



News

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ASIA SOCIETY ANNOUNCES 2010-2011 FELLOWS CLASS OF ASIA 21 YOUNG LEADERS

19 Fellows selected representing 15 countries

New York, January 27, 2010 – The Asia Society today announced the names of its 2010-2011 Class of Asia Society Asia 21 Fellows, a total of 21 next generation leaders from 16 countries in the Asia Pacific region. The Asia 21 Young Leaders Initiative, established by the Asia Society with support from Founding International Sponsor Bank of America Merrill Lynch, is the pre-eminent leadership development program in the Asia-Pacific region for emerging leaders under the age of 40.

Representing a broad range of sectors, the Fellows will come together three times during their Fellowship year in different cities in the Asia-Pacific region to address topics relating to environmental degradation, economic development, poverty eradication, universal education, conflict resolution, HIV/AIDS and public health crises, human rights, and other issues. They will meet twice at the Asia 21 Young Leaders Forum, and once at the Asia 21 Young Leaders Summit, set to be held in late 2010. The first meeting of the 2010-2011 Class will be held in Florida from February 28 to March 3, 2010 where they will participate in a series of meetings designed to generate creative, shared approaches to leadership and problem solving and develop collaborative public service projects.

The Class includes an Iranian journalist and filmmaker whose detention after last year's Iranian elections led to a major international campaign for his release, one of the leading environmental lawyers in China, and an astronaut trainer. *"The Asia Society Asia 21 Fellows are among the most outstanding young leaders in the Asia-Pacific region,"* said Asia Society Executive Vice President Jamie Metzl. *"The Asia Society has selected them so they can educate and inspire each other to be better leaders and work with each other and the five hundred other members of the Asia 21 community to help build a stronger, better, and more secure Asia-Pacific community."*

The 19 young leaders chosen for this year's class of Asia 21 Fellows are:

Iva Aminuddin (<i>Singapore</i>)	Batchimeg Migheddorj (<i>Mongolia</i>)
Maziar Bahari (<i>Iran</i>)	Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy (<i>Pakistan</i>)
Satchit Balsari (<i>India</i>)	Nilofar Sakhi (<i>Afghanistan</i>)
John Ciorciari (<i>USA</i>)	Durreen Shahnaz (<i>Bangladesh</i>)
Michael Fenzel (<i>USA</i>)	Sabrina Singh (<i>USA</i>)
Bhavani Fonseka (<i>Sri Lanka</i>)	Lia Sunarjo (<i>Indonesia</i>)
Shinichiro Fukushige (<i>Japan</i>)	Ruth Yeoh (<i>Malaysia</i>)
Jaime Enrique Gonzalez (<i>Philippines</i>)	Jingjing Zhang (<i>China</i>)
Mike Joo (<i>USA</i>)	Min Zin (<i>Myanmar</i>)
Lifan Li (<i>China</i>)	

Brief bios of each Fellow are below. For more information about Asia Society's Asia 21 Young Leaders Initiative including details about previous conferences and Fellows, please visit www.AsiaSociety.org/Asia21.

Asia Society is the leading global organization working to strengthen relationships and promote understanding among the people, leaders, and institutions of Asia and the United States. We seek to enhance dialogue, encourage creative expression, and generate new ideas across the fields of policy, business, education, arts, and culture. Founded in 1956, Asia Society is a nonpartisan, nonprofit educational institution with offices in Hong Kong, Houston, Los Angeles, Manila, Melbourne, Mumbai, New York, San Francisco, Seoul, Shanghai, and Washington, DC. For more information, contact the Asia Society, 725 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021.

**ASIA SOCIETY ASIA 21 FELLOWS
2010-2011 CLASS**

IVA AMINUDDIN



Iva Aminuddin is currently serving in the Singapore Public Service as a Manager in the Civil Service College (CSC), Singapore. Her work focuses on sharing Singapore's governance experience with governments from the ASEAN and South Asian regions. Ms. Aminuddin has also been actively involved in local and international volunteerism. She is currently on the Advisory Panel on the Youth Expedition Project (YEP) with the Singapore National Youth Council and had previously led a YEP Project with the Young Sikh Association (Singapore) to India where she focused on breaking down social and cultural barriers among youths from different walks of life. Ms. Aminuddin has also been involved with organizations from different ethnic backgrounds such as the Mendaki Club (focusing on upliftment of Malay youth in Singapore), the Malay Youth Literary Association (4PM), and the YMCA (Young Men Christian Association). As a former theatre practitioner, she was also the President of an ethnic Malay non-profit theatre group, Teater Ekamatra, and has been active in utilizing theatre techniques and experiences to reach out to youths. She has written and spoken extensively on the role of youths in the Malay Muslim community in Singapore.

