



INCLUDING THE  
Pink Pages

# NEWSLETTER 20

NOVEMBER

1999

P.O. BOX 9515, 2300 RA LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS, TELEPHONE: +31-71-527 22 27, TELEFAX: +31-71-527 41 62, E-MAIL: IIASNEWS@RULLET.LeidenUniv.NL

- Forum  

- People  

- Institutional News  

- Research Project  

- Report  

- Call for Papers  

- Publication  

- Asian Art  

- Vacancy  

- Internet  

- Agenda  

- Short News  


## GENERAL NEWS

On 25 June 1999 Professor Jan Pouwer addressed the Fourth Conference of the European Society for Oceanists. He focused on three epistemological shifts: Sunda, Sahul, and Circum Pacific. - (p. 3)

By analysing recent political events in Asia Ronald J. May demonstrates that Asia is not heading ineluctably towards democratization. - (p. 7)

3 7

## CENTRAL ASIA

In August a group of forty international scholars, all specialists in specific areas of Bon and Zhang Zhung (linguistic) studies, gathered in Japan for their first major symposium on **Bon Studies**. Participants witnessed a few 'first-ever' introductions into hitherto unexplored terrain, for instance, a preliminary research report by Donatella Rossi on a text from the important *Ye khri mtha' sel*. Henk Blezer recounts. - (p. 15)

15

## INSULAR S.W. ASIA



The Seychelles has one of the most racially mixed societies in the world. Besides African and European settlers, the Republic has also attracted immigrants from Asia, notably India and China. An article by Jean-Claude Pascal Mahoune. - (p. 22)

22

## EAST ASIA

Harriet Zurndorfer describes the new journal **Nan Nü** as multidisciplinary. 'It focuses on disciplines within the study of China, anything from history, literature, art history, anthropology, music, medicine, and, of course, sexuality: whatever is relevant to the study of men, women, and gender.' An interview by Giovanni Vitiello. - (p. 29)

The **British Association for Korean Studies** was formally constituted in 1987. 'The object of the Association,' states its Constitution, 'shall be to encourage Korean studies in Britain, in particular by stimulating teaching and research.' BAKS carries out this objective by, among other things, organizing an annual conference, publishing a newsletter and maintaining a website. A contribution by Keith Pratt, President of the BAKS. - (p. 35)

28 35

## SOUTHEAST ASIA

The **Sumatra Heritage Trust** aims at preserving, enhancing, and promoting the natural, cultural, and built heritage of the island of Sumatra. Run mainly by young graduates of universities in Medan, the Trust engages in projects ranging from the restoration of Chinese courtyard mansions to the recording of Mandailing indigenous knowledge. - (p. 26)

23 27



## ASIAN ART



The **Third Asia-Pacific Triennial** opened on September 9 and will be on display till January 26, 2000. Presenting more than 140 artworks by 77 artists from 20 countries and regions throughout Asia and the Pacific, the Third Asia-Pacific Triennial also includes an international Conference, a Virtual Triennial online exhibition, a Screen Culture programme of video, Kids' APT, short film, and animation, and much more. - (p. 37)

36 39

## SOUTH ASIA



Japanese translations of the books of **Pro. J. Gonda** by Professor K. Yoro reach sales figures in Japan which

a best-selling novelist would envy. Thirty thousand copies each of the Japanese translations of Gonda's 'Introduction to Indian Thought' and of his 'Concise Elementary Grammar of the Sanskrit Language' have been sold. - (p. 18)

From 5 to 9 July 1999, the International Institute for Asian Studies hosted **South Asian Archaeology 1999** (SAA'99), the fifteenth in a series of biennial meetings which started in Cambridge back in 1967 as a rather informal get-together of European archaeologists working on South Asia.

This conference has become one of the most important platforms outside South Asia for the exchange of new ideas and latest results of excavation and research by archaeologists and art historians working on South Asia and the Silk Road region. - (p. 20)

16 21

## THEME: WILDLIFE TRADE IN ASIA

For this Newsletter's special theme John Knight has brought together eight scholars to discuss the supply side, the consumer end, and the middlemen of the **Wildlife Trade in Asia**. The examples of songbirds in East Kalimantan and of South Korean bear gall bladders lay bare 'the need for further research both to document the extent of the trade and its effects on wildlife populations, and to document the character of the human involvement in it in different societies and cultures.'

8 14



THEME  
WILDLIFE  
TRADE

## Pink Pages

### PEARL PROPOSAL

The Need for Research in ASEM: A proposal presented by the Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages.

41

### IIAS NEWS

Institutional news from the IIAS.

46

### ALLIANCE NEWS

The seventh Nordic-European Workshop in Advanced Asian Studies.

50

### CLARA NEWS

News from the research programme *Changing Labour Relations in Asia*.

51

### ESF ASIA COMMITTEE

A presentation of 15 workshops selected for funding in 1999 and 2000 and a call for proposals for workshops to take place in 2001.

52

### SHORT NEWS

SEALG 1999  
Extended workshop for young historians.

58

### OTHER INSTITUTES

Institutes in France, India, and Australia.

60

### INDEX IIASN 20

40

### PRODUCTS & SERVICES

50

### CONFERENCE AGENDA

63





IIAS NEWSLETTER No 20  
November 1999  
64 pages

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Visiting address: Nonnensteeg 1-3, Leiden  
Mailing address: IIAS, P.O. Box 9515,  
2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands  
Telephone: +31-71-527 22 27  
Telefax: +31-71-527 41 62  
E-mail: iiasnews@ruller.leidenuniv.nl  
http://www.iias.nl

EDITORIAL STAFF

Managing Editor - Elzeline van der Hoek  
Central Asia Editor - Ingrid Nooijens  
South Asia Editor - Netty Bonouvié  
Insular Southwest Asia Editor - Sandra Evers  
Southeast Asia Editor - Dick van der Meij  
East Asia (China) Editor - Ingrid d'Hooghe  
East Asia (Japan) Editor - Margarita Winkel  
East Asia (Korea) Editor - Koen De Ceuster  
Asian Culture Editor - The GATE Foundation  
English Editor - Rosemary Robson

CORRESPONDENTS

Ann Beard (AAS, Ann Arbor)  
Victor A. van Bijlert (Bengal Studies)  
Robert Cribb (Australia Correspondent)  
Leo Douw (Qaoxiang Programme)  
Marieke te Boonij (ESF Asia Committee)  
Leo Schmit (EU, Brussels)  
Mario Rutten (CASA, Amsterdam)  
Ratna Saptari  
(Changing Labour Relations in Asia, CLARA)  
Willem Vogelsang  
(Research School CNWS, Leiden)

CONTRIBUTORS

Kamran Asdar Ali, C.A. Ansoorge, Marc Argeloo, Bart Barendregt, Abhijit Bhattacharya, Bhaswati Bhattacharya, Victor A. van Bijlert, Henk Blezer, Leonard Blussé van Oud Alblas, Marieke te Boonij, Blaise Borezee, Thomas de Bruijn, Hanne de Bruin, Rogier Busser, Matthew Isaac Cohen, Robert Cribb, Theo Damsteegt, Nina Demido, Lucia Dolce, Deanna Donovan, Cristina Eghenter, Solvay Gerke, Paul van der Grijp, Ndéye Sokhna Guéye, Christian Henriot, Holger Jebens, T.S. Kang, John Knight, Karel R. van Kooij, Sabine A.M. Kuypers, Helga Lasschuijt, S. Lee, Li Minghuan, J. Thomas Lindblad, Abdur-Razzaq Lubis, Jean-Claude Pascal Mahoune, Ronald J. May, J.A. Mills, Prabhu P. Mohapatra, Manon Osseweijer, R. Parry-Jones, Gerard A. Persoon, Yu. A. Petrosyan, M. Phipps, Jan Pouwer, Keith Pratt, Rajindra K. Puri, Ellen M. Raven, Rosemary Robson-McKillop, Mario Rutten, Ratna Saptari, Ad van Schaik, Leo Schmit, Angela Schottenhammer, Dick Stegewerns, Pamela J. Stewart, Wim Stokhof, Andrew Strathern, Hein Streefkerk, Gerda Theuns-de Boer, Cathelijne Veenkamp, Sikko Visscher, Giovanni Vitiello, Reed L. Wadley, Robert Wessing, Paul Wijsman, Andrew McWilliam, Wim van Zanten, Luba Zubkova

DESIGN

De Kreeft, Amsterdam

PRINTING

Dijkman Offset, Diemen

IISN

0929-8738

CIRCULATION

22,300

NEXT ISSUE

Deadline: 15 December 1999  
Release: 15 February 2000  
Special theme: 'Modern Indian Literature'

ADVERTISEMENTS

Reservation: 1 January 2000  
Submission: 10 January 2000  
See also this page

Or contact Mr Sudhir Sand at the IIAS

THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FACTS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION RESTS EXCLUSIVELY WITH THE AUTHORS AND THEIR INTERPRETATIONS DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF THE INSTITUTE OR ITS SUPPORTERS. THE IIAS NEWSLETTER (IISN) IS PUBLISHED BY IIAS AND IS AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE.

# Editorial

Ministers and senior officials from the ASEM (Asia-Europe Meetings) countries are at present busy preparing for the third ASEM convention in Seoul in 2000. What is to be expected from ASEM III? Will the EU and its member states develop a deeper interest in Asia? The recent turn of events in that region (from economic boom to crisis to modest signs of recovery) must have made the Europeans aware of the impact Asia increasingly has on a global level much more than before. Will the ASEM invite members from SAARC to join, or to be present as observers? Will it come up with a salvage programme for East-Timor?

It is becoming increasingly clear that the European, the Southeast Asian, and the East Asian countries in the ASEM have created an extremely useful platform that, when organized in a more structured way, will provide excellent opportunities for further enhancement of communication and co-operation in various fields.

As we understand it, the introduction of initiatives at ASEM meetings, as well as the ASEM conventions themselves, and the many senior-official meetings, are all organized on an ad hoc basis by respective national ministries. Consequently, it is no illusion that the transfer of expertise every two years from one organizing country to a subsequent one (alternately a European and an Asian country), will slow down the ASEM activities. A permanent co-ordinating centre could function as catalyst, money-raiser, and implementer of initiatives accepted by the ASEM countries. As it now stands, many proposals politely agreed upon by the Heads of States and Prime Ministers in the ASEM meetings, seem to disappear into drawers because of a lack of (financial) commitment. This applies to almost all of the ASEM initiatives (apart from the establishment of ASEM, Singapore, and the newly established Asia-Europe Environment and Technology Centre in Bangkok).

Asia and Europe are developing new partnerships in many fields of society. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century the world will see a much more balanced relationship between Asia and Europe in economic, political, and academic respect than in the preceding century. To build up fruitful and peaceful relations between Asia and Europe, a thorough knowledge of developments in Asia is required. To this knowledge, academics in the area of social and human sciences have much to contribute. The study of Asian cultures, economies, and societies is a vast subject area, to which European scholarship has made remarkable contributions. Europe, with its manifold traditional connections with Asia, must make an extra effort to continue playing a prominent role in the field of Asian studies. To achieve this, further co-ordination of research, based on international co-operation between European scholars and between European and Asian researchers is necessary.

On earlier occasions the IIAS and its Asian and European research partners organized in PEARL (Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages), have pointed out the fact that the ASEM building (in as far as this metaphor is appropriate) is founded on only two pillars, i.e. economic relations and political / strategic co-operation. An important third pillar for a successful rapprochement between

the two regions is in our opinion lacking: co-operation in education, in training and, especially, in research. Although all policy makers nowadays do understand the significance of the basic aspects of educational and scientific strategy, up to now only the Asian participants in ASEM seem inclined to consider an institutionalized set-up for ASEM co-operation in these fields. The EU is very hesitant here and for various reasons. Institutionalization of ASEM initiatives will inevitably mean a certain degree of autonomy for such institutions and, consequently, a loss of influence presently maintained by the EU and its members. The official argument ventilated in EU circles, however, is, *mirabile dictu*, that nobody wants another Byzantine structure such as the EU with its multi-layered and opaque bureaucracy. In the case of the establishment of an ASEM platform for research and research strategy, for instance on the model of the European Science Foundation (as proposed by PEARL), there is a fear that organizing research and educational infrastructure in ASEM eventually could become an EU financial obligation. Europe especially is not ready for long-term commitments here. Finally, EU civil servants refer to the European Union's fifth framework programme as a possible instrument for co-operation in this respect. This programme is, indeed, beneficial for Europe but has two main drawbacks. Firstly, it is formulated from a European point of view to serve European interests. Secondly, its main areas of research are in the exact sciences and technology. Social sciences and humanities are almost completely left out.

In the proposal composed by PEARL, research will be formulated and organized by Asian as well as European scholars on an equal basis - this is crucial for a successful rapprochement and meaningful results. Joint activities and education, training, and especially research are our main concern. In the Pink Pages of this Newsletter, readers are given the opportunity to acquaint themselves with our proposal. Let's hope ASEM 2000 will not miss the opportunity! The establishment of an Asia-Europe Platform for Research is both a timely and a visionary undertaking.

Good news from the European Science Foundation Asia Committee. It selected 15 workshops for the year 1999-2000. A new call for workshops is announced in this Newsletter. The national research councils and the European Science Foundation are to be praised for their commitment to Asian Studies in Europe and for their trust in the Committee. In the Pink Pages our readers will find more on the ESF Asia programme.

Finally, we would like to introduce you to the second thematic issue of our newsletter. Dr John Knight, a former research fellow of the IIAS, organized and edited a section on *Wildlife Trade in Asia*. It is our intention to continue this format that includes a mixture of thematic sections and overall current information on developments, haps, and mishaps in Asian Studies. ■

WIM STOKHOF

Director of the IIAS

IIAS

The International Institute for Asian Studies is a post-doctoral institute jointly established in 1993 by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), the Vrije Universiteit van Amsterdam (VUA), the Universiteit van Amsterdam (UvA) and Universiteit Leiden (UL). It is mainly financed by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences.

The main objective of the IIAS is to encourage Asian Studies in the Humanities and Social Sciences (the alpha and gamma sciences: ranging from linguistics and anthropology to political science, law, environmental and developmental studies) and to promote national and international scientific co-operation in these fields. One of the tasks undertaken by the IIAS is to play an active role in the gathering, co-ordination and dissemination of information on Asian Studies. The Institute plays a facilitating role by bringing (inter-) national parties together. Situated in a small country of which the political influence is rather limited, the Institute has opted for the flexible role of intermediary on an international level. Furthermore, in keeping with the tradition in the Netherlands of transferring goods and ideas, the IIAS serves as a clearinghouse for knowledge and information.

This entails activities such as providing information services; constructing an international network; setting up international co-operative projects and research programmes; and providing facilities for Dutch and foreign scholars to conduct research at the IIAS (and/or at corresponding institutes in the Netherlands and abroad). Through its so-called 'Schiphol function' the IIAS establishes contacts between Asianists from all over the world.

Research fellows at a post-PhD level are temporarily employed by or affiliated to the Institute, either within the framework of a collaborative research programme, or on an individual basis.

The IIAS organizes seminars, workshops, and conferences, publishes a newsletter (circulation approximately 20,000 copies) and has established a database which contains information about researchers and current research in the field of Asian Studies within Europe and world-wide.

A Guide to Asian Studies in Europe, a printed version of parts of this database was published in 1998. The Institute also has its own server and a Web site on the Internet to which a growing number of institutes related to Asian Studies are linked.

Since 1994 the IIAS has been appointed to run the secretariat of the European Science Foundation Asia Committee (Strasbourg). Together with this Committee the IIAS shares the objective of improving the international co-operation in the field of Asian Studies (additional information can be acquired at the IIAS).

In 1997 the Strategic Alliance was established: an international co-operation between the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS), Copenhagen, and the IIAS. The Institut für Asienkunde (Hamburg) joined the Alliance in 1998. The Strategic Alliance was set up to enhance research on (contemporary) Asia and to create networks in Asia and Europe with academic and non-academic institutions and actors.

Upon the initiative of the IIAS, and in close co-operation with NIAS, the Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages (PEARL) was established in Seoul in October 1998 during a meeting of 35 researchers from ASEM (Asia-Europe Meetings) member countries, representing leading Asian and European Studies departments and institutions for research funding. PEARL seeks to enhance Asia-Europe research co-operation and a top level Asian/European presence in the ASEM process. The IIAS provides the Secretariat for PEARL.

RATES

- Standard A: full page: w. 270 x h. 375 mm: US\$ 1,250
- Standard B: half page: w. 270 x h. 180 mm: US\$ 675
- Standard C: 3 columns: w. 160 x h. 180 mm: US\$ 400
- Standard D: 2 columns: w. 105 x h. 180 mm: US\$ 270
- Standard E: 2 columns: w. 105 x h. 100 mm: US\$ 150

ADVERTISEMENT GUIDELINES

- Material: Positive film (emulsion down) or positive on paper.
- Photographs and shaded areas must be pre-screened.
- Not-camera ready: Text on disc, clear logo's or digital, including print-out.

ADVERTORIALS

Article of maximum 1,200 words in combination with an advertisement of minimum St. D size. Reservation: 8 weeks prior to release date. Note: Copy subject to approval, advertorial texts will be edited.

INSERTS

All addresses, incl. institutes, specialists, and non-specialists, world-wide, or selected countries. Price (including postage): Up to 45 grams: US\$ 3000, every 25 grams over 45 grams: US\$ 500.

MAILING LABEL RENTAL

It is possible to order addresses from the IIAS Database of Asia specialists for direct mail use. US\$ 250 per search; US\$ 0.50 per address, on self-adhesive labels.

INFORMATION

For further information contact Mr S. Sand or the Managing Editor at the IIAS.

CIRCULATION

The IIAS Newsletter has a circulation of 22,000 copies world-wide and is published 3 times a year.





25 JUNE 1999

LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS

# Asia in the Pacific

On 25 June 1999 Jan Pouwer addressed the Fourth Conference of the European Society for Oceanists. Analysing the theme of the conference, 'Asia in the Pacific', Pouwer raised three inter-related points: the geo-genesis, socio-genesis, and globalization of the region. He focused on three epistemological shifts, Sunda, Sahul, and Circum Pacific, that elevated these 'spimes' (contraction of 'space' and 'time') from receptive peripheries to active and creative centres of their own. An edited version of Jan Pouwer's fifteen-minutes' address.

■ By JAN POWUER

Let us skip the ceremonial claptrap and get straight to business: Asia and the Pacific. Needless to say, 'Asia' and 'Pacific' are scientific or (geo) political constructs. 'Asia in the Pacific' is thus a construct in a construct, like a model of a Pacific Clipper within a glass bottle. What does 'Asia' and what does 'Pacific' and what does 'in' for that matter stand for in our discourse and practice? My viewpoint is couched in terms of becoming, process rather than being, or a state of affairs. My instant sermon, as any sermon in a conventional Pacific pulpit, will raise three interrelated points: geo-genesis, socio-genesis, and globalization, but will concentrate on epistemological issues. Tying in with and expanding on Peter Bellwood's inspiring paper on long-term structures and trends in Indo-Pacific prehistory, presented in Leiden at the Bird's Head Conference in 1997, I urge you to think big, or – as Bellwood puts it: to raise macro-questions. To which I would add: give detailed micro-answers to macro-questions.

The geo-genesis of the Pacific Basin, the Pacific Rim is, as you know, a rocky affair, part of a giant global process. Over a length of some 70,000 kilometers in the middle of the ocean, there emerged a system of submarine mountain ridges as a consequence of solidifying magma. A continuous renovating lithosphere literally lies at the bottom of continental drift and ensuing intercontinental shifts and collisions. The NNW drifting Australian continent broke up at its northern and eastern edges into a wide arc of islands, constituting the continental island of New Guinea, the second largest island in the world, almost a continent itself, and the continental islands of New Zealand, New Caledonia, Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomons, and the Bismarck Archipelago: together constituting the first zone or ring. East of this ring a second one emerged from the bottom of the sea: the non-continental islands such as the Marianas, Tonga, and Kermadec. Further to the east, and separated from the second ring by oceanic trenches with a depth of 5,000 meter, emerged the third zone, the oceanic islands of Micronesia and Polynesia. The three zones are separated in the west from Island Southeast Asia by the equally deep trenches of the so called Wallace line. About 7,500 islands are scattered like confetti in

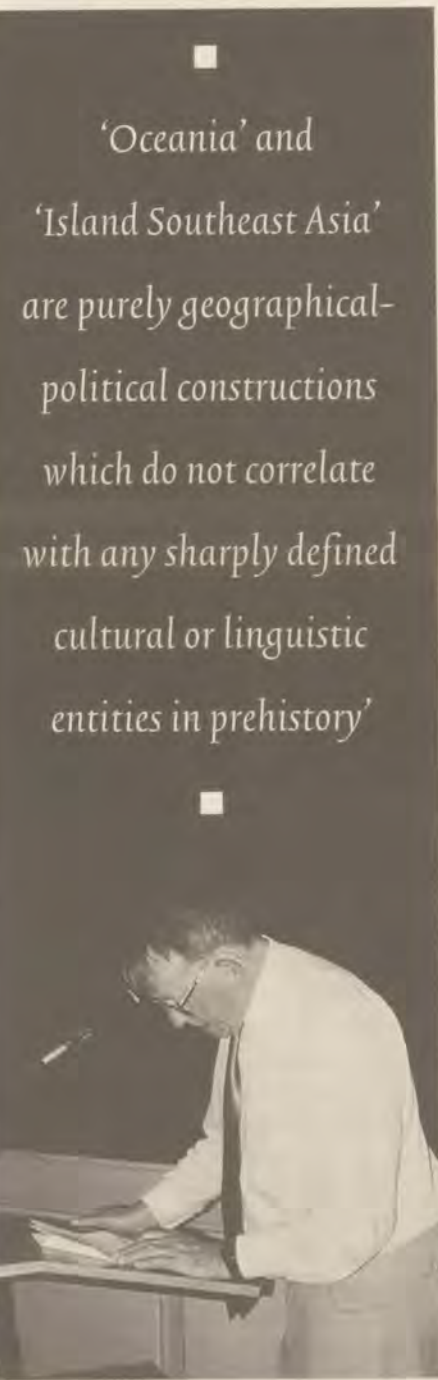
the biggest ocean of the world with, ironically, the smallest total acreage of land. Here is a link with the former, traditional preference of anthropology for the construction of primitive isolates.

The geo-genesis of the Pacific has a bearing on its socio-genesis: to some extent in line with the three rings of geological genesis, we may discern three areas of social genesis or 'spimes', a handy American contraction of 'space' and 'time'. Firstly the spime of the Sahul plate, mainly including Australia, Tasmania, and New Guinea, which were initially not separated by sea. Secondly the spime of the Austronesian voyaging corridor, ranging very widely from Taiwan and the Northern Philippines through Eastern Indonesia, Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia to New Zealand. Thirdly the much more limited yet important spime of Western Melanesia, including the continental islands of the Solomons, the Bismarck Archipelago, New Caledonia, and Fiji. The third spime both intersects with and mediates between spimes 1 and 2.

There is no time to discuss the wealth of evidence to support the suggestion of the three spimes. It is sufficient to refer to Solheim, Bellwood, and White, amongst others. What I do wish to draw your attention to are the perhaps not so sufficiently noticed epistemological-ideological shifts underlying the construction of these spimes. One could almost say that these shifts function as a metaphoric lithosphere. They were brought about by an accumulation of data in a dialectical interaction with basic ideas and ideologies. In the course of this process the periphery of an earlier discourse became the centre of the next one. We may discern three shifts: the Sunda, Sahul, and Circum Pacific shift. Sunda, is the name given to a shelf which was part of the Southeast Asian continent during the Pleistocene. It included Sumatra, Java, Lombok, Kalimantan, Palawan, and western Mindanao. The shift elevates its early inhabitants to creative and inventive actors and seafarers, no longer to be considered as passive recipients and borrowers from an active centre of superior continental Asian civilizations, as Heine-Geldern (1932) would have us believe.

Heine-Geldern's essentially racist distinctions applied even more strongly to the Australian Aborigines, Papuans, and Melanesians.

This in spite of the fact that their early ancestors departed from Sunda-land, somehow or other succeeding in crossing the deep trough at the Wallace Line at least 40,000 years ago, no minor feat. There was no landbridge. This takes us to the second shift, which I call the Sahul one. It elevates in its turn Australia, New Guinea, and Western Melanesia from a receptive periphery of Island Southeast Asia to an active and creative centre of its own. Striking evidence shows that in Sahul land, affluent, large-scale hunting and gathering, tree cultivation and tree-cropping, fire-stickfarming and even complex agricultural activities, including drainage did go with undif-



ferentiated stone tools. This gives the lie to a European centred differentiation of stone artefacts as a universal yardstick of socio-economic progress. Questions should be asked as to why agriculture and ensuing dense populations in the New Guinea Highlands of about 9,000 years ago preceded agriculture west of that island by at least 3,000 years. Part of the answer no doubt lies in the special geographical, environmental, and climatological nature of New Guinea, closely related to its geo-genesis. It shares this exceptional position only with the Malaysian Peninsula, as Bellwood points out. New Guinea is five times as large as

all the rest of Melanesia, and its prehistory stretches back to ten times the duration of any human history to the east of it (White 1984:99). In the light of the present archaeological, prehistoric, and massive social anthropological evidence one can really understand why Austronesian settlement in Australia, New Guinea, and Western Melanesia was literally and figuratively peripheral. Again, a fruitful dialectic between massive accumulation of data on the one hand, and basic ideas and practices plus an Australian and Melanesian centred ideology on the other, are responsible for the shift. However, one should not take the merits of ideology too far. Bellwood is right when he attributes rejection of an Island Southeast Asia-based migration through a voyaging corridor ranging from China and Taiwan to New Zealand, in favour of a Melanesian-centred model, to misguided ideology (my italics). Instead, Western Melanesia, our third and mediating spime, begs the question to what extent early innovative Melanesian cultures of Holocene origin interacted with a much more recent and recognizable Austronesian dispersal from Taiwan and Island Southeast Asia to as far as New Zealand (Bellwood 1998:964).

This takes us to our third epistemological shift, a shift from the Sahul plate to the Circum Pacific Rim. It concerns the interpretation and re-interpretation of two major processes: the relatively recent Austronesian colonization of the Pacific, and – at least on an archaeological time scale – the contemporary modern Western colonization, decolonization, and so-called globalization. In the case of the Austronesian colonization it is sufficient to refer to a number of conclusions drawn by Bellwood: the Austronesian colonization was the result of a rapid and identifiable spread of people from Island Southeast Asia (and ultimately from China and Taiwan) to Samoa in a period between 4,000 and 3,000 BP, rather than the outcome of a process of Melanesian-Austronesian interaction in the vicinity of New Guinea. It follows that 'Oceania' and 'Island Southeast Asia' are purely geographical-political constructions which do not correlate with any sharply defined cultural or linguistic entities in prehistory (1998:969).

As to the most recent Western (de)colonization and globalization just a few comments: the transformation of formerly dependent colonial territories into about 24 politically independent, modern nation states tends to mask an ever increasing dependency on global and national political economy, not merely on market economy. Hence an aggravation of external and internal politically induced socio-economic inequality and corruption. In this respect a word of warning seems to be in order: the present massive interest of participants' and observers alike in social identity, ethnicity, and reinvention of tradition for political purposes tends to distract our attention away from the evil effects of a rise to modern power and

wealth by a defunct traditional elite or by a new elite in a dubious traditional guise. In such a situation, educated and non-educated, often radical youngsters and a silent majority or minority of women may lose out or be left out inside, but also outside, urban centres. They join or are ascribed to a non-descript underclass or layer of have-nots. They suffer from a loss of any type of identity of any description.

I believe that the second and third epistemological shifts have been brought about in a sort of pincer trap movement between massive accumulation of archaeological, historical, linguistic, and social anthropological data on the one hand and decolonization of the Pacific and a rapid emancipation of the former 'Down South' nation states Australia and New Zealand on the other. This even amounted to an epistemic break with the conventional wisdom and social status of Mother England and Auntie Europe. Academic departments, institutions, and research in Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific acquired an independent status, a new élan and a new, far less class-ridden, more informal, and inspiring style. Their scope expanded from introspective to Pacific-wide and is at present clearly Circum Pacific oriented. I am confident that we are heading for a prosperous new millennium. ■

## References

- Ballard, C. Stimulating Minds To Fantasy? A Critical Etymology For Sahul In: M.A. Smith, M. Spriggs, and B. Fankhauser (eds), Sahul in Review, Canberra: Australian National University, Occasional Papers in Prehistory, Nr 24, 1993
- Bellwood, P. From Bird's Head To Bird's Eye View Long Term Structures And Trends In Indo-Pacific Prehistory In: J. Miedema, C. Odé, and R.A.C. Dam (eds), Perspectives on the Bird's Head of Irian Jaya, Indonesia, Amsterdam: Rodopi, 1998
- Heine-Geldern, R. Urheimat Und Frühesten Wanderungen Der Austronesier Anthropos, 27: 543-619, 1932
- Solheim II, W.C. Reflections On The New Data Of Southeast Prehistory Austronesian Origin And Consequences In: P. van de Velde (ed.), Prehistoric Indonesia: A Reader, pp. 33-49, Dordrecht: Foris, Verhandelingen Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde, Nr 104, 1984
- White, J.P. Melanesia In: P. van de Velde (ed.), Prehistoric Indonesia: A Reader, pp. 93-121

Dr Jan Pouwer is Emeritus Professor of Anthropology. His specialization is Oceania. He can be contacted through the Centre for Pacific Studies, University of Nijmegen.



# Reflections from the ASEM Bowl in China

An important element of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is involving young people who may occupy future high-level positions from which they can sustain relationships. For this purpose the Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF) from Singapore organizes annual ASEF Summer Schools, alternating between Europe and Asia. Between 22 August and 5 September the 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer School took place in Beijing. At the illustrious Dayuan Guest House 36 students from 25 member countries followed a course programme on Asian and European affairs under the guidance of Dr Ulrich Niemann, the ASEF's Director of People-to-People Exchanges and Dr Chen Zhenya of the International Co-operation Office of Peking University.

By LEO SCHMIT



The Dayuan Guest-House is part of a garden complex built in 1912 to provide relaxation and accommodation for the members of China's first republican government under President Dr Sun Yat Sen. Though still in use by President Jiang Zemin's government, it is now partly opened for tourist accommodation and for seminars. The guest-house is situated on the outskirts of Beijing, at more or less equal distance from the Imperial Summer Palace and the Internet Café near the South Gate of the Peking University campus.

When I arrived at Dayuan, the course participants had established an evening routine of walking to the Internet Café and organizing late night get-togethers at the guest-house. I joined that routine to get to know some of the participants and catch some glimpses of the off-campus student scenery. Wandering around on my own I discovered Chyi Chin's cd 'Lang' and saw video images of his China Tour in a nearby bar. Impressed by the popularity of this Taiwanese singer among the Beijing public, and by the yearning images of Chinese landscapes in his video-clips, I returned to my room indulging in a peaceful dream of a long camel ride along the Eurasian trail.



The next morning I delivered my lecture on 'The ASEM Process: New rules of engagement in a global setting' for the students who had been selected from the fields of international relations, economy, history, and European Studies. First I ran through the background information on the origins of ASEM in 1994-5, and made an assessment of the ASEM-process in view of the crisis in parts of Asia. Then I analysed the potential for ASEM co-operation in anticipation of the third Summit in

Seoul, referring to the official ASEM Co-operation Framework (AECF) and the ASEM Vision Group for a non-official perspective. I concluded with an assessment of what in my view are the three main outstanding issues for the Seoul meeting.

To stimulate a lively discussion I had woven some arguments into my presentation. These were partly hypothetical in nature because of the ongoing momentum of Asia-Europe relations and partly provocative to solicit the students' perceptions on these issues. And I got what I asked for in the discussions as the following reflections may demonstrate.

## ASEM enters stage two

My first line of argument was that, after four years of initiatives aimed at enhancing 'mutual understanding', the ASEM-process has entered its second stage. In this respect I followed the view of the Prime Minister of Singapore, Dr Goh Chok Tong, who has defined 'constructive dialogue' as the second stage in anticipation of a third stage of 'consensus policy making'. My point was that two summits, five ministerial meetings, numerous expert committees, working groups, and civic-cultural encounters have been sufficient for getting to know each other. We must now move on to the next stage and start doing things together. Notwithstanding the good intentions of reaching 'mutual understanding', I argued that these efforts have been overtaken by recent events. The point being that the economic crisis in Asia, the turmoil in Indonesia, the security crisis in Southeast Europe and the institutional crisis in the European Commission and the European Parliament may have had more effect on mutual awareness in both regions than rhetoric.

So, I told the students, it is time to move on and jointly undertake the following activities which apply to the three main pillars of the ASEM-process (i.e. economic co-operation, political dialogue and civic-cultural interaction):

- setting new rules of engagement based on 'minimal compatibility' between Asian and European practices and approaches;

- building institutions, including joint councils, bodies, and agencies and perhaps a general secretarial facility to monitor the development of new rules of engagement and deal with specific problems; and
- implementing collaborative programmes to undertake joint research programmes and problem solving initiatives.

## ASEM should play the integration card

My next argument was that we should make more use of the potential for interregional co-operation by deploying the European expertise available in economic, political, and cultural-civic integration, plus that of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in these fields, and finally the expertise of East Asian nations gained from the Asia-Pacific co-operation (APEC). I underpinned this argument with the assumption that the momentum of EU integration is slowing down and that Asian integration is speeding up, with the result that both regions may meet halfway in terms of institutional compatibility.

The students challenged me firmly on this assumption. They asked how I could say that EU integration was slowing down in the face of all the empirical evidence, notably the introduction of the Euro? They also asked me how I could believe that Asian integration was speeding up, when I had just finished saying in my lecture that there still is lack of cohesion among Asian ASEM members, because of historical reasons and the heterogeneity and differences of scale and praxis in the region.

I had to qualify my thesis, but I maintained that, at least during the next stage of the ASEM-process, EU integration will not have the same momentum as before. The next Intergovernmental Conference will be about accommodating eleven new members and this will result in increasing heterogeneity in Europe. There is also the need to develop a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) as the experiences in Southeast Europe have demonstrated, but this also applies to EU-Russia relations, EU-Middle East relations, and EU-Africa, Latin America, and Asia relationships.

I further explained to the students that the format or mode of working in the Union is changing because of increasing regulation at UN and WTO level. And, in the wake of the EU Treaties of 1992 (Maastricht) and 1997 (Amsterdam), certain regulatory competencies are being returned to the national level (principle of subsidiarity) or are being replaced by voluntary arrangements (principle of proportionality). Hence my assumption that the future regulatory system of the EU may be more compatible with Asian notions of co-operation.

Of course, I had to admit that Asian integration is not yet on the agenda, not even in ASEAN, and certainly not between the East Asian countries or between East and Southeast Asia. Concern about sovereignty makes Asian governments wary of integration, as does a perception of the EU as a bureaucratic

Moloch. However, I maintained my thesis of increasing Asian integration on the grounds that the ASEAN experience of thirty years has shown that the limits of consensus-based policy-making have been reached. I explained to the students that the capacity for intergovernmental and committee deliberation has become obsolescent, unless this region proceeds to adopt institutionalized policy-making. Indeed, Asia as a whole is being forced to acquiesce in further integration measures and to install institutional capacity to cope with global regulatory processes in the context of WTO and the UN. Finally, I pointed out that in spite of the heavy competition among Asian nations to receive foreign direct investment, there is a need for deeper co-operation as international investors will undertake sourcing and marketing activities regionally rather than nation-wide, and make their investment decisions accordingly.

## ASEM should be less timid

An equally controversial issue I raised was concerned with the potential impact of ASEM on global power relations by breaking the shackles of timidity towards the US and redress the balance in the global triangular pattern of relationships.

ASEM member countries should assume concerted positions on specific issues regarding the forthcoming negotiations in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the ratification of UN Conventions, if only to avoid succumbing to the wishes of the most powerful negotiation party, the US. To stimulate debate (and to test the students' historical awareness), I introduced my 'inverted domino theory' to describe a dire scenario of Asian ASEM members succumbing one-by-one to the dictates of US trade negotiators and accepting their arbitration and litigation on single (sectoral) issues. There was no lack of debate on this point, particularly from the side of the Asian students who offered me a sobering reminder of the reality of US supremacy in the region. And it must be conceded that, in spite of the beginnings of assertiveness in this regard, the Euro has not been able to offer a genuine alternative to the dollar in Asia and will not be able to do so if the US Federal Reserve has its say. The absence of countries like Britain, Denmark, and Sweden in Euroland and the demise of the Commission in April have weakened the Euro's case.

Still, I maintained that through ASEM there could be more balance in the triangle of Asia-EU-US relations, if not in financial terms or in security issues, then at least in terms of global trade relations and perhaps cultural orientations. Concerning security in Asia, the perception of US hegemony was unanimous among the Asian and European students alike. For instance, should the one-or-two countries issue between China and Taiwan take a nasty turn the position of the US is considered decisive. So we agreed that, in the absence of a Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) of the European Union, ASEM's potential for resolving security problems is weak (as was evident one week later when the horrors in East Timor took place).

On the level of popular culture US influence is equally overpowering. So what remains is the potential of ASEM to challenge the US in the next Millennium Round of the WTO by engaging jointly in these negotiations on a comprehensive basis which allows for all parties to realise some benefit in the end.

## ASEM stages are cumulative

The reader may by now have surmised that I concede as readily as I assert, having made the points anyway. Of course, my plea for moving onto Stage Two in the ASEM-process does not imply that we discontinue our efforts to reach mutual understanding. My lecture was designed partly as analysis and partly as advice with the purpose of sobering people's expectations of achieving intangible notions of convergence, when in real life we are facing a context determined by negotiated rules, assumed positions of power, and stubbornly held convictions.

Later in the evening we visited the Heaven Bridge Theatre to enjoy a selection of dishes accompanied by a string ensemble playing classical songs and folk tunes, including, on my request, the famous song on the beauty of the girls and the strength of the boys from Ali Shan Mountain and, to my dismay, several Bing Crosby tunes. We were treated to a show by a beautiful lady magician pulling goldfish from here and there, and everywhere, placing them in a glass bowl on a table. Noting my fascination the magician called me on stage and pulled a wriggling goldfish from the pocket of my shirt. Back at my table I still was under the magician's charming spells and indulged in a vision of a large ASEM bowl full of goldfish sharing their fortune under the looming shadow of star-striped Felix the Cat.

I thank the ASEF Summer School students for their alertness to my points. I also thank my hosts in Peking and Shanghai for their hospitality and interest in the same. I am pleased to extend the warmest regards from IIAS alumni in China to former and present IIAS staff and fellows. ■



Dr Leo Schmit, Leiden University, is EU correspondent for the IIAS Newsletter. He can be reached at e-mail: schmit@rullet.leidenuniv.nl.



18 JUNE 1999  
SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

# The Political Economy of Pre-Crisis Growth

The sudden economic crisis in East and Southeast Asia took observers unprepared, just as the preceding spectacular economic growth in this region had invariably met with amazement. Scholars are beginning to realize that rapid growth and deep crisis are two sides of the same coin. We need to apply the same analytical tools to explain both and this can only be done by looking at economics in conjunction with politics. That was the main conclusion of an international workshop held in Seoul on 18 June 1999 with participants from both Asia and Europe.

By J. THOMAS LINDBLAD

**Report**  
The workshop was entitled 'The Political Economy of Rapid Modernization in Contemporary East and Southeast Asia'. It was organized jointly by the Graduate School of International Area Studies at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul and the Korean Association of Southeast Asian Studies. It was co-sponsored by the IIAS and the Netherlands Embassy in the Republic of Korea. The one-day conference was comprised of presentations by six scholars from the Netherlands, Indonesia, Japan, and Korea. Each presentation was accompanied by elaborate commentaries by scholars at various universities in Korea. Professor Sung-Yeal Koo (Yonsei University), President of the Korean Association of Southeast Asian Studies, chaired a concluding panel session. The papers will be published in a special issue of the Korean Journal of Southeast Asian Studies.

Within the broadly defined theme of the conference, the papers focused on two specific questions. The first one concerned the renowned Asian model of economic development: Can Japan and Korea still serve as sources of inspiration for developing

countries in Southeast Asia such as Indonesia and Vietnam? The second question referred to the impact of the current economic crisis on relations among East Asian countries, especially with regard to the prospects for economic development in China and the sensitive issue of Japanese leadership in the wider region of eastern Asia. The speakers stressed the importance of looking at both external and internal factors behind monitoring rapid growth prior to 1997 and handling the current crisis. The link between rapid growth and economic crisis was most succinctly expressed by Professor Jong-Kil Kim from Inha University (Inchon): 'Whether the cause of East Asian crisis is related to the East Asian growth mechanism or not, it can be said that the East Asian crisis was transmitted rapidly by the East Asian growth mechanism'.

The Socio-Economic Transformation of South Korea: Can it Serve as a Model for Vietnam? was the question addressed by Dr Raymond Feddema (University of Amsterdam). Feddema's answer was unequivocally 'No': because the conditions under which economic development takes place are so vastly different in the two countries. This bold assertion did not convince everybody and provoked a lively discussion.

Indonesia was treated in two papers which complemented each other. Professor Djoko Suryo (Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta) spoke about 'Political Transformation in Indonesia' whereas I myself chose the topic of 'Rapid Economic Growth and Sudden Crisis in Indonesia'. We both used the same subtitle: 'Can we learn from the South Korean Experience?' We both answered this question in the affirmative, while also acknowledging important differences. Similarities are especially pronounced when we compare accelerated and guided structural transformation of the economy under Park Chung-Hee in Korea and under Soeharto in Indonesia. Conspicuous differences concern the transition from authoritarian rule to democracy and the efficiency of conglomerates in fueling economic growth. The need for far-reaching internal reform is even more urgent in Indonesia than in Korea. The subsequent discussion on such points as the nexus between political power and vested economic interests brought out an important difference in the type of authoritarian rule in Korea and Indonesia. Bureaucratic polity was (and perhaps still is) more important in Korea, whereas patrimonialism predominates in Indonesia.

Much of the literature about the so-called Asian model of economic development is highly empirical with only the barest theoretical underpinning. This prompted Dr Anil Khosla (University of Leiden) to suggest an alternative framework of analysis in his contribution entitled 'Political Economy of East Asian Development: the Japanese Experience'. He approached the subject from the point of view of institutions and institutional change. The emphasis on institutional reform may provide a ready-made link with the current crisis and thus help observers to escape from the present deadlock in the international discussion about a model that seemed to stop working in 1997.

The shift from rapid growth to crisis has repercussions for Japanese leadership in the region. The one-time source of inspiration is now expected to lead the others out of their predicament. Professor Ryokichi Hirono (Seikyo University in Tokyo) urged for more economic cooperation within East Asia and a more active role to be played by Japan in his paper on 'Changing Japanese Policies towards East Asia Now and in the Future'. He advocated a far more comprehensive partnership between Japan and other countries in East Asia but underscored that Japan could only take bolder diplomatic initiatives if it is prepared to undergo political and economic reform at home.

The high degree of interdependency between the economies in East Asia in particular was an asset in times of growth, but became a liability in times of crisis. Yet things again

could take a turn for the better, as argued by Professor Jong-Kil Kim in his paper 'Economic Relations between Korea and China: Implications of the Korean Economic Crisis for China'. With recovery already in sight in Korea, this country could make a major contribution towards strengthening the process of further industrialization throughout East and Southeast Asia by establishing a partnership with China. Such a partnership could even serve as a counterweight to the dominance of Japan's economic power in the region.

The workshop on 18 June 1999 in Seoul covered much ground. If any-

thing, it illustrated the synergy to be drawn from putting together economists and political scientists from both Asia and Europe in discussing Asian growth and crisis. ■

Dr J. Thomas Lindblad, Department of Southeast Asian Studies, University of Leiden, can be reached at e-mail: [j.th.lindblad@worldonline.nl](mailto:j.th.lindblad@worldonline.nl).

## Intersections

**Internet**  
Intersections: Gender, history, and culture in the Asian context is a new refereed electronic journal conceived as an interactive forum for new research and teaching in the area of Gender Studies in the Asian region. It edited by Anne-Marie Medcalf and Carolyn Brewer at the School of Asian Studies of Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia.

The journal crosses disciplinary, cultural, and gender boundaries, emphasizing the paramount importance of research into the region's multiple historical and cultural gender patterns – patterns which are crucial to the understanding of contemporary globalized societies, where identities and social relations are constantly being negotiated against the background of dominant narratives.

At the same time, Intersections gives researchers an opportunity to explore innovative ways of 'doing' his-

tory using new technologies. New Information Technologies are not an end in themselves, but rather a format which allows oral, written, and visual histories to cross paths. Visual materials such as photos, maps, artistic reproductions as well as video clips or sound tracks will be included where indispensable to the argument being developed. Links with other relevant websites will also be established.

Issue no 2 (May 1999) includes articles entitled 'Reog Ponorogo: Spirituality, Sexuality, and Power in a Javanese Performance Tradition', 'Baylan, Asog, Transvestism and Sodomy: Gender, Sexuality and the Sacred in Early Colonial Philippines' and 'Performing Sexual Identity: Naming and Resisting Gayness in Modern Thailand', as well as reading notes and book and film reviews. ■

The journal can be consulted on <http://www.she.murdoch.edu.au/hum/asl/intersections/>.

## Paideuma Anthropological Journal

**Publication**  
Paideuma. Mitteilungen zur Kulturkunde is the official scientific publication of the Frobenius-Institut at the J.W. Goethe University (Frankfurt am Main), and is edited under the auspices of the Frobenius-Gesellschaft. Founded in 1938 by Leo Frobenius Paideuma is one of the oldest anthropological journals in Germany. It has incorporated articles on African societies and history, as well as on other regions and topics of general theoretical interest. In future, Paideuma will widen its scope to focus also on Eastern Indonesia and Oceania, areas which were of special interest to Ad.E. Jensen and C.A. Schmitz, former directors of the Frobenius Institute.

Manuscripts in English, German or French, and of no more than 10,000 words are welcome any time.

They should be submitted as hard copy and a document file on DOS/WINDOWS formatted disk, or as an attachment to an email. Formatting and the use of tabs and spaces should be kept to an absolute minimum. Citations, references, footnotes and bibliographies should follow the conventions used in this issue of Paideuma. Submissions are reviewed anonymously by the scientific advisory board. Upon acceptance of an article, provisional page proofs are sent to the author for correction within seven days. Finally, authors receive 25 free offprints of their articles. ■

Please address all correspondence to:

**DR HOLGER JEBENS**  
Managing Editor Paideuma  
Liebigstraße 41  
D-60323 Frankfurt am Main  
Germany  
E-mail: [Paideuma@em.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:Paideuma@em.uni-frankfurt.de)

## BOOKS RECEIVED

**Publication**  
Brandt, Thomas (text), and Henry Hendrayaddy (cartoons)  
**ASIA COMIC**  
Bad Oldesloe: Goasia Verlag, 1998, 148 pp.  
ISBN 3-00-002565-0, English and German

Muhammad ibn al-Hasan al-Shaybani  
**THE SHORTER BOOK ON MUSLIM INTERNATIONAL LAW**  
KITĀB AL-ŠIYAR AL-SAGHĪR  
Islamabad: Islamic Research Institute, 1998, 113+69 pp.  
ISBN 969-408-194-7, English and Arabic

Whitfield, Susan  
**LIFE ALONG THE SILK ROAD**  
London: John Murray, 1999, 242 pp.  
ISBN 0-7195-5757-7, illustrated

Yoshino, Kosaku (ed.)  
**CONSUMING ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM**  
ASIAN EXPERIENCES  
Surrey: Curzon Press, 1999, 202 pp.  
ISBN 0-7007-1189-9

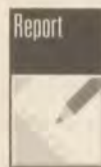


15 DECEMBER 1998  
LONDON, GREAT BRITAIN

## Orientalist Library Resources

The 1998 Conference of the National Council on Orientalist Library Resources was held at the British Library, on 15th December 1998. The title of the Conference was 'Orienteering in the Euston Road' to reflect the occasion of the first meeting of the group to be held in the new British Library premises; it was attended by 38 members of the NCOLR.

