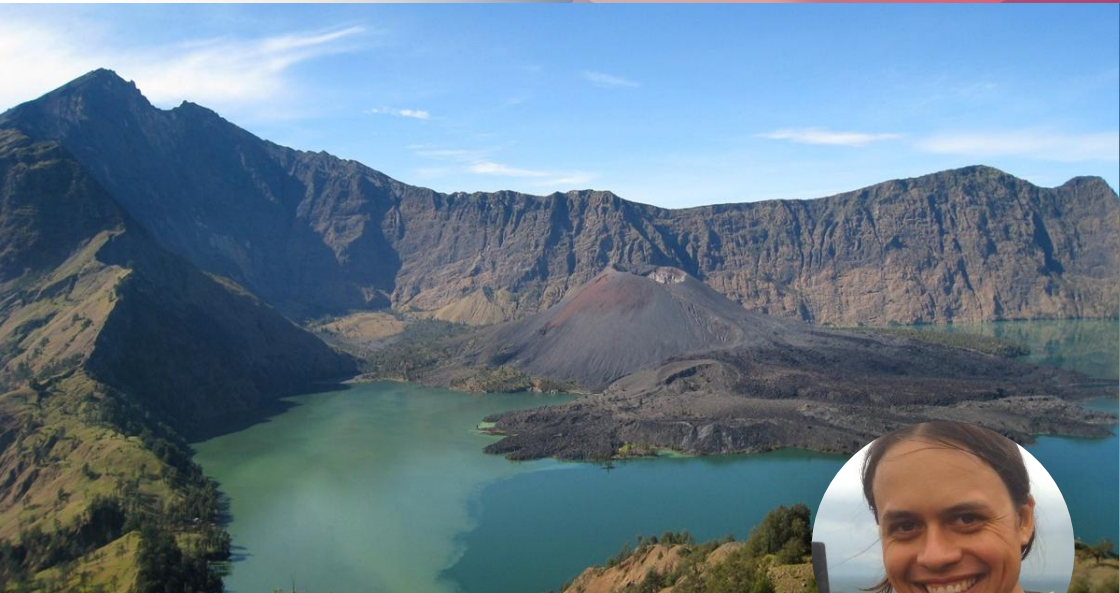


Apocalypse forgotten: Memories and histories of natural disaster in Indonesia



Some of the worst natural disasters in world history have happened in Indonesia: the 1257 Samalas eruption, the 1815 Tambora eruption, and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. Despite their global impact, these catastrophes do not always appear in the traditional historiographies of the archipelago.

This talk reviews the sparse written record of natural disaster in Javanese, Balinese, Sasak and Malay. It considers why these cataclysmic events, whose global effects were recorded as far afield as Europe, did not always survive in the written historical record, and how Indonesian communities preserved their memories of disaster in ways that are less easily accessible to modern historians.

Speaker

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Date : 23 April 2026

Time : 10.00 – 11.30 AM (CET)

Venue : Online via ZOOM

Registration : [kitlv.nl/event/sastrawan/](https://www.kitlv.nl/event/sastrawan/)



Moderator

Adrian Perkasa

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