

	<p>KABAR</p> <p>AIA News</p> <p>Est. 1945</p>	<p>What's Inside</p> <p>President's message</p> <p>AIA AGM</p> <p>Education Scholarship</p> <p>Book Review</p> <p>The Look of Silence</p> <p>Recipe</p>
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President's Message

Hi Everyone,

Summer is almost over as we head towards Autumn with cooler days and nights.

Sport always plays a big part in our summer. The Asian Football Championship was hosted in Australia with some wonderful football played in several cities around Australia, with fantastic crowds watching even those games in which Australia was not involved. I was fortunate to attend the Grand Final in Sydney with a capacity crowd to watch Australia triumph over South Korea to take out the first such major title. We have also hosted India for a series of cricket matches, and the last few weeks have seen the International One Day International cricket tournament. Last night Australia progressed to the Final after defeating India.

On the political scene we have followed the saga of the Andrew Chan and Myuran Sukumaran who are facing execution in Indonesia. A sad story, but one where there are many points of view. Australian lawyers and politicians have done all they can to avert the executions, but the saga looks set to play a few weeks longer. Threats of retaliation do not help in any way. Various Indonesian related events in Australia have been rescheduled, and security at the Indonesian embassy and consulates tightened. Cultural activities normally held at the Consulate have had to be moved elsewhere, including our own AGM.

The Indonesian President, Joko Widodo is still new to the position and is trying to find his way and juggle the various competing interests in Indonesia. Australia's new Ambassador to Indonesia, Paul Grigson, has now had his credentials presented and accepted by the Indonesian Government, so we look forward to a continuation of the good work that Greg Moriarty and his predecessors have carried out.

Here in Sydney, the Indonesian Consul General Pak Yayan Mulyana has been getting out and about to meet the Indonesian community and groups like ourselves who have a strong interest in Indonesia. Pak Yayan was our guest at the Australia Indonesia Awards Presentation last November, and also attended our AGM last week. This was an opportunity for our members to get to know him and to discuss their particular interests.

Our annual Barbecue was held in early February, with plenty of food, drink, great company, and a pleasant evening.

This year is the 70th Anniversary of the AIA and we are making preparations to celebrate this in July.

The other major event this year is the Australia Indonesia Awards Program which will culminate in a Presentation Night later in the year.

Our Education Committee is already working on the scholarship program for the year, and have just confirmed that Commbank will continue its sponsorship of the scholarships and also the Australia Indonesia Awards Program.

As I mentioned earlier, our membership has reached new heights and we are pleased to welcome the following new members: Sonny & Wati Arifien, Catherine Chia, Rawdon and Ros Dalrymple, Annie & Bruce Hermes, Carolyn Joseph, Robert Lim, Rudy Massive, Merry Menglo, Lydia Santoso, Rose Sumanti, Angela Supit

Our Facebook group continues to grow with over 1,100 members.

Finally, don't forget to renew your membership.



AIA AGM

Our AGM last week was very well attended and there was some frank discussion about the direction and activities of the AIA. Membership of the AIA is the highest it has been for many years, and there are a range of activities to cater for members' interests. The AGM was also the opportunity for members to approve the updated Constitution, bringing it into alignment with the Associations Incorporation Act.

The newly elected Committee members are:

President – Eric de Haas
 Vice President – Neil Smith
 Vice President (Indonesian) – Lydia Santoso
 Secretary – Paul Murphy
 Committee – John Luxton, Michael Kramer, Yohanna Cocks, Rose Sumanti, Graeme Ireland, Annie Hermes

Our first Committee meeting will be held shortly and our Action Plan for the year established. There is a lot to do.

I would like to thank our outgoing committee members for their hard work and commitment over the years. In

particular, John Luxton who has been a member and committee member for many years, and was awarded Life Membership of the AIA at the recent AGM. Well done John.

Also a special thank you to Melanie Morrison who has been editing and publishing this Kabar for the last few years. She is relinquishing the role and we are looking for someone who can take over this challenging position.

