

## **Reflections on Knowledge Politics in/on Southeast Asia**

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### **Abstract**

The volume edited by Professor Wan Zawawi Ibrahim, *Social Science and Knowledge in a Globalising World* (2012, PSSM and SIRD) offers a wealth of insights on a range of themes related to globalization and knowledge politics. The dominant themes include the following: (1) critique of the purported 'newness' of globalization; (2) doubts about the usefulness of globalization as a conceptual tool; (3) the threats of, and the responses to, the global; (4) conflict between two globalizing ideas (the West vs Islamic); (5) mis/use of knowledge; (6) foreign vs home scholarship on SEA; (7) and the tensions between the 'global' instrumentalist mindset and the critical-reflexive tradition in the social sciences.

In this seminar, I wish to reflect on two themes that concern knowledge politics; mis/use of knowledge and the implications of the emergent 'home' scholarship on Southeast Asia.

### **Bionote**

Dr. Rommel A. Curaming is Lecturer in History and Southeast Asian Studies at University of Brunei Darussalam (UBD). He completed PhD at the Australian National University (ANU) and has held postdoctoral research positions at La Trobe University (under Endeavour Australia Award) and National University of Singapore (NUS). The empirical bases of his research focus primarily on Indonesia and the Philippines and it straddles a number of inter-related interdisciplinary areas of comparative historiography, public consumption of history and memory, media and violence, knowledge politics, and sociology of knowledge.