By C.A. ANSORGE



Following the opening remarks and welcome by the Chairman, Lesley Forbes, the participants were given a guided tour of the new British Library premises. The first of the Conference talks was given by Beth McKillop, the Curator for Korean and Exhibitions Officer at the British Library, and concerned the organization and setting up of the new exhibition area in the British Library. The new Library had been provided with a specially designed exhibition area open to the public, situated in the area to the left of the main entrance and with special facilities for school children to be given talks and to work on school projects. Mrs McKillop described the thought which had

gone into the development of the design of the exhibition area. She also described the special lighting which is provided by fibre-optic lights round the perimeters of the showcases whilst the lighting level in the galleries themselves is kept fairly low. She also described the development of the method of displaying items in the wall cases from which the shelves have been removed to avoid casting shadows over other exhibits. She took the opportunity to outline the programme of exhibitions planned for the future.

Mrs McKillop's talk was followed by a tour of the exhibition area to view the facilities and study the exhibits, which she had been describing in her talk. At the lower level is situated 'The Pearson Gallery of Living Words' which shows the range and diversity of the BL's collections, with sections

on children's books, the history of writing, and printing methods. At the upper level the 'John Ritblat Gallery' had on display many fascinating items of a historical, literary, and religious nature from European cultures and also many very fine exhibits of manuscripts and rare books from the Oriental world. The items on display had been chosen from every area of interest from Hebrew, Arabic, and Persian items, to exhibits from the Indian Subcontinent, and from Thailand, China, Japan, and Korea.

A special exhibition room off the main area contained the 'Turning the Page' exhibition. This new development displays four examples of manuscripts in digitized form which can be manipulated from a touch-sensitive computer screen and which are accompanied by a soundtrack. One of the items displayed by this technology was the scroll of the 'Diamond Sutra'.

### Amalgamation

The first afternoon sessions was a talk by Dr Vrej Nersessian, Head of the Hebrew and Christian Orient Section of the Oriental and India Office Collections, on the background to the exhibition 'Treasures from the Ark' which is planned to take place in 2001. The exhibition will explore aspects of Armenian Christianity drawing on exhibits from the British Library collections and from the artefacts in the British Museum. Dr Nersessian's presentation was illustrated by slides. Some demonstrated the Byzantine and Islamic influences on Armenian culture and art, but also showed the dis-

trictive characteristics of the Armenian landscape and cultural objects produced there. In his talk Dr Nersessian emphasized the lack of recognition paid to the Armenian culture as distinct from those of other surrounding peoples and how the planned exhibition would help to increase public awareness about Armenia and the various aspects of its unique culture.

The final talk of the day was given by Mr Graham Shaw, Deputy Director of Special Collections at the British Library, and in charge of the OIOC collections. Taking the opportunity to mark the reunification of the Oriental collections in one place after many years in separate storage in Store Street and later in Orbit House, he gave a comprehensive and detailed account of the distribution of Oriental-related material in the British Library collections.

He also explained the historical growth of the Oriental collections and recounted the addition of a number of large and valuable collections in the past. The largest single collection to be added to the BL Oriental collections was that of the Oriental and India Office, which was amalgamated with the British Library in 1982. This very significant collection of historical records and books was, in general terms, less well conserved and catalogued than the rest of the British Library collections and a considerable amount of work had since been carried out to improve its accessibility.

The largest collection to be brought together by the amalgamation of the British Library and OIOC in terms of

conservation had been the Aurel Stein collection on Central Asia on which conservation work is still being carried out. He emphasized the large amount of material relating to Asia, which can be found among the Western language collections of the British Library. These items complement the specialist Oriental collections in a significant way.

Mr Shaw also pointed out the large and important collections relating to Asian Studies which could be found in the European manuscripts collections, referring especially to the papers of Warren Hastings. Large collections of Oriental material could also be found in the prints and drawings collections, some housed separately in the British Museum, and in the map collection of the British Library.

The present financial position of the oriental collections is, however, far from encouraging. There is, for example, no longer any special funding available for the purchase of more manuscripts for the Oriental section. The talk formed an interesting and concise resume of the situation of the Oriental resources of the British Library in the context of their new setting. ■

C.A. Ansong is librarian.

She can be reached at:

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Faculty of Oriental Studies Library

Sidgwick Avenue

Cambridge CB3 9DA

United Kingdom

E-mail: caal@cus.cam.ac.uk

9 > 11 DECEMBER 1998  
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

## Small & Medium Entrepreneurship

In 1995 a workshop on 'Asian Entrepreneurs in Comparative Perspective' was held at the University of Amsterdam, with the financial support of the Asia Committee of the European Science Foundation. This workshop resulted in an edited volume entitled 'Small Business Entrepreneurs in Asia and Europe' (Sage Publications, 1997). In December 1998, a second gathering on the same theme was organized by the Department of Chinese Studies of the University of Malay in Kuala Lumpur.

By MARIO RUTTEN &  
SIKKO VISSCHER



The starting point of this second workshop was that as a class, rural/regional entrepreneurs have, over the past two decades, emerged as one of the most powerful categories within the emerging middle class of Asia. Noting their importance, very relevant in the wake of the recent crisis in Asia, the organizers argued that the study of entrepreneurship in Asia would be more specifically defined and problematized by using the comparative approach.

For this second workshop, the comparative approach was operationalized by inviting the paper writers to incorporate cross-regional comparison in the papers themselves. Of

course, analysis based on sets of empirical data gathered in various regions of Asia and Europe or a combination of the two would constitute the ideal basis for an interesting paper, but the minimum requirement placed upon the paper writers was that they at least complement their regional case study by a thorough discussion of similar problems and processes in another region. Two specific themes were singled out: 1) Organization and business behaviour of small-scale entrepreneurs (family businesses, networking, partnerships, business associations etc.), 2) Relations between small-scale entrepreneurs and the state in its various guises.

In total, 22 researchers from eight different countries participated in the conference. The 14 papers presented covered small and medium-scale

entrepreneurs in 14 countries in South, Southeast, and East Asia, some of which included European experiences into their analysis.

### Themes

In the course of the presentations and the discussions sparked off by them, four main themes resurfaced. Firstly, in the discussion of how entrepreneurial behaviour can be promoted, two distinct views were presented; a top-down and a bottom-up approach. Tan Sri Dato' Soong Siew Hoong, Senior Advisor to the government of Malaysia and long-term leader of a number of Malaysian business organizations gave a rare glimpse of policy making in progress. He discussed how Malaysia is trying to promote its small and medium-enterprise (SME) sector by judicious use of well-integrated and detailed government intervention. Prof. Thomas Heberer (Gerhard-Mercator University in Duisburg, Germany), by contrast, showed in the cases of the People's Republic of China and Vietnam that 'spontaneous' developments on the ground were always a step ahead of legislation and government policy.

Secondly, and closely related to the first theme, the effects of policy and socio-economic conditions on SMEs were analysed in two papers. Prof. Chia Oai Peng (University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur) compared the historical development of the sectors in Taiwan and Malaysia respectively, whereas Prof. Philippe Regnier (University of Geneva) looked at the East and Southeast Asian regions analysing the effects of the recent economic crisis on SMEs.

Thirdly, a number of papers focused on organizational forms and strategies. Sikko Visscher MA (CASA, University of Amsterdam) concentrated on long-term developments and circumstances determining the establishment of chambers of commerce in Europe and Southeast Asia. Prof. David Schak (Griffith University,

the sector could be empowered or stimulated through local or national policy initiatives.

### Follow-up

Participants agreed on the need for theoretical and most of all empirical comparative research and expressed their appreciation of both the format



Australia) and Dr Mario Rutten (CASA, University of Amsterdam) analysed the importance of family and non-family forms of business organization in different regions of South Asia (India), Southeast Asia (Malaysia and Indonesia), and East Asia (Taiwan and China).

Finally, some papers presented the local perspective, analysing themes such as company loyalty in Malaysian small enterprises (Dr Moha Asri Abdullah of University Sains Malaysia, Penang), gender aspects of women entrepreneurs in South India (Dr K. Shanti, University of Madras), and rural arts and crafts industries in India (Prof. S.R. Mondal University of North Bengal; Prof. K.A. Bhat, University of Kashmir; Prof. S.S. Solanki of NISTDS, New Delhi). These contributions focused on how groups within

and thematic approach of the workshop. In that light, Prof. Thomas Heberer and Dr Thomas Menkhoff proposed organizing a third workshop on 'Small and medium entrepreneurs in Asia and Europe compared', either at the Institute of East Asian Studies, Gerhard-Mercator University in Duisburg, Germany, or at the National University of Singapore. Information about this conference and a call for papers will be disseminated through the IIAS Newsletter. ■

Mario Rutten is Nordic-Netherlands research fellow, stationed at NIAS, Denmark, Sikko Visscher is affiliated with CASA, Universiteit van Amsterdam, The Netherlands. E-mails: rутten@nias.ku.dk and visscher@psc.uva.nl



# Democratization in Asia

The 'People Power Revolution' in the Philippines in 1986 was a landmark event in recent Asian History. Not only did it bring an end to the authoritarian rule of President Ferdinand Marcos and reassert the Philippines' longstanding tradition of democratic government (albeit, as Filipinos often describe it, a system of 'elite democracy'), it provided an inspiration to pro-democracy forces elsewhere in Asia.

By RONALD J. MAY



In Indonesia, opponents of President Soeharto were quick to ask in 1986: if President Marcos can be overthrown, is the ageing Soeharto also vulnerable? In Myanmar, when protesters took to the streets of Rangoon in 1988, images of the Philippines two years earlier were clearly in people's minds. People Power parallels were also drawn, and tendencies to democratization identified, in China, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

But change did not come to Indonesia. The Burmese regime, after some hesitation, crushed the incipient uprising and moved increasingly towards repressing the opposition. China's democracy movement was overwhelmed in Tiananmen Square in 1989, and tentative steps towards democratization in Vietnam and Cambodia did not go very far. Meanwhile, in Malaysia and Singapore the trend seemed to be more towards tighter state control rather than to-

wards democratization, and in the neighbouring Pacific, the island states saw their first military coup when in 1987 the Fiji military overthrew an elected government.

In retrospect, the circumstances in the Philippines in 1986 were unusual: despite the authoritarian nature of the Marcos regime, elections had been held, there was an organized political opposition, the media had not been completely gagged, there was a robust civil society, the judiciary had not been completely subjugated to the regime, and the armed forces retained an element of professionalism. These conditions were not replicated in most of Asia, where centralized state control was often supported by reference to 'Asian values' and the need for strong state control to ensure economic growth.

Events in Indonesia in May 1998 revived a discourse on democratization in Asia - particularly in relation to Myanmar, where there are obvious parallels in an ageing leadership, a tradition of student protest, and disgruntled minorities on the geographic periphery threatening the unity of

the state. It remains to be seen, of course, just how far the events set in train in May 1998 represent a genuine shift towards democracy in Indonesia. The recent tragic events in East Timor emphasize the extent to which an unreformed military still plays a major role in Indonesian politics. But, assuming that Indonesia is undergoing at least some degree of democratization, the question might be asked: was the fall of Soeharto a reflection of a continuing, generalized movement towards democracy in Asia, or was it, like the demise of the Marcos regime in 1986, a product of the circumstances in a particular country at a particular point of time?

For some years, explanations of Soeharto's ability to remain in control in Indonesia pointed to Indonesia's economic performance: a steady improvement in average income levels gave the Soeharto regime a good measure of 'performance legitimacy', while significant elements of a growing middle class saw their interests inextricably linked to those of the regime. Yet, when the 'Asian crisis' of 1997-98 hit Indonesia, this counted for little: the populace was quick to support pro-democracy activists, and links to the regime offered poor protection to wealthy businessfolk, especially among the ethnic Chinese.

Secondly, although the transition from Soeharto might have been a much more troubled one than it has

been so far, the unfolding of events in Indonesia provides a clear example of the political instability which can ensue when a highly politicized, ageing regime makes no clear provision for succession. As happened in the case of the Marcos regime, signs of Soeharto's physical weakening prompted manoeuvring among people who sought to secure their place in a successor regime, suggesting some weakening of the regime itself.

Thirdly, once popular forces begin to challenge a centralized state in a culturally plural society like that of Indonesia, the assertion of regional and ethnic separatism is encouraged. Regional movements, effectively suppressed while the state and its coercive apparatus is strong, emerge to reassert their claims for autonomy or independence, and threaten the integrity of the nation-state (as we now see in East Timor, Aceh, and Irian Jaya).

In the case of Myanmar, the first of these considerations seems only marginally relevant. The (formal) economy has been depressed for some time (though the narcotics-based black economy appears to be booming); while economic factors almost certainly did play a part in triggering off the unsuccessful uprising of 1988, they seem unlikely to do so again in the foreseeable future. Moreover, as a member of ASEAN, Myanmar expects to see a substantial inflow of foreign investment as the Asian economies revive. Turning to the second, notwithstanding recurring rumours of prospective splits within the military establishment, the State Peace and

Development Council appears to have strengthened its control over the political apparatus, while the opposition appears to have become progressively weaker in the face of government repression and cease-fire agreements with the ethnic insurgents. These cease-fire agreements - which have given former insurgent groups in the border areas a fair degree of local autonomy - have also reduced the immediate threat to the state of ethnic separatism. It is possible that, through its membership of ASEAN and as a result of wider international action, Myanmar will come under pressure to democratize, but to date ASEAN has shown little collective will to push democratization and Myanmar has indicated no propensity to bow to international demands, even on issues of human rights. If Myanmar is the next prospective domino to fall to democracy, its fall does not appear to be imminent.

The sudden fall of Soeharto in May 1998 demonstrates that political change can sometimes occur with unexpected rapidity. But those who predict a steady and ineluctable progress towards democratization in Asia would seem to be informed more by wishful thinking than by a close reading of even recent history. ■

Ronald J. May is senior fellow in the Department of Political and Social Change, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University, and coordinator of the Regime Change and Regime Maintenance in Asia and the Pacific Project. E-mail: ron.may@anu.edu.au

(Advertisement)

## INDEX ISLAMICUS ON CD-ROM

### Edition 2

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF  
PUBLICATIONS ON ISLAM  
AND THE MUSLIM WORLD  
SINCE 1906

- ◆ Over 200,000 records
- ◆ Covers literature from 1906 to 1997
- ◆ Powerful search options using Windows interface

Index Islamicus is an established research tool that provides a continuous index to the worldwide literature in European languages on Islam, the Middle East and the Muslim World.

For more information, please contact Bowker-Saur on +44 (0) 1342 336144, or email [sales@Bowker-Saur.co.uk](mailto:sales@Bowker-Saur.co.uk)

BOWKER  
SAUR

Bowker-Saur, Windsor Court, East Grinstead House,  
East Grinstead, West Sussex, RH19 1XA, UK.





# Wildlife Trade in Asia



## An Introduction

In this special issue of the newsletter, we focus on the wildlife trade with specific reference to Asia. We bring together a number of Asianist scholars, mainly anthropologists, focusing on the market for wildlife products.

By JOHN KNIGHT



The international trade in wildlife products is the source of considerable public controversy. Asian demand for wildlife products threatens wildlife populations in Asia and beyond Asia. The wildlife products market, especially that for medicinal uses, attracts enormous criticism. The exotic and apparently bizarre nature of many of the products traded – tiger penis, rhino horn, deer foetus, snake faeces, etc. – often lead Western critics to ridicule the trade.

Two recent critics of the Asian demand for tiger penises openly wonder 'what you are supposed to do with it – sleep with it under your pillow, carry it around in your pocket, eat it, or just fondle it?' (Moulton and Sanderson

1997: 68). One of the challenges for those who study Asian societies and cultures is to explain the importance of the wildlife trade for Asian peoples – not just its economic importance for those who supply and trade the products, but also the value (curative value, display value, etc.) attributed to the products by those who consume them.

The contributors to this issue tell of vulnerable, diminishing, and disappearing wildlife populations in Asia: orang-utans and songbirds in Kalimantan; turtles, sea cucumbers, and sharks in the Aru islands; and bears throughout Asia. The contributors approach the topic from a number of perspectives, including those of the producer, the middleman, and the consumer.

The producer's (i.e. hunter's) perspective on the wildlife trade is docu-

mented in the papers by Wadley, Eghenter, and Donovan. Wadley and Eghenter offer reports from Kalimantan, of hunters supplying the wildlife products market. Eghenter draws attention to the distinctions to be made between the small scale traditional wildlife trade and the large scale modern trade which threatens wildlife species. She argues that the local wildlife trade was sustainable and that customary hunting restrictions may in fact be more effective than (unenforceable) national legal regulations. In a warning about the likely consequences of the recent Asian economic crisis, Donovan points out that, while the crisis might be expected to depress demand for wildlife products, it may also induce cash-strapped hunters to harvest even more wildlife products in a bid to mitigate the harsh conditions they face.

A number of papers make reference to the middlemen involved in the wildlife trade. In her outline of the wildlife trade on the Aru islands, Osseweijer points out that while Bugis and Macassans used to be the principal middlemen, they have been replaced by Indonesian Chinese who now monopolize the trade. Osse-

weijer and Wadley each give examples of Chinese middlemen traders in the Aru islands and Kalimantan respectively. Local hunters (in Kalimantan) and fishermen (in Aru) procure wildlife products for the Chinese market, products which they tend not to use themselves.

Wildlife is consumed as meat, as medicine, and as pets. Persoon points out how demand for the meat of the wild pig (often considered a delicacy) in different parts of Southeast Asia has made the animal an object of conservationist concern, despite its reputation as a fast breeder. Knight shows how the market appeal of bear gall and other wildlife products in Japan is linked to their forest provenance, according to which the pristine forest is viewed as generating superior products. Also on the theme of bear gall, Mills et al. report on the demand for bear gall among South Koreans. Attention is often directed to this medicinal demand for wildlife. However, Puri, in his paper points out that demand for wildlife may also inhere in status competition among local elites among which songbirds figure as a natural symbol of social status.

This collection of short reports is offered as no more than a preliminary engagement with the wildlife trade, one of the most important issues faced by humanity, a species which, post-Rio, is ostensibly committed to defending the biodiversity of the planet. We believe that much more research needs to be done both to document the actual extent of the wildlife trade and its effects on wildlife populations, and to document the character of the human involvement in it in different societies and cultures. In drawing attention in this newsletter to the wildlife trade in Asia, and to some of the issues it raises, we hope that our reflections below might help to stimulate, among Asianist colleagues and others, more research in this area. ■

### Reference

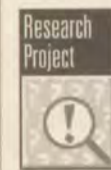
- Moulton, Michael P. and James Sanderson, *Wildlife Issues In A Changing World*, Delray Beach, FL: St. Lucie Press, 1997

Dr John Knight was an IIAS research fellow from 1 September 1996 to 1 September 1999. He is now Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the Queen's University of Belfast. E-mail: J.Knight@qub.ac.uk

## The Asian Financial Crisis and the Wildlife Trade

The sale of forest products, especially wild animals and plants, has been the traditional means by which marginal rural groups could generate cash. More recently, it has provided a way to participate in the global market economy. Having struggled for many years to survive, these rural dwellers are eager to catch up and partake of the prosperity they see via satellite television. With few economic alternatives, they view the forest, and all the animals and plants therein, as the key to prosperity.

By DEANNA DONOVAN



The huge and growing Chinese market is a major factor in the exploitation of Southeast Asian and southwestern Chinese forests. China has a population of almost 1.3 billion, more than five times that of all of mainland Southeast Asia; an estimated economic growth rate of about 8 percent, more than that of any Western country; and an emerging class of young professionals – 70 million consumers – now able to pay for good health and good living. As much as 40 percent of the population is said to use traditional medicines, and Western-style pharmaceuticals are not always available. Many prefer products from wild sources.

In addition to being an important market, China is also a major processor of wild products. According to official statistics the United States,

the European Union, and Japan account for 60 percent by value of wildlife imports world-wide. Total US imports of medicinal and culinary plant products recorded in 1995 amounted to 12.5 tons valued at US\$42 million. China was the main source of those products.

### Desperate suppliers

The need for cash continues to grow. Governments reeling from the financial crisis and trying to conform to the demands of the IMF have cut social services. Prices of imports have shot up and local prices have risen on their coattails. With limited options, people increasingly look to forest product sales to generate cash, and the result is a growing threat to the ecosystem.

Much of the forest that is commercially exploited for wild animal and plant products is located in relatively remote areas inhabited by ethnic minority groups whose economies still depend largely on shifting

cultivation and the collection of forest products. For many of these people, the forest has long served as an essential source of basic needs including fuel, food, fibres, construction timber, and medicinal plants. With economic liberalization, improved transportation, and the development of markets that are linked to the international economy, the forest has taken on an enhanced economic dimension: it is the source of an array of products for which there is steady demand and a now even more accessible market. These products can be bartered or sold for the cash needed to pay taxes or school fees or to purchase necessities, including food in the 'hungry season' after harvest stores are exhausted. As one observer noted, it seems that 'every tree and animal has a potential price tag in the local, regional, or international market place' (Rabinowitz, 1997). In short, it is not a tiger – with all its ecological associations – that the farmer sees, but a ticket to a better life. Now, thanks in part to currency fluctuations, the collector must often collect twice as many forest products to be able to obtain the same amount of store-bought goods as before the economic crisis. Meanwhile, traders profit handsomely as currency devaluation lowers the real price to the farmer despite often higher prices

paid by consumers as a result of increasing scarcity.

### Local substitutes

In addition to creating an increased demand for cash, the economic crisis has driven people to find substitutes for products they can no longer afford. In the case of pharmaceuticals, for instance, national governments cannot produce enough to meet local needs. Devaluations have driven the prices of foreign-manufactured drugs too high for most people. Governments, which must allocate scarce foreign exchange for their imports, are encouraging people to consider using traditional medicines. So people either exploit their local forests to raise cash or return to the use of native plants for medicinal purposes. Either way, in the absence of sustainable cultivation systems, the environment suffers.

A clear picture of the wild species trade and its impact is difficult to obtain given the wide variety of animals and plants exploited, the lack of monitoring at virtually any level, and trade statistics for forest products that do not distinguish between those from domesticated or semi-domesticated sources (essentially former forest products now grown in plantation systems, such as cinnamon) and those from wild sources.

### Regulations

Policies to protect endangered species, on the books for nearly a decade or more in most countries of Southeast Asia, are poorly enforced. A treaty, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), was instituted in 1973 with the goal of preventing international trade from threatening survival of species in the wild. CITES establishes a regulatory system for



A leopard skin mounted on the back wall of a shop selling a variety of wild animals, for culinary as well as medicinal uses. The leopards are now rare in northern central Vietnam and this specimen may have come from Laos.





Headed for the market

controlling wildlife trade that is implemented by domestic legislation in member nations. As of May 1998, 144 countries and parties had signed the treaty. CITES accords varying degrees of protection to wild species, both plant and animal, depending on their status as determined by scientific authorities and agreed by the signatories. For instance, species listed on CITES Appendix I are those determined to be threatened with extinction and very likely to be significantly affected by trade; thus, they are banned from trade between members. Most of the countries in Southeast Asia (including Indonesia) joined CITES in the late seventies or early eighties.\*

#### Another crisis

Government officials in most countries realize that the uncontrolled trade in forest products is a threat not only to the region's environmental heritage, but also to government income, both present and future. Clandestinely exported products avoid taxes and rob all levels of government of much-needed revenues. And when species are depleted beyond the point at which it is profitable to harvest them, both individuals and institutions risk losing a base for potential development, whether as a product through domestication or as a commercial service via tourism. The major plantation crops – rubber, tea, cacao, coffee, and oil palm are former forest species that through management and genetic selection have become major economic contributors. (For many species we can only hypothesize the extent to which early over-exploitation may have degraded the gene pool, possibly to the point where commercial domestication was no longer possible.) When domestication has not been possible, proper management of wildlife has enabled a very profitable tourist industry to develop; for example, photo safaris or big-game hunting.

As a result of increasing international pressure, governments have attempted to strengthen enforcement of regulations against wildlife trafficking. Conflicting pressures on the implementing field staff, including their own increasingly poor financial situation as well as that of their rural neighbors, make stringent application of rules and regulations difficult. Suppliers must be more clever and more careful in their subterfuge, often 'compensating' officials for looking the other way as illegal merchandise passes under their noses. These increased risks and 'transaction costs' often contribute to higher prices for the consumer but, conversely, lower prices paid to harvesters of wild products. As a consequence, to meet their own growing income require-

ments, these farmer-collectors must sell more and more forest products.

Given the fiscal restraints imposed by international financial institutions, Southeast Asian governments are hard-pressed to find the money needed to research and implement cultivation and wildlife management systems that will permit the sustainable harvesting of forest plants and animals. Meanwhile, the pressing economic needs of current and returning rural inhabitants may preclude the possibility of future forest product development, especially if attempts at increased regulation – with associated transaction costs – actually promote increased exploitation of forest resources.

#### Conclusions

New economic pressures on the people of Southeast Asia and southwestern China are accelerating the exploitation of rare and endangered forest plants and animals. The wild species trade threatens biological resources that are important from an ecological as well as an economic perspective. The cultural damage resulting from the environmental destruction is even more complicated to assess and address. Rising prosperity and the globalization of the market economy have been major forces fueling the process of extinction. Now, increasing economic hardships may pose the greatest threat. Clearly, the market for wild species is subject both to the pull of demand as well as the push of suppliers desperate for cash and eager to participate in the new market economy. The continuation of present trends will in all likelihood lead to the local extinction of several species.

\* The CITES Secretariat co-operates with TRAFFIC (Trade Records Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce), which has offices world-wide and provides reports and analysis. Based in Washington, D.C., TRAFFIC maintains a website: [www.traffic.org](http://www.traffic.org). Other international NGOs working to support CITES ([www.cites.org/](http://www.cites.org/)) include the following: FFI – Fauna & Flora International ([www.ffi.org.uk/welcome—to-ffi.htm](http://www.ffi.org.uk/welcome—to-ffi.htm)) IUCN – The World Conservation Union ([www.iucn.org/](http://www.iucn.org/)) WCMC – World Conservation Monitoring Centre ([www.wcmc.org.uk/programmes/](http://www.wcmc.org.uk/programmes/)) WWF – World Wide Fund for Nature ([www.panda.org/home.htm](http://www.panda.org/home.htm))

#### References

- Donovan, Deanna G. Policy Issues Of Transboundary Trade In Forest Products In Northern Vietnam, Lao PDR, And Yunnan PRC Proceedings of a Workshop held in Hanoi, Vietnam, September 14–20, 1997. Honolulu: East-West Center, 1998, Vol. 1
- Rabinowitz, Alan Lost World Of The Annamites Natural History Journal 4:14–18, 1997
- Robbins, C. Us Medicinal Plant Trade Studies TRAFFIC Bulletin 16(3): 121–125, 1997

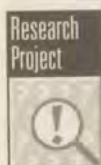
Dr Deanna Donovan is attached to the East-West Center, University of Hawai'i. She can be reached at [donovand@ewc.hawaii.edu](mailto:donovand@ewc.hawaii.edu).

## INDONESIA

# Hunting for the Market in West Kalimantan

The Iban of West Kalimantan, Indonesia, hunt primarily for their own subsistence needs. Occasionally, however, when the opportunity arises, hunters augment their cash incomes by selling captured animals, either alive or dead. Chinese merchants buy the more profitable parts of certain animals, which are made into medicines to be sold elsewhere.

By REED L. WADLEY



Although rice cultivation in upland and swamp swiddens provides most of the Iban's food, numerous forest products supplement and broaden the daily diet, including animal meat obtained by adult male hunters. The Iban value the meat of the bearded pig (*Sus barbatus*) over all other game, but they hunt other animals such as barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjac*) or sambar deer (*Cervus unicolor*) if there are no bearded pigs. Boys hunt small animals like birds and squirrels which they will often cook up on the spot as impromptu snacks. In addition to the meat, Iban use other animal parts. The leg and arm bones of certain primates make good knife handles, the dried skins of others become drum heads, and the antlers of deer are hung on the longhouse walls. In association with appropriate dreams, some oddly shaped antlers may become religious amulets.

Hunting especially for the market is infrequent. In a year-long study of the hunting patterns in an Iban longhouse, I recorded only one instance of a hunter taking pig meat to the nearby market town, and that was because he had killed two pigs at the same time. He divided the first with the other community members as is required by local custom (Wadley, Colfer, and Hood 1997). However, there are other cases of market hunting beyond this study. In a good example of market awareness, an Iban man from another longhouse caught a deer alive in a trap. Rather than kill the animal outright and then try to sell the meat, he went to the nearby logging camp and enlisted the help of a Muslim qualified to slaughter the animal in the ritually appropriate manner. The meat then fetched a higher price among local Muslims than it would have among local Christian Dayaks.

Iban hunters have long been aware of the market for animal parts other than meat. In the past, men journeyed to the interior of Borneo in search of valuable forest products and to hunt Sumatran rhinoceros for their horns. The horns would eventually end up in Chinese herbal medicines. Today the rhino is virtually extinct (Caldecott 1988), but other animals have taken their place in the market. The Iban know Chinese merchants (mainly across the international border in Sarawak, Malaysia) will pay good prices for certain animal parts, and they know those parts are most often used in Chinese medicines. For

example, a potion made from the foetuses of pregnant deer (including barking deer and mousedeer) is supposed to help women in childbirth. (However, I have seen hunters discard such foetuses during butchering because of the prohibitive distance to potential buyers.)

Other medicines are made from pangolin (scaly anteater) scales (for back pain), deer forelegs and antlers (for children to become strong and for long life respectively), and python faeces (for stamina). An ancient animal product is the bezoar stone found in the gall bladders of bears, porcupines and certain monkeys. It is used as a medicine against various ailments, an antidote against poisons, and supernatural protection against evil spirits. (Archaeologists found one such stone weighing 433 grams and ringed with gold in a 1715 Spanish shipwreck off the Florida coast; see <http://www.melfisher.com/artifact.html>.) The gall bladder of the Malayan sun bear is prized for the gall it contains, but merchants insist that it be accompanied by the feet of the animal as assurance of its authenticity. (Bear paws are also an ingredient in medicines and soups.) Despite their knowledge of what the Chinese do with these animal parts, the Iban in this area tend not to make or use those medicines themselves although urban Iban in Sarawak often do so. Non-medicinal trade in animal parts occurs as well, but to a lesser extent. In one case, two Melayu men visited a number of Iban longhouses wanting to purchase deer antlers. They apparently cut up smaller antlers and then made fake ones with numerous tines or points to sell to rich people in Pontianak.

#### Publicity stunt

Trade in animals captured alive is another facet of the Iban's involvement with market hunting. As with animal parts, this ranges in both profit and legality. The occasional infant macaque monkey caught accidentally in a trap or an infant palm civet captured while farming may be sold locally as pets. More tragically, hunters may shoot orangutan or gibbon mothers to capture their infants alive, although sometimes the infants are wounded or killed in the attempt. They sell captured infants to merchants across the border in Malaysia or down the river to Pontianak. Those merchants then sell the animals through various connections to Singapore, Taiwan or elsewhere. One unfortunate captive orangutan even found itself used as a publicity stunt during the recent political campaign in Indonesia (Jakarta Post 1999).

Although not strictly hunting, both subsistence and market fishing deserves some mention given the important fisheries within the nearby Danau Sentarum National Park (formerly a wildlife reserve). Most likely for centuries, native people (both Dayak and Melayu) have fished in the extensive lakes during the dry seasons when the water levels were low and the fish congregated in the remaining pools. Fishing for home consumption among the Iban continues, but has been increasingly surpassed by market fishing. Melayu fishermen derive most of their incomes from selling dried and smoked fish within Indonesia, and a small number of Iban and other Dayak merchants have grown comparatively wealthy from selling fish and turtles across the border to Malaysia. In one transaction I witnessed, a local merchant bought 111 large hard-shelled lake turtles and nine large soft-shelled turtles from some Iban men. All were alive but would eventually be killed and eaten; they were mainly sold to other Iban without access to the lakes, but could fetch five times the local price if sold alive in Sarawak.

One consequence of market hunting and fishing has been an apparent decline in game and fish populations. Local prices for fish have risen, and fish are increasingly unavailable in local markets, having been sent elsewhere for sale. The Asian arowana (*Scleropages formosus*), a large ornamental fish valued by Chinese, is close to local extinction as a result of over-fishing. Both game and 'medicinally-important' animals face habitat disruption from logging, oil palm plantations (with one project slated at 47,000 hectares), and agriculture as the human population grows. The expanding road network cuts off breeding populations of gibbons and orangutans and provides hunters with easier access to game (Wadley, Colfer, and Hood 1997; Caldecott 1988). The continuing economic downturn may also mean more market hunting as local men, who would be otherwise employed in Malaysia or Indonesia, seek avenues to earn much needed cash. ■

#### References

- Caldecott, J. Hunting and Wildlife Management in Sarawak Gland and Cambridge: IUCN, 1988
- Jakarta Post Upset Orangutan Upsets Campaign The Jakarta Post Online, 31 May 1999.
- Wadley, R.L., C.J.P. Colfer, and I.G. Hood Hunting Primates And Managing Forests: The Case Of Iban Farmers In West Kalimantan, Indonesia Human Ecology 25: 243–271, 1997.

Dr Reed L. Wadley, an anthropologist, is a research fellow at the IIAS. He can be reached at [rwadley@rulleit.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:rwadley@rulleit.leidenuniv.nl).



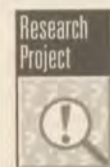
INDONESIA

# Customary Wildlife Trade in East Kalimantan

## Conservation and the economic dimensions

Wildlife trade has been a favourite target of conservation awareness activities. Since the 1980s, campaigns have intensified and switched from being almost exclusively Euro- and US-based concerns to becoming part of budding conservation movements in developing countries. However, the prevailing, if not unique, emphasis on the protection of nature has painted wildlife trade as a cruel activity sacrificing animals to the economic benefit of human predators.

By **CRISTINA EGHENTER**



What was missing from this picture were the social, economic, and historical circumstances of wildlife trade, particularly on an island like Borneo. In the area of the Kayan Mentarang National Park, for example, one of the largest rain forest protected areas of Southeast Asia in the Indonesian province of Kalimantan, wildlife trade has been going on for at least two hundred years. It brought people of the interior in contact with coastal towns and other regions throughout Southeast Asian and into China. It allowed them to purchase commodities and essential goods.

In the past, the collection of wildlife products like bezoar stones (gallstones that can be found in individuals of langur Hose's Leaf monkeys - *Presbytis hosei*) was largely in the hands of Punan people, who in turn traded the stones with Kenyah and Kayan villages headmen in exchange

for rice and other goods. In most cases, there is no evidence to indicate that the hunting of langur monkeys, hornbills (*Buceros rhinoceros* and *Buceros vigil*) and other species linked with wildlife trade had a negative impact on the populations of those species. As the number of people involved in collecting activities was probably limited and the pressure exerted discontinuous, hunting proved a sustainable activity. The only exception being the rhino (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*), which was most likely hunted to extinction in the late 1950s, at least in the area of the Kayan Mentarang National Park.

### Bezoar stones

The trade consisted of animal parts that were both powerful symbols and ceremonial objects culturally shared by various groups of Dayak people throughout the interior of Borneo. These objects included: hornbill feathers used in traditional dances, cloud leopard teeth and skin, pheasant feathers, and deer antlers that were either displayed directly or manufactured into fine crafts. Other



Baby langur monkey

animal parts like rhino horns and bezoar stones were linked to Chinese medicinal trade with networks reaching both the eastern and western sides of the island.

Nowadays, the trade in some wildlife products like bezoar stones is thriving, stimulated by high market prices. Hunting methods have also changed. The availability of firearms used instead of blowpipes as hunting tools has made it easier for collectors, including outsiders, to experiment with a kind of hunting practice still unfamiliar to them. Since the early 1990s, the number of people hunting langur monkeys has increased. The market price of bezoar stones is the highest unit price

among all wildlife products selling, at village level, for as much as \$20-25/g in Indonesia. In a survey of 43 forest expeditions in the Apo Kayan area of the interior, in 1996, more than 50% of the informants recalled that the purpose of the expedition was to look for gaharu trees and hunt langur monkeys whenever guns were available. Some hunters are also setting up nets for trapping porcupines (*Hystrix brachyura*) which may also carry bezoar stones. The latter can fetch even higher prices (25-30\$/g) but the trapping requires special knowledge of the preferred habitat of the porcupine.

Local hunters claim they cull sick and old monkeys (the last ones in the troop to descend to the salt spring to drink), which are believed to be more likely to have significantly developed bezoar stones. Although local hunters and collectors can be selective on the basis of experience and knowledge of the local ecology, outsiders can kill indiscriminately as they have no vested interest in preserving natural resources for later or for future generations. In some cases, there have been occasional reports of groups of collectors who poisoned the salt springs and thus killed hundreds of langur Hose's Leaf monkeys.

### Cage-birds

Unsustainable practices of this kind are severely condemned by customary law which still regulates the management and exploitation of natural resources among the communities of the Kayan Mentarang National Park area. In some communities, local leaders have decided to prohibit the use of chemicals for hunting or fishing and have recently put a temporary ban on the trapping of certain species that were once abundant and are now disappearing from the vicinity of their villages.

Newly exploited forms of wildlife are now appearing on the most re-

cent list of items traded out to the lowlands. Songbirds like straw-headed bulbuls (*Pycnonotus zeylanicus*) and white-capped shamas (*Copsychus stricklandi*) are sold as cage-birds in towns of the coast. Locals can get as much as \$40 for an adult bird which can already sing; the same bird can then be sold for up to \$90 in the towns of the coast. The trade in songbirds started only a few years ago. Avid collectors include army officers on duty at the small outposts near the international boundary between Malaysia and Indonesia. Other wildlife products used as decorations are sometimes traded across the border to Malaysia where they can fetch higher prices. These products represent occasional catches more than the output of special hunting expeditions.

Practices of trapping and killing wildlife for the purpose of trading must be put in the right economic context. Sales provide quick and high profits for the inhabitants of the interior, where alternative economic options remain extremely limited. Ironically, it is old and new customary regulations of local communities that can also guarantee the sustainable management of wildlife resources, as opposed to the stricter, and often unenforced, conservation laws of the government. ■

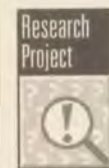


Dr Cristina Eghenter, WWF Indonesia, Kayan Mentarang Project and University of Hull, can be reached at [c.eghenter@pol-os.hull.ac.uk](mailto:c.eghenter@pol-os.hull.ac.uk) and [awing@smd.mega.net.id](mailto:awing@smd.mega.net.id).

# Wild Pigs in Southeast Asia

It is only recently that wild pigs have become a matter of concern to conservationists in Southeast Asia. The various species of wild pigs (there are at least eight in the area) are an often neglected animal in biodiversity debates. Attitudes towards wild pigs differ widely in Southeast Asia.

By **GERARD A. PERSOON**



In most areas wild pigs are considered an agricultural pest, but at the same time their meat can sometimes be considered a delicacy. In other areas they have no positive value at all. They are an unadulterated nuisance because they destroy crops and they are harmful to all kinds of agricultural activities. Their meat, which may have been a saving grace, cannot be consumed because of religious objections. Because pigs reproduce very quickly, it is a difficult animal to

eradicate. Paradoxically, however, the animal stands a better chance of surviving in an area where it is hated than where it is loved.

Wild pigs were common in lowland forest throughout Southeast



Wild Pig (*Sus philippensis*) in the Philippines

Asia and to some extent they still are, but in particular regions they have almost disappeared. They are teetering on the verge of extinction because of hunting either for subsistence or for commercial purposes.

In most of the areas, wild pig meat is consumed by forest-dwelling people, hunters and gatherers, or shifting agriculturalists. Examples are the Agta in the Philippines, the Kubu and the Sakai in Sumatra, and the Punan and the Dayak in Kalimantan. They hunt wild pigs, of which the meat subsequently is distributed among members of family groups. This exchange is characterized by its non-commercial nature and the demand is naturally limited because of small population numbers. In all of these cases, the

wild pig usually features at the top of the list of the most desired bush meats.

When neighbouring farmers are Christians like in the Philippines, most of the forest-dwelling hunters and gatherers are engaged in a growing trade with outsiders and bush meat is a very important item in exchange relations. Hunters barter bush meat for all kinds of other products

like rice, cigarettes, coffee, and sugar. In many cases these kinds of exchange have existed for long periods of time and the relations are described in terms of a kind of symbiosis between the two ethnic groups. Very often, however, new waves of encroaching farmers may also turn



Wild Pig (*Sus cebifrons*) in the Philippines

to the forest for the collection of forest products to supplement their income. Collection of rattan, resins, and honey is often combined with hunting activities. These migrant farmers also bring in new hunting technologies. In addition to hunting with dogs, bows and arrows, and snares, guns are now regularly used. Recently so-called pig bombs have become popular. These bombs are made of baits, filled with gunpow-

der. The 'hunter' just has to wait for the explosion and check the spot where the bomb was placed. If the animal was not killed on the spot, tracking down the wounded animal is usually an easy job. In these areas the meat is either consumed by the family members of the hunter or it is sold to nearby towns. In many cases an appetite for bush meat is being developed by wealthy urban people because it is considered an exotic food, different from the mass produced meat from domesticated pigs. This local demand and the growing demand from the urban centres put a great pressure on the pig populations. Based on the general assumptions that wild pigs are an agricultural pest anyway, hunting is intensified to the point of extinction at the local level.

In addition to coming off second best to commercial logging in many areas, forest-dwelling peoples have also lost large tracts of forest land to encroaching farmers. In the case of Muslim migrants, as in parts of Sumatra, Malaysia, or Mindanao, the farmers have quite a struggle in their confrontations with these fierce animals because the pigs prosper relatively well in somewhat

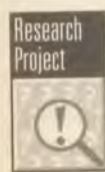


INDONESIA

# The Trade in Songbirds in East Kalimantan

The use of birds for food, ritual, omens, art, and trade has been and continues to be common among the peoples of Borneo, particularly the indigenous groups of Dayak which inhabit the mountainous interior. In the Bulungan District of the northern part of East Kalimantan, birds are collected in the forests of inland villages and traded downriver by ethnic Chinese and Dayak merchants to the growing coastal towns and cities. Songbirds are just one of the many forest products such as timber, rattan, rhinoceros horn, and bird's nests that have been traded in this manner and along this well-travelled route for centuries.

By RAJINDRA K. PURI



In this analysis of the trade in songbirds I would like to make two points. First, whereas much of literature on the impetus to trade in endangered species focuses on the use of wildlife for food and medicines, this analysis demonstrates that non-material causes can be significant as well. Historically as well as currently, there has been a Bulungan-wide and cross-cultural desire to denote social, political, and economic status through the display of birds. This phenomenon drives the trade in live songbirds. Second, whereas conservationists and legal instruments such as CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) tend to focus on the movement of wildlife across international boundaries, this case study demonstrates that intra-national trade driven by local values and patterns of consumption can also have dire consequences for the survival of local

populations of wildlife and therefore should also be a concern of conservationists. The information discussed here is drawn from my field studies of wildlife use among Penan and Kenyah peoples and my survey of ethnobiological knowledge among 18 ethnic groups across the Bulungan District, an area of 64,000 km<sup>2</sup> and more than 288,000 people.

As is the case of trade in most products, both supply-side and demand-side forces are pushing the trade in songbirds. Local people in the largely subsistence economies of inland Bulungan are constantly searching for ways to increase their cash income, and trade in wildlife is often a lucrative and relatively easy means to do so. In recent years, the Asian financial crisis has caused prices of almost all goods to rise. Prolonged drought due to the 1997-98 El Niño phenomenon has caused crop failure and increased demand for rice purchases. Thus the demand for cash has increased and correspondingly, the likelihood that anything that can be collected from the wild and sold, will be (Donovan 1999). Not

surprisingly then, throughout the area birds are being sought by farmers who need cash to buy basic food stuffs. Of some 250 species of songbird only about half a dozen are traded and of those only two fetch large prices. Therefore, the search for songbirds is focused on only a few species making it more likely that these local populations will quickly be extirpated.

## Nouveau-riche

But what drives the demand for essentially decorative songbirds? They are not used for food or medicine and only a few songbirds are in fact traded out of Bulungan, generally to Java, Bali, and Malaysian Sabah. Consequently, the prices fetched are not as extravagant as those paid for exotic birds, such as those from Irian Jaya, in Jakarta's famous bird markets. Based on interviews with bird owners, it is my belief that the songbirds have come to be the audible displays of wealth and social status among today's traders and government officials, virtual indicators of their owners' level of disposable income. The nouveau-riche often have a caged songbird on display on their front porch. The birds are the ultimate in natural status symbols, for with their beautiful songs every morning they broadcast their owner's wealth and prestige to the neighbourhood. Like gibbons, helmeted hornbills, and argus pheasants, through songbirds humans announce their presence, their territory, and in many ways their domi-

nance over all the creatures of the Bornean rain forest to the world.

I would also argue that this demand is not necessarily new; it appears to derive from the fact that birds have often been used to symbolize high social status in traditional Dayak societies. Formerly, among the Kenyah tribes, the hornbills were considered aristocratic, and thus could only be possessed and displayed by the aristocratic leaders of the tribe. The two long tail-feathers of the helmeted hornbill (*Rhinoplax vigil*) were worn in the head dress of a Kenyah warrior who had taken a human head in battle. In modern Indonesian Borneo, where most Dayak people are practising Christians and most of their communities are well integrated into the market economy, birds have lost much of their ritual function. Their symbolic function has shifted from one of sacred and ritual power toward one of wealth and political power.

