape of Singapore many keramat were destroyed during the post independence rush to develop These keramat now face a second vanishing with memories of them fading as caretakers and community members age and pass away In parallel many modern Muslims consider keramat as a form of shirk or polytheism and tacitly consent to their destruction This book concludes by critically examining the often tense relationship between keramat and authority both secular and religious from colonial to modern times The dilemmas of grappling with puritanical norms and grassroots elaborations in varying modes of preservation are investigated using case studies from Singapore and the wider region A vital resource for scholars this work contributes to a people s history of Singapore one that both deepens and problematizes official historical accounts

Death on the Move Philip J. Havik,José

Mapril,Clara Saraiva,2018-04-18 This volume explores the different aspects of the management of death dying and mortality by migrants in Southern Europe through deconstructing persistent idiosyncratic beliefs myths narratives silences and constraints It focuses on migrants from diverse geographical and cultural backgrounds in Portugal Spain and Italy It also includes reflections on Madagascar Guinea Bissau East Timor and Cuba The thirteen chapters provide insights into epistemological issues the trans national circulation of bodies spirits and rituals migration the placing of the dead and diverse funerary practices and perspectives Privileging a multi sited approach to death and migrations this book draws on oral archival and published sources to give visibility to populations that often live in liminal structural positions and transient worlds By exploring the multifaceted dimensions of death and suffering among immigrant populations it refocuses the debate on migration in Europe and beyond by highlighting under researched issues such as end of life care mental health death burial cremation funerary ceremonies and symbols repatriation and martyrdom

The Makings of Indonesian Islam

Michael Laffan,2013-12 Indonesian Islam is often portrayed as being intrinsically moderate by virtue of the role that mystical Sufism played in shaping its traditions According to Western observers from Dutch colonial administrators and orientalist scholars to modern anthropologists such as the late Clifford Geertz Indonesia s peaceful interpretation of Islam has been

perpetually under threat from outside by more violent intolerant Islamic traditions that were originally imposed by conquering Arab armies The Makings of Indonesian Islam challenges this widely accepted narrative offering a more balanced assessment of the intellectual and cultural history of the most populous Muslim nation on Earth Michael Laffan traces how the popular image of Indonesian Islam was shaped by encounters between colonial Dutch scholars and reformist Islamic thinkers He shows how Dutch religious preoccupations sometimes echoed Muslim concerns about the relationship between faith and the state and how Dutch Islamic discourse throughout the long centuries of European colonialism helped give rise to Indonesia's distinctive national and religious culture The Makings of Indonesian Islam presents Islamic and colonial history as an integrated whole revealing the ways our understanding of Indonesian Islam both past and present came to be

Shrines and Pilgrimage in the Modern World Peter Jan Margry, 2008 The modern pilgrimage to sites ranging from Graceland to the veterans annual ride to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial to Jim Morrison's Paris grave is intertwined with man's existential uncertainties in the face of a rapidly changing world In a climate that reproduces the religious quest in seemingly secular places it's no longer clear exactly what the term pilgrimage infers and Shrines and Pilgrimage in the Modern World critiques our notions of the secular and the sacred while commenting on the modern media's multiplication of images that renders the modern pilgrimage a quest without an object Using new ethnographical and theoretical approaches this volume offers a surprising new vision on the non secularity of the secular pilgrimage This book will be sure to stoke our intellectual fire and heat up the discussion over the highly charged topic of secular pilgrimage Simon Bronner Penn State University

Expressive Genres and Historical Change Andrew Strathern, 2017-07-05 This collection of essays edited by leading scholars in the field focuses on how expressive genres such as music dance and poetry are of enduring significance to social organization Research from New Guinea Indonesia and Taiwan is used to assess how historical changes modify these forms of expression to adjust to the social and political needs of the moment The volume is unique in exploring the significance of expressive genres for the social processes of coping with and adjusting to change either from outside forces or from internal ones The contributions detail first hand fieldwork often conducted over a period of many years and with each contributor bringing their experience to bear on both the aesthetic and the analytical aspects of their materials Comparative in scope the volume covers Austronesian and non Austronesian speakers in the wider Indo Pacific region

Animism in Southeast Asia Kaj Arhem, Guido Sprenger, 2015-11-19 Animism refers to ontologies or worldviews which assign agency and personhood to human and non human beings alike Recent years have seen a revival of this concept in anthropology where it is now discussed as an alternative to modern Western naturalistic notions of human environment relations Based on original fieldwork this book presents a number of case studies of animism from insular and peninsular Southeast Asia and offers a comprehensive overview of the phenomenon its diversity and underlying commonalities and its resilience in the face of powerful forces of change Critically engaging with the current standard notion of animism based on hunter gatherer and

horticulturalist societies in other regions it examines the roles of life forces souls and spirits in local cosmologies and indigenous religion It proposes an expansion of the concept to societies featuring mixed farming sacrifice and hierarchy and explores the question of how non human agents are created through acts of attention and communication touching upon the relationship between animist ontologies world religion and the state Shedding new light on Southeast Asian religious ethnographic research the book is a significant contribution to anthropological theory and the revitalization of the concept of animism in the humanities and social sciences

Violence and Vengeance Christopher R. Duncan, 2013-10-04 Between 1999 and 2000 sectarian fighting fanned across the eastern Indonesian province of North Maluku experienced leaving thousands dead and hundreds of thousands displaced What began as local conflicts between migrants and indigenous people over administrative boundaries spiraled into a religious war pitting Muslims against Christians and continues to influence communal relationships more than a decade after the fighting stopped Christopher R Duncan spent several years conducting fieldwork in North Maluku and in Violence and Vengeance he examines how the individuals actually taking part in the fighting understood and experienced the conflict Rather than dismiss religion as a facade for the political and economic motivations of the regional elite Duncan explores how and why participants came to perceive the conflict as one of religious difference He examines how these perceptions of religious violence altered the conflict leading to large scale massacres in houses of worship forced conversions of entire communities and other acts of violence that stressed religious identities Duncan s analysis extends beyond the period of violent conflict and explores how local understandings of the violence have complicated the return of forced migrants efforts at conflict resolution and reconciliation

Spirits and Ships Andrea Aciri, 2017-03-13 This volume seeks to foreground a borderless history and geography of South Southeast and East Asian littoral zones that would be maritime focused and thereby explore the ancient connections and dynamics of interaction that favoured the encounters among the cultures found throughout the region stretching from the Indian Ocean littorals to the Western Pacific from the early historical period to the present Transcending the artificial boundaries of macro regions and nation states and trying to bridge the arbitrary divide between inherently cosmopolitan high cultures e g Sanskrit Sinitic or Islamicate and local or indigenous cultures this multidisciplinary volume explores the metaphor of Monsoon Asia as a vast geo environmental area inhabited by speakers of numerous language phyla which for millennia has formed an integrated system of littorals where crops goods ideas cosmologies and ritual practices circulated on the sea routes governed by the seasonal monsoon winds The collective body of work presented in the volume describes Monsoon Asia as an ideal theatre for circulatory dynamics of cultural transfer interaction acceptance selection and avoidance and argues that despite the rich ethnic linguistic and sociocultural diversity a shared pattern of values norms and cultural models is discernible throughout the region

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Potent Dead Ancestors Saints And Heroes In Contemporary Indonesia Introduction

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