

Grace Tjandra Leksana

Memory Culture of the Anti-Leftist Violence in Indonesia

Embedded Remembering

This book examines how community remembers one of the most gruesome acts of violence in the 20th century: the anti-communist violence in 1965 in Indonesia. Through a case study in a rural district in East Java, this research presents complexities of memory culture of violence. These memories are not exclusively determined by the state's repressive memory project, but are actually embedded in intricate social relations and local context where the violence occurred. What people remember, forget, or silenced is part of the continuous negotiation to claim one's right, to relate to the state, and to be Indonesian citizen. This book redefines the politics of memory – that it does not necessarily appear in formal arenas, but actually lies in the intricate web of local dynamics, often involving transactional and clientelistic practices.

BIOGRAPHY

Grace Leksana obtained her doctoral degree from Leiden University. She is currently an assistant professor in the History Department at Universitas Negeri Malang, researching collective memory, state violence, oral history, rural and agrarian studies, and decolonization. She is a member of the Indonesian Institute of Social History (Institut Sejarah Sosial Indonesia).



Heritage and Memory Studies

June 2023

226 pages, 13 Illustrations, black & white

Hardback

156.0 x 234.0 mm

€124.00 / £113.00 / \$138.00

ISBN 978 94 6372 356 5

e-ISBN 978 90 485 5452 2

BISAC HIS037070 / HIS048000 / HIS054000

BIC HBJF / HBTV

KEYWORDS

State violence, memory, micro history, Indonesia, rural dynamics

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents
List of figures
List of tables
Acknowledgements
Acronyms and Glossary
Introduction
Chapter 1- The context of remembering
Chapter 2 - Executing the violence
Chapter 3 - Embedded Remembering
Chapter 4 - Memory landscapes
Chapter 5- Postmemory, silence, and trauma in family narratives
Conclusion -Embedded Remembering, historiography, and national reconciliation

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