

BIOGRAPHIES

Adri Hadi

Adri Hadi, Director General, Public Information and Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia

Ahmed Bilal Mehboob

The founder Executive Director of Pakistan Institute of Legislative development and Transparency (PILDAT), Ahmed Bilal Mehboob has over 20 years experience in senior management and advisory positions and over five years experience in design, planning and implementation of legislative strengthening projects, involving national and provincial legislatures.

His major area of work has been in the forefront of strengthening democracy and democratic institutions, and providing thorough leadership on crucial issues that affect democracy and political growth in the country. Mr Mehboob has developed and spearheaded a non-partisan political research initiative from the platform of PILDAT, and has facilitated the formation of dialogue and research groups on areas such as civil military relations and electoral reforms. He is widely respected as a commentator on political and legislative issues.

Currently, Mr Mehboob is leading a group effort to put together an indigenous framework for the assessment of the Quality of Democracy in Pakistan in line with the frameworks earlier devised by the Democracy Audit, UK and IIDEA, Sweden.

Ambassador Pavan K Verma

Ambassador Pavan K Verma, Embassy of India, Thimphu, graduated with a Bachelor's degree in History from St Stephen's College in New Delhi and joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1976. He has served as Press Secretary to the President of India, as Spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs, as the High Commissioner of India in Cyprus, Director of the Nehru Centre in London, and Director General of the Indian Council for cultural relations in New Delhi.

A well-established writer, Ambassador Pavan K Verma has written over a dozen books. His first book on a contemporary subject was the "Great Indian Middle Class", which was followed by "Being Indian; The Truth about why the 21st Century will be India's". The first book is being translated into French. The second has been translated into several languages including Japanese, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Italian.

His last published work is a translated collection of poems on Gulzar, one of India's best known poets. For his contributions in the fields on diplomacy, literature, culture and aesthetics, Ambassador Pavan K Verma received an honorary doctoral degree from the University of Indianapolis in 2005.

Anthony Grayling

Anthony Grayling is a Professor of Philosophy at Birkbeck College, University of London, and a Fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford. He is a fellow of both the Royal Society of Literature and the Royal Society of Arts in the UK. He writes for many newspapers and magazines and is a columnist for The Times of London.

He has authored many books, the three most recent which bear on the topic of this Conference are "Towards the Light" - the history of the concept of liberty and its application in modern times (from the 16th century to the present); "The Choice of Hercules" - a discussion of humanist ethics and ideas of the good life, and "Liberty in the Age of Terror - on the tension between civil liberties and security concerns in contemporary Western democracies.

He often writes for *The Observer*, *The Economist*, *Times Literary Supplement*, *Independent on Sunday* and *The New Statesman*, and is a frequent broadcaster on BBC Radios 4, 3 and the World Service. He is the Editor of *Online Review* London, and Contributing Editor of *Prospect* magazine.

He is a past chairman of June Fourth, a human rights group concerned with China, and has been involved in UN human rights initiative.

Anthony Grayling is a Fellow of the World Economic Forum, and a member of its C-100 group on relations between the West and the Islamic world.

Ati Nubaiti

Ati has been a professional journalist at The Jakarta Post since 1992 and is presently one of the managing editors, which includes being responsible the newsroom, editing copy, supervision, planning and writing editorials and opinion pieces. Her extensive writing has focused on politics, labour, women, education, health, poverty, and the conflict areas of Aceh and former East Timor.

Ms Ati has participated in a wide range of international and local seminars as both a speaker and presenter. She attended the University of Indonesia, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences and majored in Indonesian Politics in 1987. Ms Ati is also the founding member and former president of the Alliance of Independent Journalists (AJI), and a founding member and former board member of Women's Solidarity (Solidaritas Perempuan).

Champika Liyanaarachi

Champika Liyanaarachi is the first - and so far the only woman - to be the editor of a daily newspaper in Sri Lanka. That paper is the Daily Mirror, the largest selling independent English daily in the country.

She also holds a Masters degree in Conflict Resolution from Colombo University, and is currently Director of The Commonwealth Journalists Association (CJA). She was awarded the Woman of Achievement in Media in 2004, presented by the Sri Lanka Chapter, Zonta International, Chicago, and also the Sri Lanka International Journalist award in 2008, presented by Mass Media Foundation, Sri Lanka for her contribution to the international media. She was also a recent panelist at the East West Centre Conference on The Changing Dynamics of Asia and Pacific, in Bangkok in 2008.

