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Scott Kloeck-Jenson 2005 Final Report

The Scott Kloeck-Jenson international travel award funds provided me with the opportunity to cover research expenses which were essential to my pre-dissertation and dissertation research on Islam, ethics, and emotion in post-authoritarian Indonesia. Specifically, in keeping with the mission and aims of the award, I used a significant portion of these funds for rare research materials which will later be copied and donated to the library at the University of Wisconsin (rare books, magazines, VCDs and cassette tapes of contemporary Islamic preaching in Indonesia). Further, I have purchased recent Indonesian films which will contribute to the vast collection of Southeast Asian film at the University of Wisconsin. Such materials can only be purchased in Indonesia and will provide a significant contribution to the library collections, in particular to the resources concerning the role of Islam and democratization in Indonesia and Southeast Asia in general.

In addition to purchasing these resources with SKJ funding, I also used some of the funds towards the purchase of a digital camera, which was not allowed under my separate Fulbright-Hays funding. With this purchase, I will also burn my digital pictures to make them available for the library at University of Wisconsin. I have been able to take rare photographs of the widely-popular Islamic preacher Kyai Haji Abdullah Gymnastiar in social contexts where most reporters (both Indonesian and foreign) would not be allowed. These pictures will help to document a particularly interesting moment in Indonesian history as well as arguably the most popular Islamic preacher in Indonesia's history.

Finally, I have used SKJ funds to purchase over 100 blank DVDs and a DVD recorder, which has allowed me to record approximately 100 television programs during the Islamic holy month of Ramadhan. These programs will also be copied and donated to the University of Wisconsin library. They include a range of Islamic programming, including discussion of the Qur'an as well as popular Islamic rock concerts and Islamic-themed sit-com programs. These programs capture the current state of popular Islam in Indonesia which has received only scant attention in the academic literature on Islam in Southeast Asia, but which figures prominently in Islam as it continues to be constructed in the public sphere.

I have chosen to record such materials in order to contribute to the collection of visual materials on Indonesia at our library, many of which were initially donated by my former advisor Karl Heider of the University of South Carolina. None of these visual materials (whether photographs or television programs) could have been recorded without SKJ funding, for the purchase of cameras or recording devices was prohibited by Fulbright-Hays funding. I am, therefore, so very grateful for such funding and have taken steps to ensure that the fruits of such funding will be shared with the university and the students of the future. I have taken great care to ensure that my use of SKJ funds is in the spirit of the award and that the benefits will go well beyond any single dissertation and will give back to the university and its library resources on Southeast Asia.