



FROM MIXED METHODS TO INDICATORS: COMPARISON OF URBAN AREAS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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OUTLINE

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PURPOSE

- To contribute towards works that provide comparison using qualitative methods in Anthropology and Sociology
- To contribute to method aspect of urban sociology especially on linkage between cities/urban areas

LIMITATIONS

- 'Qualitative methods': interviews, observation and documentary research;
- Case studies in Southeast Asia: Brunei Darussalam (Brunei-Muara district), Malaysia (Penang) and Indonesia (Jakarta);
- Qualitative comparison and not quantitative comparison as a focus

BACKGROUND OF STUDY

- Social sciences, in large, rely on either mixed methods i.e. quantitative and qualitative methods or quantitative/qualitative methods.
- Quantitative research has standards which are more universally acknowledged and more easily abode by than those for qualitative research (Short and Hughes 2009).
- Qualitative sociology may include studies that discuss in-depth what people actually say and act in particular sites and organisations. Such interactions span over time. Furthermore, narratives of specific cases and rich descriptions, consequently, are the bridge that link qualitative sociological studies (Goodwin and Horowitz 2002).

BACKGROUND OF STUDY (CONTINUED PART 2)

- There are differences from qualitative and quantitative traditions which may contribute in generating misunderstandings and miscommunication in comparison (Mahoney and Goertz 2006) .

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- Why are organisations located in urban areas in Southeast Asia?
- What kind of indicators can be 'constructed' from comparative qualitative analysis of the case studies of urban areas?
 - Note: Organisations being defined as companies and universities

QUALITATIVE COMPARATIVE APPROACH

- Five areas of contributions of a qualitative comparative approach (Lewis 2003: 50) :
 - identifying the absence or presence of particular phenomena in the accounts of different groups
 - exploring how the manifestations of phenomena vary between groups
 - exploring how the reasons for, or explanations of, phenomena, or their different impacts and consequences, vary between groups
 - Exploring the interaction between phenomena in different settings
 - Exploring more broadly differences in the context in which phenomena arise or the research issue is experienced

SEVERAL APPROACHES IN QUALITATIVE COMPARATIVE APPROACH

- First: the “small-N problem” (Rueschmeyer 2003)
- Second is through coding (Glaser 1965)
- Third, a case study approach (Fox and Gingrich 2002, Gingrich 2002)

APPROACH USED

- I attempt to build further on i) Gingrich's work (see Fox and Gingrich 2002, Gingrich 2002) in that I contrast and compare case studies of urban areas; and ii) Koshravi's (2008) ethnographic work on 'state of mind' of local residents in light of urban milieu, and Southeast Asian urbanism (Evers and Korff 2000) in that I focus on a 'sociology from below'

APPROACH USED (CONT'D)

- Mixed methods; using simultaneously and by triangulation documentary research, observation and interviews with organisations located in the aforesaid urban areas
- Interviews: Lived experiences – semi structured interviews with people working in organisations located in the urban areas
- Case study approach in the three urban areas in which I highlight similarities and differences

STUDY DESIGN

- Indonesia (Jakarta) case study was derived from Doctoral project 'Knowledge Governance in an Industrial Cluster' funded by DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service): Qualitative data includes interviews with 149 persons; 70 organisations located in Cikarang, Bekasi District. Fieldwork carried out on 2010-2011.
- Brunei Darussalam (Brunei-Muara District) case study was funded by UBD Grant. The research project was on "Knowledge Cluster in Brunei Darussalam: Policy and Network Analysis on the ICT" : Qualitative data includes interviews with 62 persons; 51 organisations located in Brunei Muara District. Fieldwork carried out in 2013-2014.
- Malaysia (Penang) case study was funded by forthcoming UBD grant 'Science Policy for Development' : Qualitative data includes interviews with 19 persons; 2 organisations located in Penang. Fieldwork carried out in 2015-on-going.

URBAN AREAS

- Urban areas in Southeast Asia have been recognised historically to be connected due to trading links, such is the case of Malacca Strait connecting ports in Penang, Klang Valley to Batavia/Jakarta.
- In sociology, urban areas may be referred to as 'meso-sites'. Methodically, sociology recognises macro- and micro- levels (see Cicourel 1981; Corcuff 2008).

