

Preface

This volume comprises the proceedings of the 'First Conference on Indonesia's Modern Economic History (1815-1990)' held at Jakarta on October 1-4, 1991. The conference was organized by the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (*Lembaga Ilmu Pengetahuan Indonesia*, LIPI) in cooperation with the Dutch and Indonesian Steering Committees for Dutch-Indonesian Cooperation in the Programme of Indonesian Studies (PRIS). It was co-sponsored by the Economic History of Southeast Asia (ECHOSEA) Project of the Research School of Pacific Studies at the Australian National University in Canberra. In addition the conference benefited from financial support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the Jakarta Chapter of the Indonesian Association of Economists (*Ikatan Sarjana Ekonomi Indonesia*, ISEI), the weekly magazine Tempo, the pharmaceutical company P.T. Kalbe Farma and the consulting firm P.T. Hasfarm Dian Konsultan.

The conference brought together scholars from Indonesia, Australia and the Netherlands. There were 19 contributions: 6 by Indonesian, 6 by Australian and 7 by Dutch speakers. This volume includes 12 revised versions out of the 19 papers originally presented. The coordinating tasks were fulfilled by a team consisting of dr. Thee Kian Wie (Indonesia), dr. Howard Dick (Australia) and dr. J. Thomas Lindblad (Netherlands). The keynote address was delivered by the former Indonesian Cabinet member, Prof.dr. Sumitro Djojohadikusumo. We are fortunate to be able to include his address in this volume (Ch. 2 below). In addition a lecture on the development of the Indonesian capital market was given by Marzuki Usman, M.A., chairman of the Capital Market Supervisory Agent (BAPEPAM).

The conference marked the first achievement in a tripartite endeavour of Indonesian, Australian and Dutch colleagues to promote Indonesian economic history. It was followed by a session specifically devoted to the economic history of the Outer Provinces during the Conference on 'Island Southeast Asia and the world economy, 1790s-1990s' organized by the ECHOSEA Project at Canberra on November 24-26, 1992. Plans for the future include a third meeting at Leiden in 1994. A major aim of the concerted effort is to compile an international comprehensive handbook of Indonesian economic history.

Acknowledgments are due to the various organizations which sponsored and supported this highly successful conference. Special thanks are extended to a number of individuals connected with LIPI and PRIS who at one stage or another lent their generous support to the organization of this conference: Prof.dr. Samaun Samadikun, dr. E.K.M. Masinambow, Prof.dr. A.B. Lopian, dr. T. Abdullah, Prof.dr. H. Bachtiar, dr. P.J. Drooglever, Prof.dr. C. van Dijk.

Most of all, however, I gained from the unrelenting support and continuous inspiration afforded by my two co-pilots in this entire enterprise, dr. Howard Dick and dr. Thee Kian Wie.

Leiden, May 1993

J. Thomas Lindblad