MAZIAR BAHARI



Maziar Bahari is a filmmaker who has been Newsweek magazine's Iran correspondent for the past eight years. He started making films and writing during his teen-age years in Iran, then continued his education at McGill and Concordia universities in Canada, where he studied political science and film. His documentary films on Iran, Iraq, and Africa have been shown by broadcasters and film festivals around the world. He has also worked with international organizations such as UNHCR, UNICEF, and Amnesty International as a filmmaker and writer. He was detained in Iran between June 21 and October 17 2009, following Iran's disputed presidential elections. Maziar Bahari has directed and produced many films for international broadcasters. He is known for his documentaries about Iran and Iraq. Maziar is known for his insightful and balanced work, and often puts his personal safety at risk to include all perspectives. During the elections in Iran, he was one of the few respected journalists invited to attend the first Friday prayers after the election, presided over by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Maziar's accomplishments were honored as a finalist to the prestigious 2009 Prince of Asturias Award for Concord. His nomination was supported, among others, by Nobel prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu and former US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. Maziar has travelled widely and is a strong believer in the importance of cross-cultural understanding.

SATCHIT BALSARI



Satchit Balsari is an emergency physician at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, and Fellow at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative (HHI). His work is focused on the development of pre-hospital care, emergency medicine and the application of information technology to promote citizen-driven disaster mitigation and response. He oversees two multi-institutional web-based public health applications: projects mumbaiVOICES.com and EMcounter.com. Seventeen days before the November 2008 terror strikes in Mumbai, Satchit co-organized Mumbai's first inter-agency disaster drill focused on medical response (www.mumbaiEMEX.org). Also an avid child rights advocate, he has investigated and published on child labor in the embroidery industry in Mumbai, and worked in

rehabilitation programs for children affected by natural and humanitarian crises. He served as a consultant to the American Red Cross after Hurricane Katrina. Satchit now divides his time between the US and India, where he serves on the managing committee of the Times Centre for Disaster Management at Mumbai University, and as guest editor for SouthAsiaDisasters.net. Satchit received his training at Mumbai's Grant Medical College, and at Harvard, Columbia and Cornell Universities.



JOHN CIORCIARI

John David Ciorciari is an assistant professor at the University of Michigan's Ford School of Public Policy. His teaching and research focus is diplomacy and international law, primarily in an Asian context. He was a National Fellow at the Hoover Institution (Stanford University), where he coordinated the Global Markets Working Group, and he was a Shorenstein Fellow at Stanford's Asia-Pacific Research Center. From 2004 to 2007, he was a policy official in the US Treasury Department, serving most recently as the Deputy Director of the Office of South and Southeast Asia. John has also served since 1999 as a legal advisor to the Documentation Center of Cambodia promoting memory and justice of the Khmer Rouge tragedy. John was a 2003-04 Visiting Research Fellow at the Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore and an attorney at the law firm of Davis Polk & Wardwell from 1997 to 2000. He is the author of *The Limits of Alignment* (forthcoming, Georgetown University Press, 2010), which examines the foreign policy dilemmas facing Southeast Asian states. He is also the co-editor of *On Trial: The Khmer Rouge Accountability Process* (Documentation Center of Cambodia, 2009) and *The Road Ahead for the Fed* (Hoover Institution Press, 2009) about monetary policy. John holds an A.B. and J.D. from Harvard and M.Phil. and D.Phil. from Oxford, where he was a Fulbright Scholar.



MICHAEL FENZEL

Michael R. Fenzel is an active duty army lieutenant colonel (selected early for promotion to the rank of colonel). He is currently a PhD student in national security studies at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. He has recently served as an airborne battalion task force commander in Afghanistan (2007-08) and as the deputy commander for the 1st Brigade of the 82d Airborne Division (2005-06). As a field grade officer, he served a year-long tour in Iraq, after taking part in the parachute assault into northern Iraq in March 2003. He served close to two years as a Director for Transnational Threats at the National Security Council. In this capacity, he oversaw the coordination and implementation of US counter-terrorism policy. He has also served as a Strategist and Policy Analyst for the Army Chief of Staff at the Pentagon. As an infantry officer in the US Army, Michael has led soldiers through Operation Desert Storm, served as a battalion logistics officer in Bosnia in 1995, commanded two paratrooper companies in Italy (through the defense of the US embassy and evacuation of 1,400 people during Operation Assured Response in Liberia in 1996), and served as an airborne battalion executive officer in Iraq. Michael was a Term Member with the Council on Foreign Relations and is a former White House Fellow. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the Johns Hopkins University and holds Masters degrees from Harvard University and the US Naval War College, both with an emphasis on international security.