We welcome our new committee members. We are particularly honoured to have Lydia Santoso on board as the new Vice President. Lydia is an Australian qualified lawyer and Public Notary. Lydia speaks fluent Indonesian and English and has worked in law firms both in Sydney and Jakarta. Lydia is well known in the Indonesian community in Sydney and has amassed a large number of Indonesian and Australian clients.

Being half Indonesian and half Australian, Lydia understands the Indonesian culture and provides valuable assistance to Indonesians who do not understand the Australian legal system fully or who do not speak the English language. Lydia also represents Australians who are unfamiliar with the Indonesian culture, language and the Indonesian Legal System.

Having worked in Indonesia, Lydia has gained the knowledge and skill in how to operate within the unique Indonesian legal system. Lydia is also the

current Chair of the NSW branch of the Australian-Indonesian Business Council, a current member on the NSW Government Multicultural Business Advisory Panel and is also a mentor in the Women in Global Business program.

We are also delighted to have Rosemary Sumanti as a new committee member. Rose has worked for Hotel Indonesia, the Algerian Embassy, Chase Manhattan Bank, the Australian Embassy, British Embassy, and as an entertainer with the band, 'The Females' and a Dance group called " Vini Vidi Vici " as well as featuring in several Indonesian movies. In Australia I have worked at the Indonesian Consulate, was the Chairwomen for Mapalus Kawanua Organisation, and currently the public relation officer for PI (Indonesian Association of NSW inc.), liaison officer for Indonesian Health Committee, as well as one of the Director at the Burwood Lions Club . And recently completed a course with Certificate 111 for Community Service.

AIA COMMBANK SCHOLARSHIP

The 2016 AIA CommBank Scholarship will be launched in June 2015. Applications will close mid August and a winner will be announced early September.

The Commonwealth Bank continues with their support, for which we are grateful.

In January 2015 Caitlin O'Brien and Carson McGovern spent 2 weeks in Jogjakarta after being selected from a competitive line up of NSW high school students. Below is a thank you letter from Carson with fascinating insights into her experience in Indonesia.



Dear Commonwealth Bank and Australia Indonesia Association

I would like to sincerely thank you for giving me the opportunity to travel to Jogjakarta, Indonesia to participate in the Language Immersion program. The experiences and exposure to the Indonesian language, culture and people will stay with me forever, and have only added to my passion for both the language and culture.

I would love to be able to tell you that a particular experience stood out from all the others, but the truth is, all aspects of my stay in Indonesia were amazing! I loved learning about the food, the culture, the religion, the people and of course, Bahasa Indonesia.

The Language Immersion classes were fantastic in making me use, and add to, my Indonesian, and the activities firmly reinforced my theoretical learning. I especially enjoyed learning more about the grammar and structure of the language. The activities included shopping, going to the cinema, cooking (perhaps not my skill set!) and batik making (another area I will need to practise to become better in!).

I could not have asked for a more fantastic host family. They were the best family and I miss them. They were welcoming and friendly, helping me with language questions, assisting and guiding me in cultural expectations and generally being my family. My mother answered many of my questions around

society and religious expectations and included me in all areas of their lives.

The food!! I loved trying all the different flavours and I now find that there isn't enough heat and spiciness in the food here in Australia! I particularly enjoyed rendang sapi- the hotter the better!

In Australia, Islam is presented in a particular way in the media. I found that my exposure in Indonesia to the Muslim religion to be very different to that portrayed in the media. It was very welcoming and accepting, strict, but in a good way in that respect for others and nature was important. I feel that this broadened and improved my understanding and tolerance for others.

Again, thank you so much for allowing me to experience Indonesia in such a unique way. I have every intention of going back to revisit my family and to build on my love of Indonesia.

Yours sincerely

Carson McGovern

FOCUS ON BOOKS

THE INVISIBLE PALACE: THE TRUE STORY OF A JOURNALIST'S MURDER IN JAVA

One August night in 1996, on a rural highway in Java, an investigative journalist was beaten to death by unknown assailants. Two months later, police arrested a high-school drop-out and put him on trial for the reporter's murder. One problem: the accused killer had never met his alleged victim.

