

**OUT SOON!**

## **Expressing Islam: Religious Life and Politics**

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The Australian National University

Some 190 million Indonesians profess Islam as their faith. Across the archipelago they search for ways to express their religious belief, both in public behaviour and in their private lives. Growing numbers of Muslims, particularly in urban areas, are seeking more overtly Islamic expressions of their identity. Traditional institutions and modes of expression retain their popularity but are undergoing transformation. Islamic spiritual healing and traditional treatments such as cupping and herbal remedies are juxtaposed with the rising popularity of more modern phenomena such as shari'a banking and insurance, Muslim fashions, Islamic multi-level marketing, corporate mystical brotherhoods and new electronic preaching media like mobile phone sermons, cyber chat rooms and internet fatwa services. At the same time, both in the regions and at the centre, a concern for both public and private morality has led to calls for shari'a law to be more comprehensively applied.

This book captures the complexity and rapidly changing nature of Islamic religiosity. It critically examines developments in politics, society and culture, as well as the increasing Islamisation of everyday institutions and life in Indonesia. The contributors explore not only the diversity but also the spiritual, cultural and material aspects of Islam in contemporary Indonesia.

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