

ICAS Book Prize 2015

The 2015 Jury Prizes and Accolades

THE ICAS BOOK PRIZE (IBP) award ceremony took place on 6 July 2015, during ICAS 9 in Adelaide, Australia.

Jury prizes were awarded to the best books and dissertations in both the humanities and social sciences, in addition to the Colleagues' Choice Award, which gives the academic community the opportunity to vote for their own favourite book.

Approximately 50 English-language dissertations, and more than 200 English-language books were submitted, by 58 publishers worldwide. We are now in the process of including new languages to the ICAS Book Prize. Starting with the IBP at ICAS 10 in Chiang Mai (2017) we will be welcoming Chinese, Japanese, French and German publications. This will mean taking a large step towards becoming a truly global competition that is not limited to the academic lingua franca English, but one in which all major languages with sufficient academic capacity can partake.

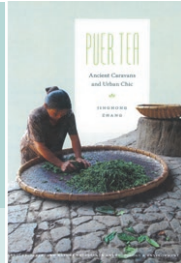
Below you will find the 2015 winning and shortlisted titles, in addition to the publications that received special accolades from the jury. The full list including all citations can be retrieved from www.icas.asia/winners-and-accolades-ibp-2015.

Four of the five main prize winners are pictured opposite receiving their prize certificates. From top to bottom: Jinghong Zhang, Adam Clulow, Tutin Aryanti, Khoo Salma Nasution.

Winner of the ICAS Book Prize 2015 'Social Sciences'

Jinghong Zhang

Puer Tea. Ancient Caravans and Urban Chic
University of Washington Press: Seattle/London, 2014



Ancient Caravans and Urban Chic investigates the social life of a once-mundane commodity: puer tea. Taking readers from terraces to forests to luxury hotels, Jinghong Zhang uses classic anthropological methods and reflections on her attendant film-making alongside the powerful centralizing metaphor of *jianghu*, a kind of adjacent reality of murky truths, to relate unique insights into consumption, class, knowledge claims, and even online community in contemporary China. Perhaps most compelling are the ways the rise and fall of puer tea as a desired commodity provides an exploration of ethnicity, indigeneity, and the emergent significance of a supposedly underdeveloped region (Yunnan); all of which are bound up in puer tea, its packaging, its regulation, and the persistent pursuit of authenticity.

Shortlisted titles IBP 2015 'Social Sciences'

Bridie Andrews <i>The Making of Modern Chinese Medicine, 1850-1960.</i> UBC Press: Vancouver/Toronto, 2014.	Manduhai Buyandelger <i>Tragic Spirits, Shamanism, Memory & Gender in Contemporary Mongolia.</i> The University of Chicago Press: Chicago/London, 2013.	Robert Cribb, Helen Gilbert & Helen Tiffin <i>Wild Man from Borneo: A Cultural History of the Orangutan.</i> University of Hawai'i Press: Honolulu, 2014.	Tina Harris <i>Tibetan Trade, Global Transactions.</i> University of Georgia Press: Athens, 2013.	Philip Taylor <i>The Khmer Lands of Vietnam. Environment, Cosmology and Sovereignty.</i> NUS Press and NIAS Press: Singapore/Copenhagen, 2014.
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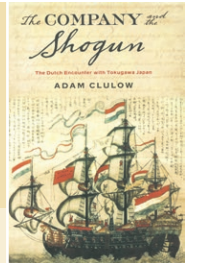
Accolades IBP 2015 'Social Sciences'

