

Wednesday, 24th October 2018 at 2:15 p.m.

IAS Meeting Room 2.27, Level 2, FASS Building

Abstract

Islamic practice among the Bugis and Makasar of South Sulawesi is expressed in a variety of diverse forms that is a consequence of local cultural influences and some 400 years of interaction, both direct and indirect, with the wider Asian region. Many Bugis and Makasar belong to mystical Sufi orders introduced to the region at various times in the past, or follow modern reformist Islamic movements that first began to take hold in the early twentieth century. Others practice a form of the religion mixed with indigenous pre-Islamic beliefs. While I highlight this diversity, the talk mainly focuses on the interaction between Bugis and Makasar culture and Sufism, particularly in relation to local conceptions of gender.

Speaker’s Profile



Stephen Druce obtained his PhD in Southeast Asian Studies (History) from the Centre for South-East Asian Studies, Hull University. His main interests span the history, archaeology and literature of island Southeast Asia, particularly South Sulawesi and early Borneo, and conflict management in contemporary Southeast Asia. Major works include *The Lands West of the Lakes: A History of the Ajattappareng Kingdoms of South Sulawesi, 1200 to 1600 CE* (KITLV Press, 2009), *Sebuah Sejarah Sulawesi Selatan dan Tradisi Lisan dan Tulisan, Abad ke-13 hingga ke-17* (Penerbit Ombak and KITLV Jakarta, in press), and an edited special issue themed ‘Orality Writing and History: The Literature of the Bugis and Makasar of South Sulawesi’, *International Journal of Asia Pacific Studies*, Vol. 12, Sup. 1 (2016). Stephen is based in the Academy of Brunei Studies, where he is Programme Leader in Undergraduate and Graduate Studies, and a Research Associate in the Institute of Asian Studies.