That songbirds can indicate social and economic stratification is evident in an examination of who owns the birds commonly traded today. The curious blue-crowned hanging parrot (*Loriculus galgulus*) is the most common cage-bird observed in the homes of inland and Dayak villages of Bulungan. Caught by children in the surrounding mature forests, this bird is occasionally sold to neighbours or local officials. Despite being listed as an endangered species in Appendix II of the CITES treaty, the bird is fairly common, not a particularly rousing singer, and thus not very valuable. The white-capped shama thrush (*Copsychus stricklandi*), once an Iban omen bird, and only rarely traded in the Bulungan in the early 1990s, has become a moderately valuable songbird. In 1998 some of these birds were being sold for as much as IDR 70,000 or roughly USD 7. It is decidedly middle-class, but in some areas, it is even becoming more popular among the rich traders than the two most prized songbirds, the straw-headed bulbul (*Pycnonotus zeylanicus*) and the talkative hill myna (*Gracula religiosa*). Both of these birds, now found only in very remote areas expensive to reach, are bought only by very wealthy ethnic Chinese traders or high level Indonesian officials. Both birds, now rare throughout Southeast Asia, are listed as endangered species in Appendix II of the CITES Treaty: they cannot be traded internationally without permits.

## Breeding bulbul

Since the economic crisis, which began in late 1997, and with the increasing rarity of these birds, prices have sky-rocketed to as much as IDR 1,000,000 per bird, roughly USD 100, with daily wages only reaching as much as IDR 10,000. Despite the price hikes, birds are selling as well as ever. The buyers tend to be traders, government officials, and sometimes small-scale city merchants that have been able to profit handsomely from the differential between the rate of domestic inflation, held in check by government subsidies for staples, and the rate of local currency earnings on foreign trade in forest products such as rattan, gaharu (*Aquilaria* spp.), and illegal timber.

Instead of an expected reduction in wildlife captures in the wake of the economic crisis, the trade in songbirds is expanding. As a consequence, several species are facing extirpation and new species are becoming targets for collectors and buyers. A survey of birds in late 1997 found very few of either the bulbul or the myna in the wild (Puri 1998). The survey crew, myself included, witnessed the capture of a breeding female bulbul sitting on eggs in her nest. We were unable to convince the collectors to leave the mother to raise the chicks. In one coastal town, 17 of 170 houses kept a total of five species: two doves, two myna, five bulbul, sixteen shama, and four magpie robin. The presence and high number of shama and magpie robin indicate that in this particular area, collectors are starting to exploit new species. Although as yet undocumented, this kind of trade, confined to local social and economic networks, is probably replicated across much of Kalimantan and on other islands in Indonesia. While the international trade gets most of the attention, these local trade networks, taken collectively, probably cause more damage to lesser known species, and thus need to be addressed by conservationists. Unfortunately, the future for creatures such as songbirds looks bleak as people's desire to display their wealth and status is as strong as ever. ■

## References

- Donovan, D. G. Strapped For Cash, Asians Plunder Their Forests And Endanger Their Future In Asia Pacific Issues No. 39, Honolulu: East-West Center, 1999
- Dove, M. R. Process Versus Product In Bornean Augery A Traditional Knowledge System's Solution To The Problem Of Knowing Pp. 557-596 in Redefining Nature, eds., R. F. Ellen and K. Fukui. Oxford: Berg, 1996
- Puri, R. K. Hunting Knowledge Of The Penan Benalui Of East Kalimantan, Indonesia Ph. D. Dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of Hawai'i, Honolulu, 1997
- The Biodiversity And Ethnoecology Of The Punan Tubu A Preliminary Study Consultant report submitted to the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). Jakarta, Indonesia: CIFOR, 1998
- Richards, A. Iban Augery Sarawak Museum Journal 20: 63-81, 1972

degraded forest. They uproot crops, destroy seedlings, and harvest crops prematurely. These Muslim farmers have only a negative motivation for killing the animal: they are not interested in the animal for nutritional or trade purposes. They only want to protect their crops from being damaged. The pigs, for their part, benefit from the increased agricultural activities and the availability of food in the fields. In some cases people even have to give up their fields because it is practically impossible to protect them effectively.

This is the case in some 'pig-infected areas' in transmigration sites in Sumatra. Sometimes, non-Muslim local hunters and gatherers assist the farmers by settling down in these fields to pursue 'garden

hunting'. There might also be a commercial demand for wild pig meat from the Chinese communities in urban centres like Jambi, Padang, and Palembang. In these cases the pigs are collected simultaneously with other non-timber forest products. Because of its relatively low value, trade only takes place at the local or regional level. Trade in this kind of bush meat has very limited international dimensions.

Finally it is important to mention the trade in the animal in 'pig cultures' in which pigs occupy a prominent position, like in Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea, or on the island of Siberut in Western Indonesia. In these societies pigs are a prime source of wealth and pride and the welfare of the herds is of great concern to the owner and his kin. Here agricultural practices are also adjusted to the behaviour of the animals, or fields are properly fenced. Pig herds consist of freely roaming, half-domesticated wild pigs with some interbreeding with various kinds of imported pigs. In these societies pigs, either dead or alive, are an important item in the internal economy, in the ritual cycles and in the ex-



Wild Pig (*Sus Celebensis*) in Sulawesi, Indonesia

change relations for bride price, payment of fines or other kinds of transactions. Trade with outsiders or for purely commercial purposes is usually absent. Efforts to commercialize this kind of pig raising have proved unsuccessful: the ritual and other functions of the animal cannot easily be transformed into a purely economic one. ■

Dr Gerard A. Persoon is head of the Programme for Environment and Development, Centre of Environmental Science, Leiden University. E-mail: Persoon@cml.leidenuniv.nl



Wild Pig (*Babyrussa*) in Sulawesi, Indonesia



Dr Rajindra K. Puri, East-West Center, can be reached at e-mail: 104505.2441@compuserve.com.

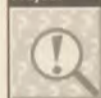


# The South Korean Market for Bear Gall Bladders

Bear parts have been used in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) for centuries. The bile stored in the gallbladders of bears is the only bear product commonly found in Chinese 'materia medica' today. Results of a regional TRAFFIC investigation in East Asia in 1995 fuelled concerns that trade in bear gallbladders may continue to place pressure on declining wild bear populations. One country in the region is highlighted here: the Republic of (South) Korea.

By J.A. MILLS, T.S. KANG, S. LEE, R. PARRY-JONES, AND M. PHIPPS

## Research Project



TCM doctors prescribe bear bile to treat illnesses ranging from liver cancer (Mills and Servheen, 1991) to haemorrhoids to conjunctivitis (Bensky and Gamble, 1993). A particular bile acid found in bear bile (ursodeoxycholic acid, or UDCA) has been both synthesized and medically proven to be effective in treating numerous human illnesses, including gallstones (Mills and Servheen, 1991), hepatitis, and cirrhosis (Sano, 1995).

Mongolia, the Sun Bear *Helarctos malayanus*, and the Sloth Bear *Melursus ursinus*.

The situation is complicated and differs from country to country. Here we focus on The Republic of Korea, the country that will host the third international symposium on trade in bear parts at the end of this year. The outcome of this symposium will be presented in the next IIAS Newsletter.

## Drowning

TRAFFIC's 1995 findings, coupled with various law enforcement cases involving South Koreans trading illegally in bear gallbladders, indicate that Koreans remain dedicated consumers of bear gallbladders. The survey

showed that, while availability of bear gallbladders had decreased in Korea since Mills and Servheen (1991), prices there – already the highest in the world in 1991 – had risen significantly. In addition, farmed bear bile from China was openly for sale in Seoul.

In July 1996, five South Koreans (one tour guide and four tourists) visiting Thailand were arrested and later convicted in Thailand of illegally killing six bears near the Myanmar border. The tour guide received a custodial sentence, and the tourists were fined from US\$600-US\$800.

The following month, a TRAFFIC investigator interviewed a Korean tour guide who was based in Bangkok in 1995 to assist South Korean tourists visiting Thailand. The guide alleged that approximately 10% of the 360 000 South Koreans visiting Thailand at that time consumed bear meat and/or bear parts during their visits. They reportedly paid from US\$ 7,500 to US\$ 9,000 for live bears, which were killed by drowning. According to the guide, illegal hunting trips were arranged for South Korean tourists once or twice each year near the border with Myanmar. He reported that there are eight Korean traditional medicine shops in Bangkok where bear gallbladders are ground into powder, mixed with other ingredients and packed in capsules for ease of smuggling. The accuracy of these claims is still subject to investigation by TRAFFIC. At US\$107 per gram in Bangkok, bear bile is less than one-quarter the price in Korea.

While the Korea's Management Authority has allowed the legal import of 66 kg of Appendix II bear gallbladders in 1996, Korean Customs officials confiscated 122 kg of what were claimed to be bear gallbladders, from the luggage of travellers entering the Korea in 1996. In 1995, Korean Customs seized 55 kg of bear gallbladders and 82 kg in 1994.

## Registration

The Republic of Korea withdrew its reservation on CITES Appendix-II bears on 25 September 1996, with effect from 6 October 1996 (Federal De-



Bear bile.

partment of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland, in litt., 8 October 1996). In addition, the Association of Korean Oriental Medicine (AKOM) has gone on record as saying that the Korean Government must control the smuggling of bear gallbladders and stop their use for frivolous purposes (K.S. Kim, pers. comm., July 1996).

Around the same time, Korea's Ministry of Environment hosted a meeting of ten governmental agencies and seven relevant organizations to discuss the involvement of Korean nationals in illegal international trade in bear gallbladders. Participants concluded that the Republic of Korea needs to strengthen its control of illegal trade in bear gallbladders and increase public awareness of the problem.

At TRAFFIC's suggestion, the Korean Government and AKOM sent a delegation to Hong Kong to learn more about Hong Kong's registration system for bear gallbladders. The CITES Management Authority in the Republic of Korea is currently considering adoption of a system similar to that in Hong Kong, which licenses and tags bear gallbladders imported with proper CITES permits. ■



Bear bile advertisement in Yanji, China.



Bear specimen in a medicine shop at Daegu, Republic of Korea.

In August 1996, TRAFFIC East Asia conducted a follow-up survey in China, Hong Kong, The Republic of Korea, and Taiwan. The findings of this investigation indicate that Asian demand for bear gallbladders and bile remains strong. The demand for bear gallbladders and bile as medicine is particularly worrisome in relation to Asia's bear species, most of which are listed in CITES Appendix I. These include the Asiatic Black Bear *Ursus thibetanus*, the Brown Bear *Ursus arctos* populations of Bhutan, China, and



## Recommendations

The Government of the Republic of Korea should, as a matter of urgency:

- give stiff penalties to South Korean citizens caught smuggling bear gallbladders and bile, in addition to confiscation of their contraband;
- implement a bear gallbladder registration system that will ensure that any gallbladder sold within Korea is derived from legal sources;
- train Government laboratories in the technology to test the authenticity of new stocks of gallbladders entering the South Korean market;
- adopt the use of X-ray machines and/or sniffer dogs to detect bear gallbladders being smuggled in the luggage of travellers entering Korea;
- inform all travellers leaving Korea of the domestic and international laws regulating the trade in bear bile and bear gallbladders, using pamphlets, airline ticket jackets and/or in-flight videos as a means of communication;
- consider using Government television broadcasts to dissuade illegal trafficking in bears, bear gallbladders, and their derivatives;
- encourage similar public awareness activities in bear range states favoured by South Korean tourists.

## References

- Bensky, D. and A. Gamble *Chinese Herbal Medicine Materia Medica* Seattle: Eastland Press, Inc., 1993
- Mills, J.A. and C. Servheen *The Asian Trade In Bears And Bear Parts* Washington: World Wildlife Fund Inc., 1991
- Sano, M. 'Ursodeoxycholic Acid Is Not Only A Substitute For Bear Bile In: Proceedings of the International Symposium on the Trade of Bear Parts for Medicinal Use, Washington: TRAFFIC USA, 1995

TRAFFIC is a joint programme by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and The World Conservation Union (IUCN). Its purpose is to help ensure that wildlife trade is at sustainable levels and in accordance with domestic laws and agreements. This is achieved through the investigation, monitoring and reporting of such trade, particularly that which is detrimental to the survival of flora and fauna and that which is illegal. CITES: Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna

This is an abstract of a paper that was originally published in the TRAFFIC bulletin 16:3, 1997. A copy of the full-length article can be obtained from:

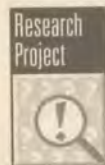
TRAFFIC INTERNATIONAL  
Fax: +44-1223-277 237  
E-mail: traffic@traffint.org



# Consumption of Bear Parts in Upland Japan

This paper offers a brief report of the consumption of bear parts in upland Japan. Data are drawn from ethnographic fieldwork carried out in Hongu, an upland municipality in the interior of the southern part of the Kii Peninsula, western Japan, and from secondary sources documenting animal cure customs from other regions of Japan.

By JOHN KNIGHT



The Japanese black bear (*tsukinowaguma*, *Selenarctos thibetanus japonicus*) is a small black bear with a white crescent on its upper chest. Black bears have long been hunted in Japan. In the 1980s, on average just over two thousand black bears were being killed each year. But of the 2,027 killed in 1989, only a minority, 37.5 per cent, were killed as game animals, while 62.5 per cent were killed as pests (Hazumi 1994: 146).

Its hunters say that one feature of the bear is that every part of it is used. Most parts of the bear are said to have medicinal value. The bear's brain, in charred form, is a cure for headaches or nausea during pregnancy. The heart and lungs are used for asthma, the paws for neuralgia and rheumatism, and bear meat is used for stomach disorders, for diarrhoea, and for people with a tendency to catch cold. Bear fat provides relief when applied to cuts, burns, rashes, chapped skin, and chilblains. Bear's blood too, dried and then re-mixed with water, was given to post-partum women or to anaemic people.

The most important curative part of the bear is the gall-bladder. In Japan the bear's gall-bladder (*kuma no i*) is the foremost example of a *myoyaku* - 'miracle medicine' or a panacea - which is said to be effective for intestinal, liver, and heart disorders, parasite and bacterial infections, providing relief for those suffering from burns, swellings, and fever, as well as being rich in colloids which can dissolve gallstones (Kaneko et al 1992: 41). There is even a popular belief in Japan that bear gall is a cure for cancer.

Many bears are killed as pests on account of the damage they cause to commercial timber plantations because of their bark stripping from trees and the damage they cause to farms through crop raiding (honey, rice, melons etc.). The bear parts yielded by culled bears have long served as informal compensation to local people for the bear damage they have had to endure. Some Japanese conservationists argue that the scale of bear culling in Japan stems from the commercial value of the bear parts, especially the gall-bladder, as much as from the economic loss because of bear damage.

With the present-day scarcity of bears, an alternative source of gall is the wild boar. Many families on the Kii Peninsula keep wild boar gall-bladders - which, on account of the ubiquity of winter boar hunting, are easier to obtain than those of wild bears. Another source of supply are

boar farms. One man who runs a wild boar farm on the southeast of the peninsula gives away between 50 to 60 gall-bladders each year - to friends, relatives or acquaintances, above all where there is illness in the family or where there is an ailing elderly grandparent. He used to sell them, but now the price is so low that it is hardly worth his while.

## The curative forest

The curative power of bear gall is said to vary greatly, affected by the forest diet of the bear. In Niigata, for example, bears which have lived in white oak (*Quercus* spp.) forest are believed to have harder and better quality gall-bladders than do those which have lived in beech forest (Suzuki 1982: 222). Similarly, the gall of bears from particular regions renowned for their natural forests and the herbal growth within them, is reputed to have special curative and tonic powers.

This idea of the environmental determination of the curative potency of wildlife parts is also evident in the case of other forest animals. In Japan snakes are recognized as being very beneficial to health. Snake extract serves as a powerful tonic and as a cure for a wide range of disorders (including a tendency to catch cold, rheumatism, and impotence).

In present-day Japan good snake extract is also becoming a scarce commodity because the forests which once nurtured potent snakes have been ruined in the course of post-war economic development, a process of decline which includes the replacement of the natural forest by extensive timber plantations. There are only a few remaining natural or primary forests, including the forest of Odaigahara on the Kii Peninsula, where the snakes, according to some local specialists, are the best in all Japan - fed on concentrated cocktails of the most beneficial natural herbs (Ue 1993: 93-4).

An unequivocal expression of the idea that the consumption of the animal indirectly represents the consumption of its habitat is the preference for the body parts of wild animals rather than those of farmed animals. There are many substitutes for wild bear gall, including imported Chinese farmed gall and chemically synthesized gall. However, the gall of farmed bears (and even more so synthesized gall) is believed to be inferior to that of their wild counterpart. Hence there continues to be a sizeable demand for wild bear gall in Japan - which is met partly by the domestic bear population and partly by illegal bear imports. The basis of this preference would appear to be the idea that wild animals can concentrate the beneficial powers of their natural environment within them.

## Conclusion

Japanese forests have long supplied medicinal animal parts. While this used to be an important source of local income for hunters, the wildlife product market has long since been depressed because of competition from imports. In the 1990s there is still a local demand for Japanese wildlife products. In the larger market context, this Japanese supply would appear to be relatively minor. But this demand is locally justified in terms of a positive preference for local, rather than foreign, wildlife substances, and this is articulated in terms of the natural character of the local environment. Perhaps this also indicates why there has been a decline in domestic supply. The Japanese forests have undergone enormous changes, and much of the natural forest which supplied curative (plant and animal) substances in the past has been lost. As a result, there is a growing belief that truly curative forest is now located elsewhere, in other parts of Asia.

The apprehension generated about forest change through a perception of diminution in the curative quality of animal parts is of some interest. Clearly, the continued consumption of curative animal parts is not, in the long-term, quantitatively independent of environmental change. But in the comments on the changing qualities of the gall of bears (or of snake extract) referred to above, such consumption is not qualitatively independent of ecological change in the forest. In other words, even before the threshold of radical scarcity in supply in wildlife products is reached, curative consumption is affected.

The corollary of this is that it is not the preservation of the animal species *per se* (for example, through farming) which will guarantee the future of the curative consumption of wildlife parts, but rather the conservation of the forests in which potentially curative wild animals live. ■

## References

- Hazumi, Toshihiro  
Status Of The Black Bear  
International Conference of Bear Research and Management 9(1): 145-8, 1994
- Kaneko, Hiromasa, Konishi Masayasu, Sasaki Kiyomitsu and Chiba Tokuji  
Nihonshi No Naka No Dobutsu Jiten (a Dictionary Of Animals In Japanese History) Tokyo: Todo Shuppan, 1992
- Suzuki, Tozo  
Nihon Zokushin Jiten (Dictionary of Popular Beliefs) Tokyo: Kadokawa Shoten, 1982
- Ue, Tetsuya  
Hyappiki Mamushi Wa Sei Ga Tsuku Chojū Ni Kiku (one Hundred Snakes For Long Life With Vitality) Tokyo: Ryonsha, 1993

Dr John Knight was an IIAS research fellow from 1 September 1996 to 1 September 1999. He is now Lecturer in Social Anthropology at the Queen's University of Belfast. E-mail: J.Knight@qub.ac.uk.

## CO-EDITOR JOHN KNIGHT ON WILDLIFE TRADE

By ELZELINE V.D. HOEK

Dr John Knight was an individual research fellow at the International Institute for Asian Studies for three years ('96-'99). He is now Lecturer in Social Anthropology at Queen's University of Belfast. During his time at the IIAS he studied Japanese forestry from a social anthropological perspective. He also convened conference panels on the theme of wildlife. His last project at the IIAS was putting together the thematic issue on 'Wildlife Trade in Asia' for this Newsletter. In a short interview John Knight was asked after his motives.

John Knight studied Politics for his BA and Anthropology for his MSc. From 1987 to 1989 he studied the influence of return migration in the remote mountain area of Hongu on the Kii Peninsula, Southeastern Japan. Though the lives of the local people were intricately interwoven with the forest around the village, it was only after his PhD that Knight pursued an interest in the forest. 'It was a natural progression for me to see that villages are islands of space that are wrapped in forests. Also I was influenced by the trend in anthropology of looking at local knowledge.'

Since 1992 Knight has studied forestry and the relationship between the village and the forest. This in turn has led him to the study of the relationship between people and forest animals. Currently he is fascinated by the idea of consumption and vitality, of the necessity to take the life of animals to boost one's own life. 'Human existence is essentially predatory, though we do not like to think of it as such. But there is the ethical question of whether or not it is morally just to exploit animals.' Continuing this line of



PHOTO: ELZELINE V.D. HOEK

## Interview

thought Knight is teaching a course on human-animal relations at Queen's University in Belfast this term.

Since 1994 up to the present John Knight has conducted fieldwork in Japan almost every winter, in the hunting season. In addition to hunting, he focuses on the problem of wildlife crop-raiding and other dangerous animals. The local view of the forest is therefore largely a negative view: 'The villagers see the forest as a threat and they seem to have a mere practical interest in wildlife pests; to learn how to protect their crops, and about fencing and trapping.'

The villagers like to see themselves apart from the forest, as interaction with the forest is considered a sign of backwardness. Moreover the villages have become seriously depopulated as cities attract the younger people. Japan's successful animation and tourism industries create a 'disneyesque' view of animals. The younger people bring back this perception to their villages and this in turn contributes to an estrangement from the real wildlife and the real forest.

'There is some tension with the national level where there is a growing concern to protect the remaining nat-

ural forest,' Knight continued. Wildlife trade, deforestation, and the replacing of natural forests by artificial woods have depleted wildlife. It is increasingly considered necessary to document local knowledge and conserve the remaining wildlife before it disappears as part of the national heritage.

The East Asian demand for wildlife products is one of the main pressures on North American and Asian wildlife. Snakes, bear gall, and monkey parts are consumed for their medicinal and vitalizing qualities. It is recognized that the demand for these wildlife products is unsustainable and that is why there is a trend towards synthesizing these products. East Asians, however, generally see these substitutes as inferior: farmed bear gall is not the 'real' bear gall that can only be found in the natural forest.

John Knight does not condemn wildlife trade completely. As an anthropologist he accepts that people exploit animals. On the other hand, Knight feels that the scale of the trade should be restricted to preserve certain natural environments and wildlife species. Wildlife harvesting should be limited and carried out on a sustainable basis. For this it is essential to have local backing for conservation objectives, not just at the national level.

Knight supports conservation objectives, but these should be reconciled to cultural understanding. He hopes that 'one of the effects of this Newsletter will be to emphasize the cultural dimension of the wildlife trade, not as a means of excusing over-exploitation, but in order to contribute to policies which more effectively control it at the local level.' ■

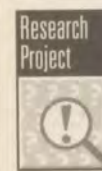


INDONESIA

# Trade in Maritime Resources in Aru

For centuries, the Aru Islands have been known for their trade of natural resources like birds of paradise, edible birds' nests, pearl oysters, turtles, and various dried products like sea cucumbers, sharks' fins, and abalone. Bugis and Macassarese used to be the main traders, but since the second part of the nineteenth century the Indonesian Chinese have been entering the Dobo market and today hold the monopoly.

By MANON OSSEWEIJER



Walking in the neighbourhood of Des Voeux Street in Hong Kong, one notices the bright, gold letters of the firm and shop names on the facades as well as the peculiar salty smell of sea products. This smell instantly reminded me of Aru, where these products are cooked in woks behind people's houses and stored on a grid above the cooking hearth. The Hong Kong shops are stuffed with seafood delicacies in baskets and in glass pots, such as sharks fins, abalone and sea cucumbers, all well-ordered according to size and quality.

For centuries, the Aru Islands have been known for their trade of natural resources. Once these traders

women are involved in this trade and are tending to focus their energies on maritime resources to an ever higher degree at the expense of subsistence activities. Apart from turtle meat and occasionally raw sea cucumbers, most of the products are specifically collected for the international market. Nearly all of these resources are declining in abundance: compared to the recent past oysters are harder to find, sea cucumbers are smaller and have to be gathered further off the coast, the sharks caught are smaller, and turtles are thought to be threatened by over-exploitation as well.

The Aru archipelago situated in the remote southeast corner of the province of Maluku, is inhabited by approximately 54,000 people. In the southeast the people are highly dependent on the sale of natural resources to local Chinese Aruese traders. Hunting, fishing, and horticulture are the main subsistence activities, but the collection of the above-mentioned highly prized maritime resources, or *jernom somai* (diving harvest), forms the basis of their cash income. Both men and

women are involved in this trade and are tending to focus their energies on maritime resources to an ever higher degree at the expense of subsistence activities. Apart from turtle meat and occasionally raw sea cucumbers, most of the products are specifically collected for the international market. Nearly all of these resources are declining in abundance: compared to the recent past oysters are harder to find, sea cucumbers are smaller and have to be gathered further off the coast, the sharks caught are smaller, and turtles are thought to be threatened by over-exploitation as well.

### Disappointing harvest

Every Aruese fisherman has a patron-client relationship with one or more Chinese Aruese shopkeepers. In the village, the transactions in the shop are based mostly on barter: maritime produce is exchanged for consumer goods, and if the value of the maritime products is not spent the same day it is written in a book made of *Surya* cigarettes cartons for future grocery shopping. Though this does happen, most of the time it

is the other way around: people have long lists of products on tick. Consequently, they prefer to 'spread their debts', or buy consumer goods in one shop and trade maritime products in another, leaving the debts in the first shop with the excuse that they have had a disappointing harvest.

In the trade settlement of Meror, fishermen from different villages come to sell products in return for money. It is also the place where outsiders like Bugis and Butonese shark fishermen come ashore to rest and sell part of their catch. In the morning, boats from the villages visit Meror to sell dried maritime produce collected the previous day and to buy fuel, cigarettes, and sago for consumption on their way to the reefs. The men dive for pearl oysters, sea cucumbers, and bailer shells; the women scour the tidal flats in search of sea cucumbers and abalone. In the afternoon, beginning around 4.30, one after the other the boats return from the sea. The divers come ashore to sell their pearl oysters, and to buy some groceries to take back home.

### 'Godfather'

During the east monsoon (May-October), men and women who are on their way to the reefs for the nocturnal collection of sea cucumbers using flash lights and petroleum lamps also come to Meror in the afternoon. Suddenly, the shop is filled by forty or fifty customers who throw their oysters onto the cement floor, and start opening the unlocked cupboards, looking for the

products they want to buy, or sit down on the floor to watch television. One or two shop assistants help to get the products from the cupboards or from the loft, while the shop-keepers write down the day's catch. The commodities and fuel taken in advance that morning are cleared and usually the diver spends every last penny. For two or three hours, the shop is thronged with village clients.

With at least one of the shopkeepers in Meror, the Aruese have a relationship which extends beyond the context of natural (maritime) resource trade. Besides the credit for an outboard motor for a boat, other needs of the villager, such as advances for the payments of weddings, school fees, and construction materials are met as well. In many cases, these advances are not paid back within a definite time period. In this sense, the Chinese Aruese shopkeeper is not only a trader but also the villager's 'godfather' and a kind of insurance. Quite a few adult villagers were raised by the Chinese Aruese traders, as their adopted children. This very relationship with the trader means that Aruese usually do not worry about the future: they can always take consumer goods from the shop, and the trader will always have a need for their products. This relationship between the trader and the fisherman resembles a love-hate relationship in which both parties are inextricably interdependent. Although the traders often have Aruese ancestors (most of the time a grandmother or mother) and have adapted their lifestyle to Aru as well as possible, they talk about the villagers as 'less developed', 'lazy', and unreliable. Paradoxically, many boast about their Aruese background, but they do not allow their children to marry the local people, because ostensibly they cannot run a business. For their part the Aruese are frequently helped by the traders, yet they also complain about the trader mentality of the Chinese - i.e. wanting to make double profit on both maritime produce and consumer goods, at the expense of the villagers -, covered by their sometimes insincere friendliness. ■

Chinese Aruese trader in Dobo inspecting the quality of dried sharks' fins



Aruese woman boiling sea cucumbers (trepang) in a wok behind the shop of a Chinese Aruese trader in Meror



Glass pots full of exotic dried sea food products such as abalone and trepang, Hong Kong



Boat with Aruese men in Meror who have just returned from diving pearl oysters



Des Voeux Road shops with dried sea food products



A shop selling dried sea food products in Hong Kong

### References

- Eijbergen, H.C. van  
Verslag Eener Reis Naar De Aroe- En Key Eilanden, In De Maand Junij 1862  
Tijdschrift voor Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde, deel XV, vijfde serie, deel 1:220-361, Batavia/Den Haag, 1866
- Hoëvell, G.W.W.C. Baron van  
De Aroe-eilanden, Geographisch, Ethnographisch En Commerciël Tijdschrift voor Taal-, Land-, en Volkenkunde, deel XXXIII:57-100. Batavia/Den Haag, 1890
- Wallace, A.R.  
On The Trade Of The Eastern Archipelago With New Guinea And Its Islands  
Journal of the Royal Geographical Society 31:127-137, London, 1862

Drs Manon Osseweijer is researcher of the EDEN 2 project at the KITLV and a guest employee at the Centre of Environmental Science, Leiden University.  
E-mail: Osseweijer@rulkml.leidenuniv.nl



# Central Asia



AFGHANISTAN • KAZAKHSTAN  
KYRGYZSTAN • MONGOLIA  
TAJIKISTAN • TIBET  
TURKMENISTAN • UZBEKISTAN  
XINJIANG-UYGUR

23 > 27 AUGUST 1999  
OSAKA, JAPAN

## New Horizons in Bon Studies

While in Lausanne, Switzerland, several hundred Buddhologists braced themselves for their twelfth convention of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, on the opposite side of the globe, in Osaka, Japan, from August 23 to 27, a rather smaller group of about forty international scholars, all specialists in specific areas of Bon and Zhang Zhung (linguistic) studies, gathered for their first major symposium on Bon Studies.

By HENK BLEZER



Even though some might feel inclined to read some significance into the difference in numbers and perhaps the coincidence of the events as well, I can assure you that it was just that, a coincidence. Nevertheless, quite a few of the Osaka participants had – at least that seems to be the emic Lausanne view – more or less conspicuously ‘bunked off’ the larger Lausanne event. In a sense, all this provides a perhaps anachronistic yet telling metaphor for the status of Bon Studies in general. It is quite obvious, indeed, that Bon Studies are lagging far behind the impressive momentum that (Tibetan) Buddhist Studies are currently building up. Even in hitherto neglected areas, such as the study of *rNying ma Tantra-s*, we are, through the efforts of a few talented and dedicated individuals, steadily gaining ground. Now we are in the fortunate position of witnessing a growth of scholarly attention and recognition of the importance of these traditions within (and for) the flourishing larger field of Tibetan (Buddhist) Studies – which should be very good news to any scholar of Bon traditions too.

The Bon symposium was hosted and facilitated by the National Museum for Ethnology (Kokuritsu Minzokugaku Hakubutsukan) at Senri Expo Park in Osaka and was convened in an impressively smooth and professional manner by Prof. Yasuhiko Nagano.

The conference was connected to a major Japanese project on Bon. This project was initiated by Nagano in the middle of the nineties and arose in close partnership with Dr Samten Gyaltzen Karmay (CNRS, Paris), a well-known senior scholar in Bon Studies. Being well aware of the general neglect of specific Bon studies within the larger field of Tibetan Studies, they decided that, in order to achieve a better grasp of the Bon cul-

tural complex, this imbalance should be addressed and a good common basis for Bon Studies established. This basis should encompass research material, a scholarly network and, last but not least, a thorough interdisciplinary survey of Bon traditions in Tibet and the Himalayas, from as many angles as possible. In recognition of the lacunae mentioned in the field, the Ministry of Education of Japan and the National Museum of Ethnology in Osaka encouraged the proposed project and generously supported overseas field research as well as a joint survey for the period from 1996 until 1999. Many scholars, both Tibetan and non-Tibetan, have since been involved in this, the most comprehensive survey of Bon traditions to date. The publication of a series of volumes on Bon Studies was envisioned. So far, ten volumes are scheduled to appear, many of which are being prepared at the moment. Two volumes of the proceedings of the Osaka Bon symposium will be part of this pioneering series.

Quite a few of the presentations and speakers at the Bon Symposium were linked to the project in one way or the other. The first five days focused mainly on non-linguistic issues in Bon cultural studies. Participants had the rare and priceless opportunity of witnessing a few ‘first-ever’ introductions into hitherto unexplored terrain by specialists in the field, for instance, a preliminary research report by Donatella Rossi on a text from the important *Ye khri mtha’ sel*, which is referred to as the Indian cycle of *rDzogs chen* (Great Perfection) and sometimes counted as a fourth Bon *rDzogs chen* tradition next to the *rdzogs snyan gsum*, the traditions of *A khrid*, *rDzogs chen* and *Zhang zhung snyan rgyud*, Bon and its relation to Buddhism, Cosmology, and Ritual, Bonpo Society and Related Rituals, Possession, and Related Rituals, and Bonpo Monasteries and their localities constituted the larger topics in which these interesting papers were accom-

modated. Eastern Tibet especially was very well covered during the symposium.

Considering the linguistic background of many of the research scholars connected to the National Museum for Ethnology in Osaka and Nagano’s Bon project, at this occasion it was possible to pay special attention to the linguistic study of what has become known as the somewhat controversial ancient ‘Zhang Zhung language of the Bon po-s’, a hypothetical ‘dead language’ or group of languages that by some, first and foremost by the Bon po-s themselves, is thought to have existed in the area of greater Western Tibet, from roughly before the eighth up to the ninth century AD. This projected Zhang Zhung language seems to have echoes in several surviving dialects in the area. The last day of the symposium was dedicated exclusively to this fascinating field of Zhang Zhung linguistic studies, which seems to be all the more intriguing and appealing to scholars because of the paucity of unequivocal evidence for the ‘language’. Even though the matter of the actual status of Zhang Zhung as a language remains far from being set-

tled, and, in fact, on this occasion no revolutionary ideas were added to the hypotheses that had been adduced in the past, some interesting additional evidence and also possible mechanisms for the ‘generation’ of Zhang Zhung vocabulary have nevertheless been suggested. To underscore the nascent state of Bon and Zhang Zhung linguistic studies we may observe – be this with some self-satisfaction, be this rather with some measure of alarm or, perhaps, discomfort – that the total amount of articles ever written on the subject of Zhang Zhung up to the year 1999, has now more than doubled in just one week!

Nagano’s conference has definitely succeeded in creating a temporary network of leading scholars of Bon, which I sincerely hope is here to stay, and in facilitating exchange of the

newest often highly interesting research findings in the area. Without exaggeration, I may say that the Osaka symposium constitutes a milestone in Bon Studies, promising a brighter future for the field, for which we all owe Nagano and the other people involved, not in the least the staff at the National Museum for Ethnology at Osaka, a debt of gratitude.

The proceedings of the 1999 Osaka Bon symposium are scheduled to appear very soon, that is, in April 2000, as *Bon Studies 3: New Horizons in Bon Studies* (eds Samten Karmay & Y. Nagano) and *Bon Studies 4: A Linguistic Approach to the Zhang Zhung Language* (ed. Y. Nagano). ■

Dr Henk Blezer is a research fellow at the IAS. E-mail: blezer@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

### BOOKS RECEIVED



Amineh, Mehdi Parvizi

**TOWARDS THE CONTROL OF OIL RESOURCES IN THE CASPIAN REGION**

New York and Munster: St. Martin's Press, 1999. 248 pp.  
ISBN: 0-312-22863-5 (USA), 3-8258-4327-0 (Europe)

## Inner Asia

**Inner Asia is a new international journal seeking to strengthen understanding of the history, politics, economies, and cultures of Inner Asia. It is interdisciplinary and inclusive, the better to reflect diverse indigenous and critical understandings.**



Inner Asia is the region of the great steppes, centred on Mongolia. We include in our scope the Altai, Buryatiya, Tyva, Mongolia, Xinjiang, Hönnuur (Qinghai), Gansu, Sichuan, Tibet, the Central Asian states, Kalmykia, Inner Mongolia, and Manchuria, as well as their diasporic communities scattered all over the world. We take this region to be not just an inner hinterland to Russia and China, but as itself constituting a sphere or centre which has its particular historical dynamics.

United by ways of life, such as mobile pastoralism and trade, and by many common aspects of culture, Inner Asia has its own languages, scripts, as well as religious and political traditions. The region is important not only because it is a meeting place of different civilizations and a bridge between Asia and Europe, but also because it has given rise to and shaped great states and civilizations. Currently it is experiencing enormous change, as the socialism of the mid-twentieth century is being transformed by new economic and political processes. Strategically, Inner Asia is now a sensitive and volatile area. New states are in the making. Urgent and sustained studies of the

region and its peoples are needed to facilitate sound cultural understandings and development.

Inner Asia is published by The White Horse Press for the Mongolia and Inner Asia Studies Unit, founded in 1986 at the University of Cambridge. The Unit is currently one of the very few research-oriented forums in the world in which scholars can address contemporary and historical problems of the region. Inner Asia is distinct from the few existing journals dealing with regional studies of Central/Inner Asia and Mongolia, in focusing on fundamental issues, contemporary social transformations, and theoretically-informed attempts to understand them.

Inner Asia is an interdisciplinary, refereed journal, with emphasis on the social sciences, humanities, and cultural studies. It is committed to supporting publication of original research at the highest academic standards. Articles of several kinds are welcomed: those introducing new materials, those engaging with issues of current debate, those with a critical or theoretical focus, shorter pieces of an ethnographic kind, and book reviews. We welcome submissions from scholars of all countries and especially those whose own background lies in Inner Asia. Subjects of particular interest to the journal are: cultural change, the

rise of political and economic nationalism, indigenous critiques of colonial paradigms, the introduction of markets and changing concepts of property, the re-emergence of religions, the negotiation of ethnicity and identity, urbanization and social geography, history of thoughts and current intellectual debates, changes in languages and epistemology, environmental adaptations and conservation, and history and historiography in the socialist and post-socialist periods.

The language of the journal is English. Articles may be submitted in Chinese, French, Mongolian, or Russian, and they will be translated and published in English. If you would like to submit an article, contact one of the editors for further instructions. ■

#### INNER ASIA

Knapwell, Cambridge, G.B.:  
The White Horse Press.  
ISSN 1464-8172

Caroline Humphrey, Kings College,  
University of Cambridge, GB

Uradyn E. Bulag, City University of  
New York, USA

David Sneath, St Cross College,  
University of Oxford, GB

Christopher Kaplonski (Book Review  
Editor), Rutgers University, USA

A. Johnson, White Horse Press,  
10 High Street  
Knapwell, Cambridge CB3 8NR  
Great Britain  
Tel./ Fax: +44-1954-267 527  
1 Strond  
Isle of Harris HS5 3UD  
Great Britain  
Tel./ Fax: +44-1859-520204  
<http://www.ericademon.co.uk>



# South Asia

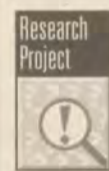


BANGLADESH • BHUTAN  
INDIA • NEPAL  
PAKISTAN • SRI LANKA

## Strength of the Street: Karachi 1972

This article is a part of larger research project on Karachi's labour history. The project seeks to examine the social and historical processes that have led to the substantive of labour and class-based politics and to the emergence of politics increasingly shaped by issues of ethnicity and religious difference in recent Pakistani history. It is based on archival research at the IISH and on preliminary research among labour union activists, law enforcement officers, politicians, journalists, and government administrators. Further research has been carried out in Pakistani newspaper archives.

By KAMRAN ASDAR ALI



Within a year of coming to power in late 1971, the popularly elected prime minister of Pakistan, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, crushed a major strike by industrial workers in Karachi. This intervention by the state marked the beginning of the end of one of the most protracted labour struggles in Pakistan's history. Starting in the late 1960s, this movement was pivotal in shaping the transition from military rule to democratic forms of governance. Bhutto's Peoples Party had itself come to power through the overwhelming support of the working class, students, and radical left groups, the key participants of this movement. It is indeed ironic to note that the PPP was also instrumental in suppressing the worker's struggle.

It is this reaction by a government that came to power on the populist slogan of *roti kapra or makan* (bread, clothing, and shelter) that is thought of as a watershed event in the working class history of Pakistan. As a belated gesture towards rethinking this particular moment in Pakistani history, I will briefly elaborate on the events that preceded the shooting in Karachi in June of 1972.

### Historical background

In 1969 yet another military regime came to power in Pakistan. Promising democratic reform it introduced a new Industrial Labour Ordinance. The Ordinance was liberal democratic in orientation and after years of state repression breathed new energy into the labour movement. Taking advantage of the clauses for registration and constituting collective bargaining agents (CBA), moribund and underground unions started coming to life again. New alliances were made as communist groups and student activists assisted the working class leadership in reorganizing their trade unions.

The labour groups now under a more radicalized leadership began using new tactics of encirclements of industries (*gherao*) to demand bonuses, better working conditions, back pay, and the reinstatement of their dismissed comrades.

As Bhutto assumed power there was a general sense of elation among the workers because they were encouraged by the initial anti-industrialist rhetoric of the People's Party. Workers, sensing a labour friendly government, intensified their demands and during the first few months of 1972 periodic lockouts and encirclements of industries continued in the two major industrial areas of Karachi.

On February 10 1972, President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto addressed the nation to present the salient features of the new labour policy. As Bhutto laid out new benefits for the workers, he also warned them of the dire consequences if they did not refrain from participating in 'lawless behaviour'. He asked the working class to desist from their 'gherao and jela' politics, otherwise Bhutto raged, 'the strength of the street will be met by the strength of the state'.

### The events

A few months later Bhutto's government fulfilled his threat. The first of a series of confrontations finally came on June 7 1972 when workers encircled a textile mill in the Sindh Industrial Trading Estates (SITE), the largest industrial area in Karachi, to demand for their back pay and for their portion of the workers' participatory fund. The management responded by calling the police who initially used tear gas to disperse the workers. The workers, however, regrouped and by late afternoon about 5000 people had encircled the factory. The police then opened fire claiming that they had been fired upon. Official reports accounted for three dead and scores injured including three policemen. The bodies of two workers were retrieved by the police while one was taken away by the retreating workers.

The very next day the funeral procession of this worker commenced from the nearby labour colonies near a thoroughfare called Benaras Chowk. The police contingent that was waiting at the crossroads opened fire as the marchers walked onto the main road killing ten people and injuring a dozen. These two incidents on two consecutive days triggered off a wild-fire strike in all the labour areas of the city and industrial production in SITE and the Landhi-Korangi (the other major industrial area) ground to a halt for twelve days. Over 900 hundred units were closed, workers wore black badges and red and black flags flew from nearly all factories in Karachi.

Eight labour federation leaders along with eight worker's representatives organized a Joint Action Committee to respond to the series of events that had occurred. The action committee held the police officers and the district commissioner responsible for the killings and demanded their immediate suspension. In its negotiation with the Action committee, the state was unwilling to discuss the issue of suspension of the officials. After not meeting the labour leadership for two days, on the 15th of June, the Provincial Labour Minister unilaterally announced that an agreement had been reached. The government's offer contravened to the agreements that the labour leaders had negotiated earlier with the provincial government.

The Joint Action Committee had been taken by surprise. Clearly the government strategy was to undermine their status and to portray them as incompetent in front of the workers. However, it was also becoming evident to the Committee that, because of economic hardships, the strike could not be sustained indefinitely.

Fearing that prolonging the movement might aid the government's plan to manipulate the situation to its own advantage, the Action Committee decided to accept the state's demands. But prior to giving its reply to the government, it sought to bring the issue before a people's court (*awami adalat*).

On June 16, labourers and their leaders met at an open rally near Benaras Chowk. At this meeting the workers vociferously opposed the idea of ending the strike and asked the leaders not to compromise with the government. The following day workers again assembled in a city

park. The leaders tried afresh to convince the workers to resume their duties. The workers remained militant and kept on shouting slogans like 'khood ka badla khood'. The workers maintained their defiant posture until a shop floor leader, Bawar Khan, took the microphone and finally succeeded in persuading them to end the strike.

### Discussion

The scholarly work that is available on the period celebrates labour militancy in the late 1960s as a sign of maturing labour consciousness and as an example of unprecedented labour solidarity. Yet class solidarities and alliances are created at specific moments of the struggle for certain immediate goals, and can co-exist with other solidarities that may encompass differences in language, region and ethnicity. This internal differentiation within the working class existed in Karachi. In immediate post-independence Pakistan, the Mohajir (migrants from India) workers formed the majority of the rank and file and also occupied the leadership positions among the already volatile and diversified labour population. The Mohajir-dominated leadership played an important, some would say heroic, role in its advocacy and struggle for labour rights in Karachi. Yet, the leadership may have also managed to retain, much to its advantage, the cultural and linguistic tensions between the higher skilled local workers (Mohajir) and the less skilled up-country migrants mostly (Pakhtoon) through a rhetoric of class solidarity and proletarian politics. By the late 1960s, however, the ethnic make-up of Karachi's labour population had changed considerably. The light and heavy industrial complexes and foreign firms, where working conditions were better, were mostly populated by skilled Mohajir workers. Whereas the textile mills, where working conditions were far worse, tended to employ up-country migrant labourers. Hence, the relationship between a predominantly Mohajir trade union leadership and the up-country rank and file was marked by a cultural distance.

This relationship may have also resulted in bringing the strike to a close. During the strike, in press statements the leaders continuously portrayed the movement as an exploding volcano. The mob-like character of the labour struggle, in the opinion of the leaders, needed to be checked and directed as it could set a dangerous precedent for anarchic violence. Not unlike the state, the predominantly urban leadership sought to contain the chaotic potential that they saw in the workers. Workers, especially up-country migrants, were conceived of as peasants who needed to be educated into

being part of the trade union culture. An illustrative moment in this pedagogical process in the 1972 movement came when, Bawar Khan, the shop-floor leader who was allied to the leadership, used his rhetorical skills and requested the, until then defiant, workers to think of the leadership as being their generals. He went on to state that, unlike the generals of the Pakistani army who had surrendered in East Pakistan, these generals would not desert their *jawans* (lit: foot soldiers, meaning the labourers themselves) and would never surrender. This emotional appeal touched a mainspring among the workers and they agreed to the terms laid down by the leadership. Bawar Khan's speech informs us about the workers themselves, but it also explains how the leadership viewed the workers. The language of soldiers and generals does not conform to the ideal of voluntary contractual relationship that is commonly linked with bourgeois and modern notions of the trade union movement. Rather it falls back on the imagery of the unquestioned trust and loyalty of a more authoritarian era.

It seems that at this juncture the trade union leadership, irrespective of its revolutionary and radical rhetoric of class warfare, was merely pushing for liberal democratic rights of association, speech, and state welfare. In their understanding of the situation the workers were not yet disciplined and trained enough for the final revolutionary transcendence beyond a capitalist bourgeois order.

After the firing at Benaras Chowk in June 1972, the thoroughfare was named Shaheed Chowk (Martyrs' Square) by the workers who lived in the surrounding communities. In the late 1980s this same chowk was renamed Bacha Khan Chowk, after the famous Pakhtoon nationalist leader, Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan. These changing names are minor suggestions of the social and political processes that Karachi's population has witnessed over the last few years. But they are also an indication of how a growing ethnic polarity among the industrial labour force itself has taken over the earlier constructed arguments on working class solidarity. The story of the labour movement that unfolds after 1972 may be intertwined with the narrative of how Shaheed Chowk was renamed Bacha Khan Chowk. A story that may still be unfolding. ■

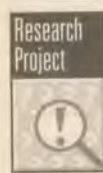
Dr Kamran Asdar Ali was a senior visiting fellow at the IIAS between 15 August and 15 October 1998. He can be reached at knar@mail.rochester.edu



# Thirty Years Later

Between August and December 1998 I stayed in south Gujarat in India to carry out the research project 'Men, Women, and Factories: Thirty Years'. It was for the first time since many years that I could stay for a long period in the area of Valsad, the town -also known as Bulsar- from where I conducted my first research almost three decades ago.

