About the Contributors

Mohiuddin AHMAD is an economist by training, a researcher by profession, a poet by passion, and an occasional columnist. As a freedom fighter, he directly participated in the armed resistance movement against the Pakistani occupation army for the liberation of Bangladesh in 1971. He obtained an M.A. from Dhaka University in 1973. Mr. Ahmad has been in the field of development since 1977. He is a well-known social communicator, a development practitioner, and a solidarity activist in the region. He has been an ARENA (Asian Regional Exchanges for New Alternatives) Fellow since 1983, a founder member of South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE) since 2001, and Chairperson of Jubilee South-Asia Pacific Movement on Debt and Development (APMDD) from 2005 to 2010. Mr. Ahmad has so far authored and edited 38 books, including seven poems, two novelettes, and several research studies, gazetteers and essays. He writes both in Bangla and English.

Joel DAVID is Professor of Cultural Studies at Inha University in Incheon, Korea. He holds a Ph.D. and M.A. (as Fulbright scholar) at New York University and completed film (as first graduate) and journalism undergraduate degrees, with honors, at the University of the Philippines. He was founding Director of the UP Film Institute and is the author and editor of several volumes on Philippine cinema, including *Fields of Vision* (the Manila Critics Circle's first National Book Awardee for Film Criticism). His research interests include gender, Orientalism, Asian cinema, and new media. He maintains an archival blog, *Amauteurish!*, at http://amauteurish.com.

CHARLES JOSEPH G. DE GUZMAN finished his bachelor's degree in Political Science (cum laude) at the University of Santo Tomas in 2006, obtained his master's degree in Asian Studies (major in China Studies) at the Asian Center, University of the Philippines Diliman in 2013. He was part of the student group who founded the AC Balangay, the student organization of the Asian Center. His research interests include Philippines-

China relations, Chinese communities in the Philippines, migration, developmental issues, culture and heritage. He is currently working as a Social Science teacher at the Philippine Science High School Main Campus.

Thomas David CHAVES is Assistant Professor at the Department of English and Comparative Literature, University of the Philippines Diliman. He is currently completing his MA in Creative Writing.

Ju-Yong HA is Associate Professor of Communication & Information, and Director of the Digital, Arts and Technology Graduate Program at Inha University, Incheon, Korea. He earned his Ph.D. in Mass Communication & Media Arts from the Southern Illinois University, Carbondale in Illinois. He was a visiting scholar at the Florida State University. He served as a member of the Broadcasting Evaluation Committee of the Korea Communications Commission. His research interests include broadcasting content regulation, media use, and digital media contents. His publications include "Portrayal of women's image in the prime-time TV commercials on three Korean TV networks" (2007); "Audience's Brand Recognition of Virtual Advertisements in a Sports Program" (2012); and "A Performance Evaluation of the Newly Licensed 'Comprehensive Programming' TV Channels in Korea" (2014).

Kevin HEWISON is Sir Walter Murdoch Professor of Politics and International Studies at Murdoch University, Australia. He is also Director of the Asia Research Centre at Murdoch University, Perth, Australia. An expert on Thai politics and coeditor of the *Journal of Contemporary Asia*, he authored *Political Change in Thailand: Democracy and Participation* (1997) and co-edited *Transnational Work and Migration in Asia* (2005).

Lawrence Andrew REID is Researcher Emeritus at the Department of Linguistics, University of Hawai'i in Honolulu, where he finished his M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics. He is the author of several books and journal articles on Philippine languages, particularly those of the Northern Cordillera, where he stayed for twelve years doing research under the Summer Institute of Linguistics. His books include *Guinaang Bontok Texts*

(1992), Bontok-English Dictionary (1976), and Philippines Minor Languages: Word Lists and Phonologies (1971). Recent publications include "Palauan velar nasals and the diachronic development of PMP noun phrases: A response to Blust 2009" (2010) and "Seidenadel's grammar of Bontoc Igorot: One hundred years" in Micronesian and Philippine Linguistics before the Advent of Structuralism, edited by Emilio Ridruejo, Lawrence Reid, and Thomas Stolz" (2011). At present, he lives in Japan and has been researching on the relationships between Austronesian languages and other language families.

The South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE) is a network comprised of "journalists, academics, trade unionists, human rights activists, NGOs and other civil society actors" that aim to eliminate poverty and injustice in South Asia. Conducting "policy research, advocacy, lobbying, and campaign networks," SAAPE focuses on "five major thematic areas: food sovereignty, livelihoods, climate change, and employment; peace, justice, and demilitarization; gender justice; labor rights and economic/financial crisis; and democracy and just governance." Their website is www.saape.org.

Valerie Anne Jill I. VALERO is Senior Foreign Affairs Research Specialist at the Center for International Relations (CIRSS) and Strategic Studies of the Foreign Service Institute (FSI), where she handles the Japan desk of the Center's Northeast Asia Program. Her works, which have been featured in official publications such as the FSI Insights and FSI Reader, include "The Philippines and Japan: Revitalizing Relations through the Expansion of Areas of Cooperation;" "Odd Man Out: Analyzing Japan's Asian Identity Crisis;" and "Japan-China Relations: Dynamics, Dimensions, and Implications." Ms. Valero's research interests include Japan's cultural and creative industries. She earned bachelor's degree in International Studies, majoring in Japanese Studies at the De La Salle University-Manila. At present, she is pursuing her master's degree in Asian Studies with a focus on Japanese studies at the same university. Ms Valero also attended Waseda University and participated in the Japanese-Language Training Program for Specialists sponsored by the Japan Foundation Japanese Language Institute, Kansai.

Francis LOH Kok Wah was Professor of Politics in Universiti Sains Malaysia until he retired in 2012. He received his PhD in Cornell University, USA. His latest books are New vs Old Politics: Malaysian State and Society in Transition and Building Bridges, Crossing Boundaries: Everyday Forms of Inter-ethnic Peace Building in Malaysia. Francis is president of Aliran, a multiethnic, multireligious NGO based in Penang. He is a regular contributor to its Aliran Monthly.

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