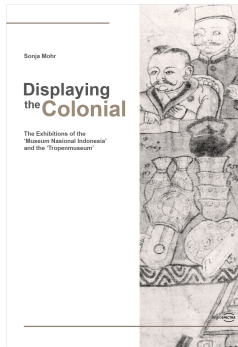


## NEWS & EVENTS > Book: "Displaying the Colonial", by Sonja Mohr

BY JORDI BALTÀ PORTOLÉS  
25 AUG 2014

# Book: "Displaying the Colonial", by Sonja Mohr



German publishing house **regiospectra**, which focuses on

issues concerning Asia and Africa, has recently published **"Displaying the Colonial: The Exhibitions of the 'Museum Nasional Indonesia' and the 'Tropenmuseum'"**, a book by Sonja Mohr. The book analyses the exhibitions of the Museum Nasional Indonesia in Jakarta and the Tropenmuseum in Amsterdam against the backdrop of colonial history and collecting. It takes into account that ethnographic collections in these museums, as well as in many others, were assembled in colonial times, yet **the way how these collections were brought together was long disregarded by scholars**. Studies of museum collections hardly considered the collecting context or a collector's individual background and motivation. It was only in the 1980s that research on these aspects began. However, does this research trend find an expression in the permanent exhibitions of museums? Located in the capital cities of Indonesia and the Netherlands, the **Museum Nasional Indonesia and the Tropenmuseum have diametrically opposed views on their countries' common history**. But do these differing perspectives also mean that they address collecting in colonial times in different ways? The publication results from **research**

conducted by Sonja Mohr in 2012, in the context of her Master's thesis.  
The author carried out fieldwork in both museums under study.

---

## SIMILAR CONTENT

BY JORDI BALTÀ PORTOLÉS  
01 NOV 2014

Publication: "Islam at the Tropenmuseum", by Mirjam Shatanawi



BY SAVITRI SASTRAWAN  
13 DEC 2022



Creating new narratives to address colonial heritage  
in museum collections

FEATURES  
INDONESIA NETHERLANDS

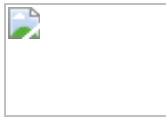
POSTED ON  
30 NOV 2011

## National Museum of Ethnology, the Netherlands



POSTED ON  
28 MAR 2012

## National Museum of Indonesia



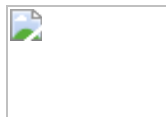
BY **JORDI BALTÀ PORTOLÉS**  
04 FEB 2018

## New publication: "Guiding is a profession"



POSTED ON  
29 NOV 2011

## Museum of the Tropics, the Netherlands



### COUNTRIES

[ASIA](#) [EUROPE](#) [INDONESIA](#) [NETHERLANDS](#)

### THEMES

[HERITAGE](#) [MUSEUMS](#)

[ORGANISATIONS DIRECTORY](#)

[NETHERLANDS](#)

[ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360](#)

[culture360.asef.org](#) brings Asia and Europe closer by providing information, facilitating dialogue and stimulating reflection on the arts and culture of the two regions.

[MORE ABOUT ASEF CULTURE360](#) | [FAQ](#) | [f](#) [X](#) [@](#)

This website was created and maintained with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.



About us  
Team  
Partners  
FAQ  
Brand guidelines  
How to partner with us  
Contact us  
#ASEFCulture