Chompoonute Nakornthap

Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

Chulani Kodikara

Chulani Kodikara, is currently a research associate for International Center for Ethnic Studies in Colombo. Prior to that she was Secretariat for Co-ordinating the Peace Process and Deputy Director to the Secretary General. She made important contributions to strategy and policy discussions and papers, participating at negotiations with the LTTE, attending meetings with Norwegian facilitators, the Monitoring Mission and networking with civil society organisations, including women's organisation.

Ms Kodikara was also the Senior Programme Co-ordinator for the Muslim Women's Research and Action Forum in Colombo, which focused on issues concerning Muslim Personal Law in Sri Lanka from a gender perspective.

Dasho Karma Ura

Dasho Karma Ura got his BA (Honours) in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from Magdalen College, Oxford, and M.Phil in Economics from Edinburgh University.

He is a member of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution for the Kingdom of Bhutan, Board of Bhutan Broadcasting Service Corporation, and several other committees.

Dasho Karma Ura is currently the President of the Bhutan's main research institute, the Centre for Bhutan Studies (accessible at www.bhutanstudies.org.bt), and is the author of various articles and books.

Dasho Kinley Dorji

In 1986, Kinley Dorji, was instrumental in starting Khuensal, Bhutan's first national newspaper, of which he later became Managing Director, then Editor in Chief. He has a Master's Degree in Science of Journalism from Columbia University, New York and is now Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communication for the Royal Government of Bhutan.

Dasho Kunzang Wangdi

Prior to becoming the Chief Election Commissioner for Bhutan, Dasho Kunzang Wangdi was the Auditor General of the Royal Auditor Authority, the Director of the Royal Institute of Management and the Director of Ministry of Trade and Industries respectively.

Dasho Kunzang was educated at St Stephen's College, Delhi University, India where he gained a Bachelor of Arts (with English honours) and Penn University in the US, where he earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He is also board member of many prominent organisations in Bhutan.

Dasho Sonam Kinga

Dasho Sonam Kinga studied English Literature at Sherubtse College, Bhutan, and earned a Masters in Anthropology at Kyoto University, Japan. He began his career in the Bhutanese Civil Service as a Curriculum Officer in 1998, and later became a research associate at the Centre for Bhutan Studies.

He retired in 2004 to work for the Save the Children Federation for one year. In 2006, he founded and edited the Bhutan Observer, one of Bhutan's private newspapers. In 2007, he resigned to enter politics. He was elected from Trashigang district to the National Council, the upper house of the Parliament. His academic interests cover a wide range of issues - including the culture, history, Buddhism, society, economy and politics of Bhutan. Out of many publications, his latest book "Polity, Kingship and Democracy - A Biography of the Bhutanese State" (2009) is of particular relevance to this Conference.

Dasho Sonam Kinga is currently a PhD student at Kyoto University and a Member of Parliament.

Dr Borwonsak Uwanno

Prof Dr Borwonsak Uwanno, Secretary-General of the King Prajadhipok Institute, is a Thai legal expert and a former Professor of Law at Chulalongkorn University. He was a key figure in both the drafting of the 2007 and 1997 Constitutions in Thailand.

Professor Uwanno is keenly aware of the growing pains of democracy and has enormous legislative experience in one the youngest democracies in the world. Dr Uwanno has written that real democracy is about resolving the inequalities of economics and justice. In essence, the quest for a better life.

He was Deputy Secretary General to the Prime Minister (in General Chatchai's Government), Policy Advisor to the Prime Minister, Advisor to the Parliament, Expert of the Committee on the House of Representatives, Member of the Committee on Administrative Reform, Member of the Prince of Songkla University Council.

Dr George Mathew

Dr George Mathew obtained his PhD in Sociology from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He was a visiting fellow at the South Asian Studies Centre, University of Chicago (1981-82), and Visiting Professor, University of Padova, Italy (1988). He was awarded the Fulbright Fellowship in the summer of 1991 to work at the University of Chicago. He has participated and presented papers in international conferences on political process and democracy, religion and society and human rights.

Dr Mathew is the Founder Director, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi. Presently he is specialising in the local governance, grassroots democracy, decentralisation and gender equity. He is a regular contributor to national dailies and his research papers are published in national and international journals and books. Dr Mathew has been serving on various committees and commissions constituted by Government of India, State Governments and international organisations.

Based on a true story, he produced the film: "Swaraaj: The Little Republic", which won the national award for the Best Film on Social Issues (2002) from the President of India for its strong depiction of women's empowerment in rural India.

