

## Bio of Marites Danguilan Vitug

MARITES DANGUILAN VITUG is an author and editor-in-chief of NEWSBREAK, an online news and current affairs magazine in the Philippines, with occasional hard-copy editions. NEWSBREAK, now on its ninth year, was described by *The New York Times* as a magazine with “spunk and spice...and has more than demonstrated its independence from the privileged and the powerful.”

NEWSBREAK has won major awards in investigative reporting in the Philippines and regional awards (Developing Asia Journalism Awards of the World Bank Institute). *Foreign Policy* has cited NEWSBREAK for its reporting on peace and conflict in Mindanao and, in its September/October 2007 issue, reported that “Newsbreak has gained a reputation for its dogged investigative reporting on the malfeasance of the Philippines’ holy trinity: politics, the military, and the Catholic Church.”

Marites is the author of *Power from the Forest: the Politics of Logging, Jalan-Jalan: A Journey through EAGA* (with Criselda Yabes, 1998), and *Under the Crescent Moon: Rebellion in Mindanao* (with Glenda M. Gloria, 2000). *Power from the Forest*, which won the National Book Award in 1994, was cited in the *International Herald Tribune* as a “well-written and well-produced book (that) deserves a wider audience...” *Jalan-Jalan* was chosen by *Asiaweek* as one of the best books on Asia for 1999. *Under the Crescent Moon* won the National Book Award in 2001.

Her most recent book, *Shadow of Doubt: Probing the Supreme Court*, is the first to lift the veil of the Supreme Court in the Philippines.

Ms. Vitug’s works have been published in a number of periodicals including the *International Herald Tribune*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Newsday*, and *Asahi Shimbun*, and books and journals, including *The Politics of Environment in Southeast Asia* (Routledge: London and New York) and *The Journal of Environment and Development* (University of California in San Diego).

In 2006, a leading global risk consultancy firm, Eurasia Group, ranked Ms. Vitug 45 among 50 Global Leaders, mostly heads of states, for her work in NEWSBREAK.

Among others, Marites received the Courage in Journalism Award from the US-based International Women’s Media Foundation for her reportage on the plunder of Palawan’s forests, the Jaime V. Ongpin Investigative Journalism award (as finalist), and the Ten Outstanding Young Filipinos award (in the field of journalism). For a story she co-wrote in *Newsweek*, she and her colleagues received the 1994 Harry Chapin Media Awards, second prize for Best Periodical.

Ms. Vitug was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University in 1986-1987 after which she took postgraduate studies in international relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science and graduated with Merit. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Broadcast Communication from the University of the Philippines where she also pursued a postgraduate course in mass communications.