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Sommario/riassunto	"Decentralization is a major trend in Indonesia since the first decades of that nation under Sukarno and Suharto. Max Lane is justly treasured for illuminating those first decades, for example, through his translations of Pramoedya Ananta Toer, and his excellent book, <i>Unfinished Nation: Indonesia Before and After Suharto</i> . Anyone who seeks insights into the current trend of decentralization, whether in Indonesia or other parts of the world, will find this work cogent." — James L. Peacock, Kenan Distinguished Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill "This book opens up the discussion on the history and political economy of the new populist policies that seem to gain momentum in the face of the Indonesian elections. It also addresses questions pertaining to the problems and options related to popular aspirations within this context-all of which cannot be

explained very well by any of the predominant theses on Indonesia, whether as an oligarchy or a democratically liberal but economically predatory country." —Professor Olle Törnquist, University of Oslo

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