

The Wind in the Bamboo

Indigenous People Historically defined as “Negrito” Survive in Asia

Edith Mirante

Author/Activist

Author/activist Edith Mirante presents a slideshow related to her latest book, “The Wind in the Bamboo: A Journey in Search of Asia’s ‘Negrito’ Indigenous People”. Called “savage pygmies” and “hideous dwarfs,” sold into slavery, exhibited at the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair, nearly exterminated by disease and a cataclysmic volcano, these extraordinary people now survive as forest hunter gatherers in a few places: mainland Malaysia, the Philippines and India’s Andaman Islands. The slideshow features historical images and her own photographs, with an emphasis on the indigenous peoples’ adaptive modern foraging cultures, issues of ethnic identity, and ongoing forest land rights struggles.



Edith Mirante has roamed Asia since the early 1980s, collecting information on human rights and environmental issues. In 1986 she founded Project Maje, an independent information project on Burma and she has testified before the US Congress, European Trade Commission and International Labor Organization. The LA Times has called her writing "a contribution to the literature of human rights and to the literature of high adventure."

Wednesday, October 14, 2015 at 4:10 pm

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