Dr Henry S Richardson

Dr Henry S Richardson earned graduate degrees in Law and Public Policy at Harvard University before getting his PhD there (under John Rawls) in 1986. His work centres on practical reasoning in all its many guises: in the reasoning of individuals about their aims, in the democratic reasoning of citizens about public policy, and in our moral reasoning. Dr Richardson's initial work concerned the nature of individual reasoning.

His second book, "Democratic Autonomy: Public Reasoning about the Ends of Policy" (Oxford University Press, 2002), argues that democratic legitimacy requires that we rule one another by reasoning with each other, and developed an institutionally, concrete account of how this can occur.

Apart from the nature of democratic deliberation, Dr Richardson's work has been mainly as an editor and expositor. He is a co-editor (with Gerald Mara and R B Douglass), of "Liberalism and the Good" (Routledge, 1990), and (with Paul J Weithman) of "The Philosophy of Rawls" (Five Volumes, Garland Press, 1999).

Dr Richardson has held research fellowships sponsored by Georgetown University, USA, the Programme in Ethics and the Professions at Harvard University, the Woodrow Wilson International Centre for Scholars, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Dr Mohamed Waheed

Dr Mohamed Waheed was elected Vice President of Maldives on 28 October, 2008. He is the first elected Vice President of the Maldives. Dr Waheed is Leader of the Gaumee Itthihaad party, which formed an alliance with the Maldives Democratic Party (MDP) in September 2009. Dr Waheed's political career began in 1998 when he ran the first Western-style election campaign and won the parliamentary seat for the largest constituency in the country. Dr Waheed is an experienced international civil servant who has worked in headquarters, regional and country offices of the United Nations. Until July 2008, he was UNICEF Country Representative in Turkmenistan. He served UNICEF as its Representative and head of mission in several countries. These

include Acting Regional Director, UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia, Interim Representative of Afghanistan, Yemen and Montenegro, and Acting Representative in FYR Macedonia.

Dr Narayan Khadka

Dr Narayan Khadka, who has a PhD in Economics, is currently an elected member of Nepal's Constituent Assembly (National Parliament) Dr Khadka previously served as Chief Advisor to the Prime Minister of Nepal (1999-2000) and as Vice Chairman, National Planning Commission (2002), and is the author of over two dozen books and academic articles on political economy, international development and foreign policy.

Having been involved in Nepali politics in her early student life, Dr Khadka faced imprisonment several times during the *panchayat* rule of the king. She is a former Central Committee Member of Nepali Congress (D) and currently invited central committee member.

Dr Nitasha Kaul

Dr Nitasha Kaul joined the Centre for the Study of Democracy as a Visiting Research Fellow in 2007. She holds a BA with Honours in Economics from the University of Delhi (1997), after which she was awarded a scholarship by the UK Government to study for an MSc in Economics with a specialisation in Public Policy at the University of Hull (1998). She completed a Joint PhD in Economics and Philosophy from the University of Hull (2003).

Her research has always been inter-disciplinary, critical social theory and Dr Kaul delivered a lecture on 'Changes and Challenges in the Himalayas: A Case of Bhutan' at the Research School of Humanities, Australia National University in 2009; 'The Greatest Good of the Greatest Number: Bhutan's Transition to Democracy' in Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore in 2009, and 'Bhutan: Growing a Democracy' at a Loden Foundation Fundraiser, at the National Liberal Club, Whitehall, London, 2009.

Dr Peter Hershock

Dr Peter Hershock is Co-ordinator of the Asian Studies Development Programme at the East-West Centre Honolulu, Hawaii. He has earned a BA, Philosophy degree from Yale University and a PhD, in Asian and Comparative Philosophy from the University of Hawaii. He has focused his research on the philosophical dimensions of Chan Buddhism, and on using the resources of Buddhist thought and practice to address contemporary issues, including: technology and development, education, human rights, and the role of normative values in cultural and social change.

His books include: "Liberating Intimacy: Enlightenment and Social Virtuosity in Ch'an Buddhism" (1996); "Reinventing the Wheel: A Buddhist Response to the Information Age" (1999); an edited volume, "Technology and Cultural Values on the Edge of the Third Millennium" (2004); "Chan Buddhism" (2005), and "Buddhism in the Public Sphere: Reorienting Global Interdependence" (2006).

Dr Sabina Alkire

Dr Sabina Alkire is an economist interested in the ongoing development of the capability approach initiated by Amartya Sen. She is currently the director of the Oxford Policy and Human Development Initiative at Oxford University.

Her publications include "Valuing Freedoms: Sen's Capability Approach and Poverty Reduction", as well many articles on philosophy and economics.

