



# Festivities, Roundtables, Open Days

Looking Back at IIAS' 30th Anniversary

In October 2023, the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) commemorated its 30th anniversary. To mark the occasion, we welcomed colleagues and the public to our home in Leiden for two days of engaged discussions, cultural performances, interactive workshops, and delicious foods. Through collaborative exchange, mutual institutional support, and critical analysis, IIAS promotes humanistic and social scientific research across its various platforms, from conferences to *The Newsletter*, from book publications to public lectures, from research fellowships to intensive graduate workshops. In many ways, the October 12-13 events reflected and exemplified the spirit of an institute committed to building new communities of knowledge collaboration. On this spread, we feature a collage of photographs from those celebrations. Thanks to everyone who participated and made our anniversary such an enjoyable experience!



Fig. 1: Director Philippe Peycam leads a toast to celebrate 30 years of IIAS, October 13, 2023. Fig. 2: A curated selection of tea awaits visitors at the welcome table. Fig. 3: Musicians perform music from Central Asia. Fig. 4: Visitors enjoy a selection of Asian snacks from a food truck on the Rapenburg. Fig. 5: Participants enjoy a workshop on Filipino dancing. Fig. 6: Custom cake served at the IIAS Open Day. Fig. 7: Hester Bijl, Rector Magnificus at Leiden University, addresses visitors at the Open Day, reiterating the close connection between IIAS and the university. Fig. 8: A group of singers and musicians perform a selection of music from Bengal. Fig. 9: Colleagues gather for a public roundtable entitled "Decolonizing Area Studies: An Open Conversation," at the Stadsgehoorzaal.