Publishers Accolade for Outstanding Production Values Alban von Stockhausen, <i>Imag(in)ing the Nagas: The Pictorial Ethnography of Hans-Eberhard Kauffmann and Christoph von Fürer-Haimendorf.</i> Arnoldische Art Publishers: Stuttgart, 2014.	Most Accessible and Captivating Work for the non-Specialist Reader Accolade Robert Cribb, Helen Gilbert and Helen Tiffin, <i>Wild Man from Borneo: A Cultural History of the Orangutan.</i> University of Hawai'i Press: Honolulu, 2014.	Best Teaching Tool Accolade Li Narangoo and Robert Cribb, <i>Historical Atlas of Northeast Asia 1590-2010. Korea, Manchuria, Mongolia, Eastern Siberia.</i> Columbia University Press: New York, 2014.	Edited Volume Accolade Niko Besnier and Kalissa Alexeyeff (eds.), <i>Gender on the Edge: Transgender, Gay, and Other Pacific Islanders.</i> University of Hawai'i Press: Honolulu, 2014.
Specialist Publication Accolade Hans Ulrich Vogel, <i>Marco Polo Was in China. New Evidence from Currencies, Salts and Revenues.</i> Brill: Leiden/Boston, 2013.	Ground-Breaking Matter Accolade Lynette J. Chua, <i>Mobilizing Gay Singapore. Rights and Resistance in an Authoritarian State.</i> Singapore. NUS Press, 2014.	Best Art Book Accolade Venka Purushothaman (ed.), <i>The Art of Sukumar Bose: Reflections on South and Southeast Asia.</i> ISEAS Press: Singapore, 2013.	

Winner of the ICAS Book Prize 2015 'Humanities'

Adam Clulow

The Company and the Shogun: The Dutch Encounter with Tokugawa Japan
Columbia University Press: New York, 2014



The Company and the Shogun takes a fresh approach to the study of European power in Asia during the early modern period. Thoroughly researched and thoughtfully argued, Clulow uses the case of the 17th century Dutch East Indies trade company interactions with Tokugawa Japan to interrogate European-centric historical tropes about the rise of the West and European conquest in Asia during this time. Clulow argues that rather than being aggressive merchant pirates who laid the groundwork for early colonialism, the Dutch became loyal vassals who were forced to adopt a subordinate role to the Shogun. With its accessible prose and important implications, this book should be a requirement for students of world history and all of those concerned with the issue of colonial encounters and east-west relations.

Shortlisted titles IBP 2015 'Humanities'

Beverley Bossler <i>Courtesans, Concubines, and the Cult of the Female Fidelity.</i> Harvard University Asia Center: Cambridge/London, 2013.	Michelle Caswell <i>Archiving the Unspeakable. Silence, Memory, Photographic Record in Cambodia.</i> The University of Wisconsin Press: Madison, 2014.	Theresia Hofer <i>Bodies in Balance: The Art of Tibetan Medicine.</i> University of Washington Press, in association with the Rubin Museum of Art: Seattle, 2014.	John N. Miksic <i>Singapore and the Silk Road of the Sea 1300-1800.</i> NUS Press and National Museum of Singapore: Singapore, 2013.	Khoo Salma Nasution <i>The Chulia in Penang: Patronage and Place-Making around the Kapitan Kling Mosque 1786-1957.</i> Areca Books: Penang, 2014.
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Accolades IBP 2015 'Humanities'

Publishers Accolade for Outstanding Production Values Inha Jung, <i>Architecture and Urbanism in Modern Korea.</i> University of Hawai'i Press: Honolulu, 2013.	Most Accessible and Captivating Work for the non-Specialist Reader Accolade Jeffrey W. Alexander, <i>Brewed in Japan: The Evolution of the Japanese Beer Industry.</i> University of Hawai'i Press: Honolulu, 2014.	Best Teaching Tool Accolade K.W. Taylor, <i>A History of the Vietnamese.</i> Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 2013.	Edited Volume Accolade Oliver Pye and Jayati Bhattacharya, <i>The Palm Oil Controversy in Southeast Asia.</i> Institute of Southeast Asian Studies: Singapore, 2012.
Specialist Publication Accolade Daria Berg, <i>Women in the Literary World in Early Modern China.</i> Routledge: Oxon, 2013.	Ground-Breaking Matter Accolade Richard Pearson, <i>Ancient Ryukyu.</i> University of Hawai'i Press: Honolulu, 2013.	Best Art Book Accolade Theresia Hofer, <i>Bodies in Balance: the Art of Tibetan Medicine.</i> University of Washington Press: Seattle, 2014.	