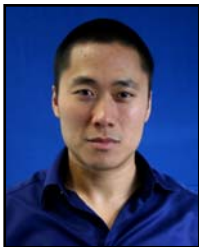
BHAVANI FONSEKA

Bhavani Fonseka is presently working as a Senior Researcher with the Centre for Policy Alternatives, a think tank in Sri Lanka, conducting research, documentation, national and international advocacy and litigation. She is a human rights lawyer and activist, with a focus on assisting victims and affected populations in various parts of Sri Lanka. She has worked on a range of issues including the rights of the displaced, women, children, minorities, HIV/AIDS, land and legal issues. She has been involved in and supported several key fundamental rights cases protecting the rights of victims in recent times in Sri Lanka. Bhavani has an LLB (Hons) (UK) and LLM (in international human rights law) (USA). In 2007, she was awarded 'The Young Outstanding Persons' (TOYP) in the category of human rights by the Junior Chamber International and HSBC Bank.



SHINICHIRO FUKUSHIGE

Shin Fukushige is currently a venture capitalist specialising in cross-border investments at Mitsubishi UFJ Capital, a VC subsidiary of the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group. Prior to becoming a venture capital professional, he worked for close to a decade in Japan in various sectors of the IT industry with venture and growth stage multi-nationals, including serving as President of a NASDAQ listed IT organisation's Japanese subsidiary. In his current capacity he specialises in investments into businesses which are enabling, or enabled by, ICT and advances in physical sciences, with a focus on enterprises whose potential is fully realised by connecting technologies and markets across borders. Shin currently sits on the nomination committee for the Entrepreneur of the Year Japan programme.



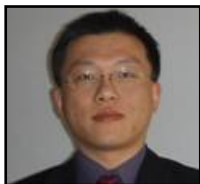
JAIME ENRIQUE GONZALEZ

Enrique Y. Gonzalez oversees strategic direction of IPVG Corp., a publicly listed company on the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE: IP) engaged in information technology and communications. He directly handles all investment-related activities of IPVG including fund-raising, mergers & acquisitions, and exit. Enrique has been intimately involved in the start-up process of all business units, and responsible for working with business unit heads in meeting or exceeding operating targets. He holds a successful track record in the internet space; having founded a series of internet start-ups that have been acquired by larger U.S.-based firms (match.ph/itzamatch.com) and has taken IPVG from garage to public. Among Enrique's recently concluded deals include a US\$22M BPO Venture inked by IPVG and PCCW in August 2009, a major Investment Agreement with UK-based Global Emerging Markets (GEM) group for IPVG to raise P300M from GEM, a US\$18M fund raising program from institutional investors such as ING, BDO, RCBC Capital, Abacus Securities and Philippine Star, and acquisitions of Influent, one of the top 15 call center companies in the US, and Prolexic Technologies, a leader in Distributed Denial of Service (DDOS) mitigation services in the world. Enrique is also Deputy Chairman of IP Foundation (IPF), IPVG's corporate social responsibility arm (CSR) formed in June 2007.



MIKE JOO

Mike Joo is Managing Director & Chief Operating Officer, Global Markets, for Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Mr. Joo is based in New York and has global responsibility for strategy, business support, and leading the core operating offices of all the lines of business. Previously, Mr. Joo was Head of Asia Debt Capital Markets based in Hong Kong. Before joining Merrill Lynch, Mr. Joo spent nine years at Credit Suisse where he was Head of Asia Debt Capital Markets and was responsibilities for Korea investment banking and derivatives coverage. Mr. Joo began his career at Goldman Sachs in New York and Hong Kong. Mr. Joo received the Ministry of Finance & Economy Excellence Award for his significant contributions to the financial markets in Korea, including his work during the Asian financial crisis. Mr. Joo graduated from MIT.



