



CELEBRATING DEMOCRACY IN MALAYSIA

Renewing Communities
in Southeast Asia,
Promoting Human Rights For All

The Inaugural Conference of FORSEA

16-17 February 2019

VENUE: Publika, Kuala Lumpur

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Contact: office@forsea.co
www.forsea.co

Master of Ceremony

Hishamudin Rais (FORSEA BOD member)

TIME SPEAKERS

Day I – 16 Feb (10:00 to 18:00)

- 10:00** Chief Minister of Selangor, Malaysia; Yang Amat Berhormat Tuan Amirudin Bin Shari
Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Menteri Besar Selangor
- 10:15 – 10:30** Welcome Remarks & Introduction by Madam Nursyahbani Katjasungkana,
FORSEA Board of Directors & National Coordinator, Indonesian Legal Aid Association for Women
- 10:15 – 10:45** FORSEA: Vision, Values, & Programs by Dr Maung Zarni, FORSEA Co-founder &
General Secretary; Fellow, (Genocide) Documentation Center – Cambodia
- 10:45 – 11:00** Mr Ruben Vardanyan, (pre-recorded) Co-founder of Aurora Humanitarian Initiative, USA
- 11:00 – 11:30** Opening keynote (in person)

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia
- 11:30 – 12:00** Pre-recorded remarks on democracy, human rights and international politics
by Noam Chomsky, Institute Professor Emeritus, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and
Laureat Professor, University of Arizona

Associate Professor Pavin Chachavalpongpun, Kyoto University, FORSEA Co-founder
and Dir of Multimedia Program, introduces Professor Noam Chomsky

The Opening of Art Exhibition, “Democracy-In-Action”– by PM Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad

12:00 – 13:00 LUNCH BREAK

- 13:00 – 13:30** Responses to Chomsky-Mahathir keynotes
- Chair – Mr Wah-Piow Tan, FORSEA Director for Strategy and Outreach & Member of the Board of Directors
 - Ms Febriana Firdaus (a leading Indonesia journalist and activist)
 - Mr Adam Adli (Malaysian youth activist)
 - Professor Pavin Chachavalpongpun
- 13:30 – 13:45** An extended trailer specially made for FORSEA Conference
- UNWANTED, The Plight of Rohingya**
Director: Shahida Tulaganova, the award-winning Uzbek war reporter and director of “How to Plan A Revolution”, a story of young pro-democracy activists striving for change in a dictatorship in Azerbaijan.
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13: 45 – 14: 45 Genocides and Atrocities Across Southeast Asia

- Chair – **Emeritus Professor Saskia E. Wieringa**, Member of the Board of Directors of FORSEA, Emeritus Professor at the University of Amsterdam, former Director of Aletta, Institute for Women's History in Amsterdam, co-founder of the Kartini Asia Network.
- **Rt Honourable Marzuki Darusman**, Chair of UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, Former UN Special Rapporteur on N. Korea, former Chair of National Human Rights Commission of Indonesia and former Attorney General of Indonesia
- **M'm Nursyahbani Katjasungkana**, co-author of Propaganda and Genocide in Indonesia: Imagined Evil (Routledge 2018)
- **Mr Youk Chhang**, Executive Director of Documentation Center – Cambodia and the recipient of 2018 Magsaysay Award
- **Mr Nay San Lwin**, Editor of *Rohingya Today* (formerly *Rohingya Blogger*), Coordinator of the Free Rohingya Coalition and renowned Rohingya citizen-journalist

14:45 – 15:30 Developments in mainland Southeast Asia with special reference to Thailand

- **Professor Charnvit Kasetsiri**, Winner of Fukuoka Academic Prize; Emeritus Professor of History & former President of Thammasat University, Thailand

15:30 – 16:00 Refreshments break

16:00 – 18:00 Contemporary State of Democracy and Human Rights: Grassroots Views (30 mins each)

THAILAND:

- **Ms Chonthicha Jangrew**, civil rights and youth activist and founder of Democracy Restoration Group of Thailand
- **Mr Netiwit Chotiphathaisal**, Author, former President of Chulalongkorn University Student Council & founder of Education for Liberation of Siam

MYANMAR:

- **Ms May-Oo Mutraw (LL.M.)**, peace advocate & Adviser to the Karen National Union
- **Mr Sai Kyi Zin Soe**, social impact researcher & PhD Candidate, University of Sydney

VIETNAM:

- **Mr Don Le**, Democracy Trainer, Australian-Vietnamese
- **Ms Thao Dinh (The Voice)**, Vietnam

CAMBODIA:

- **Ms. Catherine V. HARRY**, Cambodian blogger & feminist
- **Ms. ENG Chandy**, Leading Youth Feminist & Coordinator of Gender and Development Network (GADNet)

EVENING CONCERTS:

Mr Mun Awng, nationally acclaimed pro-democracy Burmese musician

Malaysia democracy rock band: celebrating democratic reforms

DAY II – 17 Feb (09.30 – 17.15)

- 09:30 – 10:30** **A Critical Overview of Democracy and Human Rights in Southeast Asia**
- Chair - Mr Sandy Indra Pratama**, leading Indonesian journalist
- **Ms Yuyun Wahyuningrum**, Chair, AICHR Indonesia & PhD Researcher, Erasmus University, the Netherlands
 - **Mr Jose Luis Martin 'Chito' Gascon**, Chair, National Human Rights Commission, the Philippines
- 10:30 – 11:30** **Singapore – Kirsten Han**, editor-in-chief, New Naratif
- Malaysia –** An update on the democratic reforms in Malaysia
- Philippines - Professor & Elected Faculty Regent Ramon Guillermo**, Center of International Studies at the University of the Philippines
- 11:30 – 12:30** **On the rule of law, legal reforms and clean government: A Conversation**
- **Barrister Ambiga Sreenevasan**, former Chair of Malaysian Bar Council and former Chair of Bersih (TO BE CONFIRMED)
 - **Clare Rewcastle Brown**, Former British television journalist, Founder and editor of the website Sarawak Report and Radio Free Sarawak, recipient of the Guardian Award by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (2018), winner of the One World Media Special Award from CNN (2015)
- 12: 30 – 1: 30** **LUNCH**
- 1: 30 – 2:00** **Book Launch: Myanmar and Indonesia**
- **Madam Nursyahbani Katjasungkana & Emeritus Professor Saskia E. Wieringa** *Propaganda and Genocide in Indonesia: Imagined Evil* (Routledge, 2018)
 - **Dr Maung Zarni (and Natalie Brinham, Queen Mary University of London Department of Law)** *ESSAYS on Myanmar's Genocide of Rohingyas: An Anthology* (Refugee and Migratory Movement Research Unit, University of Dhaka, 2019)
- 14:00 – 17:00** **Teach-ins**
- GROUP THEMES – to be led by speakers and FORSEA organizers**
- 1) Inequality, Corruption and Un-Representative Governments
 - 2) Human Rights and ASEAN
 - 3) The Health of the Environment in Southeast Asia
 - 4) Rights of LGBT and other marginalized communities
 - 5) The roles of YOUTH AND WOMEN in PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS
- 17:00 – 17:15** **Closing Remarks by Hishamudin Rais, Conference Host and Master of Ceremony**
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