



# ARTICLE ALERT

MAY 2013

## U.S. Embassy Jakarta Mission Statement

The U.S. Mission partners with Indonesia to strengthen the bonds between our people and our governments to promote and protect democracy, security, and sustainable prosperity for our people, the region, and the world.

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## ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month — a celebration of Asian and Pacific Islanders in the United States. In 1977-78, Congress passed legislation recognizing the first ten days of May as Asian Pacific Heritage Week. It was expanded in May, 1990 when President George H.W. Bush designated May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is an opportunity to recognize the diverse culture of Asian Americans and the accomplishments and contributions they have made.

### WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDS

**Background:** On October 14, 2009, President Barack Obama signed the Executive Order reestablishing the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (Initiative) (AAPIs). The Initiative, chaired by U.S. Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan and led by Executive Director Kiran Ahuja, is housed within the U.S. Department of Education. The Initiative works to improve the quality of life and opportunities for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders by facilitating increased access to and participation in federal programs where they remain underserved.  
Source: <http://snip.state.gov/56m>

### CRITICAL ISSUES FACING ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDS

**Demographics:** Approximately 16.6 million AAPIs reside in the U.S. (Approximately 5.4% of U.S. population). By 2050, AAPIs will make up 9.7% of the total United States population -- over 40 million people. AAPIs represent over 30 countries and ethnic groups that speak over 100 different languages.

**Poverty:** Asian Americans living below poverty: 12.6% (U.S. average living below poverty: 12.4%). Poverty Rates of Hmong: 37.8%; Cambodian: 29.3%; Laotian: 18.5%; Vietnamese: 16.6%.

**Health:** High rates of limited English proficiency compound the ob-

stacles AAPIs face in achieving good health. Many AAPIs in the U.S. cannot communicate effectively with healthcare providers.

**Education:** Nearly one out of four AAPI students is Limited English Proficient and/or lives in a linguistically isolated household where parents have limited English proficiency. The high school drop-out rate among Southeast Asian Americans is staggering.

**Labor and Employment:** In a Gallup Poll, 30-31% of AAPIs surveyed reported incidents of employment discrimination, the largest of any group, with African Americans constituting the second largest at 26%.

**Immigration:** AAPIs make up one of the fastest growing racial groups in the U.S., constituting about one-third of the one million legal immigrants who enter the U.S. annually.

**Housing:** According to a study undertaken by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, one in five AAPIs experience discrimination in the rental and home buying process.

Source: <http://snip.state.gov/58s>

### KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

**Total U.S.:** Population is 307 million; 13.2 percent live in poverty; 4.2 percent are unemployed; 15.0 percent haven't graduated high school; 28.5 percent have only a high school degree; 28.8 percent have some college education; 17.50

percent have a bachelor's degree; 10.2 percent have a graduate or professional degree.

**Asian American:** Population is 15.5 million; 11.8 percent live in poverty; 3.5 percent are unemployed; 14.4 percent haven't graduated high school; 16.3 percent have only a high school degree; 20.5 percent have some college education; 29.3 percent have a bachelor's degree; 19.5 percent have a graduate or professional degree.

**Indonesian:** Population is 78,999; 11.0 percent live in poverty; 4.0 percent are unemployed; 5.9 percent haven't graduated high school; 17.0 percent have only a high school degree; 32.0 percent have some college education; 28.3 percent have a bachelor's degree; 16.8 percent have a graduate or professional degree.

Source: <http://snip.state.gov/56l>

### RELATED LINKS

Proclamation on Asian American, Pacific Islander Heritage Month Link: <http://snip.state.gov/58u>

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month from Library of Congress Link: <http://snip.state.gov/56n>

National Register of Historic Places for Asian and Pacific Experience in America from National Park Service Link: <http://snip.state.gov/59o>

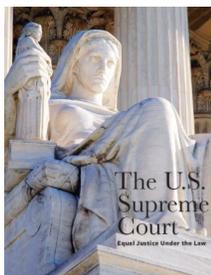
Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month: May 2013 from United States Census Bureau Link: <http://snip.state.gov/56p>