By HEIN STREEFKERK



When I arrived in Valsad in 1998 I intended to answer four series of questions. The first pertained to the meaning of 30 years of industrialization for owners and workers. The second topic was the nature of the relations between owners and workers, and how they perceived and appreciated them. The third series of questions were related to the problem of workers' loyalties, support and beliefs. And, fourth, their open or hidden protests.

While seeking answers to these questions I, almost inescapably, was drawn into the direction of my first research among owners and workers. I started to explore subjects which I addressed in the early seventies. These themes included the social-economic backgrounds of workers, their remuneration and working conditions; the manner in which workers, managers, owners and officials perceived their work, and each other; and, how owners controlled the production process, how workers responded, union leaders operated, and officials interacted. In other words, I began to operationalize the questions I started with in 1998 along themes I explored earlier. Thus, in many ways my present research covers topics which I addressed in 1971 and 1974, be it that I could investigate them now from a dynamic angle. Almost three decades of industrial development enabled me to approach former themes from a comparative perspective, to ask question about now and then, and to produce social history.

The 1998 research deviates from the fieldwork in the seventies in other respects as well. First, my research experience and academic involvement with India and Gujarat for many years, enabled me to work quicker and to almost daily alternate my research efforts between hierarchically differentiated men and women, between workers and owners, between poor and -very- rich people, between villagers and townspeople, between ritually inferiors and superiors. Being in the second half of my academic career and stage of life also meant that, as a fieldworker, I was far more relaxed, dared to improvise more and did not wish to 'keep things under control'. I could behave and interact more in accordance to local perceptions of time and social priorities. I had what some owners called the 'bearing capacity', which, according to them, is indispensable for running a factory.

Secondly, I did not stay in Valsad town, like I did in the early seventies. I lived for three months in a village at about six kilometers' distance east from the town, where I was sur-

rounded by families of worker-peasants and by factories.

Thirdly, though these factories and workers-peasants are the main focus of the research, they do not represent what happened industrially elsewhere in the southern most part of South Gujarat during the last three decades. One of its major features is the development of the government sponsored industrial estate of Vapi near the small town with the same name at about 25 km's distance south of Valsad. Like Valsad, Vapi is located along the Mumbai-Ahmedabad track of the Western Railways. In the early seventies Vapi estate was still under construction, accommodating only a handful of factories. During the last decades, and after 1990 in particular, the number of factories and workers expanded enormously. At present there are an estimated number of 2000 industrial establishments employing more than 100,000 workers. The majority of these small and large factories produce chemicals because Vapi has been officially earmarked as a 'chemical zone'.

Vapi industrial estate and its migrant workers forced me to leave the village and to travel into southern direction. Or, in other words, to produce in the seventies a representative picture of 'industrial transition of a rural society', a bicycle sufficed as means of transport and taluka boundaries could act as limits of my fieldwork universe. In the late nineties a car is required and administrative boundaries have to be crossed. Even in Valsad region cycling was no longer an efficient and safe means to explore the region and to visit respondents. The expansion of the town itself and the increase in all kinds of buildings outside the municipal area made the local industrial situation less easy to survey. Equally important is that the increased volume of motorized traffic, like scooters, motorbikes, private cars, vans, busses, tractors and rickshaws, and the hazardous behavior of its drivers made cycling along the main roads leading out of Valsad a high-risk exercise. A rickshaw was the most convenient means of transport during my three-month stay in the village; it often usurped the largest share of my daily expenses.

Change was a recurrent subject of conversation raised by the people I met. They introduced them as statements and opinions like, 'at present everything is available in the market, you can buy some many varieties of cheese' and, 'the old charm of Valsad has gone, concrete jungle is coming up now'. Or they complained: 'I am not fit for this society, everybody is after money nowadays, even the postman, there are no ethics any longer' told an industrialist. A factory worker mentioned that 'before we used to walk to the factory, have fun and talk, now everybody goes on bicycle, it is all about money'.

The other way to steer our conversation was to ask me questions like 'don't you agree that tremendous changes have taken place since the last time we have met?' People did so to show their pride about what has occurred since the last decades, to hear my opinion, or to illicit my assent.

It was not difficult to respond to their opinions and questions because much really has changed since the last decades. Earlier I expressed my amazement about the changed Valsad in early nineties, about the drastically altered skyline of the town, 'with many new flats, numerous TV antennas, and eight multi-storied buildings' (Streefkerk 1991). In 1998 the number of high-rise apartment buildings had grown so numerous that I stopped counting them.

These visible changes were largely of the 'modernization' type and that was what my friends were proud of and wanted my comments upon. It is true that I could not disappoint them: For instance, several new and well-equipped private hospitals had been set up, the number of restaurants and shops increased and so did the assortment of consumer articles and luxury goods.

For me, as a fieldworker being 'on the road' almost daily, the most striking changes occurred in the sphere transport and communication. The two-lane National Highway Nr 8 became the symbol of developments in the small corridor of Gujarat's west coast during the last two decades. It connects Mumbai with the industrial belt of Gujarat with the cities Surat, Broach, Vadodara and Ahmedabad, and the prosperous northern states of Punjab and Haryana, and New Delhi. It splits the village of Pirufalia in two parts, one located to the west of the highway and the other part, where I lived, situated east of it.

Day and night Tatas, Ashok Leylands -with the driver's helper squatting half outside the cabin with one foot on the footboard- and smaller Mitsubishi and Tempos, often with a too heavy load tilting dangerously to one side, trucks-cum-trailer stowed with brand-new Maruti cars or Bajaj scooters, and tankers with 'highly inflammable' liquids, roar past at an average speed of fifty, sixty km an hour. The drivers, overtaking recklessly while continuously using their multi-toned horns, use to be behind their wheels much longer than 8 hours per day. Many of them are said to be under influence of drinks or drugs. It is a fact that most of them are HIV infected. According to a research quoted in The Times of India (10-4-98) out of 30,000 investigated truckers driving along the National Highway Nr. 8, 27,000 suffer from this infection. Daily, head-on collisions and other accidents caused by collapsing trucks, mechanical failures or stray buffaloes, bring about a sudden silence and traffic jams that last for hours. The longest pause I witnessed, and enjoyed, lasted for almost one week. It happened during monsoon when a combination of heavy rains, heavy traffic and bad paving lead to a big hole in the sur-

face of the narrow bridge over the Auranga river outside Valsad. For days the stream of trucks had to be redirected through the main streets of Valsad and left these roads completely ravaged.

To meet factory owners in their houses in Valsad I had to drive along this highway for several kilometers in a rickshaw. Certainly at night this was frightening. Fortunately, unlike in the seventies all factory owners owned one or two cars. When I explained my predicament they responded with: 'Don't worry I'll will send my car...'

Improved telephone connections offered even more comfort. Satellites revolutionized tele-communication during the last decade. According to a former manager of a Vapi factory, the estate could really expand only after 1989. Before 1989 it was difficult to obtain a telephone connection and when available it was a 'headache'. In 1989 total Vapi turnover was something like Rs 1100 crores, now it is ten times this amount'.

Despite its regular failures my telephone saved much time and frustration. Before I had to go to people to make appointments, now I could use the telephone. The confusion of the first call is not fatal any more because connections are loud and clear. I did not need to shout to make myself intelligible and answers were no

longer puzzling. Furthermore, wasted trips were less because I could check the presence of factory owners before setting off. Even more important, I could phone owners to ask them to clarify parts of our earlier conversations.

The first months after returning home always bring the usual, but nonetheless unsettling discoveries of incomplete information. They are not so troubling any longer.

After arriving in Amsterdam this time, while writing an article, I found that I missed important information about some owners and their factories. Within an hour, after a few telephone calls through which I got what I missed, I could continue writing.

'Long-distance fieldwork' is the biggest gain of better tele-communication. ■

Hein Streefkerk

TRANSFORMATION IN BULSAR, SUTHARS, AND THE RELEVANCE OF CASTE

Economic and Political Weekly, Vol XXVI, No 21, May 25, 1991

Dr Hein Streefkerk is affiliated with the Department of Cultural Anthropology, Universiteit van Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

MARCH 2000  
KERN INSTITUTE, LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS

## The Indian Character of Indian literature

Short News



In recent discussions on Indian and Hindi literature, two distinct lines of thought can be detected both of which reflect on

what characterizes certain literary works as Indian. In 1993, the Indian scholar Jaidev labelled a number of well-known modern Hindi novels 'pastiche', naïve imitations of Western modernist and existentialist literature, which have no roots in Indian culture.

N.S. Jagannathan, on the other hand, has argued that some of the best works written in Indian languages are so deeply rooted in Indian culture and society and in 'Indian sensibility in all its myriad linguistic forms, nourished and sustained immemorably by myths and legends' that they cannot be translated into English (The Book Review, August 1977: p.57). The two views are not necessarily contradictory, if one considers the whole field of modern Indian literature, but they do indicate that discussion on the specific cultural identity of Indian prose lit-

erature of the twentieth century is highly relevant, especially in a period of increasing globalization of culture and literature.

In March 2000, a group of writers and scholars will come together at the Kern Institute, Leiden, to explore the various perspectives on this matter. The contributions will deal with this theme on the basis of a methodic and argued analysis of one or more specific works from the rich traditions of writing in modern Indian languages. ■

Organization:

DR THOMAS DE BRUIJN,  
DR THEO DAMSTEEGT

Information:

DRS HELGA LASSCHUIJT

IIAS, P.O. Box 9515

2300 RA Leiden

The Netherlands

Tel.: +31-71-527 4160

Fax: +31-71-527 4162

E-mail: hllasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl



# 'Tamilttay' as the Symbol of Tamil Ethnic Identity

Why would love for their language (idolized in the figure of Tamilttay, i.e. Mother Tamil) lead several men in southern India to burn themselves alive in its name? 'Passions of the Tongue' analyze the discourses of love, labour and life that transformed Tamil into an object of such passionate attachment. The author, Sumathi Ramaswamy, suggests that these discourses cannot be contained within a singular metanarrative of linguistic nationalism and instead proposes a new analytic: 'language devotion'.

By LUBA ZUBKOVA



Sumathi Ramaswamy's book is based on her doctoral dissertation in Indian history from the University of California, it abounds in first-class historical and literary material diligently procured from the libraries in several countries, thoroughly classified and interpreted. In my view, it is a fascinating reading. Master of her subject as well as of scientific terminology and logic, Sumathi writes in a confident, persuasive manner. A little too passionate at places though permissible, one would think, in a book with such a title, permissible for a scholar investigating into a dramatic story of her mother tongue. The latter particularity is though not so simple as it sounds. It is clarified in the preface that the author, born into a Tamil Brahman household, was exposed – due to life circumstances – to Kannada and Telugu, English and Hindi, Urdu and Sanskrit rather than Tamil. She formally learned her putative 'mother tongue' in Berkeley, far away from her motherland.

The author confesses that as a result of growing up with not just a singular, but 'multiple' language identity her attitudes are close to so-called (neo)nomadic consciousness. This presupposes a certain cultural impartiality and 'healthy skepticism' about steady identities and mother tongues. I believe this to be an advantage, since in my own field of Tamil literary research the works performed by scholars of Tamil origin living beyond India (in Sri Lanka, US, Britain, France etc.) are the most innovative, they combine a 'personal involvement' in the subject felt 'from within' with objectivity of its analytical interpretation.

The goal of the study is plainly stated in the introductory chapter: to raise the language question once again, but to answer it and write it differently for a colonial and post-colonial context ('differently' means disregarding as far as possible 'the universalizing imperative of Europe's knowledge practices and heeding the moments of 'difference'). Its actuality is emphasized by the fact that historians in Indology are usually preoccupied with caste and religion, 'those two gatekeeping concerns of South Asian studies on identity politics', and rarely interrogate a complex of issues relating to the language despite its obvious importance for the political cultures of the emergent nation-state.

To pursue this ambitious burden on the material of Tamil-speaking south India a new analytic is used – devotion to the Tamil language (tamilpparru), the term routinely used by Tamil people themselves when they talk emotionally about their beloved language. The lexical meanings of 'parru' also include adherence, attachment, affection, support and love. This then is a book about poetics and politics of 'Tamil devotion': it analyzes how the language has been transformed into an object of devotion in the course of the social mobilization and political empowerment of its speakers, it explores the consequences of this process for the ontology of Tamil, as well as for the formulation of cultural policies around it, and it shows how language devotion produces the modern Tamil subject, the 'Tamilian', 'an entity whose subjectivity merges into the imagined self of Tamil' and even 'has no existence independent of it' (pp. 6-7).

The 'Tamilians' in this sense are supposedly those who cultivate and demonstrate the language devotion, notwithstanding eventual worldly losses. Such people, with their dramatic stories, are vastly represented on the pages of the book under the definition 'Tamil's devotees'. Sumathi Ramaswamy is aware of a heavy share of 'imagination' factor in this construct, which is typical for the phenomena related to the ideologies of nationalism. She also certifies considerable differences among Tamil's devotees over the meaning of their language and over the best way to practice their devotion. And still she proposes that they be considered as one singular 'community' on the pretext that they all agree to recognize 'the natural and inevitable attachment between Tamil and its speakers'.

To my feeling, 'devotional community' in respect to the Tamil language is rather far-fetched an abstraction, unlike historically and socially determined religious communities, or such concrete-cum 'imagined' entities as nation, caste, class etc. The compound 'Tamil's devotees' seems sufficient, since we are not told exactly when and how these formed a community of confederates, nor how many self-identifying 'members' such a community may number – before and now. There are, of course, clues in the book as to historical dynamism of Tamil devotion (in the given sense, as networks of praise, passion and practice), and we get to know that it is a comparatively recent phenom-

non whose foundation were laid in the nineteenth century with the consolidation of colonial rule and advent of print culture. But when, further in the text, a Tamil poet of the seventeenth century is mentioned, obviously having the same diction regarding the 'preeminent Tamil' (P. 209) as Tamil's devotees of the later times, a question arises about intensity and contents of Tamilians' love for their language in the previous historical periods.

## Multiple imaginings

Contrary to a general assumption of scholars studying nationalism, Sumathi Ramaswamy does not think that languages have singular and stable identities. Instead, as languages are subjected to the passions of all those interested in empowering them, they attract multiple, even contrary, imaginings. Four main regimes of imagination (active in Tamilnadu from the 1890s to the 1960s) are introduced in full detail, i.e. 'religious', 'classicist', 'Indianist' and 'Dravidianist', – where Tamil is variously conceived: (1) as a divine tongue, favoured by the gods themselves; (2) as a classical language, the harbinger of 'civilization'; (3) as a mother tongue that enables partici-

pation in the Indian nation; and (4) as a mother/tongue that is the essence of a nation of Tamil speakers and of themselves.

What follows is that, to many Tamil speakers, Tamil is no longer merely a language, an instrument for communication. Its devotees are able to inject so much passion into practicing tamilpparru because Tamil, embodied in the figure of Tamilttay, is a near and dear person – their personal goddess, or devoted mother, or else beloved lover ('virgin maiden') – who commands their veneration, and deserves their love. It also demands their selfless service.

Due to her devotees' persistent labouring in 1950s- 1960s, Tamil became the language of Hindu worship in temples. She was then 'purified', i.e. 'cleansed' from Sanskrit borrowings and even began to press her rival, the English language, in the public sphere of Madras state which in January 1969 was officially renamed Tamilnadu. The work for Tamil also implicated fierce resistance to the 'imperialism' of Delhi – Tamil's devotees joined ranks with Dravidian movement proponents. It is meticulously shown in the book how the issue of language accumulated all anti-North, anti-Aryan and anti-Brahman sentiments of Dravidianism. (alias Tamil nationalism), helping to visualize a 'perfect' image of the sworn enemy.

The growing militant aspect of Tamil devotion caused paradoxical recasting of the Tamil identity in terms of resistance to Hindi: 'true' Tamilians were those who might or

might not speak good Tamil or even care for it; but they were certainly those who gave up their bodies, lives, and souls in the battle against Hindi (p. 178). The chapter titled 'To Die For. Living for Language' presents life stories, of such true devotees of Tamil, among which are (woman) Nilambikai, (missionary) George U. Pope, (brahman) Suryanarayana Sastri, (poet) Bharatidasan, (scholar) Swaminathan Aiyar, (publicist) Maraimalai Adigal, (patron) Pandichurai Thevar, (warrior) Karunanidhi, and some 'Tamil martyrs' who, in protest against imposing of Hindi, immolated themselves or died in prison.

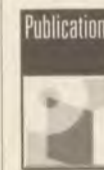
Obviously, the author has reached the goals of her research, and the chosen analytic of language devotion allowed her to prove that sentiments accumulating about Tamil among its faithful speakers 'resonate with attitudes expressed towards deities, sovereigns, and parents' ■

Sumathi Ramaswamy  
**PASSIONS OF THE TONGUE**  
LANGUAGE DEVOTION IN  
TAMIL INDIA, 1891-1970  
University of California Press,  
1997, 303 pp

Luba Zubkova is living in the Netherlands.  
She can be reached at: clepair@wxs.nl.

# Gonda Translated to Japanese

By AD VAN SCHAİK



Japanese translations of the books of Professor J. Gonda by Professor K. Yoroï reach sales figures in Japan which a best-selling novelist would envy. Thirty thousand copies each of the Japanese translations of Gonda's 'Inleiding tot het Indische denken' (Introduction to Indian Thought) published in 1948 and of his 'Kurze Elementar Grammatik der Sanskrit Sprache' (Concise Elementary Grammar of the Sanskrit Language), third revised edition have been sold. Prof. Yoroï has also revised Prof. Gonda's 'A Sanskrit Reader, containing seventeen epic and puranic texts, with a glossary', which was originally published in 1935. Newly completed and not yet published is Gonda's 'Sanskrit Reader', revised and annotated by Kiyoshi Yoroï.

Prof. Yoroï says that: 'With my translations of Gonda's books I want to lay solid foundations for Japanese beginners in the studies of Sanskrit and Indology. My translations bring Prof. Gonda's books within the reach of every Japanese student'. Once Japanese who wanted to study Sanskrit had to fall back on the anti-



Prof. K. Yoroï

quoted translation of 'Elementarbuch der Sanskrit Sprache' (Elementary Book of the Sanskrit Language) by Adolf Friedrich Stenzler, but Yoroï claims: 'That book by itself was not enough'.

Yoroï came to the Netherlands in 1962 to study Sanskrit and Indian religions under the guidance of Prof. Gonda. Having spent four and a half years in Utrecht, Yoroï was awarded his doctorate supervised by this world renowned professor for a thesis entitled 'Ganesagita. A Study, Translation with Notes and etc. (DRT, XII) 1968.

For many years Gonda, who died in 1992, determined the profile of Indology (the study of Indian culture). At one time eight of the chairs of Oriental Studies at Utrecht, Leiden, Amsterdam, and Groningen were occupied by his students. About a quarter of the sixty of those who did their doctorates under him were appointed to chairs in the Netherlands and abroad. Gonda was famous throughout the world.

Prof. Yoroï himself is a little puzzled as to why especially his Japanese translations sell so well. The majority of the purchasers are Buddhists who are studying for the monkhood. It is essential that they know Sanskrit says the translator. Quite apart from this, among young Japanese there is a waxing enthusiasm for India and, concomitantly, popular Indian culture. Yoroï says: 'Take, for example, Hindi films. At the moment they are drawing full houses in Japan'. ■

Ad van Schaik is a freelance journalist, who specializes in Asian topics. He can be reached at ad.van.schaik@WXS.nl.

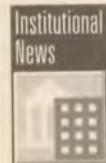


# Photographic prints at the Kern Institute Leiden

## Ritual Life of the Heliodorus pillar

At the very beginning of this photographic column, dealing with one or two historical prints from our South and South-east Asian photo collection, it occurred to me to take the word column literally by choosing the so-called Heliodorus pillar of Besnagar (Madhya Pradesh, India). It is a famous freestanding Hindu votive pillar dating from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC. Even in the 19<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the pillar site was considered a sacred place with a special ritual function.

By GERDA THEUNS-DE BOER



The Heliodorus pillar is located close to the northern bank of the Bes River. Thanks to its location on the southern trade-route between the Ganges Valley and the Deccan, Besnagar, the ancient Vidisa, was a flourishing mercantile city in early times. Its perfect natural setting at the confluence of the Bes and the Betwa Rivers, gave Besnagar an auspicious dimension.

The pillar itself has a total height of about 6.5 m above the actual ground-level. The pinkish-brown pil-

lar consists of three parts: a faceted shaft (hewn into octagons, sixteenths, and thirty-seconds, finally finishing round), a bell-capital and a damaged abacus, showing a geese- and honeysuckle ornament. There is no figure or symbol left on top. The pillar is surrounded by a square platform, which is not original. On the octagonal part of the shaft are two quite revealing inscriptions. The first inscription identifies the pillar as a so-called Garudadhvaja (Garuda standard), set up in honour of Vasudeva of whom the mythical bird, Garuda, is the emblem. The column was ordered by Heliodorus, a Greek or Greek-named envoy of the Indo-

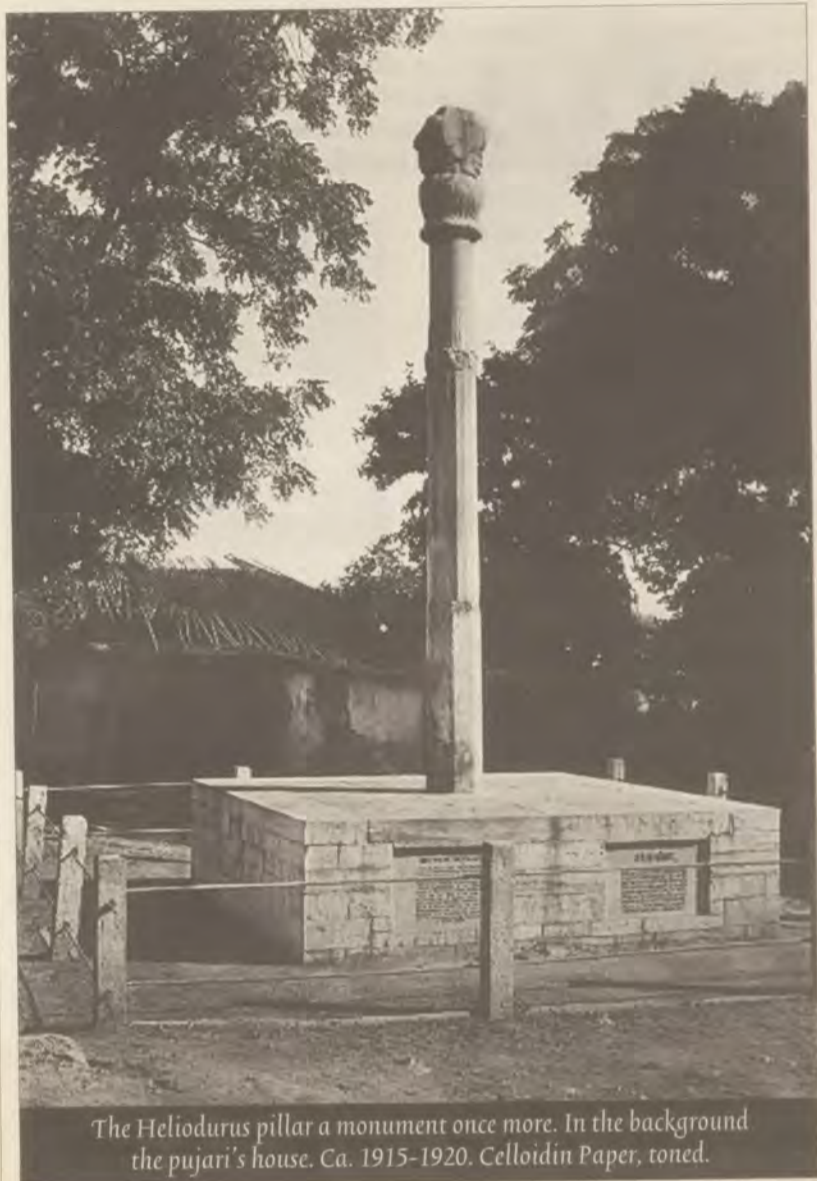
Bactrian king, Antialkidas. He came to the court of King Kasiputra Bhagabhadra, the ruler of the Besnagar area, from Taxila in modern Pakistan. Heliodorus calls himself a devotee of Vasudeva, one of the names of Visnu. The second inscription has a deeper religio-philosophical content: 'Three steps towards immortality, when accomplished, lead into heaven: selfcontrol, resigning worldly life, and prudence'. The Heliodorus pillar was certainly not the only votive pillar at the site. There is substantial archaeological evidence for both the former existence of more votive pillars – probably placed in line- and for a temple.

Now, the damaged Heliodorus pillar is the only architectural structure that remains. With the loss of its original context, it has had to survive as a limb, amputated from its body. In the 19<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the 'limb' succeeded surprisingly well in meeting this challenge. To understand this cryptic remark we have to go through the old archaeological reports.

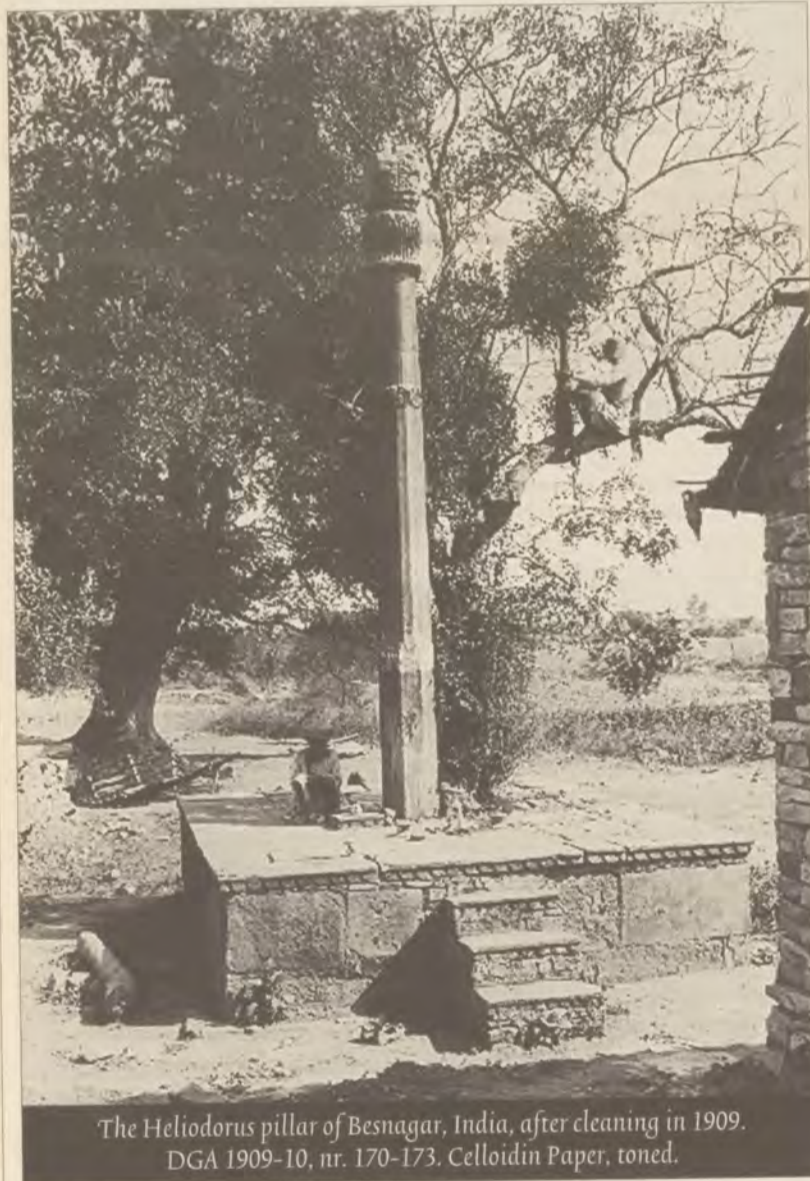
### History of the archaeological survey

It was the first director general of archaeology, Alexander Cunningham who, in January 1877, first took scientific note of the Heliodorus pillar. Its discovery, and that of some of its fallen capital close by, immediately excited him: 'perhaps the most curious and novel discoveries that I have ever made'. It sounded promising! At this time the site could certainly not be called deserted. Quite the contrary: the pillar was considered holy and formed the ritual centre of a 'young Bairagi'. According to Cunningham's informants, the place was frequently visited by pilgrims and in the months Jyeshth and Ashadh there were ram sacrifices before it. The pillar itself and the area around it was known as Khamba Baba, Babaji's stambha or pillar. Its appearance was somewhat peculiar: the whole shaft of the pillar was entirely smeared with a thick layer of red lead paste, making it impossible to investigate the pillar properly. Cunningham tried to find an inscription, but the locals assured him there was not any and 'I was very unwillingly obliged to be content with the examination of the red surface'.

Thirty years later, in January 1909, Mr H. Lake, superintending engineer of the Gwalior State, discerned lettering on the lower part of the shaft and removed some of the thick layers of paint ... an important lithic record was revealed to the world! Not shown here, but in the Kern Collection, is a print of the pillar almost entirely covered by the layers of paint. There are two men sitting on the platform: to the left an impressive man, possibly the new Baba, and to the right an older man. In the summer of 1909 all the paint was removed. It was Mr Lake too who started an exploration of the site in January 1910, but he was not



The Heliodorus pillar a monument once more. In the background the pujari's house. Ca. 1915-1920. Celloidin Paper, toned.



The Heliodorus pillar of Besnagar, India, after cleaning in 1909. DGA 1909-10, nr. 170-173. Celloidin Paper, toned.

### BOOKS RECEIVED

Publication



Boquérat, Gilles (comp.)

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN SOUTH ASIA**  
DIRECTORY OF INSTITUTIONS  
New Delhi: Manohar, 1999, 134 pp. ISBN 81-7304-288-8

Chopra, H.S., R. Frank and J. Schröder (eds)

**NATIONAL IDENTITY AND REGIONAL COOPERATION**  
EXPERIENCES OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND  
SOUTH ASIAN PERCEPTIONS  
New Delhi: Manohar, 1999, 380 pp. ISBN 81-7304-272-1

very successful in his undertaking.

In the cool seasons of 1914 and 1915, D. Bhandarkar investigated Besnagar and the Khamba Baba site more systematically. In his first report he gives a historical account of the religious use of the pillar since the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The story goes back to an 'original Baba', a Saiva ascetic called Hirapuri, with whom the worship of the pillar (re)commenced. Naturally all this is rooted in legend. 'Once upon a time before this worship began, a personage of high distinction came to the place where Hirapuri lived with an army. The latter requested the former to live with him for all time, and the visitor was so charmed by the hospitality of the Baba that he acceded to his wish and transformed himself into the Khamba Baba'. Chandanpuri, a pupil of Hirapuri carried on the tradition. He was not an ascetic but is called a pujari, a man in charge for the rituals and offerings. The third Babaji, named Pratap-puri Gosai, lived at the site during Bhandarkar's excavations. The pujari demonstrated his ownership of the pillar and the area around by virtue of an *inam* from the Gwalior Durbar. The lower castes especially came to worship their lithic god, hoping for a boon and a healthy son. The least offering which could be made was the besmearing of the pillar with a mix of red lead and oil. In my opinion the ram offering was reserved more for special rituals. The red paste was probably a substitute for the rams' blood. Liquor was another favourite offering to the deity. Bhandarkar also found he had to clean the

column again. It took him 10 days: the layers had been growing fast! Photo 1 shows the pillar in its cleaned state. To the right we see the corner of the pujari's house. Once we have set foot on the platform, leaving our shoes behind, we see a terracotta figure and some ritual vases. To the left an older man and in the tree which grows out of the platform (an extra cosmic axis symbol) a second male figure. Is he just looking for shade? Possibly, the red paste was smeared on the upper part of the shaft by climbing the tree. In order to investigate the underground part of the pillar and its foundation the tree was cut and the platform removed. After the investigations the pillar was given a new platform see Photo 2. A real monument was born! All pillar mysteries had been solved, but what about a Vasudeva temple? As the pujari's house was almost certainly built on the exact site of the temple, it took some time to decide on its demolition. It was M.D. Khare who was permitted to clear this area in the period 1963-65, enabling him to uncover the elliptical foundations of an old temple of the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC. Are any rituals still performed at the site? I would love to know. ■

For information on the Photographic Project Kern Institute Leiden, see IAS Newsletter 19.

**DRS GERDA THEUNS-DE BOER**

Photographic Project manager at the  
Kern Institute  
Leiden University  
E-mail: theuns@rullet.leidenuniv.nl



# South Asian Archaeology 1999

From 5 to 9 July 1999, the International Institute for Asian Studies hosted South Asian Archaeology 1999 (SAA'99), the fifteenth in a series of biennial meetings which started in Cambridge back in 1967 as a rather informal get-together of European archaeologists working on South Asia. Gradually this conference has become one of the most important platforms outside South Asia for the exchange of new ideas and latest results of excavation and research by archaeologists and art historians working on South Asia and the Silk Road region.

By KAREL R. VAN KOOIJ  
& ELLEN RAVEN



The meeting was held in the heart of the old city of Leiden, where nearly 200 participants from Europe, the United States, South Asian countries, Japan, and Australia assembled at the premises of the Faculty of Arts. Convenor was Prof. Karel van Kooij who holds the special chair of South Asian art history at the Kern Institute of Leiden University. The other two members of the Organizing Committee were Dr Ellen M. Raven of the Kern Institute, and Prof. Hans T. Bakker of the University of Groningen, while the conference secretariat was co-ordinated by Drs Helga Lasschuijt of the IIAS.

As usual, the paper-reading sessions spanned five days. Unlike in Rome in 1997, when the participants had to choose between 3 parallel sessions, the Leiden organizers preferred two sessions only; one on pre-history and historical archaeology; the second on historical archaeology, numismatics, epigraphy, and art history. The overwhelming response to the call for papers made it necessary, for the first time in the history of SAA, to carry out a selection process. Over 90 papers (of circa 20 minutes, with ample opportunity for discussion) were selected and scheduled. Abstracts were bundled in a handy abstract book (sent out in advance), which was accompanied at the conference by a neatly designed programme book.

The paper-reading sessions were alternated with sunny lunches in the nearby Botanical Gardens of the University (one of the oldest of its kind in Europe), receptions (by the Museum of Ethnology, the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, the Mayor of Leiden, the University Board, and the IIAS) and a dinner in one of the most beautiful and oldest churches of Leiden. The participants were also treated to a visit to the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam to see the recently reinstalled Asian arts wing.

After the welcoming speeches, Prof. Maurizio Taddei of the Istituto Universitario Orientale in Naples delivered the keynote address on a central issue of art historical discourse among South Asianists: 'Some reflections on the formation of the Buddha image'.

French archaeologists reported on their ongoing research in the Indo-Iranian borderlands and Baluchistan. The excavations at Mehrgarh for instance have now reached early-Neolithic levels of between 7000 and 6000 BC. For the first time architectural remains related to the very



Prof. Maurizio Taddei

beginning of the Neolithic occupation here have been exposed and levels of graves revealed burials remarkable by the wealth and diversity of their grave goods.

## Shards

A second focal point at the conference was the Indus Valley civilization (circa 2600-1750 BC). The papers ranged from news on pre-Harappa levels (the so-called Ravi-phase) to water-controlling devices at the Harappan site of Dholavira in Gujarat, Harappan household architecture, ceramics from Chanhudaro, and human skeletal remains from Harappa. Dr Richard Meadow explained how, from the beginning of the Ravi phase (circa 3300 BC), raw materials and finished artefacts from throughout the Greater Indus Valley made their way to Harappa.



(From left to right) Helga Lasschuijt, co-ordinator, Ir J. van Bergem, Vice-President University Board, Prof. Hans Bakker, organizer, Dr Bridget Allchin, Secretary ESFO, Prof. Karel van Kooij, President ESFO, Dr Ellen Raven, co-ordinator.

Among the spectacular finds from the early levels are shards engraved with signs. Some of these resemble signs used subsequently on artefacts from the Kot Dijian phase, and next on the famous Indus seals with its

still undeciphered Indus script. The excavators believe that the relatively few signs recovered so far (only 17 shards with inscribed signs have been dug up so far) are part of a script from which the Harappan script eventually evolved.

Focusing on an equally early period were the papers clustered in the panel on 'Maritime trade of the Arabian Sea in the 3rd millennium BC', organized by Prof. Serge Cleuziou and Prof. Maurizio Tosi. A second panel, organized by Prof. Steve Sidebotham, offered the latest news and views on South Asian archaeological finds from Berenike, a Hellenistic-Roman port on the Red Sea coast of Egypt. Since 1994 joint excavations by the University of Delaware and Leiden University have unearthed a rich array of artefacts (ceramics, beads, textiles, wood remains) and floral evidence which attests to contact with India and Sri Lanka throughout the Roman period.

Several of the remaining prehistoric papers focused on the Chalcolithic site of Balathal in Rajasthan, where stone and mud-brick fortifications have been found which are contemporary with the Indus cities more to the north. Other papers, focusing on Pakistan, led the participants from Chalcolithic pit dwellings in the Swat valley of Pakistan, along the Bala Hisar or 'High Fort' of Charsadda, the early historic mound of Akra near Bannu (NWFP), through the Darel valley on the Indus, to Hund, the last capital of Gandhara, and to the remarkable Salt Range temples which are stylistically related to the temples of Kashmir.

In a captivating story continuing from previous SAA conferences, the participants were treated to the latest news on excavations at the site of Gotihawa, in Nepal, by Italian archaeologists led by Prof. Giovanni Verardi. Gotihawa is one of the sites where the famous Indian emperor Ashoka Maurya (3rd century BC) erected one of the pillars engraved

with his edicts. The Italian team is investigating whether the nearby stupa-mound goes back to his time as well. Likewise Dr Hans-Joachim Weisshaar reported on the joint Sri Lankan-German excavations within

the citadel at Tissamaharama, the capital of the ancient Sri Lankan kingdom of Ruhunu. Recently a brick-built building of the 3rd-5th century AD was uncovered, leading to the recovery of many coins and beads.

## Old-time favourite

The numismatic papers brought together in Section 2 highlighted several of the major coin types at one time circulating in the northern part of the Subcontinent: silver punchmarked coins from Mahasthangarh (Bangladesh), Indo-Greek and Indo-Scythian coins from hoards found in the northwest, Kushana gold coins and their astonishing pantheon of deities, coins found in Gandharan stupa deposits; and the rather enigmatic gold coins that were issued in the northeast after the Gupta period, and for which Joe Cribb of the British Museum is at present developing a clas-



A corridor chat.

sification and chronology. South Asian epigraphy was represented by papers on inscriptions at Barabar from the time of the Mauryas, those from a Buddhist monastery at Godavaya (Sri Lanka, 2nd century AD), and texts on copperplates from the time of the Hun King, Toramana (6th century AD).

The Buddhist art of Gandhara, more particularly its iconography, is an old-time favourite of the SAA. The Leiden meeting included papers on Gandharan Jatakas and on Bodhisattva imagery. A wide range of papers focused on forms of visual arts from other regions and periods: sculptures in terra-cotta, sandstone, and metal; mural paintings in cave temples and in painting galleries of Rajput palaces; manuscript miniatures on palm-leaf and paper. Others dealt with purely iconographic themes. Focusing on many corners of the Subcontinent and on various periods, these papers reflected the kaleidoscopic panorama offered by South Asia for scholarly study and aesthetic enjoyment. Art history and its objects of study were visibly joined in the paper on early Indian chess pieces from Kanauj by Dr Hab. Renate Syed, when Mr Manfred Eder, chairman of the Förderkreis Schach-Geschichtsforschung in Germany showed several of such rare figures to the participants. The number of

papers on architecture was fairly limited, with a few contributions on temple conservation, Jain temple architecture, excavations at a Buddhist monastery at Kashidhoo on the Maldives, and sultanate mosque architecture.

Traditionally favoured for the SAA are the art and archaeology of the Himalayan region and the Silk Road, and this year's meeting was no exception. Papers discussed the connection between the art of Kashmir and Tibet, terra-cottas from Gilgit, Nepalese temple architecture, western Himalayan and Tibetan painting on monastery walls and thangkas, and Tibetan inscriptions from Tabo (Himachal Pradesh). Central Asia was represented via textiles from Tumshuq, underground burials in Gonur (Turkmenistan), and Indian motifs in Sogdian art.

South India and Sri Lankan archaeology, art and architecture remained relatively underexposed in

the conference, not least because of a few late cancellations of papers. The programme did, however, include papers on early ceramics, temple sculptures from Kanchi, Simhachalam, and Madurai, architecture (sacral or secular) from Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Sri Lanka, the ancient cities of Vijayanagara and Kumbakonam, and ideology in archaeology and heritage management in South Asia.

Considering the large response and the many positive reactions of the participants afterwards, the Leiden conference may be considered a great success. The publication of the papers in its proceedings will be a great asset to the field of South Asian art and archaeology. ■

Sponsors to the conference were, besides the IIAS: the Gonda Foundation, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Research School of Asian, African, and Amerindian Studies, the Leiden University Fund, and the Prince Claus Fund.

Prof. Karel R. van Kooij and Dr Ellen M. Raven can be reached at: [krvanooij@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:krvanooij@rullet.leidenuniv.nl) and [abiaraven@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:abiaraven@rullet.leidenuniv.nl).



# Nirad C. Chaudhuri: The End of an Era

Nirad C. Chaudhuri's death on August 1 1999 did not come as a total surprise, and yet it shook the intellectual world.

By VICTOR A. VAN BIJLERT



**B**orn on 23 November, 1897, in Kishorganj, Mymensingh district, East Bengal (now Bangladesh), Nirad was the second of eight children of Upendra Narayan Chaudhuri and Sushila Sundari Chaudhurani. The first half of his long life was spent in what was then British India. For most of this period he lived and worked in Calcutta. After studying history he took up a job as clerk in Military Accounts. In the twenties he became active as editor of magazines like *The Modern Review* and the Bengali journal, *Shonibarar Cithi*. He married Amiya Dhar in 1932. Between 1934 and 1939 the couple had three sons (one of whom is the famous historian K.N. Chaudhuri).

From an early age Nirad C. had been an eyewitness to the rise of Indian anti-colonial nationalism in British India and the changes it brought about. He had seen all the leading figures of Indian nationalism ranging from Aurobindo Ghose in 1908, to Rabindranath Tagore in the twenties and Mahatma Gandhi and Nehru in the thirties and the forties, in action. In 1937 he was secretary to Sarat Chandra Bose, brother of the militant nationalist leader Subhas Chandra Bose. During the Second World War Nirad C. was commenta-

tor for All India Radio in New Delhi. The approaching independence of British India filled him with grave misgivings.

In May 1947 he began writing his *The Autobiography of an Unknown Indian* which made him widely known after it was published in 1951. The book is representative of much of his later work: enormous erudition and the unashamed display of it; sharp wit; keen observation; relentless criticism of his fellow-Indians; deep-rooted concern about cultural decadence (he was influenced by Oswald Spengler!); an elitist view of life; a genuinely Victorian sense of morality and propriety; and hence generous and well-argued praise for what he considered to be noble aspects of British rule in India (but he was caustic about British lapses). His alleged admiration of the British Raj especially never failed to elicit strong condemnatory reactions in India. In *The Autobiography* Nirad Chaudhuri not only told the story of his life and intellectual development but also displayed with marked insistence his indebtedness to the great canonical figures of the Bengal Renaissance: Rammohun Roy, Michael Madhusudan Datta, Bankimchandra Chatterjee, Swami Vivekananda and to European literary heroes like Shakespeare, Milton, Dante, Homer, and Virgil. For Nirad Chaudhuri, Rammohun, Bankim and Vivekananda represented the best minds of modern liberal

Hinduism. These figures could and did speak to Europeans as their equals. Much to Chaudhuri's regret, this heritage of Hindu liberalism – as indeed the best of European cultural heritage – was ignored or despised in later times by an intellectually lazy Indian nationalism. In this connection Chaudhuri saw Mahatma Gandhi as a problematic figure whose saintly politics were often misunderstood and abused by his numerous declared followers. In Nirad Chaudhuri's view Indian nationalism had taken wrong turns virtually since the beginning of the twentieth century. This he felt to be a perpetual source of deep anguish. His diatribes against his fellow Indians can be explained by this anguish. In this matter it seems Nirad Chaudhuri followed in the footsteps of Swami Vivekananda and Bankim, who also castigated their contemporary Indians in order to rouse them to patriotism and sacrifice for the nation.

As a sequel to his autobiography Nirad Chaudhuri wrote the voluminous *Thy Hand, Great Anarch* published in 1987. In the meantime he had settled in Britain. Among his numerous English works are biographies of Max Müller and Clive, volumes of essays on Indian life, history, culture, and politics, and a long essay on Hinduism. His latest book, called *Three Horsemen of the New Apocalypse*, appeared only in 1997. All these books are written in a classical English style for which he was justly famous. In 1968 Nirad Chaudhuri began once more to write in Bengali. He pub-

lished six books in his mother-tongue. The most well-known among them are *Atmaghati Bangali* (The Suicidal Bengali) and *Atmaghati Rabindranath* (The Suicidal Rabindranath). Chaudhuri's Bengali essays frequently evoked a spate of indignant reactions in the Bengali press. Nirad Chaudhuri was the only Bengali author who could write classical Bengali as it was written in the nineteenth century, the so-called *sadhu bhasha*. Nirad Chaudhuri lived for a full century and was among the few Indian intellectuals of note to have witnessed the apogee and the fall of the British Empire and half a century of independent India and commented on all these events. With the death of Nirad Chaudhuri an era has come to an end.

## Some recent quotes from Nirad Chaudhuri:

- 'A man who cannot endure dirt, dust, stench, noise, ugliness, disorder, heat, and cold has no right to live in India.'
- 'The Beeb does not have the faintest idea of Victorian norms and etiquette. They play to the popular culture. Britain is a corrupt civilization now.'
- 'Licentiousness. In this sphere decadence is showing less degradation in India than in England and is not becoming a force for destroying the family. This is due to the fact that traditional Hindu society provided a wide scope for licentiousness within family relationships as a safety valve. The only restriction imposed on licentiousness was that it should be secret, always assumed but never paraded. This makes the licentiousness which is now being seen in India less significant than that which is rampant in England.'

## Tagore's Gitanjali

In recent years there has been a growing interest in the works of Rabindranath Tagore. This is not surprising in view of the fact that the oeuvre of Tagore encompasses almost all facets of literature. Not only that, as a philosopher and thinker he also covered a diverse range of subjects. The volume in question is, however, a new translation of the very book that brought him into the limelight on the world stage, 'Gitanjali'. This book is a collection of 157 poems.

By BHASWATI BHATTACHARYA



**T**his is the first attempt to translate the entire Bengali book into Dutch since the Bengali *Gitanjali* was published in 1910. Tagore's English *Gitanjali* contained about one-third of the poems of the original *Gitanjali*, the rest being drawn from his earlier works. Moreover, he only imperfectly paraphrased his Bengali poems in the English version. Much of the force in the original was lost in the English.

