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Lynette J. Chua , David M. Engel , Sida Liu
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In the twenty-first century, Asia will surely become another center for law and society scholarship. The inherent diversity of Asia will be further developed and conducive to future-oriented institutional experiments and knowledge innovation. From this point of view, the publication of *The Asian Law and Society Reader* is of great significance. I believe that it is the best introductory guide for Asian law and society research at this stage, and is also an indispensable reference for carrying out law and society education in Asian countries.

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—Yoshitaka Wada, Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, Waseda University, Tokyo

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Grounded in rich empirical research, this volume extends the epistemological and methodological imagination of law and society. Intellectual conversations between empirical essays and insightful commentary reveal intellectual journeys of scholars and the field itself, achieving both a bird's-eye view of the field and insights into the lives of ordinary people as they negotiate socio-legal realities on the ground.

—Yukiko Koga, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Yale University

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The first reader on Asian law and society scholarship, this book features reading selections from a wide range of Asian countries – East, South, Southeast, and Central Asia – along with original commentaries by the three editors on the theoretical debates and research methods pertinent to the discipline. Organized by themes and topical areas, the reader enables scholars and students to break out of country-specific silos to make theoretical connections across national borders. It meets a growing demand for law and society materials in institutions and universities in Asia and around the world. It is written at a level accessible to advanced undergraduate students and graduate students as well as experienced researchers, and serves as a valuable teaching tool for courses focused on Asian law and society in law schools, area studies, history, religion, and social science fields such as sociology, anthropology, politics, government, and criminal justice.

Lynette J. Chua is the author of *Mobilizing Gay Singapore: Rights and Resistance in an Authoritarian State* (2014); *The Politics of Love in Myanmar: LGBT Mobilization and Human Rights as a Way of Life* (2019); and *The Politics of Rights and Southeast Asia* (2022). She is also President of the Asian Law & Society Association (2022–23).

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The Asian Law and Society Reader

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*To my students at the National University of Singapore and Yale-NUS
College*
Lynette J. Chua

To my granddaughters, Sylvie and Scarlett
David M. Engel

To my mother, Han Lingqiao
Sida Liu

*In memory of Keebet von Benda-Beckmann,
dear friend and distinguished scholar*

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Acknowledgments

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