## DEMOCRACY & IMPROVING GOVERNANCE

1. HOW GENERATION X IS SHAPING GOVERNMENT/ Rob Gurwitt. *Governing*, May 2013.

A couple of months ago, the city of San Mateo, Calif., finished a small experiment. Planning to renovate the playground at one of its most popular community parks, it put a set of proposed designs online for a month and invited public comments. Some 130 people from around the city batted ideas back and forth, remarked on what they liked and didn't like in the designs, and made suggestions. The playground needed shade, they agreed, and water fountains reachable by little kids. This was the target audience we'd been trying to get but were not getting" through conventional hearings, says Abby Veesser, a senior management analyst in the parks department. In other words, Generation X was checking in. Available online at <http://snip.state.gov/4t7>

2. THE SUPREME COURT: EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER THE LAW/ IIPDigital.gov, April 2013



This revision of "The U.S. Supreme Court: Equal Justice Under the Law" is a collection of essays that explains how the highest court in the United States functions. It features an introduction by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and an article by Associate Justice Elena Kagan. Other contributors are legal scholars, journalists and court officials. They examine factors that determine court opinions and dissent, the role of politics and why justices may alter their views over time. Please download complete ebook at <http://snip.state.gov/56s>

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3. THE U.S. DEMOCRACY PROJECT/ Jordan Michael Smith. *The National Interest*, May-June 2013.

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) was born in the Reagan administration, when democracy promotion came into its own. As the late political scientist Samuel Huntington put it in 1984, "The Reagan administration moved far beyond the Carter administration's more limited concern with human rights." Though Reagan initially scorned the Carter administration's emphasis on human rights, once in office he called for a "democratic revolution." In a famous speech at London's Westminster in 1982, Reagan said, "It is time that we committed ourselves as a nation—in both the public and private sectors—to assisting democratic development." To that end, Reagan announced an initiative to study democracy promotion, which led to the establishment of the NED in 1983. More details, please visit <http://snip.state.gov/58d>

## GLOBAL ISSUES & PRESS FREEDOM

4. ADVICE TO CITIZEN JOURNALISTS: TELL THE TRUTH, BE YOURSELF/Charlene Porter. IIP Digital, May 2013

Social media users, sometimes called citizen journalists, bring fresh new voices to the daily commentary on world events. But a question is circulating in journalistic circles on World Press Freedom Day 2013, May 3: Do citizen journalists report with integrity and standards that serve their audiences? Lila King, senior director for social news at the international channel, said social media users who were close to the site of the bombing did what citizen journalists can do best: They provided eyewitness accounts of what happened, conveying the atmosphere in the midst of chaos and the visceral feelings at such an event. Available online at <http://snip.state.gov/58v>

5. AMERICANS SPEAK FREELY/IIP Digital, March 2013.

How does a government grant all of its citizens the right to think, believe, pray, write or speak as their conscience dictates, while still maintaining a peaceful society that protects all of its members? It is easy, in the abstract, to applaud the universal principles of freedom, justice, liberty and equality. These are indeed some of the most noble ideals to which human-

kind aspires. But all of us who have had the privilege of serving in government know that it is difficult to take these principles and apply them really apply them to governing a country. Read more at <http://snip.state.gov/58e>

6. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN THE UNITED STATES/ IIPDigital.gov. April 2013 .

The U.S. Constitution protects even the most offensive speech from government suppression, and permits regulation only under certain limited and narrow circumstances. The U.S. system is built on the idea that an open exchange of ideas encourages understanding, advances truth-seeking and allows for the rebuttal of falsehoods. Available online at <http://snip.state.gov/56r>

7. THE EMAIL INTERVIEW DEBATE/ Mark Lisher. *American Journalism Review*, April/May 2013.

They give more control to sources, and they can be stilted and scripted. Some journalists resort to them too easily. A number of college newspapers have banned them. But e-mail interviews remain an essential part of the mix. Mon., April 1, 2013. Ask the IRC for full text of this article.

### DEMOCRACY AND CIVIL SOCIETY: WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY from eLibraryUSA Database (<http://elibraryusa.state.gov>)

#### Gale Academic One File: "Freedom of the Press"

Searching Academic OneFile for "Freedom of the Press" shows a variety of news and magazine articles and academic journal reports covering issues pertaining to this topic.

#### eLibrary: "Journalism"

Searching eLibrary for "Journalism" shows a number of books about the practice of and the issues affecting journalism.

#### Filmakers Library Online: "Journalism"

Filmakers Library Online features 16 documentaries on the subject of journalism.

