

die Aufzählung des Maßnahmenpakets Manmohan Singhs. Unter Einbeziehung auch aktueller Themen wie des Börsenskandals 1992 sowie des immer mehr Beachtung findenden informellen und semi-formellen Finanzsektors (Geldverleiher, Selbsthilfegruppen, Nichtregierungsorganisationen) erfolgt eine ausführliche, sehr informative Betrachtung von „Finanzsystem und Geldverfassung“ Indiens. Im Abschnitt „Genossenschaften, Gewerkschaften und Verbände“ folgt ein Überblick über drei Kategorien freiwilliger Organisationen: ländliche Genossenschaften, Industriegewerkschaften sowie Handelskammern und Unternehmerverbände. Das Kapitel schließt mit einer datenorientierten, informationsdichten Darstellung der „Infrastruktur: Transport und Kommunikation“, die auch eine ausführliche Betrachtung der Wasserwirtschaft beinhaltet.

Im umfangreichen Anhang folgen u.a. zahlreiche statistische Angaben, die sich teilweise auf den verlässlichen Census of India, teilweise auf Untersuchungen internationaler Organisationen beziehen sowie eine ausführliche Zeittafel. In einzelnen Beiträgen veranschaulichen Karten die Zusammenhänge. Zu allen Artikeln findet sich eine Literaturliste, die sich dem Thema entsprechend auf überwiegend englischsprachige Literatur bezieht. Die i.d.R. ausgewogenen Literaturhinweise dienen im allgemeinen der Vertiefung des jeweils behandelten Themas. Zu einzelnen Beiträgen werden auch weniger zugängliche Quellen genannt, die eine Berücksichtigung aktueller Problemfelder ermöglichen.

Insgesamt liefert das Indienhandbuch sowohl für Indienkenner als auch für Laien zahlreiche Hintergrundinformationen, die wissenschaftlich fundiert zum Verständnis des Tagesgeschehens in Indien beitragen.

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PETER J.M. NAS (ed.), *Issues in Urban Development: Case Studies from Indonesia*. (CNWS Publications 33). Leiden: Research School CNWS, 1995. 293 pp., hfl 40,—. ISBN 90-73782-38-4

This book is a compilation of the papers read at the workshop "The Indonesian City Revisited" held in Leiden in December 1993 under the auspices of CNWS, the Leiden School for Asian, African and Amerindian Studies. In his introduction, Peter Nas describes the objective of the book as "to elucidate the past in order to forge a better city for the future" (p. 7). The first part (ch. 1-6) thus consists of historical accounts, reflecting the renewed interest of Dutch scholars in the colonial past. In the second part,

three papers (ch. 7-9) take up Peter Nas' approach of urban symbolism (which is likewise historically grounded), connecting social, cultural and religious symbols to the stratification and power structure of the city. The final three contributions (ch. 10-12) deal with issues of policy and urban planning. The book is well rounded off by a good bibliography of Indonesian as well as English, French, German and Dutch publications on the Indonesian city, covering the years 1985-1995.

The first two papers discuss environmental problems in the colonial period. In "Urban pollution in Java, 1600-1850" Luc Nagtegaal presents data on microbial, artisanal and industrial pollution in the large Javanese cities. He comes to the conclusion that conditions were comparable to those of European cities, refuting "popular images (which) depict Java as an island with a purely agricultural economy" (p. 23). In "The plague year: Copra Beetles and Environmental Management in Colonial Padang", Freek Colombijn discusses different strategies of pest control and their relation to distinct interest groups. Conflicts reveal the "plural character of the colonial society" (p. 43).

The next two chapters deal with colonial architecture and its significance for the present image of the city. Cor Passchier presents "Medan: Urban Development by Planters and Entrepreneurs, 1870-1940". The transformation of a provincial town into a metropolis is accompanied by a loss of identity: "It seems just a matter of time before, swept along in the flood-tide of economic growth, the historic urban environment will totally succumb to demolition and vanish into history" (p. 62). Similarly, in "Jakarta's Urban Heritage: Restoration of the Urban Memory of Kota", Ronald Gill pleads for a preservation and revitalisation of the old townscape of downtown Jakarta which he reconstructs in an "urban memory map" (p. 96).

Marik Bellen discusses "Cultural Institutions in Batavia, 1900-1942" which reflected the social segregation of colonial society. Cultural activities were a "purely European concern, run by Europeans for other Europeans" (p. 112). Nicole Niessen's paper covers the consecutive time span from 1942 to 1945, venturing into the quite unexplored subject of "Indonesian Municipalities under Japanese Rule". The pre-war liberalisation of Dutch government was reverted by the Japanese military, a relic of whose rule are the *Rukun Tetangga* neighbourhood associations which enhanced government control of the urban population.

Peter Nas draws a picture of "Palembang: The Venice of the East" and its development from ancient capital city via pirate's lair to the dynamic harbour city of today. His detailed and vivid description of morphological

and architectural characteristics serves as a background for Jeroen Peters' analysis of "Space, Religion and Conflict: The Urban Ecology of Islamic Institutions in Palembang". The spatial distribution of such institutions in the city is explained as the outcome of power relations and conflict between urban groups, among them commercially successful Arabs. Peter Nas then discusses "The Image of Denpasar: About Urban Symbolism between Tradition and Tourism". Buildings, statues and other parts of the built environment as well as the image of the city presented in travel guides are used to uncover tensions between different trajectories of urban development: "The interaction of the traditional culture, the government system, and the modern tourist system has certainly produced a richly variegated configuration of symbols with a powerful dynamism" (p. 189).

The second part of Peter Nas' programme to "forge a better city for the future" is discussed in the final three chapters. In "New Forms of Urban Infrastructural Development Policy in Indonesia: A Critical Look at Public-Private Partnership", Nico Schulte Nordholt assesses political reactions to the rapid urbanisation process. Innovative strategies based on decentralisation and participation are seen as "nothing more than a few small steps on a long and winding road" (p. 206). Fons Rietmeijer, in "Urban Housing Production in an Institutional Development Perspective" focuses on one of the most pressing problems of growing cities, namely dwellings for low-income groups and migrants. Self-help home ownership is seen as pivotal for this task, while the state should engage in an "enabling" rather than a "providing" policy (p. 218) in which co-operatives and NGOs play an important role. Finally, Wim Stolte discusses metropolitan planning in Greater Jakarta "From JABOTABEK to PANTURA". The projected emergence of a mega-city of 40 to 50 million residents (p. 245) corroborates Sumitro's forecast that Java will become an island city in the year 2000.

This book is rich in material which is in most cases well presented, documenting the high standard of research on the Indonesian city. It is undoubtedly a treasure trove for historians and geographers interested in the subject. The social scientist, however, is left somewhat frustrated as the contributors neither theoretically nor empirically link up to the New Urban Sociology as exemplified in the works of Manuel Castells, Michael Peter Smith, Saskia Sassen and many others. It is a bit unfair to criticise the book for what is not in it; but the lack of interest in issues like globalisation, urban social movements, present conflicts and informal sector activities - to name just a few - is conspicuous.