Since then the art of translation has come a long way. Tagore's works in Bengali have seen more faithful and accurate translations specially into Dutch, English, and German. But most of these works are in the

form of anthology. Dr Gysen certainly deserves credit for having taken on the challenge of a whole volume.

The Dutch renderings in this volume read well and a person not familiar with the Bengali original would not have any problem with them. But the images Tagore uses are often metaphors of a deeper philosophical experience / consciousness. In Poem no.12 'amala dhabala palé' the fifth and sixth lines, 'my mind (like the boat) wants to sail away, wants to leave behind all longings and belongings on this shore.' This craving for a journey towards the infinite, unknown, leaving the mundane world behind is lost in the present Dutch translation which says: 'My mind roams about on the shore where everything is possible.' The same metaphors of 'boat', 'sailing

forth' ('pichan') recur in Poem no.69 'oi re tori dilo khule'. Lines 3-6 read 'If you have to sail forth/ Let the past remain behind/ You wanted to take it on your back/ You alone were left on the shore.' The poet of *Gitanjali* is constantly engaged in a kind of conversation with his other inner self (?God/beloved- it is never explicit in Tagore's texts). The self-realization of the poet could be universal and that is where his strength lies. What does the Dutch translation say? 'If You choose for life/ Forget that You are getting old/ Yet if that becomes Your concern/ You will be left here alone'. In his poems, Tagore has always used the word 'tumi' (second person informal) for the other self to indicate an intimate relationship. The choice of an emphasized formal 'you' (Dutch 'U') in Gysen's translations blurs this intimacy. Moreover, in many cases Gysen merely sums up the text and sometimes in such a way that it is reduced to platitude, e.g. nos. 4 and 44. Poem no.2, 'ami bohu basonay...' should read 'I have many desires which I desperately want to be fulfilled, you have saved me by having deprived me...' The translation reads like this 'I ask You to fulfil some of my desires by preference. But You, who

protect me, decide differently.' The next two lines in the translation are not there in the original. Poem no. 8 'Aji dhaner kshete' (today there is a play of hide-and-seek between sunlight and shadow in the paddy-field) has become 'Today, during the harvest-festival (oogst feest) they play hide-and-seek in the paddy field. Who takes care about that?' and 'I can mention many more.'

It would be difficult to claim that these poems are works of translation. Many essential things are left out, while many new things are added. They have the essence of the poems of *Gitanjali*, and at the most, like Tagore's English works, they are also re-creations, in this case by Dr Gysen. ■



Rabindranath Tagore  
(Dr Jan Gysen, transl.)

**GITANJALI:**  
**NAAR EEN NIEUWE DAGERAAD**  
Tielt: Lannoo Publ., 1999, 172 pp.  
ISBN 902093614X, pb, Dutch, Dfl.34.50

Dr Bhaswati Bhattacharya  
can be reached at e-mail:  
bhaswati@rullet.leidenuniv.nl



Contributions to this Bengal Studies page as well as letters with suggestions are very much welcome. Please send to:

V.A. VAN BIJLERT

Burg. Pacijnlaan 1062

2585 CE Den Haag

The Netherlands

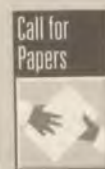
Fax: +31-71-527 2615

E-mail:

Bijlert@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

2000  
EDINBURGH, UK

## Panel 'Bengal Studies: Literature, Politics, and Society'



As at Copenhagen and Prague, the Bengal Studies panel welcomes papers on all aspects of West Bengal and Bangladesh at the 16th European Conference on Modern South Asia. Papers exploring connections between Literature, Politics, and Society will be particularly appropriate this year, and will give cohesion to the panel; but contributors with other interests (in, say, religion or anthropology or the arts) need not be deterred. We expect a knowledge of the Bengali language to be the panel's main common denominator. ■

For more information and proposals for papers contact the panel convenors:

**DR WILLIAM RADICE**  
SOAS, Dept. of South Asia  
Thornhaugh Street / Russell Square  
London WC1H 0XG  
E-mail: wr@soas.ac.uk

**DR VICTOR VAN BIJLERT**  
E-mail: bijlert@letmail.leidenuniv.nl  
vavanbijlert@hotmail.com



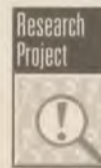
# Insular SW Asia



## Seychellois of Asian Origin

The Seychelles has one of the most racially mixed societies in the world. Besides African and European settlers, the Republic has also attracted immigrants from Asia, notably India and China.

By JEAN-CLAUDE PASCAL MAHOUNE



The Republic of the Seychelles consists of some 115 islands scattered in the South-West Indian Ocean. It has a total land area of 455 sq. km and an Economic Exclusive Zone over 1.3 million sq. km. The Seychelles, with a maximum average temperature of 30° C and an average annual rainfall of 2300 mm, has the good fortune to lie outside the cyclone belt. The economy of the Seychelles is based mainly on tourism and fishing. The Seychelles re-introduced multi-party democracy in 1993 with the promulgation of a new constitution under a Third Republic.

The country has been privatizing its economy, which was more centrally planned since independence quite fast and a number of parastatal companies had been created. Seychelles has one of the highest per capita incomes in Africa. The Seychelles is often described as a welfare state with free education, free health services, and social security protection from cradle to grave. It has a low infant mortality, and its small 80,000+ population has a life expectancy of over 70 years.

What fascinates most visitors landing in the Seychelles, is the perfect racial harmony they find. The Seychelles in fact has one of the most racially mixed societies in the world – a true melting pot.

The Seychelles was first settled by the French and their African and South Indian Slaves in 1770. Records state that there were then 15 whites, and 13 Africans and Asians. From the beginning the Seychelles was set to be a society of immigrants where the Europeans would own the plantations and ran the government; the Africans were to constitute the labour force; and the small numbers of Indians and Chinese would be traders. Of course, this set-up was to be 'perfected' almost one century later with the arrival of more Africans (liberated slaves), Indian 'coolies', and Chinese.

In 1814, under the Treaty of Paris, the Seychelles became a British Colony until 1976 when it gained its independence.

Seychelles. His address is Justin Reddy C/o La Digue School, Republic of Seychelles (Phone 562048) or C/o Ms. Maria Reddy, Anse aux Pins, Mahé, the Seychelles, (phone number 375472).

The members of the Tangalam family worked as indentured labourers on the property of the Roman Catholic Mission (La Gogue) and as might have been expected were converted. Mr. Roonasamy Reddy was a shopkeeper. These early Indians inte-



Bill Fehoko, sculptor from Tonga settled in Seychelles, Jeremie Waye-Hive, Seychellois of Chinese origin, and Jean Claude Mahoune, author of this article.

### Seychellois of Indian origin

After the abolition of slavery in 1835, the French landowners clamoured for Indian ('coolies') labour to work on their plantations though they had many 'liberated Africans' in the 1860s. When the 'coolies' did come, they were to mostly set to work on road construction. Unlike Mauritius most of them left.

Though the Indians were among the first settlers in the Seychelles, unlike Mauritius there was never any considerable Indian immigration comparable to that of indentured labourers to Mauritius or other British colonies (Benedict 1982). A report, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March 1904, noted that the British India Steamer 'Itria' arrived in the Seychelles on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1905 with the following 'immigrants' from Madras: 106 male adults, 42 female adults, 4 boys, 2 girls, 1 male infant; total 135.

Unfortunately, there is little information about the exact numbers of Indian 'coolies' and their place of origin let alone those who remained in the Seychelles. Civil Status records, however, do indicate that many of these were fully integrated into Seychelles society. Two of them, for example, were: Gopal Tangalam Selly and Naiken Roonosamy Reddy both born in India, but no information about their place of birth is still extant. Justin Reddy, well-known art teacher in Seychelles, has travelled as far as Britain to try to obtain information about his relatives. He would welcome any additional information on the early Indians who came to the

grated fully into Seychelles society, which marked them off from the traders who came later from Northern and Southern India. The Creole word for an Indian up to recently was a 'malbar', associated with the Malabar coast.

The 1931 census which was the last to classify people according to their race indicated a total of 503 'Indians' out of a population of 27,444. Some 343 were born in Asia, 128 in the Seychelles, 31 in Mauritius, and one in France. A 1947 estimate lists 285 Indians and the 1960 census, which listed the population by their mother tongue, includes 91 Gujarati-speakers, and 66 Tamil-speakers. The Gujarati Indians arrived late in the nineteenth and early twentieth century as traders. They came from Parsee, Hindu, Jain, and Muslim trading communities. They have been very successful in business and to this day own the largest and most successful wholesale and retail shops in the Seychelles. Many have preserved their original religion.

### Seychellois of Chinese origin

Ly-Tio Fane (1981) affirms that it was around 1886, most probably, that the Chinese immigrants came to the Seychelles via Mauritius. There was a group of 23. It is pointed out that in the 1871 census whereas some 100 Indian immigrants were recorded, no Chinese is mentioned. The first Chinese were probably attracted by the flourishing vanilla industry but later turned to commerce at which they excelled. In fact between 1890 and

MADAGASCAR  
MALDIVES  
MAURITIUS  
RÉUNION  
SEYCHELLES

1903 the Seychelles was competing with Bourbon (La Réunion) in the export of vanilla, but in 1904 the plantations were afflicted by a disease.

Among one of the oldest documents, a Civil Status record preserved at the National Archives of the Seychelles, was a wedding between a 'Cantonese' and a 'Creole' woman. According to Gerard the Chinese immigrants came from Guangdong Province where there was antagonism between the Hakkas and the Cantonese and so both groups established relations more freely with the Creoles. Most of the Cantonese were concentrated in the town area around the market (bazaar) where a 'pagoda' was later built. The Hakkas were in the suburbs of town, at Mont Fleuri.

In 1948 a Census Commissioner wrote of the 1931 census 'Inter-marriage between the Chinese and Seychellois is fairly common and it was decided not to classify the children as Chinese since they are born and bred in the colony and unlikely ever to go to China'.

At first most of the Chinese in the Seychelles were engaged in agriculture, transport, business, and even fishing. They grew fast in importance. As one informant (Lai-Lam) once stated – they owned most of the shops in town. They are reputed to have introduced the credit system (keeping of 'carnet' (note-books).

In 1945, Mr Richard Man-Cham the father of the man who was to become the first Chief Minister, the first Prime Minister, and the first President of the Seychelles wrote to the then Director of Education asking for permission to open a Chinese School.

The Director did not welcome the idea. A Chinese Association still exists

today and the Chinese New Year is celebrated with gusto at the 'pagoda' each year.

Many writers have written about the almost complete assimilation of the Chinese into Seychelles Society – abandoning their religion (usually Confucianism), converting to Christianity, and marrying Seychellois women. The younger generation of Chinese Seychellois probably do not speak the language of their forebears though they understand it. What has been better preserved is the cooking which has influenced many other Seychellois.

Today Seychellois of Chinese origin or 'Creole Chinese' hold very important positions in the country. They attach huge importance to the education of their children. The Anglican Archbishop, French Chang-Him, has a Chinese father and certainly both European and African blood. Most of the Seychellois of Indian origin still dominate the wholesale and import export trade, whereas the Seychellois of Chinese origin are prominent in retailing (Franda 1982).

The success of the Seychellois of Indian and Chinese-origin businesses compared to that of Creoles, is attributed by the anthropologist Benedict to the patrifocal nature of their household as compared to the matri-focal Creole society in which the male he says is a carefree big earner and big spender! ■

Jean-Claude Pascal Mahoune,  
Principal Research Officer, Ministry of Youth  
and Culture, can be contacted through  
e-mail: Pierre@Seychelles.net.

## The Seychelles on the Internet

### FACTS

[HTTP://WWW.TCOL.CO.UK/SEYCH/SEYCH2.HTM](http://www.tcol.co.uk/seych/seych2.htm)

■ Facts and figures on the Seychelles concerning geography, society, communications, transport, economy, travel, history, and politics.

### NEWS

[HTTP://WWW.SEYCHELLES-ONLINE.COM.SC/](http://www.seychelles-online.com.sc/)

■ Homepage of Seychelles Nation, the daily paper.

### AFRICAN STUDIES

[HTTP://WWW.H-NET.MSU.EDU/~AFSRCH/](http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~afsrch/)

■ H-AfResearch, an H-Net Network on Research in African Primary Sources, is dedicated to enhancing scholarly communication about the use of primary sources in African humanities and social sciences research. H-AfResearch encourages discussion of issues surrounding the use of primary sources in African humanities and social sciences research.



# Southeast Asia



BRUNEI • MYANMAR • CAMBODIA  
INDONESIA • LAOS • MALAYSIA  
THE PHILIPPINES • SINGAPORE  
THAILAND • VIETNAM

## Southeast Asia Editor Dick van der Meij

Dick van der Meij has edited the Southeast Asia section of the IAS Newsletter right from the very beginning in 1993. In this short interview we introduce the 'man behind the text'.

### People



Could you describe your education and professional background shortly and how it came that you specialized in classical Javanese, Malay, and Balinese texts?

My interest in Indonesia developed at school where we did a project on the country. I then started reading many Dutch-Indonesian novels and decided to study Javanese at Leiden University, which was only possible within the curriculum of Indonesian languages.

After my studies I worked at the Netherlands Organization for International Co-operation in Higher Education (NUFFIC), supervising Indonesian students.

Since 1993 I have been working with Professor Stokhof editing the newsletter of the Indonesian-Netherlands Co-operation in Islamic Studies (INIS) and editing books on Islam and on Asian Studies. I have also written extensively on Indonesian linguistics and culture and have lectured in Indonesian at various institutes.

You conducted fieldwork in Indonesia in the 1980s and 1990s. Do you feel at home in the country?

In Indonesia I feel like a fish in water. I visited the country for the first time in 1978 and have continued going there ever since. In 1982 I spent three months in Jakarta to study the street slang of various groups. My research method was to just sit in the food stalls and listen to people talking. On Bali, in 1985, I devoted my time to *wayang tantri* (shadow puppet theatre), in which I am very interested. I owe a lot to Prince I Gusti Ngurah Ketut Sangka who taught me a great deal about manuscripts and who sadly passed away in 1991.

Jakarta is my favourite city. I just love the melting pot it is, the chaos, the languages, the people with whom it is so easy to communicate. I also enjoy Bali and do not find tourism at all negative.

What strikes you as the most important changes in Indonesia in the course of these years?

The changes have been so quick that people can hardly come to grip them. In general there is more stress and haste. There has been considerable Westernization, but only on the outside. The breaking down of older



Dick van der Meij

parts of town is a good example; they associate this with modernity. Skyscrapers have appeared, and shopping malls, but on the other hand the *warung* (food stalls) have returned to the scene. Traditional clothes are no longer worn daily, and veils have become a normal sight. The veil is not only a sign of Islamization, but also of individualization, of distinguishing one's self from others.

What do you feel is the strength of the IAS Newsletter?

The diversity of the newsletter is its strength. Nobody will read it from A to Z, but everyone will find something in it that concerns him or her. As far as the Southeast Asia section is concerned, our main focus appears to be on Indonesia, and often on traditional anthropological subjects. I feel we must pay more attention to modern studies, to economic and political developments. We should also focus more on mainland Southeast Asia. I would hereby like to invite scholars involved in Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam to send in their contributions.

What are your personal plans for the future?

In the year 2000 I hope to finish my PhD, on a Javanese text of Lombok. The text, its translation, and the philology are finished. I am now giving the work some critical contemplation. I would like to continue my research and contribute to the development of theory. But my heart will always be in editing. I immensely enjoy creating a good book from a pile of jumbled-up texts. ■

Dick van der Meij can be reached at [tcvdmeij@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:tcvdmeij@rullet.leidenuniv.nl).

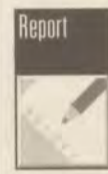


The Mayor of Leiden, drs J. Postma (l.), and the Deputy Secretary of Leiden University, drs W.E. Postma (r.) open the conference in the presence of dr J. Miedema, President of the ESFO.

## Asia in the Pacific Conference of the European Society for Oceanists

On 25-27 June 1999, the fourth conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO) was held in Leiden. The main theme of this conference, 'Asia in the Pacific', was chosen for the following reason: after the historical penetration of the Pacific by European and North American traders, missionaries, colonial administrators, and development agents, which has already been the subject of many studies, it was necessary to go a step further and take contemporary economic, political, linguistic and (other) cultural influences from Asia into consideration. This step is inevitable if we accept the thesis – as many Oceanists do – that the Pacific is becoming a major centre in the world economy.

By PAUL VAN DER GRIJP



Although the latter premiss may be truer for the countries of the Pacific Rim than for the small-scale societies of Polynesia, Melanesia, Micronesia, and indigenous Australia, it still reinforces the importance of these societies in the centre of the Pacific. This is why the theme 'Asia in the Pacific' was chosen as a focus of reflection and debate.

The main theme was paid special attention in the general address and the keynote speeches. The general address by Jan Pouwer (formerly Nijmegen University) may be summarized as: geo-genesis, socio-genesis, and globalization of the Pacific Basin. Without doubt referring to his own academic experience as (founding) professor of the Anthropology Department in Wellington, New Zealand, one of Jan Pouwer's conclusions was that, during the last few decades: 'Academic departments, institutions, and research in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific acquired an independent status, a new elan and a new, far less classy, more informal and inspiring style.

Their output was and is impressive. Their scope expanded from inward bound to Pacific-bound and is at present clearly circum-Pacific oriented.'

Jonathan Friedman (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris) in his keynote, entitled 'The sea of islands in the world of nations', commented on an earlier ESFO keynote by the Tongan scholar 'Eveli Hau'ofa in Copenhagen. Ron Crocombe, the former director of the Institute of Pacific Studies (University of the South Pacific, Suva) gave a keynote on 'Asia and the Pacific'. Ron Crocombe explained that: 'Despite the Asian economic crisis, interaction between the Pacific Islands and Asia continues to grow. As with European penetration of the Pacific Islands, the early impacts are mainly in hardware: trade and technology. European software followed quickly, especially churches... East Asia seems destined to become an ever larger factor in trade, investment, immigration.'

Our choice for the main conference theme, Asia in the Pacific, did not exclude the presentation and discussion of other themes, as the wide range of sessions held at this conference reveals. To give some examples of the 13 session themes I

mention only a few: 'Mobility, Agency and Identity in the Asia-Pacific Region', 'Fertility and the Foundation of Social and Cosmic Order in the Pacific', 'Impact of Foreign Occupation and Migration on Local Cultures and/of Life Histories', and 'The Trader's Dilemma in Asia and the Pacific'. Most of the about 160 conference participants came from Europe, but there were also many from the USA, Australia, New Zealand and the (other) Pacific Islands.

It was the second time that the biennial conference of the European Society for Oceanists (ESFO) has been held in the Netherlands. The last two conferences took place in Basel and Copenhagen, the very first – and founding – ESFO conference in Nijmegen in 1992. The purpose of the ESFO is to exchange research results and create closer links between European Oceanists, and also amongst European scholars and their colleagues from other parts of the world. The fourth conference in Leiden, in June 1999, was jointly organized by the Centre for Pacific Studies (CPS) of the University of Nijmegen, and the Inter-university Research Project Irian Jaya Studies (ISIR, co-ordinator Leiden University) in co-operation with the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS, main office Leiden). I think that this co-operation in organizing the conference in Leiden indeed achieved a fruitful exchange of information and ideas, and that it can be seen as a positive marker for the future of Oceania Studies in Europe. Additional information on ESFO and the 1999 conference can be found on the World Wide Web. The main address is <http://www.joensuu.fi/esfo>, whilst an Australian mirror site is accessible at <http://coombs.anu.edu.au/~marck/esfo/esfo.htm>. ■

### DR PAUL VAN DER GRIJP,

ex-Vice President of the ESFO, is Maître de Conférences at the Département d'Ethnologie, Université de Provence (Aix-Marseille-I), and Researcher of the Centre de Recherche et de Documentation sur l'Océanie (CREDO)

Maison Asie Pacifique  
Campus St Charles  
3 place Victor Hugo  
F-13003 Marseille  
France

E-mail: [pvdgrijp@newsup.univ-mrs.fr](mailto:pvdgrijp@newsup.univ-mrs.fr)



# Aséanie

## A new journal

Aséanie



Since the disappearance of journals like the *Bulletin de la Société des Études Indochinoises*, the *Cahiers d'Asie du Sud-Est* and *Intermondes*, francophone scholars on Southeast Asia have lacked a forum of expression covering the whole area of Southeast Asia. In 1997 a group of French-speaking scholars in Thailand took the initiative to create the journal *Aséanie - Sciences humaines en Asie du Sud-Est*.



The scholars, with the support of the cultural section of the French embassy in Thailand, the Institut de Recherche sur le Développement (former ORSTOM), the CNRS, and the École française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO), aimed at creating a journal of social sciences focusing on Southeast Asia that would enjoy the active support of francophone scholars working in the field of Southeast Asian studies. The journal's name, *Aséanie*, was inspired by the political and economic reality of ASEAN. Stretching beyond the limits of regional institutions, the name conveys the sense of unity of a region perceived as a continent by itself.

*Aséanie* was also designed to disseminate the research work of scholars from Southeast Asian countries who mainly use French for scientific communication. In a wider perspective, and with a growing number of

fundamental contributions, *Aséanie* hopes to become a reference tool for the francophone researchers on Southeast Asia. Challenged by an important number of excellent English-language journals in the field of Southeast Asian studies, *Aséanie* does not see itself as a rival product. Building on the long-standing tradition and the values of French scholarship, *Aséanie* aims at cultivating the original features inherent in this tradition and thus contributing to scientific dialogue and exchange.

The inaugural issue of the journal was published in March 1998. Currently Number Four is being prepared and due to be published in Autumn 1999. Articles in the first three issues cover the majority of Southeast Asian countries and reflect new research in archaeology, anthropology, history, literature, and sociology. Besides English abstracts of the articles, reviews, and bibliographical notes, every issue contains the reprint of a

rare article or of source material together with an introduction and comments that underscore its enduring value. Since its inception, *Aséanie* has been well received and enjoys the active support of an increasing number of institutions. Remarkably, the positive response stretches well beyond the mainly French-speaking scientific community.

*Aséanie* is published bi-annually in Bangkok under the patronage of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn with the logistical support of the Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre (Silpakorn University).

*Aséanie* welcomes contributions that are based on original research in the area of social sciences and humanities. The journal is also open for contributions on economic, political, and legal topics if they deal with questions of general interest and broad outlook. Contributors may submit articles or reviews in French or English, though some priority will be given to French. Articles submitted are refereed. ■

*Aséanie - Sciences humaines en Asie du Sud-Est* is edited by François Lagarde with the support of a board of editorial advisors at: **SIRINDHORN ANTHROPOLOGY CENTRE**

20 Boromarachachonnani Road  
Taling Chan, Bangkok 10170  
Thailand  
E-mail: aseanie@sac.or.th.

(Advertisement)

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

## KIT books on Asia

KIT Press is publisher of books on Asia and other (sub)tropical areas, including culture, history & anthropology / health & rural development.

- **Precious Metals in early South East Asia; Proceedings of the second Seminar on Gold Studies**  
edited by Wilhelmina H. Kal

An historic overview regarding gold objects from South East Asia, aimed at ongoing research on precious metals, gold and gold alloys in the disciplines archaeology, archaeometry, metal technology, art history and anthropology.

With contributions, from among others:  
Dr John N. Miksic, Dr Hedy I.R. Hinzler,  
Dr Cecelia Levin, Wahyono Martowikrido,  
Dr Joseph Riederer.

ISBN 90 6832 292 3 \* paperback \* Dfl. 39.00 \* Illustrated



- **Biographies of Florenese musical instruments and their collectors: Bulletin 347**  
by Paula R. Bos

The collections of ethnomusicologist Jaap Kunst, his student the SVD Missionary Pé Rozing and the author Paula Bos are compared from the viewpoint of a 'biography of objects': the musical instruments are considered in the light of social change in Florenese society and developments in musical culture from the thirties onward. This bulletin also describes and analyzes the viewpoint from which Kunst, Rozing and Bos conducted their fieldwork and their methods of collecting musical instruments.

ISBN 90 6832 833 6 \* paperback \* Dfl. 19.50 \* Illustrated



Order through KIT Press - Royal Tropical Institute, Amsterdam  
A list of publications is available on request.  
Tel. 31 20 5688 272 / Fax 31 20 5688 286  
kitpress@kit.nl  
http://www.kit.nl/books

## SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES ON INTERNET

## TAI STUDIES

HTTP://WWW.SEACOM.DE

■ SEACOM, the Southeast Asia Communication Centre in Berlin, Germany, maintains a website showing some of its activities: the Tai Culture journal and research projects in the fields of Tai/Thai Studies and Southeast Asian anthropology and history.

■ Besides this, SEACOM has a new mailing list, where scholars worldwide with Tai Cultural Studies as their research matter (and depending on free capacity other interested persons) are kindly invited to subscribe and contribute positively to the discussion of scholarly themes. The internet address is:

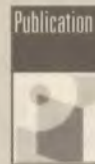
HTTP://WWW.KBX.DE/CGI/LYRIS.PL?ENTER=TAICULTURE.

## IMAGE DATABASE

HTTP://TLVIMA.LEIDENUNIV.NL/KITLV

■ The Royal Institute of Linguistics and Anthropology (KITLV) in the Netherlands has made available an online image database which currently has a total of 19,727 images, mainly photographs of Indonesia before 1957. In addition the collection contains photos connected with Surinam, the Netherlands Antilles, and several other countries.

## BOOKS RECEIVED



Berman, Laine

**SPEAKING THROUGH THE SILENCE**  
NARRATIVES, SOCIAL CONVENTIONS,  
AND POWER IN JAVA

New York: Oxford University Press, 1998, 256 pp.  
ISBN 0-19-510888-4, illustrated

Cribb, Joe

**MAGIC COINS OF JAVA, BALI AND THE MALAY PENINSULA; THIRTEENTH TO TWENTIETH CENTURIES**  
A CATALOGUE BASED ON THE RAFFLES COLLECTION OF COIN-SHAPED CHARMS FROM JAVA IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM

London: British Museum Press, 1999, 288 pp.  
ISBN 0 7141 0881 2, illustrated

Dahm, Bernhard and Vincent J.H. Houben (eds)

**VIETNAMESE VILLAGES IN TRANSITION**  
BACKGROUND AND CONSEQUENCES OF REFORM POLICIES IN RURAL VIETNAM

Passau University: Department of Southeast Asian Studies, 1999, 225 pp.  
ISBN 3-9805413-6-3

Kal, Wilhelmina H.

**PRECIOUS METALS IN EARLY SOUTH EAST ASIA**  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND SEMINAR ON GOLD STUDIES

Amsterdam: Royal Tropical Institute, 1999, 111 pp.  
ISBN 90-6832-292-3, illustrated

Houtman, Gustaaf

**MENTAL CULTURE IN BURMESE CRISIS POLITICS**  
AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY

Tokyo: Institute for the Study of Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa, 1999, 392 pp. ISBN 4-87297-748-3

Kammen, Douglas and Siddharth Chandra

**A TOUR OF DUTY**  
CHANGING PATTERNS OF MILITARY POLITICS IN INDONESIA IN THE 1990S

New York: Cornell Modern Indonesia Project, 1999, 98 pp.  
ISBN 0-87763-049-6

Nguyễn Thế Anh and Yoshiaki Ishizawa (eds)

**COMMERCE ET NAVIGATION EN ASIE DU SUD-EST (XIV<sup>e</sup>-XIX<sup>e</sup> SIÈCLE)**  
TRADE AND NAVIGATION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (14<sup>TH</sup>-19<sup>TH</sup> CENTURIES)

Paris: L'Harmattan, 1999, 190 pp.  
ISBN 2-7384-8079-9, English and French

Pauka, Kirstin

**THEATER AND MARTIAL ARTS IN WEST SUMATRA**  
RANDAI AND SILEK IN THE MINANGKABAU

Ohio University Center for International Studies, 1998, 258 pp.  
ISBN 0-89680-205-1, illustrated

Ricklefs, M.C.

**THE SEEN AND UNSEEN WORLDS IN JAVA 1726-1749**  
HISTORY, LITERATURE AND ISLAM IN THE COURT OF PAKUBUWANA II

Asian Studies Association of Australia / Allen & Unwin / University of Hawai'i Press, 1998, 391 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-2052-5 hb, ISBN 1-86448-627-9 pb. illustrated

Vinh Sinh and Nicholas Wickenden (transl.)

**OVERTURNED CHARIOT**  
THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF PHAN-BOI-CHAU

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, SHAPS Library of Translations, 1999, 296 pp. ISBN 0-8248-1875-X



18 > 19 FEBRUARY 1999  
LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS

# Traditional Houses in Western Indonesia

On 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of February 1999 the KNAW research project 'Design and Meaning of Architecture and Space among Ethnic Groups of Western Indonesia' held an international workshop on traditional houses in Western Indonesia at its offices at the anthropology department of Leiden University.

By BART BARENDREGT & ROBERT WESSING

**Report**  
The aim of this workshop was to present the results of research by the Leiden project staff as well as that of young Indonesian researchers, who had not yet had the opportunity of participating in previous workshops organized by the project in 1996 and 1997.

The workshop was opened by Prof. Reimar Schefold with a general introduction to the research problem, recounting the work that had been done and the progress that had been made since the inception of the project in 1995. This was followed by a presentation by Emmet M. Prioharyono on 'Round Houses in Timor'. These houses, *umbobo*, incorporate ideas of ancestor veneration and express the household's connections with their clans and the ethnic groups. Especially important is the ancestral shrine located near the main post of the house. More recently the Indonesian government has been promoting square houses for reasons of health. These lack this main post and an interior kitchen. While these square houses have been adopted to some degree, the traditional houses are still used, especially during childbirth and for the storage of maize, because the smoke of the wood fire preserves the grain.

The theme of round and oval houses was continued by Gaudenz Domenig who pointed out the fact that these types are mainly found in two areas, namely on the islands north of Sumatra, and in the lesser Sundas. He discussed how oval houses are formed by adding rounded roof parts to the gable sides of an initially two-sided roof. He also argued in favour of also understanding the few circular roof types of Indonesia from the ethnographic context, rather than speculating pre-Austronesian cultural origins.

Marcel Vellinga's talk about 'Houses and a Competition for Status among the Minangkabau' focused on the ever extending numbers of rooms in the construction of houses in Abai Sangir. These houses, which are no longer used as family dwellings function as active instruments in marking the

status of a descent group. This current trend of adding rooms differs from older methods of claiming status in which multiple roofs and raised floors tended to be emphasized. These older methods of claiming status, however, were restricted to the old Minangkabau nobility, while the lengthening of the houses can be employed by those who have come to prominence by other methods since Indonesian independence.

## Acehenese hat

Robert Wessing analysed the geographical structure of Sundanese hamlets, pointing out that the way these West Javanese settlements are laid out on the ground is governed by a set of cosmological principles that include an axis defined by the location of the guardian nature

these houses, or could be seen to be transformations of this earlier arrangement. Although the resulting transformations were numerous, in each case Eko was able to relate these back to the traditional Padang *gadang* house.

Peter Nas described the way in which architects of five generations in Banda Aceh incorporated elements of traditional Acehenese architecture in both public and private modern structures. One of the problems in this effort is that unlike in some other places in Indonesia, there is little out of the ordinary about the roof of the traditional Acehenese house, making it a less likely candidate for symbolical elaboration. This problem was solved by at least two of the architects by taking inspiration from specific Acehenese features such as the typical Acehenese hat and a well known roof covering an ancient sacred bell. Other traditional features that are commonly used are the protruding beams and upright posts of the traditional house that are now made of concrete rather than timber.

Derawati Santoso described the history of the past seventy years of Kali Pasir, a less prosperous neighbourhood in the Indonesian capital Jakarta. The houses there and the land on which they stand tend overwhelmingly to be private property. Although there are official guidelines to be used in house construction in this settlement, these often are ignored by those building or renovating their houses in order to save money. In her study Derawati focuses on the interaction of the inhabitants of this area with various areas in the rest of Jakarta.

Continuing the focus on less wealthy areas of the capital city, Atashendartini Habsjah, described one of the oldest settlements in the Jati Negara district of Jakarta. These neighbourhoods, which cannot be easily discerned, are approached through narrow alleyways. Rather than being only bedroom communities, they contain within them various businesses and individual entrepreneurs, with ties well beyond the confines of the area. Here, as in the previous example, land ownership tends to be individual to the degree that, when, owing to heavy rains, a fruit tree became separated from

one house plot and attached to another, the public still recognized the claim of the first plot's owner to its fruits. In both latter cases, the ramshackle houses tend to expand vertically following the constraints of the shortage and resultant cost of land in the centre of Jakarta.

## Individual property

Sandra Taal's presentation on 'Change and Diversification in Form and Function of the Limas House of Palembang', a major Sumatran city, pointed at a renewed enthusiasm for these houses, not so much as dwellings but rather as objects of tourist interest. Traditionally these houses focused on the River Musi but, in order to make them more accessible, both for residents and possible visitors, some are now being turned around to face the road. Whereas in



Rice barn on the Besemah plateau



A Sunda house in Kampung Naga, West Java



A traditional Toraja house as ethnic monument in Rantepao, the capital of the province

spirit and the ancestor's grave. This axis is then further related to the flow of water, which conveys the positive influence of these two spiritual sources to the hamlet and its fields.

In his presentation on 'The Traditional Padang House', Eko Alvarez showed that although these houses had changed considerably in their external appearance owing to influences from Aceh and Coastal Malays, the internal configuration of the various spaces such as the bedrooms, family room and the like had remained either as it had been in the earliest recorded instances of



The ever stretching houses of Abai Sangir, West Sumatra.

the past these houses and the complex of which they were part were associated with noble lineages, today a growing number of this house type is individual property reflecting the wealth and prestige of their owner. Following the policies propagated by the Indonesian government, the characteristic roof of this house has become the symbol for the city of Palembang generally.

In his presentation on 'The South Sumatran rumah uluan in the course of migration', Bart Barendregt related the distribution of a particular architectural tradition in the Central Bukit Barisan Range of Sumatra to processes of mobility, expansion, and migration. The uluan house,

sia' in which he emphasized both the principles underlying the construction of Austronesian houses generally and the fact that these principles, can be used in varying ways to express and enhance the prestige of the owners. By skilfully manipulating these principles, competition for status among subgroups can be expressed in traditional ways while at the same time opening up new possibilities of interpretation.

Some of the papers presented will appear in one of the volumes to be published by the research project. ■



The Palembang Limas house by the Musi River

though largely recognizable by an invariable core, has experienced significant modifications among several highland groups and led to subtypes that can be explained in terms of transformations of each other. In this process modifications occur both in the form of the house, as was shown in comparing the Serawai and Besemah houses, and in the social composition of a house, shown in the case of the Semende people.

The workshop concluded with a paper by Reimar Schefold entitled 'Telling Houses: Recent architectural transformations in Western Indone-

Bart Barendregt and Robert Wessing are attached to the KNAW research project 'Design and Meaning of Architecture and Space among Ethnic Groups of Western Indonesia' at Leiden University.  
E-mails: barendregt@rulfsw.leidenuniv.nl, wessing@rulfsw.leidenuniv.nl



# Reforming Religion in Borneo

In the 1940s a religious reform movement transformed life in several Central Borneo societies, including that of the Kayan. Known as 'adat Bungan', it eliminated many of the onerous taboos and practices under the old religion, now called 'adat Dipuy'. Within a decade, elements of the old ways had crept back as both aristocrats and priests sought to regain their control over Kayan society and religion.

By REED L. WADLEY



In this encyclopaedic account of Kayan religion, anthropologist Jérôme Rousseau describes the early stages of the Bungan revolution and its subsequent transformation as a reform of the old religion. He devotes separate chapters to the religious environment of everyday life, religious beliefs, ritual specialists, the rituals of the annual rice-farming cycle, the rituals of the domestic unit, curing and protective rituals, and the rituals of the life cycle. In each he provides a comparison of adat Bungan as practised during his fieldwork in the 1970s and adat Dipuy as remembered by the Kayan.

Throughout the book Rousseau makes very clear the great importance of understanding Kayan stratification. This is seen, for example, in the history of the new religion. Adat Bungan came at a critical time in central Borneo. Dissatisfaction with the old religion among commoners was high as a result of rapid social change brought by colonial penetration. Subsequent epidemics, missionary activity, and the deprivation during Second World War lead many to question the efficacy of the old ways. Beginning as the religion of commoners, Bungan did away with many of the burdensome taboos and other practices in adat Dipuy (such as time-consuming augury), but it also challenged the authority of both chiefs and priests. Rather than opposing the newly-popular religion and risk los-

ing their authority entirely, most aristocrats and priests chose to accede to the revolution while slowly reintroducing elements of the old that had bolstered their positions in the past.

The author is mindful that his descriptions are not of a monolithic Kayan religion, but are drawn instead from a particular set of Kayan at a particular period of history. To reinforce the point of variation in practice, he provides useful comparisons with other Kayan people elsewhere in central Borneo. Rousseau is also aware of his own role as ethnographer and provides valuable information about his fieldwork techniques. He shows that the Kayan with whom he worked viewed him as being interested in adat Bungan in order to convert Europeans and that his priestly Kayan name made his work easier. However, throughout the book, he keeps the focus on the Kayan view of things, rather than on himself as has become the fashion in some recent anthropology.

There is a wealth of detail in this book, detail about ritual that will be

fascinating to some, daunting to others, and perhaps excruciatingly boring to some others. At times the prose becomes a bit monotonous, but the description is sufficiently broken up by anecdotes, excerpts from prayers, and commentaries to keep the interested reader moving forward. Students of religion and of central Borneo societies will find the book useful, but it is likely they will also have points of disagreement with it. The parts I found the most interesting were the history of the Bungan reform movement and the chapter on Kayan beliefs. In the latter, Rousseau also deals with Kayan disbelief and scepticism, important subjects that have been too often ignored in traditional ethnography. In addition, as an anthropologist working in Borneo with the Iban (a society very different from the Kayan), at every turn throughout the book I found myself comparing Rousseau's descriptions with my own experience. There are even several prayers asking, for example, that Kayan spears be like lightning to the eyes of the Iban. Despite the ending of hostile relations long

ago, memories of the old enmities are still preserved in ritual, as they are among the Iban.

KITLV Press and its editors are to be thanked and congratulated for having published such a comprehensive ethnography. Nothing is perfect, however, and the one thing I found most lacking was a table of contents for the photographs scattered throughout the book. Photos might appear several or dozens of pages away from their references in the text, making them especially troublesome to locate. But this minor matter should not detract from the content of the book itself, which will surely come to be widely used in studies of Southeast Asian religion. It will also likely be of great interest to the Kayan themselves who might look to Rousseau's work as a source for understanding their past as well as for shaping their future. ■

Jérôme Rousseau

**KAYAN RELIGION**

RITUAL LIFE AND RELIGIOUS REFORM IN CENTRAL BORNEO

Leiden: KITLV Press, Verhandeligen van het Koninklijk Instituut voor Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde 180, 1998

Dr Reed L. Wadley, is a research fellow at the IAS. He can be reached at e-mail: [rwadley@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:rwadley@rullet.leidenuniv.nl).

## Sumatra Heritage Trust

The Sumatra Heritage Trust aims at preserving, enhancing, and promoting the natural, cultural, and built heritage of the island of Sumatra. Run mainly by young graduates of universities in Medan, the Trust engages in projects ranging from the restoration of Chinese courtyard mansions to the recording of Mandailing indigenous knowledge.

By ABDUR-RAZZAQ LUBIS



In spite of the current political and economic uncertainties, the heritage conservation movement in Indonesia is picking up some momentum, with Bandung and Yogyakarta being the most active centres. The causes of this surge of interest are several. The government is placing more emphasis on cultural tourism as a foreign exchange-earner, fresh graduates from various fields are joining the conservation movement, and most important of all, the facility of Internet has helped Indonesians to overcome their age-old communications problem to take part in international networking as well as reaching out to their colleagues across the far-flung archipelago.

A promising newcomer to the field is the Sumatra Heritage Trust, established in early 1998, with the objectives of preserving, conserving, enhancing, and promoting the natural, cultural, and built heritage of the island of Sumatra. Based in Medan, the Trust has already formed chapters in Aceh, Nias, Pekanbaru, Bengkulu, Jambi, and Lampung. It is currently compiling the 'Sumatra Heritage Directory' and organizing a

meeting of the Pan-Sumatra Network which includes existing local heritage organizations.

Initiated by local businessmen, professionals, academicians, and activists, the Trust is now run by a few staff members and volunteers consisting mainly of young graduates from the public and private universities in Medan. It is one of the few cultural organizations in Indonesia in which diverse ethnic groups, including members of Medan's Chinese and Indian communities, participate.

The Trust's projects also reflect its broad cultural orientation. It is working to restore the Town Hall designed in 1909 by C. Boon, an architect who worked with the Deli Maatschappij Company for 13 years. It was originally intended for the Javasche Bank, but was rejected by the central board of bank directors and subsequently sold to the Afdelingstraat van Deli. The local government has promised the Trust the use of the Town Hall, which stands strategically placed on the edge of Medan's central historic open space.

Another conservation project undertaken by the Trust is to restore the Tjong A Fie Mansion, located in the historic core of Medan. The double-storey residence completed in 1900, is laid out in the style of a Chinese

courtyard mansion with a gate house. It has European and Art Nouveau design elements such as concrete columns with ornamental capitals, and chandeliers suspended from a decorated ceiling. These elements are juxtaposed with a traditional Chinese ancestral altar, carved and gilded timber screen doors, and colourful cut-and-paste porcelain shard work. The Hakka entrepreneur Tjong A Fie (1860-1921) was a planter, banker, and industrialist and one of the great philanthropists of early Medan. He and his elder brother, Tjong Yong Hian, were business partners and relations of the even greater tycoon Cheong Fatt Tze, who had a Chinese courtyard mansion built in a similar style in Penang.

The Trust seeks to collaborate with international as well as Indonesian scholars studying the diverse ethnic groups in Sumatra. Its advisor on Malay matters is Tengku Lukman Sinar, a prolific writer on Malay history and culture. Its Mandailing advisor is Drs Z. Pangaduan Lubis, an anthropologist who has helped revived the *Gordang Sambilan* (the nine great drums), and travelled through the countryside collecting Mandailing folklore and indigenous knowledge on customary governance. Recently, the Trust's Mandailing Information Centre was awarded a small grant by the World Bank to conduct a survey of built heritage in three habitats in Mandailing, in co-operation with the Architecture Department of North Sumatra University (USU) and a vernacular architecture group called SEMAI.



These buildings represent the status, nobility, and greatness of a settlement.

◀ A bagas godang, ruler's dwelling, at the centre of a Mandailing village.

The sopo godang, council hall, at the central square of a Mandailing village in Singenggu.



Following an extensive write-up about the Trust in the Dutch newspaper the 'Volkskrant' in January 1999, the Friends of Sumatra Heritage Trust was established in the Netherlands. The Trust sent a delegation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Seminar on 'European Architecture Outside Europe: Conservation & Development of Heritage Tourism', which was held in Malacca, Malaysia, in November, 1998, and now one of its staff members is being sponsored by the Dutch Government for an inner city renewal course in Rotterdam. The Trust has been given rights to undertake the translation of 'Medan, Beeld van en Stad' by M.A. Loderichs E.A., a coffee-table book about the city of Medan, into Bahasa Indonesia and is seeking collaborator's for this project.

The Trust has a close relationship and internship programme with the Bandung Heritage Society, Aus-Heritage in Australia, the Penang Heritage Trust and the Asia & West Pacific Network for Urban Conservation (AWPNUC) both based in Penang, Malaysia. Co-operation between the Sumatra Heritage Trust

and the Penang Heritage Trust is forming a people-to-people cultural component of the strategic economic block called the Indonesia-Malaysia-Triangle Growth Triangle (IMT-GT). ■

For further information:

**HASTI TAREKAT**, Executive Director  
**Sumatra Heritage Trust**

Jl. Sei Padang 56

Medan 20154

Indonesia

Tel./Fax: +62-61-821 3534

E-mail: [hastitar@indosat.net.id](mailto:hastitar@indosat.net.id)

<http://www.sumatra-heritage.or.id>

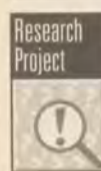
**Abdur-Razzaq Lubis** is the Malaysian Representative of the Sumatra Heritage Trust and is currently undertaking a project funded by The Toyota Foundation researching the migration of the Mandailing people from Sumatra to Malaya in the nineteenth century. The author's wife, Khoo Salma Nasution, the editor of the Asia & West Pacific Network for Urban Conservation (AWPNUC) newsletter, is a co-researcher in The Toyota Foundation funded project. E-mail: [lubisksn@tm.net.my](mailto:lubisksn@tm.net.my).



# The Python and its Oil in Highlands Papua New Guinea

Although Papua New Guinea (PNG) is a country rich in natural resources, it has found itself in a state of increasing financial instability as services such as health care, education, and infrastructure suffer because of a lack of effective economic management and also probably the misappropriation of funds. More and more local people are turning to companies (e.g. gold mining or logging), which come into their areas to work, in order to negotiate or demand service that the PNG government previously provided and should still be providing.

By PAMELA J. STEWART  
& ANDREW STRATHERN



Conducting negotiations with companies for services has provided unique opportunities for local Papua New Guineans to utilize various aspects of their traditional knowledge. For example, amongst the Duna people of the Southern Highlands Province of PNG it has proved useful for the younger generation as well as the older people to know their 'traditional' origin stories (*malu*) when negotiating issues of

land use payments. *Malu* record the sacred places of clans that are found throughout the landscape.

Recently, the *malu* of several Duna clans were used to determine the distribution of payments to landowners by the Porgera Joint Venture Gold Mining Company for the use of the Strickland River which received tailings from the mining works. The mining company hired workers to try to determine the accurate *malu* information for these water use payments. *Malu* were also used to determine the distribution of payments to landowners by an oil company that had been drilling in the area along the

Strickland river gorge. Even though the oil rig and associated company buildings were placed on the side of the river across from the Duna people, several clans trace their *malu* stories along pathways that travel under the river itself. Thus they were able to claim rights to part of the land use payments. The oil company did not discover the oil for which it was searching and subsequently removed its rig and left. Interestingly, a new myth was created during the time that the oil company was drilling in the region which explained in Duna terms why the company failed:

'A young Duna boy was stung by a bee at a site close to the oil rig. A spirit female (*Payame Ima*) led the boy down into the core of the earth where he saw a city in which everything was constructed out of money. A giant man with gaping holes in various parts of his body was seated there. This giant was called *tindi auwene* ('ground-owning spirit'). The boy took an iron pipe given to him by the

giant man and began hitting the drill bit of the oil rig which was approaching the heart of *tindi auwene*. The drill bit broke after repeatedly being hit and the boy was rewarded with material gifts which he took away with him. When he returned to his village he told the story of what had happened to him and what he had seen and the gifts that he had been given were 'proof' that the event had occurred.'

The holes in *tindi auwene's* body were said to have been caused by the mining and drilling ventures throughout PNG which had previously removed parts of his enormous body, extending outwards under the ground into all parts of PNG. The explanation for the oil company's failure to find oil was that they had positioned their drill over *tindi auwene's* heart and might have killed him and by extension destroyed the vitality, fertility, and wealth of the land of PNG.