LIFAN LI

Lifan Li is an assistant professor with SASS and advisor to the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of Shanghai Municipality. He chairs programs at the National Planning Project of Philosophy and Social Sciences as well as the National Project sponsored by the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of The State Council. In 2005, he was selected by China's MFA as a member of the Chinese Diplomatic Observer Group to observe parliamentary elections in Kyrgyzstan. Lifan has been a Council Member of Shanghai Society for Russia and Central Asia, a fellow of Salzburg Global Seminar, and a Member of the Editorial Board on Asian Journal of Global Studies in Japan. He has lectured widely in the U.S., Central Asia and Europe, and published articles on a variety of topics within China and abroad. Lifan graduated from Belarusian State University, obtaining both a BA and MA. He is continuing his studies as a Ph. D candidate on political sciences in Kazakhstan.



BATCHIMEG MIGEDDORJ

Batchimeg Migeddorj recently joined the President's Office as a National Security Policy Advisor to the President of Mongolia. Previously, she served as a researcher for the Institute for Strategic Studies of Mongolia and later as a Head of the Ulaanbaatar Trade and Economic Representative Office in Taipei. Her main research subjects are China and major powers' relations in Northeast Asia. She has published numerous articles at home and abroad on related topics. She completed her studies at Beijing Language and Culture University in 1995, and obtained a Masters degree in political science at the National Defense University of Mongolia. Currently, she is a PhD candidate at National Taiwan University.



SHARMEEN OBAID CHINOY

Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy is a documentary filmmaker who has worked in over 10 countries producing and reporting on 14 films for CNN, PBS, Discovery Channel and Channel 4 (U.K.) Her work has earned her major awards in broadcast journalism including the Overseas Press Club Award, The American Women and (in?) Radio and Television award, The Cine Golden Eagle Award, The Banff TV Rockie Award, and the South Asian Journalist Award. She is the first non-American journalist to be awarded the prestigious Livingston Award and the youngest recipient of the One World Media broadcast journalist of the year award in the United Kingdom.

Sharmeen is also the founder and president of The Citizens Archive of Pakistan, a not-for-profit educational institution and heritage centre established in Karachi in February 2007 with the aim of strengthening civil society and reigniting the creativity of Pakistanis, allowing them to express and explore their heritage and history.



NILOFAR SAKHI

Nilofar Sakhi is the Country Director at Open Society Institute in Afghanistan. Prior to this, Ms. Sakhi worked as a Senior Consultant on Rule of Law, Transitional Justice, Human Rights and Women Rights at Open Society Institute in Afghanistan. She also served as an Executive Director of Women Activities and Social Services Association (WASSA), an organization she founded in 2002, where she also established the Center for Peace building and Conflict Resolution at WASSA. Prior to WASSA, Nilofar was a political education officer in Aurat Foundation, a national NGO in Pakistan. She served as a visiting fellow at National Endowment for Democracy, Columbia University and a fellow at International Center for Tolerance Education. During various conflicts in Western Afghanistan she provided political analysis to BBC, Human rights Watch and UNAMA. Her recent paper published on EurAsia Critic is titled “Afghanistan Presidential Election: Hope for the future or not?” Ms. Sakhi conducted round table conferences and participated as a speaker on democracy and development and freedom of speech related issues. She holds a BA in Political Science. She completed her MA in Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding as a Fulbright scholar.



DURREEN SHAHNAZ

Durreen Shahnaz is Head of the Programme on Social Innovation and Change and Adjunct Associate Professor at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKY School) at the National University of Singapore. Durreen has been a changemaker throughout her career which has spanned both the social and private sector. As a successful social entrepreneur, she founded, ran and sold oneNest, a New York-based social purpose business which operated a marketplace for products produced by microfinance, micro enterprises and artisan groups from all over the world. Recently, Durreen founded Impact Investment Exchange Asia, a social stock exchange which will allow Asian social enterprises to raise growth capital. Durreen has also worked at Grameen Bank and the World Bank, as well as Morgan Stanley before moving to the media sector. As the head of three regional media companies (Asia City Publishing Group, Hearst Magazines International and Reader's Digest Asia), she worked vigorously to incorporate social responsibility in these companies' work. Durreen holds a BA from Smith College; and a joint graduate degree -- MBA from Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania and MA from the School for Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University.



SABRINA SINGH

Sabrina Singh works for NASA and trains Japanese, Russian, European and US astronauts on spacesuits and living sustainably with limited resources in space. As the founder of NASA Everest Treks, she leads hiking expeditions to remote Himalayan Mountains and also conducts medical care and education outreach in underserved areas. She is the founder and executive director of DUNK IT! which uses sports culture to foster education on humanitarian crises. Sabrina is a graduate of a national leadership development program called NASA FIRST (Foundations of Influence,

Relationships, Success, and Teamwork). She was also the recipient of a Rotary International Foundation scholarship for the Egypt Group Study Exchange. In this role, she motivated and mentored female engineering students. Sabrina also mentors graduating seniors at the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul. She serves on the young professionals advisory board for the Houston World Affairs Council.