Entwined in local rivalries, media intrigues, and the long-held beliefs of many Javanese in fate, myth and magic, the killing of Fuad Muhammad Syafruddin spawned an unprecedented criminal investigation, a gripping courtroom drama and a nationwide controversy that signaled the iron rule of Indonesia's longtime president, Suharto, was ending.

Researched and written over two years from confidential documents, court records and exclusive interviews with police, investigators, lawyers, witnesses and survivors, this unique account reconstructs the legal and political drama surrounding one of Indonesia's most famous unsolved murders. Combining journalism, travel writing and true crime, *The Invisible Palace* is an engrossing and deeply described study of media, politics and justice in

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jose Manuel Tesoro (1972-2008) was Jakarta correspondent for Asiaweek magazine from 1997 to 2000. Born in Manila, he has lived and traveled widely in Indonesia and Southeast Asia, reporting for Asiaweek, Wired, East and the Economist Intelligence Unit. This is his first book.



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The Look of Silence – The film will be screened as part of the Sydney Film Festival

The Look of Silence is Joshua Oppenheimer's powerful companion piece to the Oscar®-nominated *The Act of Killing*. Through Oppenheimer's footage of perpetrators of the 1965 Indonesian genocide, a family of survivors discovers how their son was murdered, as well as the identities of the killers. The documentary focuses on the youngest son, an optometrist named Adi,

who decides to break the suffocating spell of submission and terror by doing something unimaginable in a society where the murderers remain in power: he confronts the men who killed his brother and, while testing their eyesight, asks them to accept responsibility for their actions. This unprecedented film initiates and bears witness to the collapse of fifty years of silence.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE: *The Act of Killing* exposed the consequences for all of us when we build our everyday reality on terror and lies. *The Look of Silence* explores what it is like to be a survivor in such a reality. Making any film about survivors of genocide is to walk into a minefield of clichés. It is an insult to survivors' experience, and does nothing to help us understand what it means to survive atrocity, what it means to live a life shattered by mass violence, and to be silenced by terror. To navigate this minefield of clichés, we have had to explore silence itself. The result, *The Look of Silence*, is, I hope, a poem about a silence borne of terror – a poem about the necessity of breaking that silence, but also about the trauma that comes when silence is broken. We must stop, acknowledge the lives destroyed, strain to listen to the silence that follows.

Tempe and Tofu in Spicy Coconut Sauce

Ingredients

6 or 7 shallots, chopped
 5 cloves garlic, crushed
 4 Tbs sambal oelek
 5 candlenuts or almonds
 1 Tbs tamarind pulp
 1 tsp turmeric
 2 Tbs vegetable oil
 3 stalks lemongrass, white part only, crushed
 with a mallet or knife
 4-6 kaffir lime leaves
 1 inch piece Galangal, sliced into thin discs
 500 grams tempeh, cubed
 500 grams firm tofu, cubed
 2 cups coconut milk
 2 Tsp sugar
 Salt -- to taste

Method

1. Place the shallots, garlic, sambal oelek, candlenuts or almonds, tamarind and turmeric into a blender or food processor and puree. Add a little water if necessary to bring the ingredients together.
2. Heat the oil in a large saucepan or wok over medium high flame. Add the shallot puree and sauté until fragrant, 3 to 5 minutes. Add the crushed lemongrass and lime leaves and sauté 1 to 2 minutes more.
3. Add the tempeh, tofu, coconut milk and salt. Reduce heat to low and simmer until coconut milk has thickened, 15 to 20 minutes. Serve with rice.



AIA COMMITTEE

The AIA Newsletter is produced by the Australia Indonesia Association. Statements made in this publication do not necessarily represent the view of the Association or its members

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To foster and promote friendship, understanding and good relations between the peoples of Indonesia and Australia

Bercita-cita membina persahabatan, saling pengertian dan hubungan antar-masyarakat yang erat antara Indonesia dan Australia