In addition to the story of *tindi*

*auwene* we were told that a giant snake (*Puyara*) lives under the ground in PNG and rests on top of gold and oil reserves which are its eggs. This snake which also reaches up to the highest mountain ridges and thus in a sense joins sky and earth is said to be disturbed and angered by mining activities.

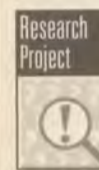
As more oil, gas, and mining companies enter into PNG they serve as a source of revenue to the government, while at the same time becoming embedded into local mythology in creative ways. Regulations and environmental safe guards on development projects within PNG should be a major concern for the country as it struggles to improve its financial situation and the quality of life for its people. ■

Dr Pamela J. Stewart (Strathern) and Prof. Andrew Strathern were Senior Visiting Fellows at the International Institute for Asian Studies during 1998. Their most recent co-authored books are 'Curing and Healing: Medical anthropology in global perspective' (Carolina Academic Press, 1999) and 'The Python's Back: Pathways of comparison between Indonesia and Melanesia' (Greenwood Publishing Group, forthcoming). E-mails: pamjan+@pitt.edu and strather+@pitt.edu.

## Histories and the Practice of Precedence

This article outlines a programme of ethnographic enquiry and writing on the ethnography of West Timor in eastern Indonesia. Informed by the analytical concept of precedence, the study presents new perspectives on Timorese social practice and the role of historical narratives and heritage in the constitution of social status in local contexts.

By ANDREW MCWILLIAM



The recent extraordinary events unfolding in East Timor with Indonesia threatening to abandon their decades long attempts to integrate the former Portuguese colony within the nation state, have once again brought Timor to the world's attention. As in the past, little mention is made of the western half of the island which remains in

shadow, an obscure, materially impoverished but seemingly loyal region of the Indonesian eastern islands Province. West Timor was once one of the richest sources of high grade white sandalwood in the known world and for centuries formed an integral part of the export trading network in Asia. But years of exploitative extraction severely diminished the resource and the fortunes of west Timor have long been in decline. For the indigenous Meto speaking communities of this region, who once benefitted and fought

over control of this trade, the legacy of sandalwood politics is a mixed one. Much of the wealth generated by the trade has dissipated and with it political autonomy, but in other ways sandalwood history is a vital element in contemporary life. It forms part of the rich narrative history of Meto political communities and the reproduction of cultural identity in local places. Political alliance, land tenure and settlement origins, tend to reflect something of the former influence of the scented wood.

The present study is the culmination of an extended period of ethnographic fieldwork in West Timor exploring the cultural and historical dimensions of Meto social practice in the mountainous hinterland of south west Timor. Drawing upon selected narrative representations of the past the study seeks to interpret the dynamics of contemporary social practice and alliance in terms of an analytical framework informed by the concept of precedence.

Precedence and the set of ideas which have since been developed around the concept have provided a range of productive insights into the comparative ethnography of eastern Indonesia and among Austronesian speaking societies more generally. As an interpretive concept, it is concerned with the study of asymmetric social relationships and the observed propensity in eastern Indonesia for assertions of difference based on notions of contested temporal precedence. Among the cluster of thematic elements which serve to articulate the precedence approach are those of category asymmetry recursive complementarity by which orders of precedence are constructed and contested. At the same time, there is an abiding concern with social origins and origin structures as points of differentiation and assertions of priority. The recitation of topogenies, and the narrative account of the history of the clan through recourse to multiple sequences of place names is one important expression of these concerns. The focal importance of the House as a physical form and a social structure is another.

As a theory of social practice, the 'language of precedence' derives much of its comparative insight from a detailed examination of shared indigenous social categories and the contextual thematic analysis of local metaphors. This orientation is based

in part on the legacy and critical reappraisal of pioneering Dutch scholarship in eastern Indonesia and the FAS (Field of Anthropological Study) approach in Indonesia. Ideas associated with precedence have since been developed more fully through the Comparative Austronesian Project at the Australian National University (1989-1992) and at a recent conference hosted by HAS in 1996 (Processes of Social Differentiation in the Austronesian World). Over the last 20 years there has been a dramatic increase in field based ethnographic explorations of eastern Indonesian societies. Numerous detailed and long term studies have been initiated across the region covering the core area of Nusa Tenggara Timur and the Moluccas. These studies have confirmed the rich comparative diversity of cultural practice among the multiple language communities of the region while at the same time reflecting the common thematic concerns arising from a shared cultural heritage. Although ethnographic studies from Timor have contributed to this growing comparative anthropological understanding, there have been relatively few detailed ethnographic studies published in recent years. This is particularly the case for Meto society in west Timor where significant local variation in social and cultural practice between Meto domains remains undocumented. The purpose of the current study is to address some these issues from the hinterland and mountains of southwest Timor using the analytical concept of precedence as a thematic guide. ■

Dr Andrew McWilliam was a senior visiting fellow at the IIAS from October 1998 to January 1999.

Please ask for our advertisement rates for the possibilities (advertorials, enclosures), deadlines, and copy requirements.

ADVERTISE  
IN THE  
IIAS NEWSLETTER!

For further information contact  
Mr S. Sand or the Managing Editor at the IIAS  
tel: +31-71-527 22 27  
fax: +31-71-527 41 62  
e-mail: iiasnews@rullet.leidenuniv.nl.





# East Asia



P. R. CHINA  
JAPAN  
KOREA  
MACAO  
TAIWAN

## European Journal of East Asian Studies

A group of European scholars are launching a new academic journal in the field of East Asian studies. The journal is based at the Institut d'Asie Orientale, in Lyon, but it enjoys the support of nine other European research institutions. It will be published and distributed by Brill (Academic Publishers). The following text provides a summary of the goals of the journal.

By CHRISTIAN HENRIOT



Europe is home to a very large community of scholars working on East Asia whose research activities cover a broad spectrum of studies, in terms of countries, periods, and disciplines. There is, however, no internationally recognized journal in Europe encompassing within its covers the whole range of East Asian studies as there is in the United States. We believe that European East Asia scholars, by virtue of their own history, intellectual tradi-

tions, and specific relations with the region, offer a different perspective to that of American scholars and make an original contribution to East Asian Studies. Up to now, they have been able to reach international recognition principally through publications in American journals, for which most of them compete at an obvious linguistic disadvantage.

A European journal will be better equipped to take into account this issue of language. It should be made clear here that we do not claim any kind of Euro-centred intellectual superiority, nor do we want to give the impression of an

anti-American posture. On the contrary, we acknowledge the overwhelming contribution of American scholars to contemporary East Asian studies. The sole purpose of the initiators of this project is to create a new intellectual arena that will publish the best contributions of European scholarship on contemporary East Asia, without excluding contributions from other parts of the world. We believe in intellectual competition and stimulation. The journal will, therefore, welcome high-quality research, whatever its origin.

The journal will be interdisciplinary in nature, dedicated to the publication of scholarly research across the range of the social sciences including sociology, geography, anthropology, economics, political science, and law as well as modern history. We take the term "modern" to refer approximately to the last two hundred years. The journal makes no commitment to any particular trend in scholarly research, but it will be receptive to all the current approaches in Asian Studies. Our geographical compass will take in 'East Asia' in a broad sense, that is to say the groups of countries usually included in Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, and the Philippines) and

Northeast Asia (China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan). One of the major obstacles that has prevented the emergence of such a journal is undeniably the absence of a common language among European scholars. The initiators of this project believe that English has become the universal language in East Asian Studies.

The journal will be devoted mainly to original research based on the first-hand study of primary materials and fieldwork or a combination of the two. It will also welcome theoretical essays that offer new, synthetic visions and perspectives from the field. We hope to strike a balance between coherence (to make the journal attractive to a wide readership) and spontaneity (to allow for competition and attract first-rate contributions). To this end, we shall publish six papers per issue (initially with two issues per year). Three of them may be devoted to a "special theme" (a list of three themes is offered below) while another three will be individual contributions. These are of course guidelines, conceived as a general strategy for the initial issues. Research notes will also be welcome, though under a specific format. The journal will include a section for book reviews, concentrating on significant works written by European scholars. The first issue will be published in early 2001.

The European Journal of East Asian Studies welcomes from this announcement the submission of manuscripts from scholars on all aspects of East Asian societies as defined in the announcement. Authors should feel free to contact the editors for further information (EJEAS@ish-lyon.cnrs.fr).

Special themes: besides papers on any topic within the fields defined in the previous sections above, the editors will invite contributors to submit papers on special themes. These themes will be defined in a separate announcement. ■

For further information or for submitting manuscripts, please contact the editorial office:

EJEAS

Institut d'Asie Orientale - ISH  
14, av Berthelot, 69363 Lyon cedex 07  
France  
Tel.: +33-472 72 65 40  
Fax: +33-472 72 64 90  
E-mail: EJEAS@ish-lyon.cnrs.fr

Editors:

Christian Henriot, Institut d'Asie Orientale, Lyon, France

Paul Waley, School of Geography, University of Leeds, Leeds, Great Britain

Book review editor:

Philippe Pelletier, Institut d'Asie Orientale, Lyon, France

## Chinese Immigrant Associations

When and why did Chinese people begin to settle down in a Western society - in this instance the Netherlands? When did Chinese immigrants to the Netherlands begin to set up their own associations and why? How have their organizational activities developed thus keeping pace with their efforts to adjust themselves to Dutch society? What factors have shaped their organizational structures and what is the social significance of these associations?

By LI MINGHUAN



Starting from an outline of the Chinese immigration process and the development of their associations in the Netherlands and making an analysis of their characteristics, the purpose of this research project is to portray the collective social features of the Chinese immigrants in the Netherlands. More specifically, the objectives of this study are:

1. To trace the history of the Chinese immigration process and organizational activities in the Netherlands;
2. To discuss the diversity and unity within the Chinese immigrant community;
3. To explore their attempts to develop an identity while caught in the gap between their sending and receiving societies.

A general characteristic of Chinese immigrants in the Netherlands is that they are living between two worlds: one is the world of their origin, which is a physically distant but psychologically familiar world; the other is the world of their everyday life, which remains psychologically distant despite its physical presence. Taking the social significance of the Chinese associations as a special angle from which to start the research, this study aims to explore two aspects: how the Chinese immigrants use their social resources from their country of origin to survive and develop themselves in a Western society; and how their experiences in the West, regardless of whether or not

they have realized their dreams, have affected their social status in their original world.

One of my major arguments in this study is that the Chinese associations are regarded as both barriers and bridges that function between the Chinese immigrants and their receiving society. Some studies have argued that the Chinese associations have only acted as boundary markers and barriers to closer relations with mainstream societies; while others have stressed that associations indicate a trend towards integration. Although



Chinese immigrant associations are undoubtedly influenced by their Western surroundings, they are fundamentally derived from aspects of their original culture, e.g., values, habits, or ideas. Thus, instead of following the traditional approach of discussing whether the Chinese organizational activities have retarded the assimilation or integration of the Chinese immigrants into the host society, this study will explore their basic functions as an organizational approach to

straddling the two worlds and, furthermore, their attempt to benefit from being the bridge between them.

Generally speaking, through the activities organized by the Chinese associations, their social functions can be divided into two categories:

1. Their manifest function is to form an invisible wall by accentuating the we-group feeling and differentiating their members from outsiders; on the other hand, they have built a bridge to the wider society by acting as a representative agent and as an intermediary towards the authorities and the general population;
2. Meanwhile, a latent function has been the construction of an ethnic niche; that is, a cultural and social space that is distinct from both the receiving and sending societies.

To a certain degree, I have attempted to study the general concerns of Chinese immigrants through this local case of the Netherlands. There has been a Chinese immigrant community in the Netherlands for about one century. Especially since the Second World War, Chinese immigration into the Netherlands has been on the increase, and the combined assets of this group have swelled considerably when compared to those of many

larger immigrant communities in that country. Moreover, the Chinese have organized themselves to be able to call for proper attention to be paid to their significance, and particularly to highlight their human and economic potential for both the sending and receiving societies. Their process of socio-economic adaptation collectively reflects how Chinese immigrants have developed themselves in a relatively peaceful and lenient environment.

As the result of this research project, a book titled 'We Need Two Worlds, Chinese Immigrant Associations in a Western Society' has been written. The book begins with an examination of the process of settlement of the Chinese in the Netherlands. Then, once the history of the Chinese voluntary associations has been traced in detail, different types of associations are distinguished.

Finally, some conclusions are drawn from a comparative perspective to provide an outlook on the future development of the Chinese association movement in the Netherlands. The book will be published by Amsterdam University Press in December 1999. ■

Dr Li Minghuan is a research fellow at the IIAS. She can be reached at: Minghuanli@rullet.leidenuniv.nl



# Gender in China: A New Forum

## An Interview with Harriet Zurndorfer

During the last decade there has been an increasingly growing interest in issues of gender among scholars of traditional China, both in China and abroad. Thanks to the work of Patricia Ebrey, Dorothy Ko, and Susan Mann, we now have a roughly continuous narrative (in English) of the history of Chinese women from the tenth to the eighteenth centuries. Studies have appeared and continue to appear about gender in the medical and the legal discourses, about women's literature and the literary representation of women, about the role of gender in the division of labour and in the conceptualization of sexuality. This new interest in gender among scholars of China has now yet a new arena, 'Nan Nü: Men, Women and Gender in Early and Imperial China', a journal published by Brill.

By GIOVANNI VITIELLO

The first issue appeared in March of this year featured three articles: David Keightley provides a survey of the archaeological and inscriptional evidence on the status of women in China from the neolithic to the late Shang dynasty (ca. 5000-1045 BC); Maram Epstein proposes to view gender as ingrained in the very poetics of the 18th century masterpiece *The Dream of the Red Chamber* (Honglou meng); and Paola Zamperini examines the new meanings the traditional courtesan comes to acquire with the collapse of the imperial order. This first issue also features a review article, by Clara Ho, on eight bibliographies concerning Chinese women published in China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong during the last four years, and a number of book reviews about Chinese and English recent releases. The journal is edited - in cooperation with Glen Dudbridge (Great Britain), Beata Grant (USA), Clara Ho (Hong Kong), Angela Leung (Taiwan), Susan Mann, and Paul Ropp (USA) - by Harriet Zurndorfer, professor of Chinese history at the Sinological Institute of Leiden University. And it is here at the Sinological Institute that I have come to talk with her about *Nan Nü*.

Giovanni Vitiello (GV): How did this journal start?

Harriet Zurndorfer (HZ): There are two sources for it. The first was a workshop we had here in Leiden in September '96, which was sponsored by the IAS and the Faculty of Letters of Leiden University. This was the first occasion in Europe for European and Asian senior and junior scholars who worked on topics related to women and gender in imperial China to have the opportunity to meet and exchange information in a formal setting. The response from both the participants and the outside was so positive that it struck me that there was quite a strong interest in the subject, that there should be more than just having an occasional workshop. The second source of stimulus was the fact that as an editor of one journal (*Journal of the Eco-*

early China, another *Nan Nü* for mid- to late imperial China - it depends how the field progresses...

GV: Most of the work done on gender in China so far has focused on the so-called 'early modern' period (1000-1800), especially the stretch corresponding to the last two dynasties (Ming and Qing: 1368-1911), while other periods remain barely touched by research. Judging from the submissions to *Nan Nü*, is this trend changing?

HZ: At the moment, if I look at vol. 2, then the era of Ming and Qing is definitely in the minority: we have another article on early China (on wet-nurses), another one on widows in the *Zuozhuan* (ca. 4th cent. BC), another on a Song woman scholar... - it varies. I think the point is that China scholars are still putting bits and pieces together. There has not yet been a broad sweep of the history of women, for example, like Olwen Hufton has done, writing a series of volumes on all aspects of the history of women, of all classes, all countries, both Eastern and Western Europe....

GV: How would you describe *Nan Nü*?



Dr Harriet Zurndorfer

HZ: It's a multidisciplinary journal; so, we focus on disciplines within the study of China, anything from history, literature, art history, anthropology, music, medicine, and, of course, sexuality: whatever is relevant to the study of men, women and gender.

GV: *Nan Nü* covers a huge chronological stretch, from the beginning of Chinese civilization to 1911....

HZ: Actually 1911 is not exactly the cut-off date - we get to the May Fourth Movement, which can be stretched into the end of the 1920's. We decided to use this as a cut-off date because there was a certain way of life that had continuity in a sense, among women as well as among men, in that long space of time, from the earliest times until the real radical breaks occurring in the 20th century. But I can imagine that, in ten years, more and more will be known about men, women and gender in China before the 20th century, and that there might be a *Nan Nü* for

GV: When would you say that the interest in gender within Chinese studies started, and how has it developed?

HZ: First of all, if you want to go back to origins, I think that there are differences in regard to different disciplines, but for example, in the field of history it all was related to the critique of the 'model Chinese' family which emerged in historical studies of China in the Western academy, and became a hot topic already in the early 80s. A number of graduate students and younger scholars were interested in using the kind of family studies that had been done for Europe, and even Japan, on China, and see if there was a more systematic way to explain the nature of family organization in China, and not just the stereotype of it, but differences according to places, to time, and so on. And that kind of work was done in the early 80s, in the United States and Europe. Patricia Ebrey was probably the one who made the transition from family to women, also already in the early 80s. So, the interest in gender issues with-

standing is that the Women's Federation in China was preoccupied with women's labour in all forms, while in the 80s the history of women became an academic subject. By the time of the Beijing Women's Conference in '95, women studies was already extremely well organized. We have a review article in the first issue (by Clara Ho) which goes into the work that has been done in China in the last thirty years. But to go back to your question, I think in the literary field it has a completely different set of origins. I think it has to do with the development of literary theory, which has grown out of post-colonial discourses, the idea of the Other, etc....

GV: Does *Nan Nü* have a comparative interest?

HZ: To be honest, I'd say no. What we are trying to do is to get into the depth of the Chinese documentation on gender up to this century. On the other hand, *Nan Nü* features a relatively large book review section, mainly Chinese books, and because these reviews are written in English, we will make information about what Chinese scholars in China are doing available to people who cannot read Chinese. This was a very important point of the *Nan Nü* plan, and it still continues to be: we are trying to keep one third of each issue devoted to book-reviews, so we can bring to the attention of the public what is being published in China (inclusive Taiwan and Hong Kong.) In the next issue, coming out in September, all the reviews are about Chinese books.

GV: What kind of audience do you think *Nan Nü* will reach?

HZ: When I put the idea together, my publisher asked me this same question. My answer is the same now as it was then: that it is my impression that scholars from many different fields are now interested in the question of women and gender, and there is not enough forum. The reader of *Nan Nü* is the same reader of *T'oung Pao* or the *Harvard Journal of*

Asiatic Studies. It is somebody who might have studied something else, and who then became interested in women and gender, such as the case with most people who are in the Editorial Board. We all come from different backgrounds - history, literature, history of medicine, philosophy - but all realized that gender could add a new dimension to our work. ■

### References

- Ebrey, Patricia, *The Inner Quarters: Marriage and the Lives of Chinese Women in the Sung Period*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1993
- Ko, Dorothy, *Teachers of the Inner Chambers: Women and Culture in Seventeenth Century China*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1994
- Mann, Susan, *Precious Records: Women in China's Long Eighteenth Century*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997
- Widmer, Ellen and Kang-i Sun Chang (eds.), *Writing Women in Late Imperial China*, Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997
- Zurndorfer, Harriet (ed.), *Chinese Women in the Imperial Past: New Perspectives*, Leiden: Brill, 1999

■  
'Since the 80's  
there seems to be  
an interest in woman  
studies in China as  
a field in its  
own right'  
■

NAN NÜ  
Men, Women and  
Gender in Early and  
Imperial China

男女

For further information on *Nan Nü*, *Women and Gender in Early and Imperial China* please contact:

DR HARRIET ZURNDORFER

Managing Editor

E-mail: zurndorf@rullet.LeidenUniv.nl

Dr Giovanni Vitiello, Assistant Professor of Chinese in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, was an IAS Affiliated Fellow from June 4 to July 31, 1999.  
E-mail: vitiello@hawaii.edu



# Quanzhou and the Maritime Trade of Southeast Asia

On September 26 and 27, 1997, an international conference on the study of maritime trade and the development of the Quanzhou region during the Song and Yuan dynasties (tenth to fourteenth centuries) was held in Leiden, the Netherlands. The conference brought together a small group of eleven scholars from various disciplines and different areas of research within the confines of this topic. Most of the papers contributed to this conference will now be published with E. J. Brill Publishers, Leiden (probable title 'Quanzhou and the Maritime Trade of Southeast Asia, 10<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Studies in social and political history, political economy, and archaeology').

By ANGELA SCHOTTENHAMMER



The stated aim of the conference was to arrive not just at a better, but at a more standardized understanding of the history of the overseas trade of Quanzhou during the said time period. It sought to present the actual, interdisciplinary state of research and expose it to a critical debate. Contributions were, therefore, not restricted to social and political history only, but covered also politico-economic and, above all, archaeological topics. Studying the history of maritime trade in ancient times the field of archaeology once and again proves to be a veritable gold-mine for any historian of China, providing valuable additional and/or substantiating theoretical assumptions. This is, of course, also true for Quanzhou and

its economic development in the past.

The forthcoming volume comprises the articles of eight authors and includes various tables and black and white illustrations (c. 420 pages in all). The first two articles are of a social-economic and socio-political nature. John Chaffee (Department of History, Binghamton University, NY, USA) thoroughly investigates 'The Impact of the Song Imperial Clan on the Overseas Trade of Quanzhou'. He reassesses the role and the importance of the clan during the Southern Song dynasty, when Quanzhou simultaneously served as a major centre for clansmen, and successfully throws more light into the interrelationship between the imperial clan and the development of maritime trade. Hugh Clark (Ursinus College, Collegeville, USA) in his contribution 'Overseas Trade and Social Change in Quanzhou Through the Song' argues that the maritime trade of

Quanzhou prompted a social revolution that was certainly as profound as the local commercial revolution. He shows that in Minnan social mobility was a 'real factor' in constructing the social elite. My own article 'The Role of Metals and the Impact of the Introduction of Huizi Paper Notes in Quanzhou on the Development of Maritime Trade in the Song Period' is intended as a contribution to the study of the political economy of the Quanzhou region, an aspect which is unfortunately very often fairly neglected in books and articles investigating the history of maritime trade. The article focuses on the investigation of economic questions and wants to show in which way the use of metals, primarily copper, as both use and exchange values, and the introduction of paper notes in Quanzhou had specific negative effects on the further development of Quanzhou's maritime trade during the Southern Song dynasty effects which were indirectly promoted, but not intended by the Song government.

The following four articles analyze archaeological data and materials. Richard Person's (Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of British Columbia, Can) contributions 'Port, City, and Hinterlands: Archaeological Perspectives on Quanzhou and its Maritime Trade' surveys the city plan of Quanzhou, analyzes the local ceramic production, in particular the evidence of the

ceramics trade between Quanzhou and the Ryūkyū Islands. Finally, he describes the flow of coinage from China to Japan. In her study 'The Ceramic Boom in Minnan during Song and Yuan Times' Ho Chuimei (Chicago Field Museum, Department of Anthropology, USA) introduces to the reader the evaluation of archaeological data collected during a three-year joint project of the Chicago Field Museum, USA, and the University of Xiamen, China. She discusses both geographical shifts in manufacturing centres and changes in product types. John Guy (Victoria & Albert Museum, Indian and Southeast Asian Department, London, UK) investigates the commercial activities of Tamil and Quanzhou merchants and their integration into commercial and organizational structures. His article 'Tamil Merchant Guilds and the Quanzhou Trade' examines both Hindu remains in Quanzhou and archaeological evidence such as inscriptions in South India and shows that the powerful Indian merchant guilds, the Ayyavole and the Manigramam, were very probably also active in South China. Janice Stargardt (Director of the Cambridge Project on Ancient Civilization in Southeast Asia, Cambridge University, UK) discusses the results of archaeological research at the Satingpra complex in South Thailand. In her paper entitled 'Behind the Shadows: Archaeological Data on Two-way Sea Trade between

Quanzhou and Satingpra, South Thailand, 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Century' she investigates ceramics excavated in situ, as well as locally indigenous plants and timbers and concludes that the archaeological evidence at Satingpra suggests that Satingpra played an important role as an entrepôt in the development of interregional trade with South China.

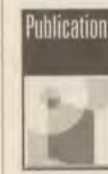
Roderich Ptak, eventually, in his article 'Quanzhou: At the Northern Edge of a Southeast Asian 'Mediterranean'?' (Institut für Ostasienkunde, Munich University, Germany) adopted the idea of the French historian Denys Lombard that in principle the concept of a 'Mediterranean' as a region characterized by economic and cultural 'exchanges' - an idea which originally stems from Fernand Braudel - may also be applicable to Southeast Asia. In this context, he discusses Quanzhou as a port at the northern edge of a larger Southeast Asian 'mediterranean' region.

The forthcoming volume is intended as an 'interdisciplinary' contribution to the history of Quanzhou and maritime trade in Southeast Asia. It seeks to improve our knowledge on the history of this trade and wants to draw the reader's attention to some hitherto rather neglected aspects of this topic. In this respect, we hope that archaeological, but also politico-economic perspectives will in the future be integrated more firmly into the horizon of the historians of China. ■

Dr Angela Schottenhammer is affiliated with the Martin-Luther-University of Halle-Wittenberg, and with the Sinologisches Seminar, Christian-Albrechts-University Kiel in Germany. She can be reached at e-mail: Angela.Schottenhammer@t-online.de.

# The Encyclopedia of the Chinese Overseas

By LEONARD BLUSSÉ VAN OUD ALBLAS



No literary tradition in the world has produced as many encyclopedias as the Chinese one. Thanks to these encyclopedias - often compiled under Imperial auspices - a large part of Chinese literature has actually been saved for posterity. Consisting, as they generally did, of selected quotations of earlier writings, they tended to serve not only as summaries of the whole realm of knowledge but also as style manuals for writing essays and poems.

Certainly one topic to which no reader would have found any reference in imperial times was that of the 'overseas Chinese' - those people who, notwithstanding the imperial prohibitions on emigration, had moved abroad. Emigration was, after all, strongly discouraged until the end of the nineteenth century by the imperial government in Peking. As a result, the number of people who moved abroad has remained relatively small if compared to, for instance, European emigration overseas.

Over the past decades several attempts have been made at producing general overviews of the presence of Chinese expatriates in Southeast Asia or America. Yet Lynn Pan's *The Encyclopedia of the Chinese Overseas* is the first example of a concise modern encyclopedia, both in Chinese and English, which covers the overseas Chinese on a global scale. When the board members of the Chinese Heritage Center commissioned the editor to compile this encyclopedia, they may have wondered whether such an encompassing task could be carried out within just a few years time. But this is exactly what Lynn Pan, with the help of a handful of assistants, has done. The editor had already shown her strong grasp of the subject matter in her very readable *Sons of the Yellow Emperor*, which appeared in 1990. Moreover, in this publication she has enlisted a number of collaborators to support her own work with essays on topics with which they are well acquainted. The encyclopedia is not arranged in alphabetical order but is grouped around five sets of general themes: origins, migrations, institutions, relations and communities, which are then interspersed between short-



er vignettes on specific matters and a fine collection of illustrations.

Not all contributions have the same high standard. Some of the essays on communities read almost like a folder from the local tourist bureau, but others like the one written by Kwok Kian Woon on Singapore show, in addition to factual information, a considerable amount of in-depth analysis. Among the less remarkable sections is the one on religion. For example the overseas distribution of specific cults or even the very basic practice of *fenxiang* - the age old custom of distributing

the incense ashes from the main temples in China to a subsidiary establishment abroad with all of its ritual and organizational connotations - receives very meager treatment. In the section on overseas Chinese organizations one would have liked a somewhat more detailed account of representative institutions like *panglong* or *kongsi*. References to *kongsis* are found throughout the book (for instance in the geographical account of Indonesia) but should have been given a fuller treatment under the heading 'organizations'. The same applies to the *Kongkoan*, or Chinese Council of Batavia, which has left us the only existing large archive of an urban Chinese expatriate community spanning more than two hundred years! In this context perhaps funeral associations or the crucial issue of burials among overseas Chinese societies, especially in the past, could also receive extra attention in a future revised edition. The extremely important research on grave inscriptions in Malaysia and Indonesia by Franke, Salmon and others is not mentioned anywhere. If a revised edition will appear - and I have no doubt about it - of this very commendable and beau-

tifully executed enterprise, than I would also suggest a separate historiographical section with a few vignettes on some of the older Chinese works on Chinese settlements overseas such as the Dong-Xi Yangkao or Ong Tae Hai's *Chinaman Abroad*. Readers who can read Chinese should also purchase the Chinese language version as a companion volume, not only for the convenience of finding the Chinese characters for names that are only known to us by their dialect pronunciations but also because of the fun to be had in comparing the variations in the texts with the captions under the illustrations. ■

Lynn Pan ed.,  
**THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE CHINESE OVERSEAS**  
Richmond: Curzon, 1998, ISBN 0700711228

Professor J.L. Blussé van Oud Alblas is currently working at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Wassenaar, the Netherlands.  
E-mail: blusse@nias.knaw.nl.



MAY 28 > 30, 1999  
BONN, GERMANY

# Crisis Management Chinese Entrepreneurs and Business Networks in Southeast Asia

From 28-30 May 1999 the Department of Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Bonn hosted an international conference entitled 'Crisis Management - Chinese entrepreneurs and business networks in Southeast Asia' hoping to shed light on the complex and little understood interconnections between Chinese business in Southeast Asia, globalization, and the Asian financial and economic crisis triggered off by the devaluation of the Thai Bath in June 1997.

Report

Although ethnic Chinese have been the key drivers in the region's rapid economic growth over the past three decades, global market forces and other external environmental factors are posing new challenges. Asia's economic malaise illustrates the fundamental socio-economic and political changes and threats to which Chinese business is being exposed on the local, regional, and global markets. The dark side of *guanxi* (connections), overexposure to non-productive sectors, paternalistic management methods, resistance to change, the IMF, increased competition, lack of credit, bankruptcies, dependence on Western technology, high import bills for components, insufficient branding, politico-legal insecurity, eroding strategic alliances with ruling power elites, and ethnic conflicts are some of the critical issues which they have to face.

In view of the latest developments in the region, the conference provided a timely occasion on which to reassess the role of ethnic Chinese in Southeast Asia and to examine assumptions so often taken for granted about the strength and uniqueness of what has been termed 'Chinese' capitalism, networks, and business culture in the age of globalization and global market expansion.

Sponsored by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) and chaired by Solvay Gerke (University of Bonn), Hans-Dieter Evers (University of Bielefeld), and Thomas Menkhoff (National University of Singapore), the conference brought together sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists and economists from Germany, the Netherlands, the Great Britain, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, and the USA - all leading scholars on ethnic entrepreneurship, the Chinese overseas and Chinese (business) affairs in Southeast Asia.

The first paper by Tong Chee Kiong and Chan Kwok Bun (National University of Singapore, Singapore) entitled 'Networks and Brokers: Singaporeans Doing Business in China' was geared towards trying to identify and examine on the basis of interviews with 34 Singaporean Chinese businessmen doing business in China, the dynamics underlining the various ways in which the Singaporean Chinese modes of doing business share characteristics with and differ from those of mainland Chinese.

The second paper ('Entrepreneurs in China and Vietnam and Their Impact on Social and Political Change') was delivered by Thomas Heberer (Dept. of Political Science, Gerhard-Mercator-University of Duisburg, Germany) who presented fresh research on the new private sector data in China and Vietnam and its impact on political and social change. His material was collected during several months of intensive field research.

In his paper 'The Impact of The New Asian Realism on Chinese Business Networks in Asia-Pacific', Thomas Menkhoff (Dept. of Sociology, National University of Singapore, Singapore) outlined the consequences of Asia's 'new realism' on Chinese business. This term was coined to refer to the disruptions,

hardships, and changing mindsets produced by the Asian financial and economic crisis.

In her paper 'The Unfinished Agenda of the Overseas Chinese', Linda Low (Dept. of Business Policy, National University of Singapore, Singapore) developed the hypothesis that there is an 'unfinished agenda of integration' as far as Indonesia's ethnic Chinese are concerned.

In her paper 'Mismatch at the Interface: Asian Capitalisms and the Crisis', Constance Lever-Tracy (Dept. of Sociology, Flinders University, Australia) dealt with 'the different kinds of capitalism in our contemporary globalizing, multi-centred economic system' with a particular emphasis on 'Chinese network capitalism and its vulnerability'.

In 'Transnational Entrepreneurship and Chinese Business Networks: The regionalization of Chinese business firms from Singapore', Henry Wai-chung Yeung (Dept. of Geography, National University of Singapore, Singapore) examined the important role of entrepreneurship in the internationalization of business firms, in particular those well embedded in regional social and business networks.

Yao Souchou (Dept. of Anthropology, the University of Sydney, Australia) presented his innovative interpretation of the famous *guanxi* concept based on his research among Chinese traders in the small township of Belaga in Sarawak, East Malaysia.

Jahan Wazir Karim (School of Social Sciences, University Sains Malaysia, Malaysia) gave a paper ('The Globalization of Southeast Asia and Rooted Capitalism: Sino-Nusantara symbiosis') presented a theoretical discourse on family-centred business networks in Southeast

Asia, showing that certain institutional structures which are contrary to trends of global capitalism prevail in Chinese business.

Based on extensive secondary research, E.T. Gomez (University of Leeds, Great Britain) examined how Malaysia's largest Chinese-owned enterprises have been developed despite working in an environment that has provided little support for their interests.

A comparative approach to the study of ethnic entrepreneurship was presented by Mario Rutten (NIAS Copenhagen, Denmark / CASA/IIAS Amsterdam, The Netherlands) in his paper entitled 'Cooperation and Individualism among Rural Capitalists in Indonesia, India, and Malaysia'.

The last paper of the conference ('Putting Global Capitalism in its Place: Economic Hybridity and Ritual Expenditure in Rural China') was presented by Mayfair Yang (Dept. of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA). She addressed the post-socialist 'hybrid economy' emerging in the 1980s and 1990s in rural Wenzhou, located on the southeastern coast of China, an area which combines economic privatization, household industry, entrepreneurial expansion across all China, some transnational capitalist linkages, the continued power of the state, and a revived ritual economy of expenditures in popular religion, community ritual, and festival. ■

The conference programme is found on the following website: <http://www.uni-bielefeld.de/sdrc>. Papers may be obtained by writing to

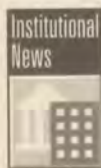
PROFESSOR SOLVAY GERKE

Department of Southeast Asian Studies  
University of Bonn  
Nassestr. 2  
53113 Bonn  
Germany

## Russian Association of Sinologists

The Russian Association of Sinologists (RAS) is a public organization, consisting of a large group of historians, economists, philosophers, sociologists, lawyers, political scientists, and specialists in the comprehensive study of Chinese civilization. The first official public organization of sinologists was established in 1982 under the name the Association of Sinologists of the USSR, uniting members from the various soviet republics. After the dissolution of the USSR in 1991 after which the former soviet republics became independent states, the association in was renamed in 1992.

By NINA DEMIDO



Although the purpose of the RAS is to co-ordinate and stimulate the activity of sinologists of Russia, the association also does its best to maintain ties with sinologists from the former soviet republics. The main research and educational centres for Chinese Studies are now located in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and some cities of Siberia and the Far East: Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Chita, and Irkutsk. The major body of the association is the Institute of Far Eastern Studies, located in Moscow. It is the main participant in the association

and plays a very important role in all activities, arranged by the association.

The main decision-making organ of the RAS is the congress of members. In a period between congresses, the RAS is governed by an executive committee and a bureau elected by this committee. The present bureau is headed by the president of the Russian Association of Sinologists, Academician V.S. Myasnikov, the honorary president, Academician S.L. Tikhvinsky, the vice-president correspondent member of Russian Academy of Sciences M.L. Titarenko, as well as other members of the bureau and the executive secretary of the association.

Russian sinologists have always kept close contact and maintained

exchanges with their colleagues in many countries all over the world. The RAS is an active member of the European Association of Chinese Studies (EACS). RAS members have participated in many international conferences arranged by the EACS. Now it has been decided to hold the 14th EACS Conference in Moscow in 2002.

The Russian Association of Sinologists maintains permanent ties with the Chinese Association of Russian Studies and the Chinese Association for International Understanding. The RAS and the Institute of Far Eastern Studies regularly receive delegations of scholars and research trainees from China. Since the beginning of the 1990s we have also initiated contacts with scholars in Taiwan.

The Russian Association of Sinologists is taking an active part in the preparation of annual international conferences 'China, Chinese Civilization and the World', arranged by the Institute of Far Eastern Studies. This year the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference will be held on September, 22-24 under the name 'China on the Way of Modernization and Reforms'. ■

### Recent books published in Russia:

Stepanova, Galina.

**SISTEMA MNOGOPARTIYNOGO SOTRUDNICHESTVA V KITAISSKOY NARODNOY RESPUBLIKE**

(The System of Multi-Party Co-operation in the People's Republic of China). In Russian. Moscow, 1999. 212 pp. ISBN 5-8381-0002-8.

VKP(b), Komintern i Kitai.

**DOCUMENTY. 1927-1931**

(The Soviet Communist Party of Bolsheviks, Comintern, and China. Documents. 1927-1931). Vol. III (parts 1 and 2). In Russian. Moscow, 1999. 1598 pp. ISBN 5-85603-075-3.

Mirovitskaya, Raisa.

**CHINESE STATEHOOD AND SOVIET POLICY IN CHINA. THE PERIOD OF PACIFIC WAR: 1941-1945**

In Russian. Moscow, 1999. 312 pp. ISBN 5-88451-078-0. With an English summary.

Mamaeva, Nataliya.

**THE COMINTERN AND THE KUOMINTANG. 1919-1929**

In Russian. Moscow, 1999. - 376 pp. ISBN 5-8243-0058-5. The research was prepared on the most extensive source basis - archives: the Russian Centre for Study of Documents of Contemporary History of China, the Russian State Military Archives, the collected documents 'VCP(b), Comintern and the National-Revolutionary Movement in China', a number of documentary collections on the history of the Kuomintang, published in China in the second half of 1980s. With an English summary.

Portyakov, Vladimir.

**THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA: ECONOMIC POLICY OF THE 1990S**

In English. Moscow, 1999. 182 pp. (The papers by Dr V. Portyakov collected in this were published in 'The Far Eastern Affairs' magazine or presented at various international conferences on China issues. The contents of the papers encompass different aspects of China's economic policy of the nineties.)

Dr Nina Demido is Executive Secretary of the Russian Association of Sinologists. She can be reached at [ifes@cemi.rssi.ru](mailto:ifes@cemi.rssi.ru).



# New Classics in Modern Japanese History

By **DICK STEGEWERN**



Louise Young's *Japan's Total Empire: Manchuria and the Culture of Wartime Imperialism* will be a landmark in the scholarship on the Japanese creation and management of the short-lived puppet state of Manchukuo (1932-45). This is not to say that her theoretical framework of imperialism as a modern phenomenon consisting of political, economic, and cultural elements and implemented by both state and society is new or that her conclusions are shocking. But then, nowadays, who is able to come up with something entirely original in the field of Japanese history where all major ground has been covered by the immense output of the Japanese themselves and where it seems very difficult to introduce a new interpretation of the facts? What Young does so well in this book, is to furnish some existing interpretations with extensive proof.

*Japan's Total Empire* is an ambitious work. In her attempt to deal with all major groups who acted as agents in the making of Manchukuo into the jewel in the crown of the Japanese empire, Young discusses the role of the army establishment, the mass-media, the various government bureaucracies, the business elite, the intelligentsia, and the rural population. After a concise but excellent overview of the previous history of Japanese imperialism, she discusses in rich detail the

three nation-wide 'imperial projects' of the 1930s which involved all groups in Japanese society with the new state: the media campaign in support of its creation, the economic campaign to develop its industrialization, and the migration campaign to solve Japan's 'overpopulation problem' in the countryside. Introducing and structuring a great bulk of primary and secondary Japanese sources, she succeeds in conveying the message that Manchukuo was an inherently modern phenomenon. This was no instance of 'traditional imperialism' from above, it was the product of a reciprocal relation between a modern state and a modern mass society. Moreover, Young rightly emphasizes that Japan's choice for an 'autonomous diplomacy' of expansionism in the 1930s was not propelled by feudal remnants but derived from the maturation of modern institutions.

However, there are a few key points in this book with which I tend to disagree. One is Young's projection of the Manchurian Incident as a 'sudden' phenomenon and of the subsequent 'process of incremental imperialism' not as 'a chain of inevitability', but as 'a chain of contingent decisions' which nevertheless led to 'total empire'. It is true that it was not the single decision of Kwantung Army officers which brought about what is often called the 'fifteen-year war'. There had been earlier instances of local insubordination which failed exactly because the army was very much aware that the timing was premature. But in 1931 when it

gave the go-sign, the army knew it could make it in terms of support on the home front and in this conviction it was not alone. During the 1920s many 'liberal' intellectuals were also painfully aware that they had lost out in the competition for the favour of the increasingly influential masses. The army-inspired voluntary organizations with their wide ramification in the countryside had succeeded in swaying the debate on foreign policy. Since Japan's formal colony Korea was safe in the post-WWI new world order, this debate was overwhelmingly about Japan's informal sphere of influence in China. The stronger the Kuomintang became in the 1920s, the more the debate centred on Japan's key position in Manchuria and whether to 'intervene' or not. In this sense the idiom and rhetoric in the three campaigns Young describes was definitely not new. Moreover, 'the incident' surely did not come as a surprise. It was a long-contemplated option which, after considerable calculation, became reality in 1931.

This does not imply that the Manchurian Incident was inevitable. After all, it was the continuation of a trend which had been temporarily halted, even slightly reversed by both internal and external pressures after WWI. In contrast, the consequences of Japan's choice for a total war in East Asia in defiance of both China and the Western powers were inevitable. Quite a few people during the 1920s, both Japanese and non-Japanese, both inside and outside the armed forces, correctly predicted the stages subsequent to 'a Manchurian incident': an all-out but inconclusive Sino-Japanese war, Pearl Harbour, Midway, and devastating air raids on Tokyo. The only thing nobody could have imagined were Nagasaki and Hiroshima. From this point of view, the Manchurian Incident was at the same time the beginning of a new phase of total-war imperialism and the point of no-return on the road to self-destruction.

Another issue is whether Young's framework of 'total empire' is helpful in the end. Stressing pluralism, reciprocity, interrelatedness, and compromise, she points us once again to the complexity of human life and history, and thus also to the complexity of phenomena such as modernity and the Japanese creation of Manchukuo. However, this does not absolve the historian from the task of trying to 'force' all the different factors into some sort of hierarchical order. When looking at the creation and management of Manchukuo and the effects these had on Japan itself, I think one can hardly overemphasize the strategic element.

The lure of ruling the whole of Manchuria, located between the colony Korea, the enemy Russia, and the huge potential of 'China proper', was an irresistible temptation in army circles. Its strategic natural resources put it in a class entirely different from Korea, Taiwan, or Micronesia. The popular image of Manchuria as the

land of inexhaustible resources was linked to the utopian aim of self-sufficiency, which was directly related to the post-WWI idea of total war. The choice of taking Manchuria was a choice in favour of preparing for total war, instead of enduring an inferior position in the so-called Washington System any longer.

The management of Manchukuo was also undertaken with the priority of military preparedness in mind: the army had the final say in which industries would be promoted, which tariffs would be decreased, and whether and where Japanese farmers were to be settled, and in its decisions it was to a large extent blind to the civilian interests of the capitalists and settlers.

Japan's choice of preparing for total war had the simultaneous effect of bringing the possibility of total war even closer to its own doorstep. This increasingly demanded more preparation in the sense of the reorganization of domestic society. Young discusses these transformations within Japanese society, referring to the growth of the mass media, the emergence of imperial interest groups, the expansion of state-intervention in economy and society, and the growth of new state apparatuses, yet she characterizes these as 'imprints of Manchukuo on the metropolitan society'. I do not object to this as long as Manchukuo is defined as the first stage in the thorough and irreversible implementation of total war planning, an equally modern but more universal phenomenon which also requires the 'complicity' of all groups in society.

This rather lengthy critique may give the impression that I am completely at odds with Young's conclusions, which is definitely not the case. These are merely a few differences of interpretation and do not in any way question the high quality of her book. The amount of information this book uncovers is dazzling, her observations are sharp, and her analysis is solid. Both in terms of the period she discusses and of the attention she gives to society and culture, Louise Young has written the perfect sequel to Duus, Myers, and Peattie's *The Japanese Informal Empire in China, 1895-1937*.

In the same splendid series *Twentieth Century Japan: The emergence of a world power*, published by the University of California Press over the last few years, we have seen a fair number of works which have taken up the issue of the creation of a Japanese 'imagined community' at the point where Carol Gluck's *Japan's Modern Myths: Ideology in the late Meiji Period* left off. After Leslie Pincus' book on Kuki Shūzō (*Authenticating Culture in Imperial Japan*) and Takashi Fujitani's book on the creation of the modern institution of the emperor (*Splendid Monarchy: Power and pageantry in modern Japan*), we are now treated to *Mirror of Modernity: Invented traditions of modern Japan*, an edited volume by Stephen Vlastos which brings together many of the American authorities in 'cultural studies' on pre-war modern Japan. There is a strong thematic unity to the contributions, something which is often lacking in edited volumes. The only problem is that since the book has taken some five years in the making, quite a few contributions have long since been superseded by full-volume publications by the same (and sometimes other) authors. Neverthe-

less, the book makes for a very interesting read and may well function as an eye-opener for the 'Orientalist' general reader to the fact that such 'uniquely Japanese' phenomena as harmony, weak legal consciousness, agrarianism, labour management, and in their present form even such vestiges of tradition as the martial arts (including sumo) are nothing but modern inventions.

Another edited volume which shares the above-mentioned trend in focusing on the issues of the imagined community, the social or geographical periphery, civil society, and culture is *Japan's Competing Modernities: Issues in culture and democracy, 1900-1930* by Sharon A. Minichiello. It has the typical shortcomings of an edited volume; the book is divided into the compartments 'Geographical and Cultural Space', 'Cosmopolitanism and National Identity' and 'Diversity, Autonomy, and Integration', which are as vague and all-encompassing as one can get, and accordingly most contributors tend to do their own thing without giving much consideration to the heralded theoretical superstructure of 'competing modernities'. Nevertheless, many of the case studies give interesting insights into fairly untrodden territory (in the English language) such as the Koreans in Manchuria, the Ōmoto-kyō spiritualist Asano Wasaburō, modernist architecture, popular songs, media culture in Osaka, broadcasting in Korea, etc. Moreover, there are ambitious attempts by Julia Thomas and Kevin Doak to tackle the voluminous issues of respectively 'naturalizing nationhood' and 'culture, ethnicity, and the state' within the scope of twenty-five pages.

