

## **Dr Jaap Timmer**

Associate Professor, Discipline of Anthropology, School of Social Sciences  
Macquarie University, Sydney

I have a broad regional interest in the Southwest Pacific and Southeast Asia, with particular emphasis on Melanesia and Indonesia. I am the author of *Living with Intricate Futures* (2000), a monograph on knowledge and religion among the Imyan of West Papua, and numerous articles on culture change, millenarianism, and political developments in West Papua and Maluku, and on political ecology and access to justice in Kalimantan. Recently I have begun to focus on historicity, Christianity, lost tribes, and mystery in Solomon Islands, and Islamic historiography versus Christian theocracy in West Papua.

### **Education**

I studied anthropology at the University of Amsterdam and obtained my PhD from Radboud University Nijmegen in 2000. I have held postdoctoral positions at Leiden University, Radboud University, and the Australian National University. I have also engaged in conflict resolution and emergency aid in the Malukus, environmental assessments in the Pacific, and other consultancies. I came to Macquarie University in 2010.

### **Career highlights**

- In October 2021, I will take up an 18-month fellowship at the Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies ([AIAS](#)). During this fellowship, I will study how new understandings of history emerge as people's futures change, with a special focus on societies in Solomon Islands and West Papua. The fellowship will result in a book and a number of articles on anthropology and historicity. I will also organise a conference on perceptions of time and foster future collaborations between Aarhus and Macquarie Universities.
- In 2015, I was awarded an Australian Research Council's Discovery Projects grant (150102312) to further my research on the island of Malaita, Solomon Islands. Within the framework of that project I am exploring people's wonder about new global geography and historicity and the ways in which this wonder is opening up a space for local state building by an Evangelical/Pentecostal movement.
- Senior Research Fellow and Jakarta-based Project Manager for the Van Vollenhoven Institute (Leiden University) for an Access to Justice project in collaboration with the World Bank and the UNDP, 2007-2010.
- Writing Fellow at the Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV), Leiden, 2006.
- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) Research Fellow in the Centre for Pacific and Asian Studies at Radboud University Nijmegen, 2002-2005.
- Research Fellow in the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia (SSGM) Project, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, The Australian National University, 2002-2004.
- Ambon-based Liaison Officer for Development and Emergency Aid in Maluku, Indonesia for CORDAID (Catholic Organization for Relief and Development Aid) and NOVIB (Oxfam Netherlands), 2000-2002.