LIA SUNARJO

Lia Sunarjo is general manager of Young&Rubicam Indonesia, a place she calls, “the canvas for passion”. A place where dreams come true. A place of creativity and inspiration. Lia received professional recognition, such as “Best PR executive 1999” from Bali Post and “10 Best Female Executive 2006” from Dewi Magazine. Lia was born in Sydney, grew up in Germany, and was educated in Singapore, but has lived most of her life in Jakarta. Her fascination with people led her to her love and passion, the creative world of advertising. Public Relations was the epilog of her 14 years experience in the marketing communications industry before advertising. FCB gave her the first taste of the world she truly loves and can’t live without. EURO RSCG was the place of opportunities, where she took the challenge of expanding the agency’s business and expertise by opening its marketing services arm in 12 cities nationwide. Through the ASIA 21 network, Lia enjoys helping fellow ASIA 21ners by advising various NGO’s in terms of communications. Currently, Lia is part of the advisory board of YCAB, a foundation established by ASIA 21 2007 Fellow, Veronica Colondam.



RUTH YEOH

Ruth Yeoh is Director at Yeoh Tiong Lay & Sons Holdings Sdn Bhd and Director of Investments at YTL Corporation Bhd. She is also a Director at YTL-SV Carbon, YTL's in-house carbon credit and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) consultancy. Ruth currently leads the environmental division at YTL, where she reports on her organization’s environmental activities through writing its yearly sustainability reports. Ruth pioneered the highly successful "Climate Change Week," YTL's educational campaign designed to raise awareness on the issue of climate change in Malaysia and globally. She is a member of the Institute of Corporate Responsibility Malaysia (ICRM) and is an investment committee member of both the Asian Renewable Energy and Environment Fund (AREEF) and Renewable Energy and Environment Fund (REEF). Ruth is on the Board of Rare Conservation and Reef Check Malaysia. She was previously attached with Credit Suisse, Singapore. Ruth has written for the Wall Street Journal Asia and Financial Times, and has authored and co-edited a book on climate change entitled *Cut Carbon, Grow Profits: Business Strategies for Managing Climate Change and Sustainability*. Ruth graduated with from the University of Nottingham UK and holds a MS from Cass Business School in the City of London.



JINGJING ZHANG

Jingjin Zhang is the Deputy Director of the Public Interest Law Institute of the National Resources Defense Council. As one of China’s leading public interest lawyers, she is committed to justice and strengthening the rule of law. An outspoken environmental advocate, she represents pollution victims in lawsuits and promotes public participation by helping communities organize public hearings on environmental rights and licensing processes. She has won milestone cases in the Chinese courts, including the first successful environmental class action suit in China, against a chemical company that discharged toxic substances in Fujian Province. In a landmark suit against the

Beijing Municipal Commission of Urban Planning and the Beijing Environmental Protection Bureau, after the first-ever public hearing related to environment issue, Zhang represented the community to sue the two governmental agencies, eventually becoming a landmark environmental case. She has been frequently featured in the media for her pioneering work in public interest law. She was the Yale world fellow and visiting scholar at Yale Law School China Law Center and Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars from 2008-2009 and is the deputy director of Public Interest Law Institute China Program.



MIN ZIN

Min Zin is a freelance journalist and instructor at the School of Journalism of the University of California, Berkeley. He got involved in student activism during the pro-democracy movement of 1988 in Burma, when he was a 14-year-old high school student. He founded a nationwide high school student union and worked closely with pro-democracy leader, Aung San Suu Kyi. He went into hiding in 1989 to avoid arrest by the military, and his underground activist-cum-writer life lasted for nine years until he fled across the Thai-Burma border in August 1997. Almost all of his family members in Burma have suffered from repressions, including imprisonment and harassment at the hands of the military junta. Min Zin worked for the Thailand-based Irrawaddy magazine, as an assistant editor. Shifting from print to radio journalism, from 2004 to 2007, Min worked for the Washington-based Radio Free Asia (Burmese Service). He is currently pursuing his MA degree in the Asian Studies Graduate Program at the University of California, Berkeley. He is also an instructor responsible for International Visiting Scholars' Program at the University of California at Berkeley's School of Journalism. He is a freelance journalist writing for the Wall Street Journal, Far Eastern Economic Review, The Bangkok Post, The Irrawaddy and other publications.