Winner of the IBP Dissertation Prize 2015 'Social Sciences'

Tutin Aryanti

Breaking the Wall, Preserving the Barrier: Gender, Space, and Power in Contemporary Mosque Architecture in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

This dissertation beautifully weaves together architectural analysis, ethnographic methods, postcolonial feminist theory, and poststructuralist visual theory to examine the mosques of Yogyakarta and the broader landscape of gendered social relations they constitute and are constituted by. In this rigorous and detailed account, the material and immaterial structures of gendered religious life appear as thoroughly intertwined sites of contestation, where notions of control, empowerment, representation, and transformation are negotiated through the politics of sex segregation. Aryanti puts forward a wonderfully multifaceted picture of religious space, complicating critical readings of the disciplinary functions of mosque architecture by shedding light on the understudied and hidden spatial practices of the women who occupy them.

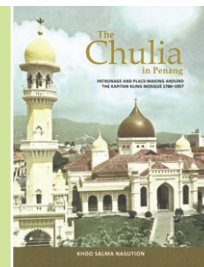
Shortlisted titles IBP Dissertation Prize 2015 'Social Sciences'

Tallyn Gray <i>Justice and Transition in Cambodia, 1979-2014: Process, Meaning, and Narrative</i>	David Kloos <i>Becoming Better Muslims: Religious Authority and Ethical Improvement in Aceh, Indonesia</i>
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Accolades IBP Dissertation Prize 2015 'Social Sciences'

Most Accessible and Captivating David Kloos, <i>Becoming Better Muslims: Religious Authority and Ethical Improvement in Aceh, Indonesia</i>	Ground-Breaking Subject Matter Tallyn Gray, <i>Justice and Transition in Cambodia, 1979-2014: Process, Meaning, and Narrative.</i>	Specialist Publication Anke Marion Hein, <i>Cultural Geography and Interregional Contacts in Prehistoric Liangshan.</i>
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Winner of the IBP Colleagues' Choice Award 2015



Khoo Salma Nasution
The Chulia in Penang: Patronage and Place-Making around the Kapitan Kling Mosque 1786-1957
Areca Books: Penang, 2014.

This is a comprehensive study from multiple perspectives of the great mosque established by the Tamil Muslim community in Penang in the early 19th century. Primarily an engaging social history, it places the sacred site at the centre of a wide-ranging enquiry into the evolution of a diaspora and the role of the mosque as an expression of that community's identity. Issues of gender, diet, architecture, and many others are used to illustrate the social and economic worlds of the mosque, as well as its religious processes. Accessible to both students and scholars and illustrated with a wealth of historical photographs and drawings this is an important work, a model of its kind and one to enjoy as well to enlighten. The depth of research is remarkable, and the range of enquiry admirable.

Winner of the IBP Dissertation Prize 2015 'Humanities'

Deokhyo Choi

Crucible of the Post-Empire: Decolonization, Race, and Cold War Politics in U.S.-Japan-Korea Relations, 1945-1952

This exceptionally rich study examines the complex interrelated histories of decolonization in Korea and Japan in relation to U.S.-Japan-South Korea Cold War containment policies. The dissertation is ground-breaking in its radical departure from conventional historiographies that analyse the U.S. and Soviet occupations of Korea (1945-1948) and the U.S./Allied occupation of Japan (1945-1952) as separate national histories. Instead, Choi takes the 'Korean minority question' as his primary methodological site, and convincingly shows how an inter- and transnational framework reveals fundamentally new insights into post-Empire Japan and Korea. The outcomes of his work will significantly impact the field of East Asian history at large.

Shortlisted titles IBP Dissertation Prize 2015 'Humanities'

Vannessa Hearman <i>Dismantling the 'Fortress': East Java and the Transition to Suharto's New Order Regime (1965-68)</i>	Leonie Schmidt <i>Visions of the Future: Imagining Islamic Modernities in Indonesian Islamic-themed post-Suharto Popular and Visual Culture</i>
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Accolades IBP Dissertation Prize 2015 'Humanities'

Most Accessible and Captivating Vannessa Hearman, <i>Dismantling the 'Fortress': East Java and the Transition to Suharto's New Order Regime (1965-68)</i>	Ground-Breaking Subject Matter Philip Bradford Yampolsky, <i>Music and Media in the Dutch East Indies: Gramophone Records and Radio in the Late Colonial Era, 1903-1942</i>	Specialist Publication Jamie Jungmin Yoo, <i>Materiality and Writing: Circulation of Texts, Reading and Reception, and Production of Literature in Late 18th-Century Korea</i>
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