Dr Alkire's research interests include value judgments in economic decision-making, the conceptualisation and measurement of individual agency freedoms (empowerment) - particularly in South Asia - and further development of the capability approach by the academic, policy, and activist communities.

Previously, she has worked for the Commission on Human Security, coordinated the culture-poverty learning and research initiative at the World Bank, and developed participatory impact assessment methodologies with Oxfam and the Asia Foundation in Pakistan.

Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi

Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi is currently the Director of Democratic Governance Group, Bureau for Development Policy UNDP New York. Before joining the UNDP, Geraldine served the South Africa Government for over 14 years in various positions, most recently as Minister for Public Service and Administration and Member of the South African Parliament. Prior to this, she was Minister of Welfare and Population Development. She has also served in a number of leadership roles within Parliament, including as Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Rules of the National Assembly of the Parliament of South Africa. Geraldine has been instrumental in mainstreaming gender into government policies.

She led South African delegations to the Organisation for African Unity and Commonwealth Women Minister's meetings and chaired the Pan African Conference on Women's Development, Equality and Peace in Rwanda. Geraldine's leadership role stretches well outside government. She serves on many Boards, Committees and African Regional Institutions. She was awarded a fellowship to the Institute of Politics at the Kennedy School of Government and holds an MA in Public Administration from the University of Pretoria.

Hasbat Hulan

Since 2007, Hashbat Hulan has been a highly effective National Advisor to Millennium Development Goal Projects and Advisor to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science in Mongolia.

As Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Policy of the Great State Hural (Parliament) she served as team leader for several working groups that made many important amendments to Social and Health insurance and to various codes concerning Law, Education and Labour.

Hashbat Hulan has a Phd in International Relations from the Moscow State Institute of International Relations and has a wealth of legislative experience and a long and fine record in developing democratic governance indicators in Mongolia.

HE Dr Ajay Chhibber

HE Dr Ajay Chhibber is UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific. He earned his BA from St Stephen's finishing as the Best All-Rounder, got his MA from the prestigious DSE and a PhD from Stanford University in 1983 on a Stanford Fellowship.

HE PM Jigmi Y Thinley

HE PM Jigmi Y Thinley got his BA (Honours) from St Stephen in DU and MPA, Pennsylvania State University. HE was bestowed by His Majesty the 4th King the honour of the Order of Heart Son of Bhutan in 1999 and by His Majesty the 5th King the highest civilian decoration, the Druk Wangyal.

Lalita Panicker

Lalita Panicker has been the Senior Associate Editor at the Hindustan Times since 2007, after having worked for 13 years at the Times of India as Assistant Editor and then Senior Assistant Editor. Her current work focuses on the editorial and op-ed pages and involves commissioning articles, writing editorials and overseeing all opinions that go into the newspaper, including letters to the editor. She writes on a variety of subjects ranging from social development to politics and has tried to ensure that the issues which concern the voiceless do get editorial mention at a time when other newspapers tend to ignore them.

She has worked for National Alliance for the Right to Education, the Population Council in New Delhi and the National Alliance for the Right to Education and as a consultant to the International Aids Vaccine Initiative in New Delhi. Her work has entailed close interaction with senior officials of the prime minister's office, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Human Resource Development and the Ministries of health, women and child welfare and education.

Lee Kwan Boon

Lee Kwang Boon is the Secretary- General of the UN Association in Singapore and has 15 years' experience of investing in public and private equities in several major financial houses. Kwang Boon has a long standing interest in the United Nations and its development. Mr

Boon is a firm believer that all who love peace and share the belief of a common humanity should support the United Nations and what it represents. He remains a passionate advocate for cultural understanding that crosses national boundaries. He is also a dedicated supporter of Bhutan, and promotes the informal Singapore-Bhutan Friendship Association.

Pauline Tamesis

Pauline Tamesis is the Democratic Governance Practice Leader of the UNDP Regional Center in Bangkok. Prior to joining the Centre, Pauline worked at UNDP Bureau for Development Policy in New York, as the Democratic Governance Practice Manager, overseeing the global democratic governance portfolio of UNDP. She served for 12 years as the lead Policy Adviser on Anti-Corruption, Accountability and Transparency in UNDP headquarters.

Pauline has 16 years of international development and financial management experience, with 14 years of diverse governance experience in technical/policy advisory and programme management, fund raising and knowledge networking. She has an MBA from Georgetown University, Washington, DC and currently covers the areas of democracy assistance, anti corruption, parliamentary strengthening and electoral support.

