

## Bio-data of Vivian Louis Forbes



Dr Forbes is an Adjunct Professor and the Map Curator (since 1975) at the University of Western Australia. He was an Adjunct Associate Professor (1997-2006) at the Department of Spatial Sciences, Curtin University and is presently a Visiting Research Fellow at the Maritime Institute of Malaysia.

He is professional, practising cartographer, marine political geographer, lecturer in spatial sciences and marine affairs and former Merchant Naval Officer. He is a professional cartographer, lecturer, supervisor to Graduate and Under-graduate students at UWA and Curtin University. He has developed a close honorary research/working relationship with MIMA since its inception in 1994, through the offering of technical advice and attendances at Conferences, Seminars, publication of *Occasional Papers*, compiling and publishing two atlases: *Atlas of Malaysia's Maritime Space (1998)* and *Malaysia's Maritime Realm (2008)*, articles for *MIMA Bulletin* and facilitating Workshops on the cartographic aspects and geographical concepts of maritime boundary delimitation and archival research on terrestrial and maritime boundary issues.

He has developed expertise in international law particularly as it relates to maritime and terrestrial political boundary determination, law of the sea and associated issues; practical experience in terrestrial and hydrographic surveying; lecturing in Law of the Seas issues, spatial sciences and political geography; and has many years of practical experience in cartography. He has an excellent understanding in the problems of maritime boundary determination especially in the regions of Southeast and East Asia and those ocean areas surrounding the Australian continent. His Masters thesis was on the '*Maritime Boundaries of the Indian Ocean Region*' and his doctoral work was on '*Conflict and Cooperation in Managing Maritime Space in Semi-enclosed Seas*'. Both works were published under their respective titles by Singapore University Press in 1995 and 2001 respectively.

His research interests are in the disciplines of cartography, marine political geography and maritime studies. He lectures in these topics and has published widely on these themes. The main focus of his research is on maritime boundary delimitation and geopolitical issues. He has specialised on Indian Ocean maritime affairs and international boundary issues of East, South and Southeast and Southwest Asia. He has presented a number of papers at conferences and seminars at national and international fora and conducted workshops on the cartographical concepts and geopolitical concerns in determining maritime boundaries.

He is author of a number of books, atlases and has been consulted on matters relating to maritime and terrestrial boundaries and has appeared as a witness at Joint Standing Committee on Treaties Sessions for the Australian Federal Senate in relation to the delimitation of Australia's maritime boundaries with Indonesia in 1997 and East Timor in 2002. He has presented on an annual basis (since September 2002) Workshops on maritime boundary determination and archival research issues at the Maritime Institute of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur.

Dr V.L. Forbes

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