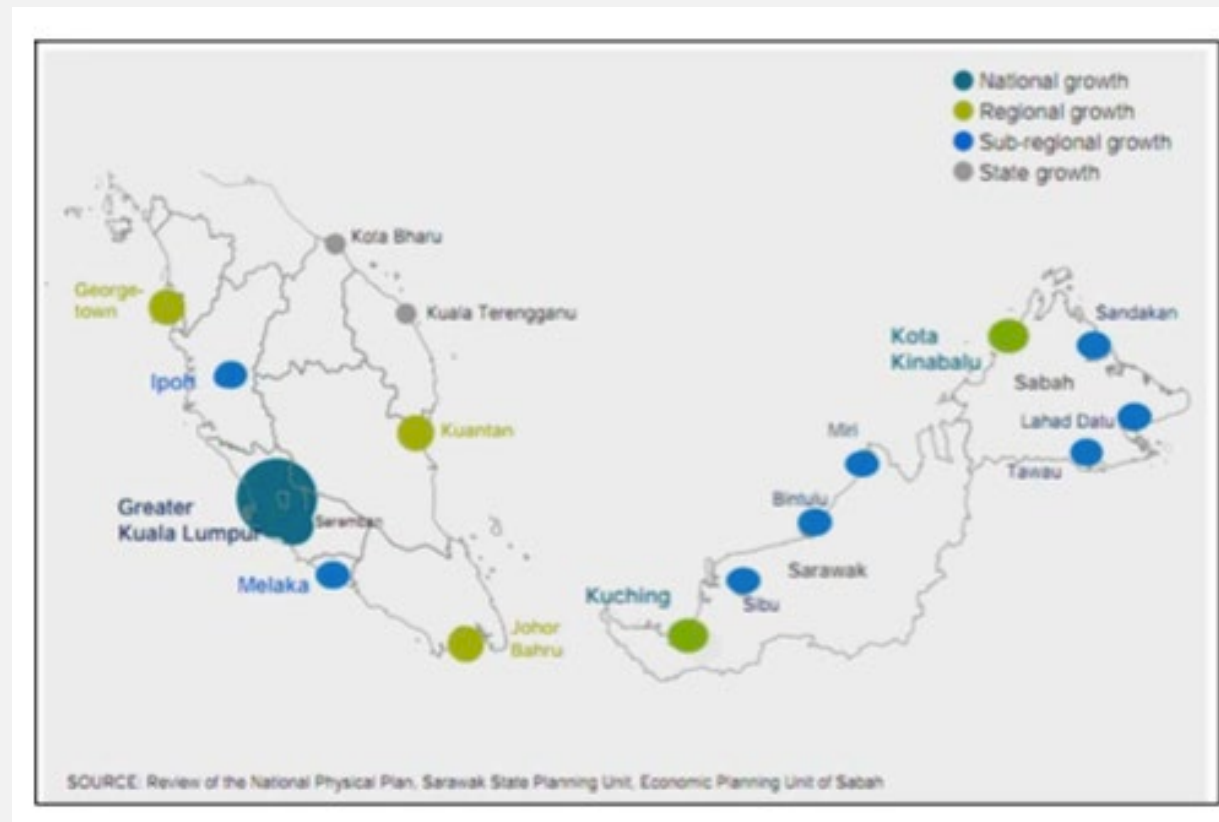
URBAN AREAS (CONT'D)

- An explicit focus on urban areas may offer alternative ideas of borders as expressed and experienced by local residents as opposed to the kind of borders politically enacted by nation-states (Khosravi 2011).

URBAN AREA I: MALAYSIA (PENANG)

- Population of 29.3 million (UN, 2012): 72 per cent of them are urban (Nordin 2013)
- Urban population is concentrated in 6 major areas: Kuala Lumpur, Georgetown (Penang), Johor Bahru, Kuantan, Kota Kinabalu, and Kuching (Nordin 2013)

URBAN AREA I: MALAYSIA (CONT'D)



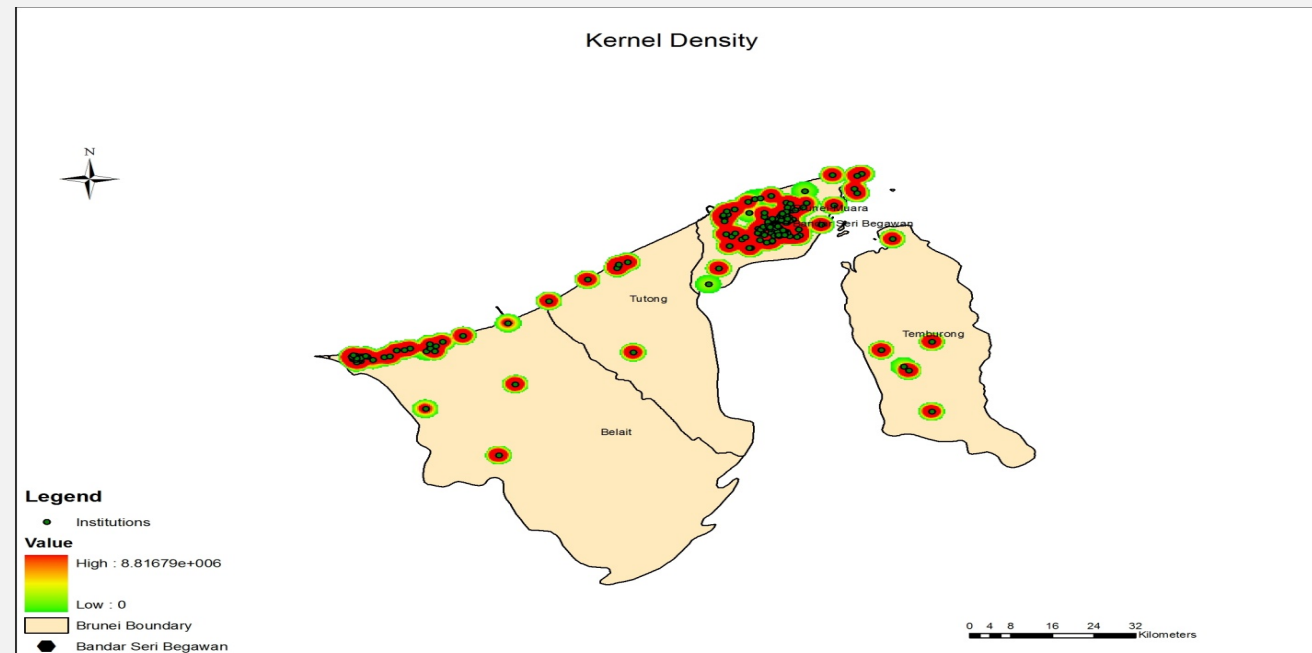
URBAN AREA I: MALAYSIA (CONT'D)