Professor John Bronsteen

Professor Bronsteen joined the faculty in 2005 from the University of Chicago Law School, where he had spent two years as a Bigelow Teaching Fellow and Lecturer in Law.

Before that, he was an associate at Goldstein & Howe in Washington, DC, and as a law clerk for Chief Judge Douglas Ginsburg of the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit.

Professor Bronsteen, along with Christopher Buccafusco and Jonathan Masur authored a research article entitled “Happiness and Punishment” in which they argued that in the fields of law, economics, and philosophy, the leading concept of human welfare is preference-

satisfaction – or getting what one wants. The article defines welfare as subjective well-being – or feeling good.

He has co-written a series of articles on happiness research and the law, and about how the new science of measuring happiness has not only transformed self-help, but could also well transform society.

To Professor Bronsteen and other like-minded scholars, knowing that people get it so wrong gives the law a new chance to get it right. He is also the author of a very popular book “Writing a Legal Memo”, which has proved to be an invaluable resource into the American legal system.

Professor Mark Mancall

Professor Mark Mancall is a Professor of History at Stanford University. A graduate of Harvard, Mancall has spent time in Helsinki, Leningrad, and Taiwan, becoming a scholar of diplomatic relations between Russia and China. His more recent academic interests include South Asia and Tibetan Buddhism. He pioneered coeducational housing as the Resident Fellow of Stanford’s first co-ed house and has been the Director of Stanford’s Program in Structured Liberal Education since its inception. He is now working for Royal Education Council, Bhutan and Stanford University in the US.

Professor Michel Balinski

Professor Michel Balinski was born “some 70 years ago” in Geneva, Switzerland, into a polyglot family. In 1954, he graduated from Williams College with a Bachelor’s Degree in Mathematics, followed by a Master's Degree in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and, in 1959, a PhD degree in Mathematics from Princeton University.

During his 40-year professional career, Michel Balinski has distinguished himself with an exceptional number of successful activities, beyond what a professor normally is paid for - research and teaching.

He founded the journal *Mathematical Programming*, which became a leading journal of the field. He served as president of professional

societies, visited an impressive number of international universities as a guest lecturer, and served as the System and Decision Sciences Chairman of IIASA, the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Luxemburg near Wien.

Raden Siliwanti

Director, Politics and Communications, Ministry of National Development Planning, Republic of Indonesia

Renata Lok Dessallien

Renata Dessallien has served the UN for 22 years in Africa and Asia, mainly with UNDP. For the last eight years she has been RC/RR, first in Bhutan and currently in Bangladesh. Prior to that she was DRR in Myanmar and Mali, and ARR in Laos. In Bangladesh, she co-ordinates a UNCT of 13 members, collectively delivering about USD 280 million p.a. with total staff close to 2000. The team is known as a reform self-starter for having embraced a tailor-made “Delivering as One” strategy. The strategy is grounded on achieving the behaviours required for delivering more coherent UN results.

Renata takes special interest in democratic governance and in bridging the gap between theory and practice, a subject she has explored in both published and internal papers.

Sudharshan

Sudharshan currently works in justice and human rights, civil society empowerment and parliamentary reform, and provides policy advice to Country Offices on legal and judicial reforms and constitutions. He also conducts research on law and economics and provides guidance on access to justice and achievement of the MDGs.

Sudarshan has been with UNDP since 1991, and previously served as Justice Advisor at the UNDP Oslo Governance Centre. He has also served as the Senior Economist and Head of Public Policy Division at the Human Development Resource Centre, UNDP India, and was Governance Advisor at UNDP Indonesia.

Sultana Kamal

Sultana Kamal is Executive Director of Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) Legal Aid and Human Rights Resource Centre in Bangladesh and a politician of broad experience. She was an adviser to the interim Caretaker government of Bangladesh under chief adviser and President Iajuddin Ahmed. Kamal, along with three other advisers, resigned after a series of disagreements, which included army deployment in the country, with the Chief adviser and President Iajuddin Ahmed. She took part in the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971.

Sultana Kamal started her career as a teacher in the Music College. She passed the BCS Examination and joined Bangladesh Tobacco Company. In 1976, she joined an international voluntary service in Khadimnagar, Sylhet, and in 1978 completed her Bachelor of Law degree from Dhaka University.

She earned her Masters Degree in development studies in Women and Development, in the Netherlands. Until 1990 Kamal worked for the Vietnamese boat people in Hong Kong as a UN legal consultant, and then became a freelance Consultant on Law, Development, Women's and Human Rights until 2001. She was awarded the John Humphrey Freedom Award in 1996.