This is a far cry from the only other edited volume available in English on the Taishō period (1912-1926), namely Silberman and Harootyan's *Japan in Crisis: Essays on Taishō Democracy* dating from exactly 25 years ago. By adding a large quantity of the elements culture, society, periphery, ethnicity, and identity, the new volume presents us a picture of 'the Taishō experience' which is much more complex than its mere political characterization as a 'Taishō democracy' can ever encompass. Both the content and the beautiful cover make this book very difficult to resist for those who have an interest in pre-war modern Japan. Luckily the publishers have made it immediately available in a paperback edition, so it is one tenth of the price of the intolerably expensive *New Directions in the Study of Meiji Japan* to which it is a sequel. ■

## References

- Minichiello, Sharon A. (ed.) *Japan's Competing Modernities: Issues in Culture and Democracy, 1900-1930* University of Hawai'i Press, 1998
- Vlastos, Stephen (ed.) *Mirror of Modernity: Invented Traditions of Modern Japan* University of California Press, 1998
- Young, Louise *Japan's Total Empire: Manchuria and the Culture of Wartime Imperialism* University of California Press, 1998

**Drs Dick Stegewerns**, teaches Modern Japanese History at Leiden University, e-mail: [stegewerns@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:stegewerns@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

## BOOKS RECEIVED



Birch, Cyril

### SCENES FOR MANDARINS

THE ELITE THEATRE OF THE MING

New York: Columbia University Press, 1995. 262 pp. ISBN 0-231-10262-3

Chen Diexian

### THE MONEY DEMON

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ROMANCE

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999. 294 pp. ISBN 0-8248-2103-3, translated from the Chinese by Patrick Hanan

Lynn, Richard John (translation)

### THE CLASSIC OF THE WAY AND VIRTUE

A NEW TRANSLATION OF THE 'TAO-TE CHING' OF LAOZI AS INTERPRETED BY WANG BI

New York: Columbia University Press, 1999. 244 pp. ISBN 0-231-10580-0

Maxwell, Neville

### CHINA'S 'AGGRESSION' OF 1962

AND THE UNRESOLVED BORDER DISPUTE

Oxford: Court Place Books, 1999. 39 pp

Nathan, Andrew J.

### CHINA'S TRANSITION

New York: Columbia University Press, 1997. 313 pp.

ISBN 0-231-11023-5 pb, 0-231-11022-7 hb

Zurndorfer, Harriet T.

### CHINA BIBLIOGRAPHY

A RESEARCH GUIDE TO REFERENCE WORKS

ABOUT CHINA PAST AND PRESENT

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999. 380 pp.

ISBN 0-8248-2212-9 pb, first published 1995

C  
h  
i  
n  
a



# Japanese Religions at Soas

The beginning of the new academic year has seen the start of various activities related to the study of Japanese Religions at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) of the University of London. In September 1999 SOAS launched a new MA Programme in Japanese Religion, the first European-taught graduate programme to be devoted to the study of Japanese religions. This was preceded by the creation of a lectureship in Japanese Religions, and the establishment of the SOAS Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions. In addition, a specialist on Japanese religions, Prof. Brian Bocking, joined the Department of the Study of Religions as Chair of Religious Studies.

By LUCIA DOLCE

**Institutional News**  
SOAS thus acknowledges the increasing interest in diverse forms of Japanese religiosity among students of various curricula, and the growing importance of Japanese religions as a comprehensive research field. The impetus for these new developments was a generous donation made to SOAS by the International Shinto Foundation, Tokyo, in 1998. The Foundation's contribution to the study of Japanese religions at SOAS, which will cover three years in the first instance, supports the lectureship and the Centre, and includes an injection of funds into the library and the creation of postgraduate scholarships.

The aims of the Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions is to provide a forum for scholars throughout Britain and Europe engaged in research into Japanese Religions, by organizing seminars, guest lectures, and international workshops. The Centre will be inaugurated with an international conference on 'Death, afterlives and other realms in contemporary Japanese religion and society', to be held at SOAS on December 7-9, 1999.

The MA degree, which has already attracted interest from Britain, Europe and Asia, is designed to provide an overview of Japanese religion, both past and present, while at the same time supplying tools of analysis for further research in the field. It may be completed in one calendar year (full

time), or in two or three calendar years (part-time).

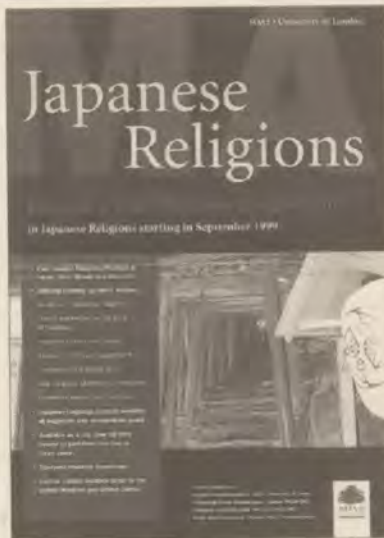
The programme centres on the course 'Religious Practice in Japan: Texts, Rituals, and Believers,' which presents the religious phenomena in Japan in their historical context and devotes attention to specific themes relevant for the understanding of the social aspects of Japanese religion and the influence of religion upon Japanese culture. The aim of the course is to achieve a balance between a traditional emphasis on doctrinal issues, which underline the formation and development of the various religious traditions, and the practice of religion as a more inclusive phenomenon which embraces rituals, festivals, beliefs, and active participation. Themes to be investigated include: the relation between religion and the state; the position of women in Japanese religion; the meaning of rituals; the geography of sacred space; prophecy and sacred history; pilgrimages.

Students also have the opportunity to select other courses, depending on their specific interests and previous knowledge, in order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the characteristics of Japanese religion, such as its Asian context and its contemporary developments outside Japan, and methodological instruments for the analysis of religious phenomena.

A previous knowledge of the Japanese language is not required for entry. However, students with a sufficient knowledge of Japanese and an interest in approaching primary sources will be able to follow a course in 'Readings in Japanese Religions.' This is designed to develop knowledge of the specific terminology and argumentation used in the religious literature of Japan, and to acquire familiarity with the critical discourse on religion of contemporary Japanese scholarship. ■



The Fushimi-Inari shrine complex at Kyoto.



Further information on the MA Japanese Religions and on the activities of the SOAS Centre for the Study of Japanese Religions may be found on the SOAS web page: [www.soas.ac.uk](http://www.soas.ac.uk)

Lucia Dolce is Soas lecturer in Japanese religions, and convenor of the MA programme Japanese Religions. She can be reached at [ld16@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ld16@soas.ac.uk).

# Hands across the Sea

## US-Japan Relations, 1961-1981

By ROGIER BUSSEER

**Publication**  
The 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo marked the acceptance of Japan by the international community. It was also the year in which the first Shinkansen or bullet train impressed the world, the year in which Japan was admitted as a member of the OECD and signed the International Monetary Fund article 8. American cold-war policies to make Japan into an economic and political ally had obviously succeeded. However, soon the Vietnam war turned out to be an event that exerted serious pressure on the American-Japanese relationship. Although Japan was involved in the conflict because the American use of air bases in Japan, the Sato administration was not consulted by President Johnson when the

Americans decided to start bombing North-Vietnam. Both, the polarization within Japan over this issue and the strong negative influence on the bilateral relationship, rose to the extent that the Tokyo born American ambassador Reischauer warned president Johnson in 1965 by saying that the loss of Japan would be more serious to U.S. interests than the loss of Vietnam.

On July 15, 1971, Nixon unexpectedly announced Kissinger's visit to China and his own forthcoming trip to Peking. In Tokyo, this event was soon after labelled as the Nikuson shokku (Nixon shock) because the American president had made his announcement without any prior consultation with the Japanese prime-minister Sato. To all those Japanese who had already for a long time felt reluctance over the Japanese policy towards China, the Nixon shock triggered a cry for a more

independent, pro-active and assertive foreign policy.

These two examples indicate that it was foremost the Asia policy of Washington and much less economic issues that in the eyes of policy makers in Tokyo put the bilateral relationship under pressure. The academic debate on the development of American-Japanese diplomatic postwar relations has for the last years been dominated by the question if it is for any longer correct to describe Japanese foreign policy as merely reactive, responsive to pressure from outside or that it has been innovative and initiating from an early point of time. Mega does not bring himself into this ongoing debate. Instead he takes a very different approach in his book on the U.S.-Japan relation in the period 1961-1981. Mega eloquently describes the changing patterns of the bilateral relationship by focusing on how successive American administrations dealt with Japan. In four chapters Mega discusses the development of the bilateral American-Japanese relationship under the administrations of Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford and Carter. Making extensive use of American archives and oral interviews with many American foreign policymakers, Mega describes interestingly the thoughts, ideas and perceptions of American presidents and policymakers on Japan. The book is valuable because it presents us with abundant inside infor-

mation and personal views of American policymakers that were engaged in the development of the probably most important bilateral relationship in the world. The reader learns about the backgrounds of the presidential advisors, becomes aware of American perceptions of developments in Asia and gets informed about struggles within the State Department's bureaucracy, for example U.S. Ambassador in Tokyo, Johnson (nephew of president Johnson) commenting on his predecessor Reischauer: "he treated the Japanese like children, talking down to them from the position of his own great intellectual prowess."

While Mega shows a deep understanding of the mechanisms that steer American politics, the book lacks a proper understanding of Japanese foreign policymaking. Consequently, the book overlooks a number of important Japanese diplomatic initiatives in the Asian arena. The Japanese efforts in the establishment of the Asian Development Bank and the reward of having the first president of the Bank is not mentioned by Mega. Neither is the omni-directional foreign policy of Prime-minister Tanaka Kakuei in the early 1970's mentioned, while this is commonly perceived as the end of the era in which Japan followed American foreign policies blindly. The large anti-Japanese demonstrations of early 1974 in Southeast Asia and its impact on the

U.S.-Japanese relationship is also overlooked by Mega. These anti-Japanese outbursts are of great importance for a proper appreciation of the Fukuda doctrine of 1977. In particular Fukuda's idea to bring Vietnam closer to the ASEAN countries provoked a rather strong American reaction which in its turn reinforced Japanese independent foreign policymaking. Although the Fukuda-doctrine is a highlight of independence in Japanese Asia policy making, it is not raised in this study.

Mega, obviously, neglects these Japanese attempts to formulate a pro-active Asian policy. This raises the question why Mega, unlike for example Walter LaFaber in his study entitled "The Clash, A history of U.S.-Japan Relations" (1997) preferred to leave this out of his study. Whatever the answer to this question might be, the result is that the book lacks to inform the reader about Japanese ideas and policies and let the careful reader grope in the dark in understanding the interaction between American and Japanese policies. ■

Timothy P. Mega

HANDS ACROSS THE SEA  
US-JAPAN RELATIONS, 1961-1981

Rogier Busseer, Department of Japanese Studies, Leiden University



# Two Bibliographies on Japan

Making a bibliography is a painstaking and time-consuming job. It is also an unrewarding task, because from the very outset the bibliographer knows he or she will be criticized; there are always some 'important' books missing from the list and since editing, printing, and publishing the book take time, the most recent titles are never to be found there. Of course, the latter cannot be helped, at least not in printed form.

■ By PAUL WIJSMAN



The first bibliography to be reviewed is the Area Bibliography of Japan by Ria Koopmans-De Bruijn, who is the East Asian Studies librarian at the C.V. Starr East Asian Library of Columbia University. As she writes in the preface '... this bibliography provides a general overview of literature relating to Japan, in as broad a range of subjects as possible. The main focus is on recent literature'. 'Recent' is, one can read in the introduction, from 1980 to the present (the introduction is dated January 1997). What is included and excluded in the bibliography is also explained in the introduction. One of the most important considerations for inclusion is the accessibility of the material. Since there could be all kinds of reasons for inaccessibility of even recent publications - obscure sources, unresponsive foreign publishers, or titles that are out of print before you know they are there - Koopmans' measure of accessibility is whether a title is available in a library. Let us hope the international library loan system works well, because readers living in small countries with a modest Japanese collection will encounter many titles in this bibliography that are out of print and not available in a library in their own country.

In total there are 2676 entries classed under subject headings, starting with Abortion and ending with Zen (with a reference back to Religion-Buddhism-Zen). Compared to Shulman's bibliography Japan (1989), this book has many more entries, but the number of pages is far fewer, since there are no annotations. And that is a pity, because sometimes I would really like to have more information about a book, not just the subject heading and a title.

I did some random tests, and as I mentioned above, there are always titles missing. For example, under the subject heading 'Library Catalogs' there are three catalogues on early Japanese books (of one American and two British libraries), but the monumental 5-volume catalogue on early Japanese books and prints in the German libraries by Eva Kraft is not there. And under 'Minorities-Okinawans' only the 1985 reprint of Lebra's *Okinawan Religion* is there, but why not Hateruma: socio-religious aspects of a south-Ryukyuan is-

land culture by Ouwehand (1985) or the German publication by Gert Anhalt *Okinawa zwischen Washington und Tokyo* (1991)? Well, you can't have it all.

More annoying was the fact that some publications by authors I picked out of the author index like Alvin D. Coox 1300, Thomas Crump 1342, and Kurt W. Radtke 1428 could not be found under these numbers. Maybe the publications of these three authors are somewhere in the book, but I could not find them since there is no title index.

And then there are the subject headings; one can be justifiably puzzled about the fact some titles are classed under a specific subject heading, and not under another. For example there are two subject headings 'Bushido' and 'Samurai', but why is John Newman's book *Bushido: the way of the warrior* placed under heading 'Samurai' and not under 'Bushido'? Under 'Bushido', by the way, one can read 'see also: 2088; 2089'. These two numbers refer to two books about photography with no, as far as I know, relation to *bushido* at all. And looking for books under 'Martial Arts', the reader is sent back to the heading 'Bushido', but she or he could find much more under 'Sports' with sub-headings like 'Aikido', 'Iaido', 'Kendo' or 'Ninjutsu'.

This bibliography is a mix of scholarly, popular, and even obscure books. Most of them are in English, but there are some books in other languages, because these were too important to ignore or because English materials were not available for certain subject. I really think this bibliography 'can serve the general public as a starting point that can help focus a newly developing interest', as Koopmans has written in her introduction, but I wonder whether it is of much use for the 'advanced scholar', since the specialist will have probably more titles in his head, than he can find under the headings of this bibliography.

## Australasian studies

The second book under review is a totally different kind of bibliography. *Australasian Studies of Japan: essays and annotated bibliography* (1989-1996) edited by Purnendra Jain, professor of Japanese Studies in the Centre for Asian Studies at the University of Adelaide.

This annotated bibliography is, according to the editor, complementary to the Directory of Japanese Studies in Australia and New Zealand, published in 1997. If I counted right, it

has 1332 entries, divided into nine sections. The type of publications in this bibliography are books, book chapters, research articles, and all kinds of other scholarly publications in the disciplinary areas of the Social Sciences and Humanities with the exception of language and linguistics. The authors are those who have produced publications on Japan while based in Australia and New Zealand while conducting their research or its publication. Every section or area is divided into sub-areas, for instance the 'Japanese economy' is subdivided into areas like 'Agriculture', 'Domestic economy', 'Domestic political economy' etc. Each sub-area is organized chronologically beginning with 1996 and ending with 1989. Every area is preceded by an essay in which a specialist discusses the state of affairs within that specific area. There are also two general essays by J.J.A. Stockwin and Takamichi Mito about Japanese scholarship in Australia and New Zealand from 'an international perspective' and 'a Japanese view' respectively. Reading these essays and browsing through the bibliography entries it is apparent that some areas in the Social Sciences and Humanities get more attention from scholars in these two countries than others. For example 'Japanese economy' has 270 entries, 'Japanese literature' 70!

It is difficult to say whether articles or books are missing in the list, since the criteria are fairly wide: all kind of scholarly materials by all kind of people, like visiting scholars living in Australia for even a short period, are included. The editors used various techniques to collect the materials, like database search using CD-Roms and on-line information catalogues, contacting researchers directly, and a general call for submissions on the Internet.

What I can do is to give you the results of my at random test: I encountered only one (as a matter of fact, two) misprinted reference (both Loos and Osanai can be found under JS24, and not under JS23 as printed in the author index).

With such a wide variety of scholarly materials, spanning voluminous books to 3-page articles, surrounded by essays - one-third of the total text - this volume is not a typical bibliography. You can call it a very informative book about the 'state of affairs' of the academic world of Japanese Studies in Australia and New Zealand accompanied by an exhaustive publication list, which is, of course, also very useful as reference for librarians and scholars. ■

Ria Koopmans-De Bruijn

## AREA BIBLIOGRAPHY OF JAPAN

Scarecrow Area Bibliographies, No. 14.  
Lanham, Md. & London: The Scarecrow Press, 1998

Purnendra Jain (ed.)

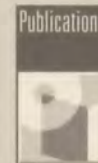
## AUSTRALASIAN STUDIES OF JAPAN

ESSAYS AND ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY (1989-96)  
Rockhampton: Central Queensland University Press, 1998

Paul Wijsman is Librarian of the Centre for Japanese Studies, Universiteit Leiden, The Netherlands.

E-mail: wijsman@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

## BOOKS RECEIVED



Culter, Suzanne

### MANAGING DECLINE

JAPAN'S COAL INDUSTRY RESTRUCTURING AND COMMUNITY RESPONSE

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 215 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-2145-9 pb, 0-8248-2060-6 hb, illustrated

J  
a  
p  
a  
n

Dahm, Henrich

### FRENCH AND JAPANESE ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM SINCE 1975

Surrey: Curzon Press, 1999, 162 pp. ISBN 0-7007-1084-1, tables

Graham, Patricia J.

### TEA OF THE SAGES

THE ART OF 'SENCHA'

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 412 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-1826-1 hb, illustrated

Hell, Stefan

### DER MANDSCHUREI-KONFLIKT

JAPAN, CHINA UND DER VÖLKERBUND 1931 BIS 1933

Universitas Verlag Tübingen, 1999, 285 pp.  
ISBN 3-924898-25-1, German, illustrated

Kaempfer, Engelbert

(edited, translated, and annotated by Beatrice M. Bodart-Bailey)

### KAEMPFER'S JAPAN

TOKUGAWA CULTURE OBSERVED

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 545 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-2066-5 pb, 0-8248-1964-0 hb, illustrated

Kita, Sandy

### THE LAST TOSA

IWASA KATSUMOCHI MATABEI, BRIDGE TO UKIYO-E

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 259 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-2087-8 pb, 0-8248-1942-X hb

Koshiro, Yukiko

### TRANS-PACIFIC RACISMS AND THE U.S. OCCUPATION OF JAPAN

New York: Columbia University Press, 1999, 295 pp.  
ISBN 0-231-11349-8 pb, 0-231-11348-X hb

The National Institute for Defense Studies, Japan

### EAST ASIAN STRATEGIC REVIEW 1998-1999

Tokyo: The National Institute for Defense Studies, Japan, 1999, 301 pp.  
ISBN 4-939034-04-6

Schwentker, Wolfgang

### MAX WEBER IN JAPAN

Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1998, 444 pp.  
ISBN 3-16-146806-6, German

Sherif, Ann

### MIRROR

THE FICTION AND ESSAYS OF KŌDA AYA

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 224 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-1899-7 pb, 0-8248-2181-5 hb

Snyder, Stephen and Philip Gabriel

### ŌE AND BEYOND

FICTION IN CONTEMPORARY JAPAN

Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 317 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-2136-x pb, 0-8248-2040-1 hb

Uno, Kathleen S.

### PASSAGES TO MODERNITY

MOTHERHOOD, CHILDHOOD, AND SOCIAL REFORM IN EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY JAPAN

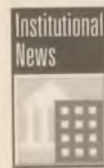
Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 237 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-2137-8 pb, 0-8248-1619-6 hb, illustrated



# The British Association for Korean Studies

The British Association for Korean Studies (BAKS) was formally constituted in 1987. 'The object of the Association,' states its Constitution rather blandly, 'shall be to encourage Korean studies in the Britain, in particular by stimulating teaching and research.' BAKS carries out this objective by, among other things, organizing an annual conference, publishing a newsletter and maintaining a website.

By KEITH PRATT



Few people these days doubt the key role played by Korea in the history, politics, and recently the economy, of Northeast Asia and hence of the world. Yet despite the exploratory work of Captain Broughton back in the 18th century, the significant contribution by John McLeavey Brown to the urban development of Seoul in the late Choson, even the heroic part played by British forces in the Korean War, Korea has yet to excite the popular interest or imagination of the British people, or to attract the university students that it deserves in Britain.

Scholarly example is not lacking: the expertise and enthusiasm of William Skilleen, Richard Rutt, and Brother Anthony SJ have long been admired world-wide. But in Britain, interest in East Asia was focused for too long on the colonial possession - Hong Kong - and its economic potential. Not until the 1970s did the numbers registering for Chinese and Japan degree courses begin to rise; and in a county where there is still no large Korean expatriate community to wave the t'aeguk-ki flag, relatively few budding orientalisks have seen fit to devote their future to a peninsula that was long regarded simply as a bridge between the two major powers. Yet among those who have, some - such as Judith Cherry and Keith Howard - have already made their mark.

(Advertisement)



## Hotei Publishing

Publishers of books  
on Japanese art & society

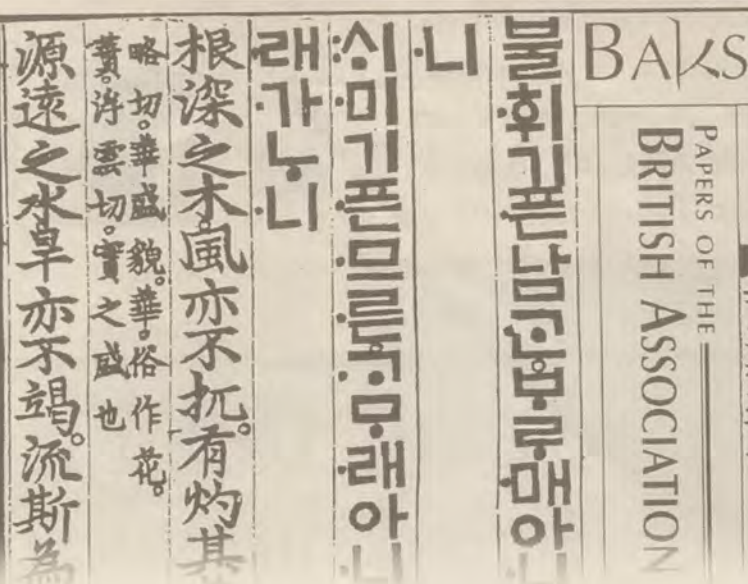
Just out  
Fall/Winter catalogue

We welcome all quality  
manuscripts in the field of  
Japanese art & society

January 2001

Hotei Publishing conference on Ukiyo-e

Contact us at Zoeterwoudsesingel 56  
2313 EK Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel. 31 (0)71-5663190  
Fax 31 (0)71-5663191  
E-mail info@hotei-publishing.com  
Website www.hotei-publishing.com



For many years the only place in the Britain where Korean could be studied was at SOAS, which initiated courses in the 1940s. In 1979 Sheffield became the first place outside the capital to teach Korean, and in the 1990s - with assistance from the Korea Foundation and Korea Research Foundation - the Universities of Oxford, Newcastle, and Durham also introduced programmes.

Against this background, a fledgling organization was set up in the early 1980s, and was formally constituted in 1987 as the British Association for Korean Studies. In his presidential address in 1992, Dr James Grayson said that 'the role of the Association must lie in the description of Korean culture, society and economy of Korea to the general population as well as pursuing purely academic interests.' He specified BAKS encouragement of Korean Studies programmes in universities not yet teaching Korean language; support for the Korean Library Group (also founded in 1987); promotion of Korean language and cultural teaching through non-university based programmes, including evening classes; and the holding of conferences and workshops coupled with a publication programme.

Membership, which includes overseas members, has never been large, and new members are welcome. Unlike the Association for Korean Studies in Europe, BAKS does not express priority for any particular area of concern such as cultural or social affairs, and debates anything from contemporary politics to traditional literature. Furthermore, in order to affirm Korean individuality and be able to speak clearly on issues concerning Korea alone, the Association has voted against joining in a federal East Asian body with its sister organizations the British Associations for Chinese and Japanese Studies. It has, nevertheless, joined happily with them in two joint conferences, in 1994 and 1997, and will do so again in Edinburgh in 2001.

Since 1987, the principal activity of BAKS has been to organize an annual conference or workshop, held each year in a different university centre. In 1991 the Council thought that a main theme should be defined for each conference, but this has not been slavishly observed. At Oxford in 1998, for the first time a distinguished keynote speaker was invited from abroad, and Suh Daesook (University of Hawai'i) gave a stimulating lecture on the implications for the region and world of the recent leadership change

in North and South Korea. On 11-12th November 1999, BAKS hosted a two-day conference in conjunction with the Foreign Office and the British Library, focusing on North-South Korean relations and contemporary arts in Korea. Since 1990, a selection of conference papers has been published under the title BAKS Papers. Six volumes have so far appeared and two more are in preparation. Details can be found on the BAKS website\*. Informal workshops have also afforded BAKS members more practical experiences, including opportunities at the British Museum and British Library for close-up study of Korean treasures not on public display.

Conferences, workshops, and publications show that BAKS is active, but in the light of the situation described in my opening paragraph its Council is very conscious of its principal objective. The need to stimulate awareness of Korea - an ally of over a hundred years - among the British people is as great as ever. Therefore, the Council has recently embarked on a joint programme with the Korean Embassy, including collaboration in future on its Schools' Essay Competition, which it is hoped will gradually help to popularize Korean Studies. It is also joining with the UK-Korea Forum for the Future to discuss such matters as educational exchanges with Korea. It would welcome any comments and suggestions from readers of this article. ■

## RECENT BOOKS ON KOREA BY MEMBERS OF BAKS:

Gina Barnes  
**CHINA, KOREA AND JAPAN, THE RISE OF CIVILIZATION IN EAST ASIA**  
1993

Martina Deuchler  
**THE CONFUCIAN TRANSFORMATION OF KOREA**  
1992

Barry Gills  
**KOREA VERSUS KOREA, A CASE OF CONTESTED LEGITIMACY**  
1996

James Hoare  
**WORLD BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERIES: KOREA**  
1997

Keith Howard  
**BANDS, SONGS, AND SHAMANISTIC RITUALS**  
FOLK MUSIC IN KOREAN SOCIETY  
1990

Peter Lowe  
**THE ORIGINS OF THE KOREAN WAR**  
5th ed., 1995

Beth McKillop  
**KOREAN ART AND DESIGN**  
1992

Keith Pratt & Richard Rutt  
**KOREA, A HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL DICTIONARY**  
1999

Roger Tennant  
**A HISTORY OF KOREA**  
1996

Keith Pratt is Emeritus Professor and former Head of the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Durham (E-mail: keithpratt@durham.ac.uk). He is currently President of BAKS.

\*The website of the British Association for Korean Studies is at <http://www.dur.ac.uk/~dmu0rcp/baks.htm>

## BOOKS RECEIVED

Publication



Keil, Siegfried, Jens Jetzkowitz, and Matthias König  
**MODERNISIERUNG UND RELIGION IN SÜDKOREA**  
STUDIEN ZUR MULTIRELIGIOSITÄT  
IN EINER OSTASIATISCHEN GESELLSCHAFT  
München: Welforum Verlag, 1998. 297 pp.  
ISBN 3-8039-0715-2, German

K  
o  
r  
e  
a

Kim, Ah-jeong, and R.B. Graves (translation)  
**THE METACULTURAL THEATER OF OH T'AE-SŌK**  
FIVE PLAYS FROM THE KOREAN AVANT-GARDE  
Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 1999, 164 pp.  
ISBN 0-8248-2158-0 pb, 0-8248-2099-1 hb, illustrated

Pai, Hyung Il and Timothy R. Tangherlini (eds)  
**NATIONALISM AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF KOREAN IDENTITY**  
Berkeley: University of California, 1999, 230 pp.  
ISBN 1-55729-062-8



THE GATE FOUNDATION IS AN INTERNATIONAL ART FOUNDATION DEVOTED TO PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL EXCHANGE OF CONTEMPORARY ART. THE GATE FOUNDATION AIMS TO STIMULATE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF CONTEMPORARY ART AND ARTISTS, EMPHASIZING NON-WESTERN AND MIGRANT CULTURES.

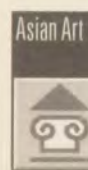
**GATE**  
Foundation

THE GATE FOUNDATION  
Keizersgracht 613  
1017 DS Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
P.O. Box 814  
1000 AV Amsterdam  
Tel: +31-20-620 80 57  
Fax: +31-20-639 07 62  
E-mail: info@gatefoundation.nl  
Website: http://www.gatefoundation.nl

## Food for Thought

### Recent developments in contemporary art from China

On November 21 the exhibition 'Food for Thought' will open in De Witte Dame in Eindhoven (The Netherlands). 'Food for Thought' is a multimedia exhibition that presents the most recent developments in contemporary art from China. Fifteen young Chinese artists have been invited to show their most recent works: Ni Haifeng (Amsterdam), Xu Tan (Canton) Feng Mengbo, Shi Qing, Lin Tianmiao, Qiu Zhijie, An Hong, Yin Xuzhen, Zhang Dali, Feng Zhengjie, Hu Xiangdong (Peking), Shi Yong, Xu Zhen (Shanghai), Ellen Pau (Hong Kong), and Zhang Peili (Hangzhou).



The show is part of the national manifestation 'Chinese Karakters' that will be held in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the People's Republic China. It is a co-production between the Royal Tropical Institute in Amsterdam and MU Art Foundation/Arctic Foundation in Eindhoven and Canvas Foundation in Amsterdam.

'Food for Thought' is an exhibition that also focuses on the media, including video, CD-ROM, and Internet. Some of the artists are presenting their work in Europe for the first time. Zhang Peili, for instance, is an outstanding example of a young artist in China today. He is one of the first artists who experimented with video as a medium at the end of the 1980s. His works 'Eating' (collection Museum of Modern Art in New York) will be shown in this exhibition.

Xu Zhen (1972) plays with the mixing of ideas concerning the private and the public domains. During 'Food for Thought' he will show the video installation 'From inside the body' (1999), in which he and his girlfriend are sitting on a couch and proceed to take off their clothes. Then they touch each other and sniff at each other, because they have smelled an unidentifiable smell, which they cannot localize. 'From inside the body' is about the curiosity that people have about other people.

#### New media

The well-known computer artist Feng Mengbo (1966) shows his latest work 'Taking Mt. Doom by strategy'. He has made a CD-ROM in which Chinese opera, computer games and material from historical archives are mixed into a new computer game. Apart from video, CD-ROM, and Internet, paintings, objects, photography, and site-specific works will also be exhibited. The CD-ROM by Xu Tan (1957) shows the daily lives of marginal groups now present in major Chinese cities that have evolved as a result from economic

development. Food, prostitution, and homosexuality are central to this work. Homosexuality in China is taboo and only visible on the private scene. Xu Tan sheds light on the role of the economy, the personal environment from the persons concerned, and completes this with his own experiences.

#### Performance

Many Chinese artists have been using performance as a medium, for exchanging ideas and thoughts within the so-called 'avant-garde' scene. Zhang Dali (1963) lives in Peking and uses graffiti to engage the city in a dialogue about the consequences of the rapid surge of modernization that destroys old houses and traditional hutongs.

Dali's statement is presented by spraying his profile in the manner of a graffiti on the walls of buildings and cutting a stylized self-portrait from stone. He brings these actions together in a performance. In 'Food for Thought' a series of photographs of his performances will be shown.



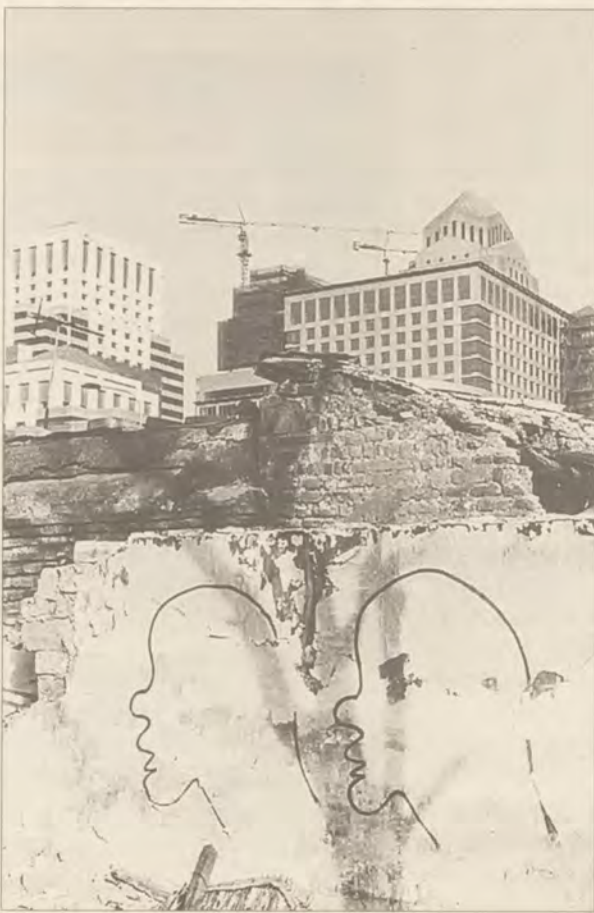
'Fine', photography by Qui Zhijie, 1997, 60 x 45 cm

Zhang Dali is scheduled to give a performance with a couple of artists and architecture students from November 22 till 26, location: Technical University in Eindhoven.

This exhibition is the first major exhibition of Chinese art in Europe that focuses on recent developments in visual arts in China. Themes which are important in China today, such as identity, gender, sexuality, modernization, and city shaping are

also apparent in the works on show. Simultaneously 'Food for Thought' gives an image of the process of art. Visitors will be given information about the way artists work and live and about their sources of inspiration. To achieve this a special CD-ROM was made. Through the CD-ROM the public can visit an interactive programme in which they can learn more about ideas and backgrounds. It comprises video frag-

ments and photographs of studios in Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Canton, and Hong Kong. The environment of the artist's life and way of living and other works of art will also be shown on the CD-ROM. ■



Zhang Dali's 'Demolition' Beijing, Forbidden City 1998

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

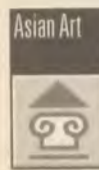
21 november - 12 december 1999  
De Witte Dame  
Emmasingel 20  
5611 AZ Eindhoven  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-40-296 1663 / 293 9144  
E-mail: mu@mul.nl  
Daily: 10 am - 6 pm  
Sat.: 11 am - 5 pm  
Sun.: 1 pm - 5 pm



# A Portrait of Modern China

## New photography exhibition offers images from fifty years of change

A new photography exhibition entitled 'China: Fifty Years Inside the People's Republic' will be on display at the Asia Society in New York until 2 January 2000. The exhibition is presented in collaboration with Aperture Foundation, the world-renowned publisher of photography books.



No place on earth has changed so much over the last fifty years as China. From civil war following the Japanese occupation, to Communist revolution and rigidity, to an emerging capitalist economy that is among the world's fastest growing, the Chinese people have undergone a half century of transformations. This exhibition distills the essence of this period in 160 images by 33 photographers from Asia, Europe, and the United States.

For this exhibition photographers have been sought who have spent a lifetime in China, or in the case of Western photographers, those whose long-term commitment to the country and its people offers a view from within.

Michael Hoffman, Executive Director of Aperture, has brought together work by a number of image-makers who are less known

internationally, including some whose works have never before been exhibited in the West: 'In addition to presenting images by internationally recognized photographers such as Sebastião Salgado, Wu Jialin and Hiroji Kubota, it is our hope to provide a meaningful view of China through



the personal perspective of the photographers.'

To set the scene, the exhibition begins with a selection of black-and-white photographs from the era before the founding of the People's Republic in 1949. One picture, taken by U.S. diplomat Owen Lattimore (1900-1989), shows the youthful Mao Zedong and Zhou Enlai posing for a photo-journalist at their Yanan refuge in 1937. In keeping with the emphasis on the artistic value of these works, the rest of the exhibition is arranged not chronologically but in groups of images by individual photographers. Japanese-born Hiroji Kubota captures the excitement of a 1985 festival in Guangdong province in a red spray of fireworks. The large-format panoramic photographs of Lois Conner, who has been working in China since 1984, offer evocations of classical landscape paintings as they present views of well-known sites. In a series focusing on the generation of his parents,

Eve Arnold, Buddhist Monks, Cold Mountain Monastery, Suzhou, 1979, China: Fifty Years



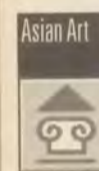
Wang Jinsong photographed members of it in their homes, surrounded by household objects that speak of class and status as much as they do of personal taste.

According to Vishakha N. Desai, Director of the Asia Society Galleries, the exhibition and accompanying publication 'China: Fifty Years Inside the People's Republic' is not a documentary survey but a 'highly personal, engaged, insiders' view of China and the Chinese during a time of unprecedented change.'

Liu Heung Shing, High School Students Study under the Lights in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, 1981, China: Fifty Years

### CHINA: FIFTY YEARS INSIDE THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Until 2 January 2000  
Asia Society  
725 Park Avenue  
New York 10021  
New York  
United States  
<http://www.asiasociety.org>



The Third Asia-Pacific Triennial opened on September 9 and will be on display till January 26, 2000. Presenting more than 140 artworks by 77 artists from 20 countries and regions throughout Asia and the Pacific, the Third Asia-Pacific Triennial also includes an international Conference, a Virtual Triennial online exhibition, Kids' APT, a Screen Culture programme of video, short film and animation, and much more.

On the digital media front, collaborations and interdisciplinary approaches abound - visual arts and music, popular culture, screen culture, and new technology. In partnership with Multimedia Art Asia Pacific, the Virtual Triennial ([www.apt3.net](http://www.apt3.net)) will showcase work by artists from the region who use the Internet in the creation and presentation of their work.

The Conference that was held from 10 till 12 September 1999 was a major drawcard: over 90 speakers discussed current issues in art, film, new media, and popular culture in Asia and the Pacific. Dr Caroline Turner, Deputy Director Queensland Art Gallery, has written a report on the conference for the IIAS Newsletter.

### Beyond the Future

The Queensland Art Gallery began planning and developing the Asia-Pacific Triennial project in the late 1980s. It aimed to enhance cultural awareness and understanding, creating a forum for discussion and exchange. The project centres on a commitment to building long-term relationships based on mutual respect

# Third Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art



Jun-Jieh Wang, 'I Want Neon Urlaub!', 1998, 3<sup>rd</sup> APT

providing new research and scholarship in and about the region.

The first Asia-Pacific Triennial in 1993 was concerned with tradition and change, bringing the past into the present. It proved a landmark exhibition, with new forums developing from it redefining contemporary and traditional art. Like APT1, in 1996 the Second Asia-Pacific Triennial did not impose any single perspective on the exhibition, using the integrating concept of 'Present Encounters'.

This year the theme of APT3, is 'Beyond the Future', revisiting ideas highlighted in APT1 and 2: the place of tradition and the past in contemporary art and society, how we relate today and what these things may

mean tomorrow. The works cross numerous boundaries - between craft, traditional practices, performances, textile, video, and new technology. For the first time, APT3 will include artists from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and the Pacific Islands of Wallis, Futuna, and Niue. The globally mobile artists are also well represented: Cai Guo Qiang, Chen Zhen, Xu Bing, Vong Phaophanit - 'born in China living and working in Paris, France, New York.'

### Virtual Triennial

Discussion by artists has become a very popular part at contemporary arts events. Special features of the APT3 website include profiles on

participating artists, an email forum discussing issues relating to contemporary art and culture, an exhibition of online artworks plus a Kids APT online-interactive artworks and projects developed for children 3-12 years.

Artists in the Virtual Triennial include Wang Jun-Jieh from Taipei, 'a pioneer of the use of multimedia in Taiwan whose work crosses the boundaries of what is seen as consumable culture and the role of technology and the media.' Wang's questions to his audience - 'Who are the real masters? Who is Who?' - critically echo Microsoft's 'Where do you want to go today?' In 'Neon Urlaub' Wang reinvents himself as a travel agent offering his 'customers' virtual trips to real places. These adventures exist only in cyberspace but the artist will install his travel agency in the Queensland Art Gallery, complete with plastic palm trees and access to his booking service.

Building on a previous collaboration Australian writer Geremie Barmé and oral historian Sang Ye installed 'Totems Poles Apart' for APT3. This work consists of two 13-metre high inflatable red Hua Biao (decorated columns) from Wang Fu Jing, the shopping epicentre of Beijing. A mock-museum exhibit illustrates the symbolic history of the Hua Biao, the original marble versions of which have stood in Tianan-

men Square for 500 years. Video interviews with witnesses to the Hua Biao both in Beijing and Brisbane construct a dialogue with these silent and silenced icons.

Two other interesting works are the CD-ROM and online projects from the Faculty of Applied and Creative Arts, University Malaysia Sarawak and on the performance front, a collaboration between Brisbane-based contemporary music ensemble Elision, Heri Dono from Yogyakarta and Queensland artist Judith Wright.

There is a strong emphasis in APT3 on art that crosses between traditional and contemporary. The theme 'Beyond the Future' takes account of 'the concern of many artists in the region today about contributing positively through their creativity to their communities surviving the present and constructing new futures, for many artists their past is their future.'

### THIRD ASIA-PACIFIC TRIENNIAL OF CONTEMPORARY ART

9 September 1999 - 26 January 2000  
Queensland Art Gallery  
Till January 26, 2000  
Queensland Cultural Centre  
South Bank  
South Brisbane QLD 4101  
Australia  
Tel.: +61-7-3840 7303  
Fax: +61-7-3844 886



## Art

NOVEMBER 1999 &gt; MAY 2000

PLEASE REFER TO  
THE IIAS NEWSLETTER  
WEBSITE  
(<http://www.iias.nl/>)  
FOR MORE DETAILED  
INFORMATION ABOUT  
MUSEUMS WITH ASIAN  
ART COLLECTIONS.

## AGENDA



Mali Wu, *The Sweeties*,  
Mixed media installation

(PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DALAI LAMA), 1999.  
SEE: THIRD ASIA-PACIFIC TRIENNIAL  
QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY, AUSTRALIA

## AUSTRALIA

## Queensland Art Gallery

Queensland Cultural Centre  
South Bank  
South Brisbane QLD 4101  
Tel.: +61-7-3840 7303  
Fax: +61-7-3844 8865

until 26 January 2000

Third Asia-Pacific Triennial  
Please refer to article on page 37.

## AUSTRIA

## Schloßmuseum

Tummelplatz 10 A  
4020 Linz  
Tel.: +43-732-77 44 19  
Fax: +43-732-77 44 82 66

until 27 February 2000

Indonesia, Art-pictures of the world –  
world views  
The exhibition shows a selection of  
classical bronzes, figures of Wayang  
from Java, wrought iron and metal  
work, and impressive textiles from  
South Sumatra. The more than 500 ob-  
jects come mainly from the collection  
of the Viennese Ethnological Museum  
and from private collections.

## BELGIUM

Chinese Pavilion /  
Japanese Pagoda

Van Praetlaan 44  
10120 Brussels  
Tel.: +32-2-268 1608

Permanent exhibition

Important collections of Chinese and  
Japanese export porcelain.

## CANADA

## Art Beatus

M1 888 Nelson Street  
Vancouver BC V6Z 2H1  
Tel.: +1-604-688 2633  
Fax: +1-604-688 2685

Art Beatus highlights contemporary  
international art with a special focus on  
Asian art.

## FRANCE

## Musée Cernuschi

Avenue Vélasquez 7  
75008 Paris  
Tel.: +33-1-45635075  
Fax: +33-1-45637816

Permanent collection

Art and archaeology of China from the  
Neolithic period to the 13th century.

## GERMANY

Museum für Ostasiatische  
Kunst

Takustrasse 40D  
14195 Berlin (Dahlem)  
Tel.: +49-30-830 1383 / 83011  
Fax: +49-30-831 6384

Permanent collection

The museum offers a comprehensive  
overview of the fine and decorative  
arts of China, Japan, and Korea, empha-  
sising the genre of painting. Its collec-  
tion of Asian graphic art, primarily  
Japanese woodblock prints, is one of  
the finest and most important in Ger-  
many.

## Rautenstrauch-Joest Museum

Uberring 45  
50678 Cologne  
Tel.: +49-221-336 9413  
Fax: +49-221-2211 4155

Permanent Collection

Collections illustrating non-European  
cultures.

## Linden Museum

Hegelplatz 1  
70174 Stuttgart  
Tel.: +49-711-123 1242  
Fax: +49-711-297 047  
daily 10am – 5pm, Wed. 10am – 8pm,  
closed on Monday

Permanent collection

Worldwide ethnographical collections,  
Chinese and Japanese lacquer-ware.

## China Gallery

Schwanderstraße 49  
90596 Schwanstetten  
Tel.: +49-91707454

Permanent display of the work of Liu  
Shao Hui (1940), modern painter and  
designer. Liu Shao Hui is one of the  
founders of the Yunnan School of Mod-  
ern Heavy Colour Painting.



Choi Jae-Eun,  
*Micro-macro (detail)*

SEE: THIRD ASIA-PACIFIC TRIENNIAL  
QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY, AUSTRALIA



A pair of Chinese famille verte porcelain jars, *Vision of the East*.

SEE: PARTRIDGE FINE ARTS, LONDON

## GREAT BRITAIN

British Museum and  
Museum of Mankind

Great Russell Street  
London WC1B 3DG  
Tel.: +44-171-412 7111  
Fax: +44-171-323 8614 / 8480

Permanent collection

Antiques from Egypt, Western Asia,  
Greece, and Rome, as well as prehistor-  
ic and British art, Medieval, Renais-  
sance, Modern, and Oriental collection,  
prints, drawings, coins, and medals.

until end 1999

Arts of Korea  
Arts of Korea will present an overview  
of Korean art and archaeology, ranging  
from the Neolithic period to the 19th  
century. The exhibition includes loans  
from the national Museum of Korea,  
the British Library and several private  
collections. The exhibition will be a  
forerunner of the Museum's new per-  
manent Korean Gallery scheduled to  
open in 2000.

until 20 February 2000

*Gilded Dragons: Buried treasures from  
China's Golden Ages*  
A loan exhibition from China focusing  
on the Tang Dynasty, a cosmopolitan  
period in Chinese history, rich in pre-  
cious gold and silver treasures.

until February 2000

*Later Persian Painting and Lacquer of the  
Qajar Dynasty*

## Victoria and Albert Museum

Cromwell Road  
South Kensington  
London SW7 2RL  
Tel.: +44-171-938 8264

until 23 April 2000

*Mao: From icon to irony*  
The history of the cult of Mao Zedong  
from the mid 1940s to the 1990s.

Institute of  
Contemporary Art

The Mall  
London SW1  
Tel.: +44-181-499 3750

18 November – 26 November

*The Story of Ming Furniture:  
The Collection of Dr S.Y. Yip.*

## Partridge Fine Arts

144-146 New Bond Street  
London W1Y 0LY

until 10 December

*Vision of the East*  
Some fifty examples of the decorative  
arts have been selected to illustrate the  
cultural exchange between East and  
West.

