
PREFACE

The present work is the product of a joint project between Lund University and Parahyangan Catholic University (Unpar) in Bandung. It has been sponsored and supported by a grant from The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education (STINT). In keeping with the project's mandate, the work's scope is modest. It traces administrative developments in Indonesia from the eighteenth century to the present within a tacit Swedish-Indonesian comparative framework. Primarily it endeavors to explain the functioning of the public administration prevailing in Indonesia to those living in a corner of Northwestern Europe where Southeast Asian Studies is an exotic subject, where it exists at all. Secondly the work aims at providing Indonesian readers with a historical perspective for better understanding developments within their own public administration.

Although initiation and financing have come from STINT, seminars and workshops focusing on various themes in Indonesian public administration have been bilateral. This also applies to team members. Even supplementary funding from UNDP Partnership and Ford Foundation has come about through a 'Swedish Connection'. The author's own experiences derives from mainly Swedish private indus-

try and public administration, while the Indonesian partners at Unpar under the leadership of Dr. Pius Suratman Kartasasmita have received their education and administrative experience in Indonesia. Colleagues and workshop contributors have also been recruited from Unpar and Lund University circles. Indeed much of the contents of the following are reworked versions of the almost dozen lecture series and seminars held between 1999 and 2005 at Unpar and its consortium of Indonesian Universities, which teach public administration. Having drawn upon the published works, informal talks, and scintillating discussions of our Indonesian colleagues, the author wishes to express his deepest gratitude to all who have contributed to making the present volume possible.