#### Global Issues in Context: Censorship of the Press

Gale's Global Issues in Context features a report about attempts to curb press freedom, including links to articles, reference works, videos, and statistics.

To get training and personal account, please request to [ircjakarta@state.gov](mailto:ircjakarta@state.gov).

## ECONOMIC & INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

8. AMERICA'S ENERGY OPPORTUNITY/ Michael Levi. Foreign Affairs, May/June 2013.

The U.S. energy revolution is not confined to a single fuel or technology: oil and gas production, renewable energy, and fuel-efficient automobile technologies all show great promise. To best position the country for the future, U.S. leaders should capitalize on all these opportunities rather than pick a favorite; the answer lies in 'most of the above.' For full text please contact the IRC.

9. IN DEFENSE OF HENRY KISSINGER/ Robert D. Kaplan. The Atlantic, April 2013

In the summer of 2002, during the initial buildup to the invasion of Iraq, which he supported, Henry Kissinger told me he was nevertheless concerned about the lack of critical thinking and planning for the occupation of a Middle Eastern country where, as he put it,

"normal politics have not been practiced for decades, and where new power struggles would therefore have to be very violent." Thus is pessimism morally superior to misplaced optimism. Available at <http://snip.state.gov/582>

10. SOFT (DRINK) POWER/Ian Bremmer. Foreign Policy, May/June 2013.

The financial crisis altered the very nature of the international balance of power. Five years later, the presumption is that the crisis is in the rearview mirror -- and that the volatility that shook markets and felled governments is behind us too. But we've entered a new order that's vastly more uncertain than what preceded it. International coordination is breaking down. Global challenges like climate change and nuclear proliferation are becoming more intractable as no one country or group of coun-

tries is in a position to set the international agenda. The G-20 is too crowded and conflicted; the U.S.-led G-7 can no longer run the show. In such an environment, we have to ask: What are the big question marks for sustainable global prosperity going forward? How are the roles of the United States and China evolving? And where are the world's next big opportunities? Available online at <http://snip.state.gov/583>

11. STAR WARS/ Tom Vanderbilt. Wilson Quarterly, Spring 2013.

Online review culture is dotted with black holes of bad taste. Today, via Yelp (or TripAdvisor or Amazon, or any Web site teeming with "user-generated content"), you are often troubled by the reverse problem: too much information. Available online at <http://snip.state.gov/584>

## U.S. EDUCATION, SOCIETY & VALUES

12. A DIGITAL LIBRARY FOR EVERYONE/ Megan Cottrell. American Libraries Magazine March/April 2013

When Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) launches, it will essentially be a portal to a fraction of what's already out there on the web: an array of digitized special collections from all over the United States, from public to academic to special libraries and national collections, like the Smithsonian and the National Archives. What DPLA sets out to do is unite these materials at a single virtual place where people can access them. Available online at <http://snip.state.gov/57z>

13. HOW MUCH DO AMERICANS KNOW ABOUT SCIENCE?/ Terence Monmaney. Smithsonian Magazine, May 2013.

Supporters of strengthening science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education warn that U.S. students are falling behind other nations in technical subjects. This gloomy forecast has sunk in. Asked how 15-year-olds in the United States compare with those in other developed nations on a standardized science test known as PISA, for Program for International Student Assessment, respondents tended to rank American youths at the bottom of the pack. In fact, they place in the middle, scoring 17th out of the 34 developed nations in 2009, the most recent year for which results are available. For full text please contact the IRC.

14. PARENTS, CHILDREN, LIBRARIES, AND READING/ Carolyn Miller, Kathryn Zickuhr, Lee Rainie and Kristen Purcell. Pew Research, May 1, 2013.

The vast majority of parents of minor children — children younger than 18 — feel libraries are very important for their children. The ties between parents and libraries start with the importance parents attach to the role of reading in their children's lives. Half of parents of children under age 12 (50%) read to their child every day and an additional 26% do so a few times a week. Those with children under age 6 are especially keen on daily reading with their child: 58% of these parents read with their child every day and another 26% read multiple times a week with their children. Currently available online at <http://snip.state.gov/6>

15. TRAVELING TO THE UNITED STATES /IIP Digital, May 2013.

A record 62 million international travelers visited the United States in 2011. From students and tourists to academics and professionals, travelers from all over the world flock to the United States each year to learn, work and catch a glimpse of the landmarks they have seen in art, photography and Hollywood films. But there is more to visiting the United States than famous destinations. Available online at <http://snip.state.gov/58w>

### READING ON THE GO

Read e-books anytime, anywhere: on the go or in the classroom! Free American English e-books-including classic graded readers, an idiom reference guide, and resources for teachers-are available in .epub (most e-readers and tablets) format in the "Downloads" section of select American English resources.

