

# IMAGINED COMMUNITIES REVISITED Critical Essays on Asia-Pacific Literatures and Cultures





Edited by

Nor Faridah Abdul Manaf Mohammad A. Quayum

With a Foreword by Benedict Anderson

## **Imagined Communities Revisited**

# Critical Essays on Asia-Pacific Literatures and Cultures

Edited by Nor Faridah A. Manaf & Mohammad A. Quayum



#### Published by: IIUM Press International Islamic University Malaysia

#### First Edition, 2011 ©IIUM Press, IIUM

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without any prior written permission of the publisher.

Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Nor Faridah A. Manaf & Mohammad A. Quayum: Imagined Communities Revisited Critical Essays on Asia-Pacific Literatures and Cultures

Bibliography p. Includes Index ISBN

ISBN: 978-967-418-215-1

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM (Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by:

HUM PRINTING SDN. BHD.

No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3 Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves Batu Caves Centre Point 68100 Batu Caves Selangor Darul Ehsan

### **Contents**

Acknowledgements Foreword Editor's Introduction	v vi xi
Nation and Myth	
Traditional Myths and Problematic Heroes: The Case of Harry Freame Bruce Bennett, University of New South Wales, Australia	2
The Politics of Branding in Southeast Asian Literature: Understanding the "Other"	10
Nor Faridah Abdul Manaf, International Islamic University Malaysia	
Gender, Nation, Colonialism and Post-colonialism	
Textualising Woman, Nation and History Ruth Jordana Luna Pison. University of the Philippines Diliman	20
"Who am I Here?": China in the Work of Fay Zwicky, Caroline Caddy and Miriam Lo	33
Dennis Haskell. University of Western Australia	
Poetry and Identity	
Ricardo de Ungria and Philippine Poetics  Isabela Banzon. University of the Philippines Diliman	40
Defining Asian Poetry in English: Anthologies, Communities and Identity Agnes S.L. Lam and Candice S.P. Ng. The University of Hong Kong	46
Historical Self-Consciousness and Identity in Contemporary Macao Poetry Christopher Kelen, University of Macau	57
In Search of Literary Love in Malay Literature: The Early Stages of Relationship	67
Muhammad Haji Salleh. Universiti Sains Malaysia	
The Nation Through the Writer's Eye	
Editing the Autobiography of the Premiere Poet of Singapore, Edwin Thumboo Carlotta Lady Izumi Abrams. Estrella College. USA	84
On Malaysian National Literature Wong Phui Nam, Malaysia	88
Asian Films	
Performative Identities: Asian North American Youths in Recent Films Eleanor Ty. Wilfrid Laurier University: Canada	94
Literature in Changing Times	
Literature in a Global Age: An African Perspective  Tanure Ojaide, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, USA	102

Who the Dickens is Copperfield?  Don Henderson, South Australia	110
Multicultural Literary Production in Australia: A Study of Culturally and Linguistically Divers Reading and Writing Communities Sonia Mycak, University of Sydney. Australia	118
History and Nation	
In and Out of Time: Staggered Duration and Colonial Policy in Fiji Sudesh Mishra, Deakin University, Australia and the University of the South Pacific, Fiji	134
Indonesian Contemporary Women Writers on Sexuality: Breaking the Silence Wigati Dyah Prasasti. Airlangga University, Indonesia	142
Understanding Culture and Identity Through Performance	
Mak Yong and the Notion of Malayness Ghulam-Sarwar Yousof, International Islamic University Malaysia	148
In Search of Identity Through "Tradition-Based" Contemporary Dance and Theatre Performance Zulkifli bin Mohamad, Malaysia	157
Imagined Communities	
Reluctant Nations: First Generation Chinese Immigrants in Suchen Christine Lim's A Bit of Earth and Charlson Ong's Banyaga: A Song of War Lily Rose Tope. University of the Philippines Diliman	168
Re-Imagined Ethnolinguistic Communities in Borneo, or Neo-Colonial Continuation?  James McLellan, University of Waikato, New Zealand	175
Asia-Pacific Cartoons/ Caricatures	
Don't Blame the Cartoonists: We Only Transform Events onto Papers Zunar, Malaysia	186
Oral Tradition	
The Other Side of a Centre of Christianity: Open Rationality in the Oral Literature and Culture of Highland and Lowland Communities in the Bikol Region of the Philippines  Jesus Cyril M. Conde, Ateneo de Naga University Philippines	190
Folk Literature and Modern Education in Malaysia: The State of the Art See Hoon Peow and Ahmad A. Nasr. International Islamic University Malaysia	210
Translation and Nation	
Framing Translated Communities: A Study of the Paratexts to the Indonesian Translation of a Vietnamese Novel Harry Aveling. Monash University. Australia	230
About the Contributors	238
About the Editors	241