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**Bujangga Manik: or, Java in the fifteenth century: an edition and study of Oxford, Bodleian Library, MS. Jav. b. 3 (R)**

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## *Résumé*

Alexander Joseph West (born Leamington Spa, UK, on the 19th of November 1987) is a citizen of Ireland whose schooling and upbringing took place chiefly in England. After taking his A-Levels at Peter Symonds Sixth Form College in Winchester (2006), he studied for a bachelor's degree in Chinese at the University of Leeds, graduating in 2010 with a 2:i. After that he did an MSc in social anthropology at Oxford University (2011), where he focussed on the ethnography of eastern Indonesia. West then trained as a teacher of English-as-a-foreign-language and worked in Oxford for several years, during which time he learned to read Jawi (Malay in Arabic script) and Old French, among other things. In August 2016, he got married and made the mistake of moving to the Netherlands to pursue an MA in Asian Studies, from which he graduated *cum laude* in 2017 with a thesis on the Old Sundanese narrative poem *Bujangga Manik*. He unsuccessfully applied for Ph.D funding in early 2018, hoping to produce a new edition and study of *Bujangga Manik* at the Institute of Area Studies at Leiden University. He decided to pursue the doctorate regardless, beginning on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 and submitting the thesis on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2020. He worked as an English teacher throughout, first in The Hague and then online during the coronavirus pandemic.

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