- ◆ The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
- ◆ The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
- ◆ The Autobiography of Mark Twain
- ◆ To Build a Fire and Other Stories
- ◆ The Children's Response (TPR)
- ◆ The Gift of the Magi and Other Stories
- ◆ In the Loop (Idiom Reference)
- ◆ Raggedy Ann Stories
- ◆ The Red Badge of Courage
- ◆ Shaping the Way We Teach English: Successful Practices from Around the World

These e-books are also available on the free American English app for feature and Android mobile phones. Get the American English app by visiting <http://m.binu.com/ae> on your mobile internet browser. More detail please visit: <http://americanenglish.state.gov/ebooks>

## INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER'S MAY 2013 PROGRAMS



1)IRC Connect with SMPI Sinar Cedekia, 2) I-Literacy with BPK-RI and BPAD Padang, 3)Gaming with STBA LIA, 4)I-Literacy with UIN Jakarta, 5)I-Literacy with NGO (ELSAM, KONTRAS and Nepas Papua )

### ABOUT US

The Information Resource Center (IRC) of the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta is a specialized reference and research facility. Our goal is to provide you with accurate, up-to-date and authoritative information about the United States. Our collections include the updated reference titles, a periodical section, DVDs movie and music, audio books, games and access to extensive online database which cover topics ranged from American policy, government, politics, economics, history, English language, education, culture, society as well as global topic of interests.

Our professionally-trained reference specialists use a wide array of resources to retrieve the information quickly, conveniently. With one day appointment in-advanced, walk-in visitors are welcomed to visit the IRC facility, to use its resources, get research assistances and attend various programs on English language, EducationUSA, information literacy classes and mov-

ies/ gaming activities at no cost. We open on weekdays (except for Indonesian and American Holidays) from 8.00 AM to 04.00 PM.

Check our collections via our online catalog at: <http://snip.state.gov/58x>

### MAY 2013 PROGRAMS

- ◆ Monday, May 20, 2013 at 13.30-15.30  
I-Literacy Session: Introduction to eLibraryUSA database
- ◆ Tuesday, May 21, 2013 at 13.30-15.30  
Connect with the IRC: Presentation on Getting U.S. Business/Pleasure Visa
- ◆ Thursday, May 23, 2013 at 09.30 - 11.30  
Cultural Performance: Keith Martin Music Performance and Discussion (limited seats first-come-first-served basis)

◆ Friday, May 24, 2013 at 13.30-15.30  
Connect with the IRC: Movie showing and English discussion to mark Asian American and Pacific Island Heritage Month in May

◆ Friday, May 31, 2013 at 13.30-16.00  
Connect with the IRC: Discussion on Writing and Publishing Books with Rahmadiyah Rusdi, alumna of U.S. International Visitor Program, Journalist and Writer.

To join those programs and to make appointment for the visit as well as to request for other program opportunities, please contact us at:

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Jakarta 10110  
Tel.: 021-3508467  
Fax.: 021-350-8466  
Email: [ircjakarta@state.gov](mailto:ircjakarta@state.gov)  
Web: <http://jakarta.usembassy.gov/irc.html>**

## ARTICLE ALERT REQUEST FORM

Please write your complete name and address IN CAPITAL LETTERS, check (√) the articles and send your request for May 2013 Article Alert items to the Information Resource Center, U.S. Embassy, before July 2013 via fax (021) 350-8466 or email ([ircjakarta@state.gov](mailto:ircjakarta@state.gov))

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Request for:

- 1. HOW GENERATION X IS SHAPING GOVERNMENT
- 2. THE SUPREME COURT
- 3. THE U.S. DEMOCRACY PROJECT
- 4. ADVICE TO CITIZEN JOURNALISTS
- 5. AMERICANS SPEAK FREELY
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- 15. TRAVELING TO THE UNITED STATES

*Disclaimer:* Books, articles, and websites described in the Article Alert present a diversity of views in order to keep our IRC users abreast of current issues in the United States. These items represent the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official U.S. Government policy.