- It is located in the northern region of Peninsular Malaysia
- It is named along with Malacca, as World Heritage Sites (OECD 2011)
- Population of 1,647,700 (the Penang Institute, 2016)

URBAN AREA II: BRUNEI- MUARA DISTRICT IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

- Brunei has a population of 413,000 (BBC) with an area of 5,765 sq km (2,226 sq miles)

URBAN AREA II: BRUNEI-MUARA DISTRICT

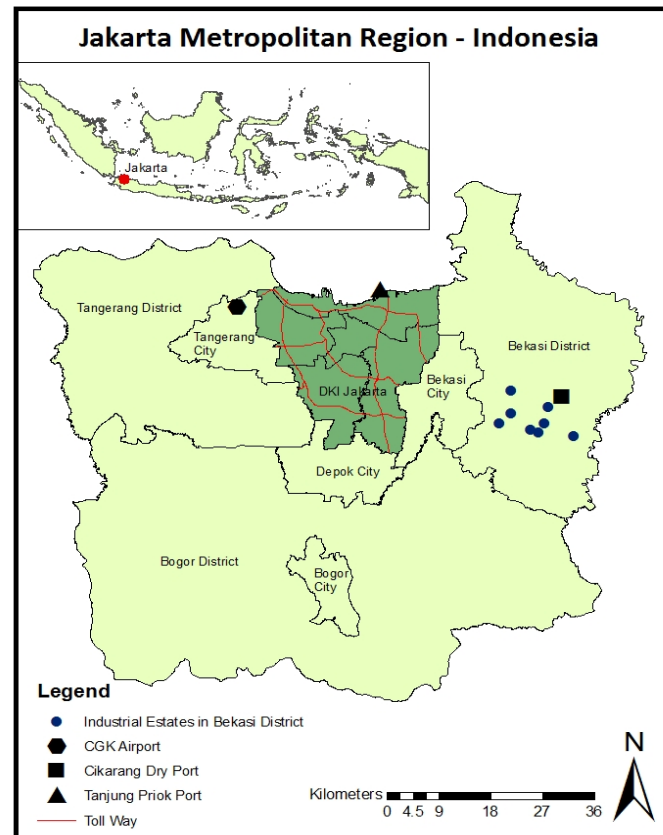


Source: Evers et al. 2014

URBAN AREA III: INDONESIA (JAKARTA METROPOLITAN AREA/JMR)

- 1.9 million sq km (742,308 sq miles), Population: 243 million (BBC).
- The JMR was home to 26.6 million people in 2010 (Wie and Negara 2010).
- In the core there are 9.6 million inhabitants, which is indeed an overload in terms of the capacity of the city to provide services for its inhabitants (Triyono and Budiman 2011).

URBAN AREA III: INDONESIA (JAKARTA METROPOLITAN AREA/JMR)



FINDINGS

Qualitative data	Urban Areas: Jakarta	Urban Area: Penang	Urban Area : Brunei Muara District
Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansion (or 'urbanisation') - Not driven by policy; driven by market - Proximity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansion (or 'urbanisation') - New Economic Policy in Malaysia - History plays a factor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansion (or 'urbanisation') - Two centers in Brunei Muara District: Gadong and Seria - (Colonial) history plays a factor - Proximity
Documentary Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansion by companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - History does not play a factor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy does not push urbanisation; activities of oil and gas and government push the process of urbanisation
Observation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diversity of organisations; tied with economic process of production - Development towards the east of JMR (connectivity with Bandung West Java) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Racial intermarriage; ethnic diversity - History matters - Diversity of organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mini 'branch plant' companies with ties in Singapore and in Seria (Brunei) - History matters - Homogenous organisations (partition)

TOWARDS INDICATORS?

- **History** of urban area development (possibility of 'path dependency')
- Development of urban areas is contingent upon **state policy**
- **Diversity of organisations** as a precursor to human development in the process of urbanisation
- **Alternative port development** initiated by the private sector

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Contexts and historical backdrop are vital for organisational development;
- Connectivity being facilitated by the private sector;
- Policy may contribute towards human development in processes of urbanisation

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Bibliography available upon request
- Thanks!
- [Contact: farah.purwaningrum@ubd.edu.bn](mailto:farah.purwaningrum@ubd.edu.bn)
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