## Ashmolean Museum

The University of Oxford  
Oxford OX1 2PH  
Tel.: +44-1865-278 010

until 30 December

*The Sculptural Heritage of Tibet: Buddhist  
art from the Nyinjei Lam Collection*  
The Collection comprises 80 Tibetan  
Buddhist bronze sculptures and related  
objects, including a number of rare In-  
dian and Nepalese bronze sculptures of  
the 12th-17th centuries.

## INDIA

## Gallery Chemould

Jehangir Art Gallery, First floor  
M. Gandhi Road  
Bombay 400023  
Tel.: +91-22-283 3640  
Fax: +91-22-283 6058

Permanent collection

Gallery Chemould devotes itself to  
promoting contemporary art. This sea-  
son the Gallery will co-ordinate an ex-  
change of artists between India and  
Australia, entitled 'Fire and Life'. This  
will culminate in a series of shows in  
five cities in India.

## INDONESIA

## Cemara 6

Galeri Kafe Jalan Cemara 6  
Jakarta Pusat 10350  
Tel.: +62-21-324 505  
Fax: +62-21-325 890

Permanent display of the gallery's col-  
lection of paintings by more than 40 In-  
donesian painters. Among them are  
Kartika Affandi and Basoeki Abdullah. A  
special room is devoted to the work of  
the painter Salim who lives in Paris.

## JAPAN

## Tokyo Station gallery

1-9-1 Marunouchi  
Chiyoda-ku  
Tokyo 100  
Tel.: +81-3-3212 2763  
Fax: +81-3-3212 2058

The Tokyo Station Gallery opened in  
1988 and is located in a corner of the  
former Tokyo Station, constructed in  
1913. Aiming to be a small but authen-  
tic art gallery, its focus is on photo-  
graphs, poster art, architectural design,  
and Japanese modern artists.

## Kyoto National Museum

527 Chayamachi  
Higashiyama-ku  
Kyoto 605

until 23 November

*Kyoto Style: Trends in 16th – 19th century  
kimono*

This exhibition traces the fashion  
trends of Kyoto kimono through the  
Momoyama and Edo Periods. Through  
extant kosode, genre paintings, and  
other works of art, the exhibition  
examines the kimono styles, tastes, and  
aesthetics of three centuries of Ky-  
otoites.

## THE NETHERLANDS

## Foundation for Indian Artists

Fokke Simonszstraat 10  
1017 TG Amsterdam  
Tel.: +31-20-623 1547  
Fax: +31-20-623 1547  
daily 1pm – 6pm, closed on Monday,  
1st Sunday of the month 2pm – 5pm



An important Louis XVI marquetrie secrétaire by David Roentgen, c1780,  
*Vision of the East*

SEE: PARTRIDGE FINE ARTS, LONDON



until 18 December  
Sharmila Sarnani  
Videos and sculptures

8 January 2000 – 10 February 2000  
V.N. Aji  
New paintings and drawings

12 February 2000 – 16 March 2000  
Indian paintings and drawings from the collection of Albert Heyn

**MU Art Foundation**

De Witte Dame  
Emmasingel 20  
5611 AZ Eindhoven  
Tel.: +31-40-296 1663  
Fax: +31-40-296 1673  
daily 10am-6pm, Sat. 11am-5pm,  
Sun. 1-5pm

21 November – 11 December  
Food for Thought  
Please refer to article on page 36.

**Westfries Museum**

Rode steen 1  
Hoorn  
Tel.: +31-229-280 028  
Fax: +31-229-280 029

until 5 December  
Li Zi Jian  
Li Zi Jian lives in Los Angeles. Among other things the exhibition shows photo-realistic paintings of daily life in Mongolia.

**NORWAY**

**Ethnographic Museum**

Frederiksgate 201640 Oslo  
Tel.: +47-22-859 300  
Fax: +47-22-859 960  
daily (September 15th to May 14th) 12-3pm, (May 15th to September 14th) 11am-3pm, closed on Monday

Permanent collection from East Asia, Africa, North America, South-America, Arctic, sub-Arctic.

**PORTUGAL**

**Museum of Ethnology**

Avenida Ilha da Madeira  
1400 Lisboa  
Tel.: +351-1-301 5264 / 5  
Fax: +351-1-301 3994

Due to renovations the museum will be closed in 1999.

**SINGAPORE**

**General information**

National Heritage Board  
93 Stamford Road  
Singapore 178897  
Tel.: +65-332 3573  
Fax: +65-334 3054

**Singapore Art Museum**

71 Bras Basah Road  
Singapore 189555  
Tel.: +65-332 3215  
Fax: +65-224 7919

Permanent Display on Chinese Culture and Civilisations  
This exhibition will introduce visitors to the world of Chinese beliefs, symbolism, connoisseurship, and the Chinese scholarly tradition.

**19 November – 29 October 2000**

*Imagining the Century: Singapore Art Museum Collection Exhibition series*  
The exhibition provides a particular view of colonial rule, war and revolution, independence, and social changes in Southeast Asia through the artist's world. Featuring key pieces from the Museum's permanent collection, this exhibition surveys Southeast Asian modern and contemporary works produced since the 1930s.

**until 21 November (international tour in 2000)**

*Diobok-Obo: Continuities and Contingencies: Southeast Asian art today*  
Diobok-Obo focuses on contemporary Southeast Asian artists' engagement with important issues such as 'Who are we within the region', and



A Louis XV bombe-shaped commode, by Pierre Roussel, c1754, Vision of the East

SEE: PARTRIDGE FINE ARTS, LONDON.

'What is the nature of art-making in our times?' This is the first ASEAN project to showcase Southeast Asian artworks outside of the region.

**2 December – 31 January 2000**

*Nokia Singapore Art 1999*  
This art event will present aspects of contemporary practices in Singapore.

**December 1999**

*Millenium Sculptures*  
A permanent feature at the SAM, the sculptures are two specially commissioned pieces to mark the Millenium.

**10 February 2000 – 28 March 2000**

*Rose Crossing*  
The exhibition features Australian artists from both Asian and Western backgrounds. Artists include Guan Wei, John Young, Felicia Kan, John Wolseley.



Katsushige Nakahashi, Installation

SEE: THIRD ASIA-PACIFIC TRIENNIAL, QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY, AUSTRALIA

**SWITZERLAND**

**Baur Collection**

8 Rue Munier-Romilly  
1206 Geneva  
Tel.: +41-22-346 1729  
Fax: +41-22-789 1845  
Daily 2 p.m. – 6 p.m., closed on Monday

**Renewed permanent collection**

A presentation in four new exhibitions rooms of rarely shown Japanese and Chinese objects: Satsuma ceramics, stamps, Chinese lacquerware.

**THAILAND**

**Gallery of Fine arts**

Silpakorn University  
Klan Gwan House 11, 19th floor  
140/1 Wireless Road  
Bangkok 10330  
Tel.: +66-2-255 9100 ext. 201  
Fax: +66-2-255 9113 14

**Opened 1 February**

*Alter-Ego*  
The exhibition aims at developing a closer relationship between Thailand and Europe and to enhance cross-cultural dialogues. European artists will be working in Thailand as artists in residence.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Honolulu Academy of Arts**

900 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1495  
Tel.: +1-808-532 8700  
Fax: +1-808-532 8787

**Continuing exhibition**

*Taisho chic*  
Many of the early 20th century art movements which originated in the west such as Impressionism, Art Nouveau, and Art Deco, affected modern Japanese artists. This exhibition highlights Japanese works of art and everyday items, which show modern design elements of the Taisho period (1912-1926).

**The Metropolitan Museum of Art**

5th Avenue at 82nd Street  
New York NY 10028  
Tel.: +1-212-879 5500  
Fax: +1-212-570 3879

**opened 9 June**

*Arts of Korea*  
The installation showcases 100 of the finest examples of Korean art in all major media-ceramics, metalwork, lacquerware, sculpture, and paintings- from the Neolithic period to the eve of modern times. The selections are drawn from public and private collections in Korea, Japan, and the United States.

**Continuing exhibition**

*Chinese Galleries Reinstallation*  
On show in the Douglas Dillon Galleries and the Frances Young Tang gallery will be 8th to 20th century paintings. The Herbert and Florence Irving Galleries for Chinese Decorative Arts will house jades, lacquers, textiles, metalwork, and other objects from the 12th to 18th centuries.

**until 9 January 2000**

*Guardians of the Longhouse: Art in Borneo*

**until 30 January 2000**

*The Practice of Japanese Art: An august and accomplished heritage*  
Customs and crafts that underlie major forms, themes, and styles in Japanese art are the focus of this installation of Buddhist and decorative paintings, calligraphy, along with ceramics, lacquers, metalwork, and woodblock prints.

**The Asia Society**

725 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10021  
Tel.: +1-212-288 6400  
Fax: +1-212-517 8319  
daily 11am-6pm, Thursday 6pm – 8pm,  
Sunday 12 – 5pm

**Fall 1999**

*Power, Body, and Clothing in the Philippines, 19th century*  
Consisting of approximately 75 to 100 items the exhibition will explore the complex interaction between the external and the indigenous cultural influences in the Philippines in the past century.

**until 28 November**

*Fire Over Earth: Ceramics from the Collection of the Asia Society*  
The ceramic tradition of East and Southeast Asia, a region rich in clay and other fusible materials, is unrivalled. In China, earth and fire were seen as two of the 'five elements of the cosmos'. This exhibition explores the artistry and technology of Chinese ceramics and those of the adjacent regions from the third millennium BC to the 18th century.

**until 2 January 2000**

*China: Fifty years inside the People's Republic*



Liu Heung Shing, Young Toughs, Beijing, 1981

The exhibition shows the work of twenty-five distinguished Chinese and Western photographers, conveying the depth of their involvement in the politics, culture, and everyday life of the Chinese people. Including photographs by Robert Capa, Liu Heung Shing, Eve Arnold, Macduff Everton. Please refer to the article on page 37.

**Pacific Asia Museum**

46 North Los Robles Avenue  
Pasadena  
California 91101  
Tel.: +1-818-449-2742  
Fax: +1-818-449-2754

**until 2 January 2000**

*Yasuhiro Ishimoto: A tale of two cities*

**Museum of Fine Arts Houston**

1001 Bissonnet  
Houston  
Texas 77005  
Tel.: +1-713-639 7300  
Fax: +1-713-639 7597

**13 February 2000 – 7 May 2000**

*The Golden Age of Chinese Archaeology: Celebrated discoveries from the People's Republic of China*  
Several hundred objects gathered from all over China cover the broad chronology from the Neolithic Period through the Han Dynasty.

**Asian Art Museum San Francisco**

Golden Gate Park  
San Francisco  
Tel.: +1-415-379 8801

**until 9 January 2000**

*The Arts of the Sikh Kingdom*  
This exhibition deals with the artistic tradition of the Punjab under Sikh rule. Some of the finest pieces from the treasury of Ranjit Singh, the first Sikh Maharaja of the Punjab, will be among the highlights.

**Arthur M. Sackler Gallery**

Smitsonian Institute  
1050 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington DC 20560  
Tel.: +1-202-357 4880  
Fax: +1-202-357 4911 (786 2317)

**until 2 January 2000**

*Letters in Gold*  
A travelling exhibition of Ottoman Calligraphy from the Sakip Sabanci Collection in Istanbul, Turkey.

**until 2 January 2000**

*A grand legacy*  
As a complement to 'Letters in Gold' this exhibition will examine the grand legacy of Ottoman painting, ceramics, textiles, and metalwork, using works from the permanent collection at the Harvard Art Museums.

**Freer Gallery of Art**

1000 Jefferson Drive at 12th street SW  
Washington DC 20560  
Tel.: +1-202-357 2104  
Fax: +1-202-357 4911

**until 9 Januari 2000**

*A Breath of Spring*  
The exhibition combines the masterpiece of 14th century Chinese painting 'A Breath of Spring' from Zou Fulei, with a new poem by the writer Michael Ondaatje.

**until 30 Januari 2000**

*Masterpieces of Chinese Painting*  
A selection of 10th to early 18th century paintings and calligraphy from the Freer's collection of Chinese art.

**The Museum of Fine Arts Houston**

Caroline Wiess Lwa Building  
1001 Bissonnet  
TX 77005 Houston  
Tel.: +1-713-639 7300  
Fax: +1-713-639 7597

**until 7 May 2000**

*The Golden Age of Archaeology: Celebrated archaeological finds from the People's Republic of China*  
Several hundreds objects gathered from all over China cover the broad chronology from the Neolithic Period through the Han Dynasty. The exhibition presents new perspectives on early Chinese civilisation and art, and documents the most recent excavations and ideas in the field of Chinese archaeology.

**Seattle Asian Art Museum**

1400 E. Prospect/Volunteer Park  
P.O. Box 22000  
Seattle, Washington 98122-9700  
Tel.: +1-206-625 8900

**until 13 February 2000**

*Modern Masters of Kyoto*  
Transformations of Japanese painting traditions, Nihonga from the Griffith and Patricia Way collection.

**VIETNAM**

**Red River Gallery**

71A Nguyen Du Street, Hanoi  
Tel.: +84-4-229 064

**Permanent collection**

Work by the Vietnamese artists Khuc Thanh Binh, Thah Chuong, Dao Tanh Dzuy, Pham Minh Hai, Dang Xuan Hoa, Tran Luong, Pham Hong Thai, Boa Toan, Truong Tan, Do Minh Tam.

**Art Gallery Hien Minh**

1st Floor, 44 Dong Khoi Street Distr. 1  
Ho Chi Minh City  
Tel.: +84-8-224 590

**Permanent collection**

Work by, among others, the Vietnamese painter Nguyen Thi Hien.

**Gallery Vinh Loi**

49 Dong Khoi Street, Distr. 1  
Ho Chi Minh City  
Tel.: +84-8-222 006

**Permanent collection**

Work of the Vietnamese artist Bui Xuan Phai (1921-1988).

The Art Agenda and cultural pages are produced by The Gate Foundation in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Please send all information about activities and events relating to Asian art and culture to:

**THE GATE FOUNDATION**

KEIZERSGRACHT 613  
1017 DS AMSTERDAM  
THE NETHERLANDS  
TEL.: +31-20-620 8057  
FAX: +31-20-639 0762

E-MAIL:  
INFO@GATEFOUNDATION.NL  
HTTP://  
WWW.GATEFOUNDATION.NL





**FORUM**

- (General News)  
 - Asia in the Pacific ..... 3  
 - Democratization in Asia ..... 7

- (Thematic issue: Wildlife Trade in Asia)  
 - Wildlife Trade in Asia: An introduction ..... 8



**PEOPLE**

- (Thematic issue: Wildlife Trade in Asia)  
 - Co-editor John Knight on Wildlife Trade ..... 13

- (South Asia)  
 - Nirad C. Chaudhuri: The end of an era ..... 21

- (Southeast Asia)  
 - Dick van der Meij: Southeast Asia Editor ..... 23  
 - Gender in China: A New Forum, An interview with Harriet Zurndorfer ..... 29

- (IIAS News)  
 - Lin New Holder of European Chair of Chinese Studies ..... 47



**INSTITUTIONAL NEWS**

- (South Asia)  
 - Ritual Life of the Heliodorus Pillar: Photographic prints at the Kern Institute Leiden ..... 19

- (Southeast Asia)  
 - Sumatra Heritage Trust ..... 26

- (East Asia)  
 - Russian Association of Sinologists ..... 31  
 - Japanese Religions at SOAS ..... 33  
 - The British Association for Korean Studies ..... 35

- (PEARL Proposal)  
 - The Need for Research in ASEM: A proposal presented by the Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages ..... 41-45

- (IIAS News)  
 - Staff and Research at the IIAS ..... 46  
 - IIAS Research Partners ..... 47

- (ESF Asia Committee News)  
 - The ESF Asia Committee ..... 52  
 - ESF Asia Committee Fellows ..... 53  
 - European Associations ..... 53  
 - ESF Asia Committee Workshops ..... 54

- (Short News)  
 - SEALG 1999 ..... 58

- (Institutes)  
 - The French Centre for Research on Contemporary China ..... 60  
 - An Archive of Indian Social History ..... 61  
 - Melbourne Institute of Asian Languages and Societies ..... 62  
 - The 'Study Indonesia Program': Studying in Indonesia, made easy ..... 62



**RESEARCH PROJECTS**

- (Thematic issue: Wildlife Trade in Asia)  
 - The Asian Financial Crisis and the Wildlife Trade ..... 8  
 - Hunting for the Market in West Kalimantan ..... 9  
 - Customary Wildlife Trade in East Kalimantan: Conservation and the economic dimensions ..... 10  
 - Wild Pigs in Southeast Asia ..... 10  
 - The Trade in Songbirds in East Kalimantan ..... 11  
 - The South Korean Market for Bear Gall Bladders ..... 12  
 - The Consumption of Bear Parts in Upland Japan ..... 13  
 - Trade in Maritime Resources in Aru ..... 14

- (South Asia)  
 - Strength of the Street: Karachi 1972 ..... 16  
 - Thirty Years Later ..... 17

- (Insular Southwest Asia)  
 - Seychellois of Asian Origin ..... 22

- (Southeast Asia)  
 - The Python and its Oil in Highlands Papua New Guinea ..... 27  
 - Histories and the Practice of Precedence ..... 27

- (IIAS News)  
 - News from the PAATI Research Programme ..... 49



**REPORTS**

- (General News)  
 - Reflections from the ASEM Bowl in China ..... 4  
 - The Political Economy of Pre-Crisis Growth ..... 5  
 - Orientalist Library Resources ..... 6  
 - Small and Medium Entrepreneurship ..... 6

- (Central Asia)  
 - New Horizons in Bon Studies ..... 15

- (South Asia)  
 - South Asian Archaeology 1999 ..... 20

- (Southeast Asia)  
 - Asia in the Pacific: Conference of the European Society for Oceanists ..... 23  
 - Traditional Houses in Western Indonesia ..... 25

- (East Asia)  
 - Crisis Management: Chinese Entrepreneurs and Business Networks in Southeast Asia ..... 31

- (IIAS News)  
 - 'Good Learning': The PAATI Masterclass ..... 48

- (Clara News)  
 - Documenting Asian Social History ..... 51



**CALL FOR PAPERS**

- (South Asia)  
 - Panel 'Bengal Studies: Literature, Politics, and Society' ..... 21

- (IIAS News)  
 - Fourth Euro-Japanese Symposium on Mainland Southeast Asian History ..... 49

- (Alliance News)  
 - Seventh Nordic-European Workshop in Advanced Asian Studies ..... 50

- (Clara News)  
 - Association of Indian Labour Historians: Second conference ..... 51

- (ESF Asia Committee News)  
 - The Asia Committee of the European Science Foundation invites proposals for workshops to take place in 2001 ..... 53



**PUBLICATIONS**

- (General News)  
 - Paideuma: Anthropological journal ..... 5  
 - Books Received ..... 5

- (Central Asia)  
 - Books Received ..... 15  
 - Inner Asia ..... 15

- (South Asia)  
 - 'Tamilttay' as the Symbol of Tamil Ethnic Identity ..... 18  
 - Gonda Translated to Japanese ..... 18  
 - Books Received ..... 19  
 - Tagore's Gitanjali ..... 21

- (Southeast Asia)  
 - Aséanie: A new journal ..... 24  
 - Books Received ..... 24  
 - Reforming Religion in Borneo ..... 26

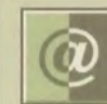
- (East Asia)  
 - European Journal of East Asian Studies ..... 28  
 - Chinese Immigrant Associations ..... 28  
 - Quanzhou and the Maritime Trade of Southeast Asia ..... 30  
 - The Encyclopedia of the Chinese Overseas ..... 30  
 - Books Received China ..... 32  
 - New Classics in Modern Japanese History ..... 32  
 - Hands Across the Sea: US-Japan Relations 1961-1981 ..... 33  
 - Two Bibliographies on Japan ..... 34  
 - Books Received Japan ..... 34  
 - Books Received Korea ..... 35

- (IIAS News)  
 - New IIAS Publication ..... 48



**ASIAN ART**

- (Asian Art)  
 - Food for Thought: Recent developments in contemporary art from China ..... 36  
 - A Portrait of Modern China: New photography exhibition offers images from fifty years of change ..... 37  
 - Third Asia-Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art ..... 37

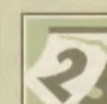


**INTERNET**

- (General News)  
 - Intersections ..... 5

- (Insular Southwest Asia)  
 - The Seychelles on the Internet ..... 22

- (Southeast Asia)  
 - Southeast Asian Studies on Internet ..... 24

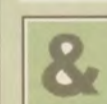


**AGENDA**

- (IIAS News)  
 - IIAS Agenda ..... 47

- (Asian Art)  
 - Art Agenda ..... 38-39

- International Conference Agenda ..... 63-64



**SHORT NEWS**

- (South Asia)  
 - The Indian Character of Indian Literature ..... 17

- (Short News)  
 - Extended Workshop for Young Historians ..... 59

**LIST OF ADVERTISERS**

- Bowker Saur ..... 7  
 - KIT Publications ..... 24  
 - Hotei Publishing ..... 35  
 - Products and Services ..... 50  
 - Hotel Wilhelmina / King Hotel ..... 51  
 - French Centre for Research on Contemporary China ..... 60



## PEARL PROPOSAL

# The Need for Research in ASEM

## A Proposal Presented by the Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages

The first six pages of this section of the IIAS Newsletter will present the reader with a description of the Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages (PEARL). The text is the greater part of a proposal that the PEARL network has presented to all ASEM Ministers of Education and of Foreign Affairs and to relevant civil servants / office-holders. The aim of the document is to present a concrete proposal for a pilot research project on a multilateral basis within the ASEM framework. A plea is also made for the establishment of an 'ASEM Research Platform'.

PEARL was established in Seoul in October 1998 under the patronage of the European Science Foundation Asia Committee (ESF AC), Strasbourg, and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Singapore. PEARL members belong to the ASEM countries. PEARL is an open network, which is expected to be expanded with additional members from other ASEM countries.

PEARL can deliver enormous intellectual benefits to scholarship at national, regional and global level. Promotion of this partnership ought to be an integral part of the ASEM dynamics and a major element in the activities of the ASEF.

### 2. The need for research in ASEM

#### The Europe-Asia Rapprochement

In 1996, the first 'Asia Europe Meeting' (ASEM I) took place. The following countries participated on the Asian side: Brunei, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. On the European side the 15 member states of the European Union plus the European Commission were represented.

The emergence of formal Europe-Asia links through the ASEM process is an important step in the history of the Eurasian continent. The era of European colonialism in Asia ended for the most part four decades ago, and since then relations between the two regions have been relatively distant and fragmentary. The state of affairs was a consequence of legacies of colonial resentment on both sides, the intervention of the Cold War and the massive political, strategic and cultural presence of the United States in both Asia and Europe.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, international relations changed drastically. Europe-Asia relations tightened, and the ASEM process is now beginning to establish a partnership between the two regions on an unprecedented basis of parity.

ASEM, however, is primarily devised to address economic, political and security issues.

PEARL considers multilateral research and education to be the most effective tools to strengthen an Asia-Europe rapprochement. It emphasizes the importance of a closer intellectual partnership that also pays attention to cultural co-operation.

Research linkages between Asia and Europe, especially in the humanities and the social sciences, have remained relatively weak since the end of the colonial era, in particular when compared with the contacts of both regions with the United States of America.

Also, many Asian scholars continue to work within the same scientific

### 1. PEARL: an introduction

The Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages (PEARL) is a network of researchers from Asia and Europe, representing leading Asian and European Studies departments in the field of the humanities and social sciences.\*

PEARL was established out of a need felt on both Asian and European sides for closer research interaction between the two continents, and out of the sense of opportunity created by the ASEM process and the establishment of ASEF. PEARL members are concerned that research may not yet receive the attention which it should on the agenda of ASEM. PEARL believes that a broad-based research partnership encompassing the humanities and social sciences at the two ends of the Eurasian conti-

PEARL believes that long-term joint Asia-Europe research projects, on a multilateral basis, are a most effective tool for tightening links between Asia and Europe.

PEARL aims to develop a shared research culture between the two ends of the Eurasian continent. This would not only enrich the quality of research in each region, but would enable attention to be directed more effectively to issues which are shared between the two regions.

PEARL provides a unique structure for Asia-Europe co-operation in the field of research. PEARL does what others do not or cannot do. Within the existing relevant bodies such as the ASEM, or the Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF), no substantial possibilities exist to develop and implement joint multilateral Asia-Europe research and educational programmes.

A joint initiative, PEARL promotes and initiates the study of contemporary developments in Asia and Europe in a comparative perspective and against their historical and cultural backgrounds.

It seeks to integrate the best of the European Studies and Asian Studies and to provide an institutional framework to work together on topics of common interest.

\* The concepts 'humanities' and 'social sciences' are interpreted in many different ways. In this document humanities and social sciences refer to the study of society and culture (economics, political science, sociology, psychology, anthropology, history, law, religious studies, languages, literature, philosophy etc.). The traditional indications 'Asian Studies', 'European Studies', in this document pertain to the same humanities and social sciences but with a special emphasis on the Asian and European region. Joint Asia-Europe research on topics of common interest, say, 'labour relations and migration', will in many cases need the expertise of scholars from both Asian studies departments and European studies departments. ■

Programme for Europe/Asia Research Linkages

pearl

### PROGRAMME FOR EUROPE-ASIA RESEARCH LINKAGES (PEARL)

#### PEARL

PEARL is a network of researchers from Asian and European ASEM member states, representing leading Asian and European Studies departments in the field of social sciences and humanities. It is an open network, which is expected to be expanded with additional members from other ASEM countries.

Until now, members represent 7 Asian countries: China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand; and 9 European countries: Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

#### PEARL SECRETARIAT

c/o International Institute for Asian Studies  
P.O. Box 9515  
2300 RA Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 2227  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: IIAS@rullec.leidenuniv.nl  
http://www.iias.nl

#### BOARD MEMBERS

- Prof. Maurice Aymard, Fondation de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris, France
- Mr Pierre Barroux, ASEF, Singapore
- Dr Werner Draguhn, Institut für Asienkunde, Hamburg, Germany
- Prof. Hahm Chaibong, Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea

- Prof. Takashi Inoguchi, Institute of Oriental Culture, Tokyo, Japan
- Prof. Per Ronnäs, Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Copenhagen, Denmark, co-chair
- Prof. Shamsul A.B., Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia, co-chair
- Prof. Wim Stokhof, International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden, The Netherlands, secretary

#### MEMBERS

- Prof. Anne Booth, SOAS, London, United Kingdom
- Dr David Camroux, Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, Paris, France
- Prof. Siow Ye Chia, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore
- Dr Suthiphand Chirathivat, European Studies Programme, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Dr Bernhard Döll, Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft, Forschung und Technologie, Bonn, Germany
- Dr Taciana Fisac Badell, Centro de Estudios de Asia Oriental, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain
- Prof. Takeshi Hamashita, Institute of Oriental Culture, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
- Dr Lee Boon Hiok, Department of Political Science, National University of Singapore, Singapore
- Prof. Ichlasul Amal, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- Prof. Jung-Hoon Lee, Graduate School of International Studies, Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea
- Prof. Rutger Lindahl, Centre for European Research, Göteborg University, Göteborg, Sweden
- Prof. Setabutr Noranit, Office of International Affairs, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Prof. Dr A.V. Rossi, Istituto Universitario Orientale, Naples, Italy
- Prof. Guido Samarani, Dept. of East Asian Studies, Ca' Foscari University, Venice, Italy
- Prof. Myungsoon Shin, Institute of East and West Studies, Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea
- Dr Max Sparreboom, Praemium Erasmianum Foundation, Amsterdam and NWO, The Hague, The Netherlands
- Prof. Thommy Svensson, Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden
- Prof. Shaharil Talib, Asia-Europe Center, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Prof. Toshiro Tanaka, Center for Regional and International Studies, Keio University, Tokyo, Japan
- Prof. Wang Gungwu, East Asian Institute (EAI), National University of Singapore, Singapore
- Dr Withaya Sucharithanarugse, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Prof. Xue Mouhoung, Institute of International Studies, Tsinghua University, Beijing, P.R. China



paradigms acquired during their studies in the US, whereas Europeanists have tended to be academically self-sufficient.

### More than goods and services

Although each side has much to offer the other, the construction of a durable relationship, which deals in more than goods and services, will require careful attention to Europe-Asia interaction in the world of ideas.

*Because the rapprochement between Asia and Europe has been rapid, decision-makers and the general public in both regions tend to rely for guidance on old cultural stereotypes.*

These stereotypes were perhaps adequate in the days when contacts were sparse, but they have become insufficient for, and at times actively damaging to, the complex, multi-faceted relationship between Asia and Europe which has emerged in the final decade of the twentieth century. The global communications revolution gives the misleading impression that the rapid delivery of information brings with it understanding. In fact, rapid communication tends to reinforce the use of stereotypes as a tool for sorting abundant information. PEARL offers a framework for updating old stereotypes with understandings based on recent comparative research.

With democracy as the established political form in Europe and with the spectacular expansion of democratic practices - applied to local circumstances - in Asia, there is a powerful need for effective public education on Asia and Europe, so that the democratic contribution to decision-making in international affairs as well as on domestic issues can be on the basis of understanding rather than prejudice.

### The humanities and social sciences: an integrating force

These are challenges that will not be solved quickly or easily. An important part, however, of seeking a solution is the development of a common Asia-Europe research culture in the humanities and social sciences. Each of the national participants in the ASEM process works with distinctive national research paradigms, and each of those systems has both strengths and weaknesses. To the extent that the ASEM participants take part in international research projects - and this extent varies greatly from country to country - that research is often linked to paradigmatic approaches prevailing in the United States.

*The research preoccupations of the United States are not alien to those of the rest of the world, but nor are they entirely congruent with the interests of Asia and Europe.*

Without repudiating links with the United States, therefore, we need to develop complementary research cultures which are more attuned to our own interests.

In an ever more global world where national boundaries are becoming economically less relevant, the need to understand the factors that shape a regional or national identity becomes more pressing.

*Culture is not just a matter of heritage and history, but an integral part of modern life and society. It is a reality upon which progress, including economic growth and welfare, depends.*

It is therefore timely to integrate the humanities and social sciences research programmes into the process of Europe-Asia rapprochement. Understanding the cultural background of others will serve to ensure more peaceful coexistence and more effective integration and co-operation. Long-term joint research projects in the field of the humanities and social sciences will enhance a much-needed mutual understanding. They will furthermore contribute to establishing human links and networks based on trust and mutual respect.

### Towards complementary research cultures

The academic and sociological character of Asian and European Studies varies enormously within both Asia and Europe, depending partly on colonial experiences, overall academic cultures, and current political perceptions. Research both builds on and reacts against past experiences of conquest and domination; researchers are located in many different kinds of institutions, with very different defined mandates and levels of funding; and scholarly rubrics such as 'Asia', 'Europe', 'social sciences' and 'humanities' enjoy widely varying status, both in national scholarly communities and in the eyes of policy-makers.

### The European Science Foundation

*The work of the European Science Foundation (ESF) has not only shown the scope for encouraging a European research culture in various fields and highlighted some of the practical difficulties involved in achieving it, but has demonstrated the importance and value of such multilateral endeavours.*

Establishing a European research culture that complements and stands alongside the various national research cultures is a way of ensuring that issues spanning the continent, receive the best possible analytical attention. It should now be our aim to develop corresponding intercontinental research cultures, in which issues of common interest can come to the fore and in which - still more important - ideas, analysis and solutions can be drawn from all sides without facing the stigma (or occasionally the undue deference) which arises from being foreign.

*Research cultures of this kind may directly engage no more than a few thousand scholars across the ASEM community, but their influence can be enormous.*

The influence of these research cultures is attained through their formulation and analysis of the issues which engage governments and the media and through the students whom they train and who move outside academia to other positions in society. The cost of nurturing such cultures represents a small financial investment in the hugely important task of nurturing a civil society spanning two billion people.

The work of the European Science Foundation was hampered by the fact that the humanities and the social sciences were included relatively late within its field of operations. In 1994, only about 15 percent of the budget allocated to specific scientific programmes and networks went to the humanities and social sciences. As the institutions of the ASEM process take shape, therefore, it is important to devise ways of incorporating the humanities and social sciences into the process so that they can have productive influence on ASEM proceedings.

### Asia Europe Foundation

At the ASEM's inaugural summit in 1996, the objective of the Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF) was stated as 'to enhance better mutual understanding between Asia and Europe', through greater intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges'. Given its brief and restricted funding possibilities, ASEF concentrates on short-term activities only. In its intellectual exchange programme ASEF stimulates academic discourse. It supports the 'Education Hub programme' as proposed on the second ASEM in London 1998. Notwithstanding the useful initiatives taken by ASEF, we believe it necessary that ASEM should give a more structural and long-term attention to joint research and education as two major elements in a (cultural) rapprochement between the two regions.

*Initiating and implementing joint multilateral research could play an important role in achieving ASEF's objectives.*

### European Commission

The importance of creating links between Asian and European universities has been stressed at the Bangkok summit (ASEM I). The activities of the EC in the field of the humanities and social sciences research have, however, until now, very much been limited. The fifth framework programme (FP5) shows a clear interest in research. A closer look reveals that this interest is focused mainly on problem solving work, technology and science. The aim of the FP5 is defined as to help EU Companies to meet the challenges of the 21st century and, through research, to come up with answers to a wide range of issues that are important for European society. Clearly, this attitude is too Europe-focused, to be instrumental in the general Asia-Europe dialogue. Fortunately, some bilateral initiatives in the field of joint Asia-Europe research have been taken (EU-India, EU-China). In programmes where bilateral research is carried out, this is often focused on important topics

as policy issues, trade, finance, strategic issues and the like. Topics which contribute to a better insight in each others thinking and behaviour, which are so essential for a better mutual understanding, are not given the attention they deserve.

### Networks in Asia

The degree of national and regional institution building in the Asian ASEM member countries is still in a very early stage. Although on several occasions member states stressed the importance of national and regional co-operative links, for several reasons this co-operation developed in a very slow pace. Cross-national professional associations such as the European ones (e.g. the European Association for Chinese Studies, the European Association for South East Asian Studies) are still in an early stage of development. A positive development is the introduction of the ASEAN university network (AUN) in 1995. Here approximately 10 universities signed an agreement on co-operation between ASEAN scholars, pertaining to developing human resources, dissemination and exchange of scholarly knowledge. Other networks are the Association of Southeast Asian Institutions of Higher Learning (ASAIHL), the AUAP (Association of Universities in Asia and the Pacific) and UMAP (University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific). These activities however, are not focused on joint collaborative research programmes.

### ASEM

ASEM is a unique mechanism for dialogue. It is an informal process and it has no permanent organizational body. However, if certain programmes, beneficial for the ultimate aim of the ASEM (co-operation in the economic, political and cultural fields), are to be implemented in a successful manner, they need an organizational structure. This has been done in a few cases. Specific institutions or programmes, which were created on the basis of ASEM decisions, are:

- The Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF);
- The Asia-Europe Environment and Technology Centre (AEETC) which has as objective the promotion of Asia-Europe co-operation on environmental issues; and
- The ASEM Trust Fund, with the objective of promoting technical assistance and training in financial and social sectors for Asian countries damaged by the recent financial crisis.

Now, the need is urgently felt by different parties and at various levels for an ASEM Research Platform with the aim of promoting high quality scientific multilateral co-operation at an Asia-Europe level.

### Summary

Three major reasons for seeking a top-level presence of Asian and European Studies in the ASEM process can be identified.

#### I.

First, the need for a creative and well-informed policy on both the European and Asian sides has in many cases outrun the capacity of government administrations to deliver it.

*The Asia-Europe rapprochement has caught officials and policy-makers across a wide range of fields unprepared.*

European officials' and politicians' perceptions of Asia, like Asian officials' and politicians' perceptions of Europe, are often restricted, due to historical reminiscences and/or due to time constraints which prevent officials from specializing in certain fields and areas. These are busy people who are forced sometimes to rely on aphorisms and stereotypes as tools for ordering the complex new world they find themselves in.

*As the policy-making apparatus grows at the ASEM level, there needs to be a visible Asian and European Studies presence at the same level to ensure that officials and policy-makers can quickly find the best advice on complex inter-regional issues.*

#### II.

The need for cross-national co-operation. The distinctive national traditions of research and scholarship in various aspects of Asian and European Studies which exist throughout the ASEM community are a precious resource. In the present environment of globalization, however, these traditions need to be brought together into complementary partnerships.

*No single nation can sustain a research endeavour on a scale needed to address fully the issues arising from globalization; co-operation and collaboration is the only solution.*

The work of the ESF Asia Committee has shown that internationally-oriented bodies can play a major stimulating role both in bringing small centres of excellence out of isolation and in promoting innovative research which would not normally find support within any single national framework. By bringing Asian and European studies in Asia and Europe into a facilitating framework, it will be possible to create further creative synergies without in any way detracting from the current strengths of the national research efforts.

#### III.

The need to link academia to the ASEM-process

The third reason for acting now is that the key institutions for ASEM co-operation are in the process of formation. Long-term joint research projects, on a multilateral basis, are a most effective tool for tightening links between Asia and Europe.



Long-term joint research projects contribute to establishing human links and networks based on trust and mutual respect.

Especially in the Asian context, these long-term ventures are conditions for sustainable success. Experience has proven that such personal relationships, once established, continue to exist, even after the project has finished.

The humanities and social sciences are particularly important in this respect. They form an integrating force by contributing to a better insight in each others political, social and economic concepts and in the way in which parties cope with issues of common interest

Conclusion: Let's start work now and establish an ASEM Research Platform

PEARL proposes that:

1. In the near future, ASEM member states finance an ASEM/PEARL pilot research project, to start as soon as possible.
2. An 'ASEM Research Platform' be established in 2002. In its 1999 report *For a Better Tomorrow, Asia-Europe Partnership in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, the Vision Group stresses the importance of co-operation in education and exchange programmes. This is an important and necessary step forward.

PEARL envisages to build on the Vision Group's ideas and proposes to establish an 'ASEM Research Platform' in 2002, to monitor and implement co-operative activities in research. This platform should be an umbrella organization for the wide range of high-quality scientific research in general, and could consist of representatives from major research institutions from Asia and Europe. It should be committed to promoting high quality science at a Eurasian level. In this platform Asia and Europe work closely together on topics of common interest. Research agendas and strategies will be designed and developed by a number of committees in which renowned scholars from Asia and Europe participate. It should be funded by the ASEM member states.

Scientific work to be sponsored by the platform should not be restricted to the humanities and social sciences, but it should also stimulate joint research in the medical sciences, the life and environmental sciences and the physical and engineering sciences.

Needless to say, the ASEM Research Platform will have to work closely together with already existing bodies such as ASEM, Singapore, the Asia-Europe Environment and Technology Centre (AEETC), and with possible projects of e.g. the EC and those resulting from initiatives as proposed by the Vision Group.

The establishment of an ASEM Research Platform in close co-operation with, or under the aegis of ASEM, would remedy the overemphasis in ASEM on trade and security issues.

It will facilitate the Asian members in developing a region-wide counterpart organization for the ESF, which could function for foreign scholars as a window on Asia.

PEARL is willing to carry out a feasibility study on such an ASEM research platform. ■

### 3. PEARL Programme

#### History

A meeting of leaders of major humanities and social sciences research institutions from the ASEM community was organized in Copenhagen on 28 August 1997. It was called by the directors of the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) and the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS), following discussions by members of the European Task Force on Europe-Asia

Research Co-operation formed in Leiden in April 1997.

The Copenhagen meeting was attended by directors or other leading representatives from four European and five Asian institutes. The participants agreed collectively to constitute themselves as a task force on increased Asia-Europe research co-operation in the humanities and social sciences. It was subsequently agreed to give the programme launched by the group the name PEARL.

Workshop: 'Asia-Europe Research Strategies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century in Asian and European Studies'.

PEARL's first step was the organization of a workshop in Seoul in Oc-

tober 1998: 'Asia-Europe Research Strategies for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century in Asian and European Studies' during which an agenda for future priority action was drawn up. The workshop was sponsored jointly by Yonsei University (Korea), which acted as host for the occasion; the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS, The Netherlands); the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS, Copenhagen); the European Science Foundation Asia Committee (ESF AC); and the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF).

The workshop was intended both to clarify the philosophical basis for the rapprochement between Asia and Europe and to identify actions, programmes and institutions which could bring that rapprochement closer to reality. The conference was attended by leading figures in Asian Studies, European Studies and research policy, drawn from major Asian and European institutions. Apart from keynote speeches and discussion papers, a large part of the workshop was taken up with small working groups set the task of turning the speakers' insights into practical proposals.

#### Objectives & Instruments

During the workshop, it was decided that PEARL has four main tasks:

- To place joint research on the agenda of ASEM [and beyond];
- To strengthen, facilitate and coordinate interregional research and education as a means of rapprochement between Asia and Europe;
- To promote the development of an ASEM platform for research;
- To offer international institutions such as ASEM academic and strategic information -and advice.

PEARL seeks to achieve these ends through (1) major long-term collaborative research projects; (2) workshops on interregional contemporary issues; (3) exchange programmes; clearing house and facilitation functions; (4) the organization of fora and (5) the promotion of dialogue.

1. Organizing and seeking funding for **major long-term collaborative research projects** involving both Asian and European scholars.

2. Organizing and seeking funding for **exploratory workshops on interregional contemporary issues**. The defining characteristic of these meetings will be the juxtaposition of Asian and European perspectives and experiences.

The workshops should bring together some 20 senior as well as junior researchers from at least 7 countries (both European and Asian). The financial support consist of a contribution to the costs of travel and accommodation to a maximum of \$ 20,000 per workshop. The support is meant exclusively for invited participants who contribute a paper. A contribution to the costs of academic publication of the workshop's result may be included in the budget.

Criteria: The proposal must demonstrate that the workshop will have added value if it is organized with the proposed international participation;

## LIST OF INSTITUTIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

#### AEETC

Asia-Europe Environment and Technology Centre, Bangkok, Thailand.

The objective of the AEETC is the promotion of Asia-Europe co-operation on environmental issues.

#### ASAIHL

The Association of Southeast Asian Institutes of Higher Learning, an Associate Member of AUAP.

#### ASEF

Asia Europe Foundation, Singapore.

Founded in 1997, after the first ASEM in Bangkok, 1996. ASEF's mission is to promote better mutual understanding between the peoples of Asia and Europe, through intellectual, cultural and people-to-people exchanges and through the establishment of public and media relations.

#### ASEM

Asia Europe Meeting.

The first Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM 1), held in Bangkok in 1996, established a new forum for countries in the two regions to step up co-operation in the economic, political and cultural fields. ASEM 2 was held in London in 1998; ASEM 3 will be held in Seoul, Korea in the year 2000. The Forum, which evolved from an idea by Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore, is intended to balance the existing links across the Atlantic and the Pacific. The current participants are on the Asian side: Brunei, China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam; and on the European side the 15 member States of the European Union (EU), plus the European Commission.

#### ASEAN

Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) was established on 8 August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand, with the signing of the Bangkok Declaration by the five original Member Countries namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Brunei Darussalam joined the Association on 8 January 1984. Vietnam became the seventh member of ASEAN on 28 July 1995. ASEAN has now expanded to include Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar to complete a Southeast Asian region of ten Member Countries.

#### AUAP

Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific.

#### AU

ASEAN University Network.

AUN promotes co-operation and solidarity among scientists and scholars in the ASEAN member countries; it develops academic and professional human resources in the region; and it promotes networking in order to share and exchange scholarly knowledge.

#### EC

European Commission.

#### ESF

European Science Foundation, Strasbourg, France.

The ESF is an association of 65 major national funding agencies devoted to scientific research in 22 countries. It represents all scientific disciplines: physical and engineering sciences, life and environmental sciences, medical sciences, humanities and social sciences. The ESF brings scientists together in its research programmes, networks, exploratory workshops and research conferences, to work on topics of common concern. The ESF furthermore stimulates the joint study of issues of strategic importance in European science policy.

#### ESF AC

ESF Asia Committee.

The ESF Asia Committee was established in 1994 to strengthen and coordinate European research on Asia, and to promote research co-operation between Asia and Europe. It is composed of authoritative scholars from Europe. The Committee reports to the ESF Standing Committees for the Humanities and the Social Sciences.

#### EU

European Union.

#### FPS

Fifth Framework Programme of the European Commission.

The FPS sets out the priorities for the European Union's research, technological, development and demonstration (RTD) activities for the period 1998-2002. These priorities have been selected on the basis of a set of common criteria reflecting the major concerns of increasing industrial competitiveness and the quality of life for European citizens.

#### IIAS

International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden/Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

The IIAS is a postdoctoral research centre, established in 1993. The main objective of the IIAS is to encourage Asian Studies in the Humanities and the Social Sciences and to promote national and international scientific co-operation in these fields.

#### NIAS

Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Copenhagen, Denmark.

NIAS is an independent research institute concerned with the study of Asian cultures and societies in the humanities and social sciences. The Institute is funded by the governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden through the Nordic Council of Ministers.

#### PEARL

Programme for Europe-Asia Research Linkages.

PEARL was established in Seoul in October 1998. It is a network of researchers from Asia and Europe, representing leading Asian and European Studies departments in the humanities and social sciences. PEARL focuses on collaborative research. It believes that long-term joint Asia-Europe research projects, on a multilateral basis, are a most effective tool for tightening links between Asia and Europe.

#### UMAP

University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific.

UMAP is a programme aimed at increasing university mobility in the region. The general objective is to achieve, by extended and enhanced co-operation between higher education institutions, a better understanding within the countries and territories of the Asia/Pacific region of the cultural, economic and social systems of the region by increasing mobility of higher education students and staff and improving the quality of higher education.



the workshop should be joint ventured at an organizational level involving both European and Asian institutes/researchers.

3. Developing exchange programmes for scholars and graduate students; acting as a clearinghouse and facilitator for such programmes and/or programmes designed by others.

Two lines of action should be pursued. First, effort should be put into developing exchange programmes for scholars in mid-career. Such scholars may have undertaken specialized research in their early academic years but now, established in teaching jobs, are both ripe for the intellectual stimulation which would come from a prolonged encounter with the other region, and are ideally placed to transmit cross-regional insights to their graduate students. Not being of professorial standing, they tend to lack access to international networks but are a vital element in giving depth and diversity to the Europe-Asia intellectual relationship.

It is likely that such exchange programmes can be organized most effectively on a bilateral basis, with PEARL acting as a kind of clearing-house through which initiatives can be publicized and experiences exchanged. ASEF has prepared an inventory of Asia-Europe cultural exchange programmes, and this inventory may be both a valuable source of data and a means of distributing information.

PEARL, as a network, is equipped to facilitate and implement the ASEM Education Hubs Programme - in the humanities and social sciences - as proposed on the second ASEM in London, 1998. Several of its member institutions in Asia and Europe are prepared to act as such a hub. Exchange students in social sciences and humanities, law, etc., can make use of the extensive PEARL network.

Second, efforts should be made to develop co-operation between the European Erasmus/Socrates programme and its Asian counterpart, UMAP (University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific programme), so that student exchanges between Asia and Europe can take place expeditiously.

4. Acting as a forum in which Asian and European researchers in the humanities and the social sciences meet representatives of various groups from ASEM member countries, the EC, the private and public sectors, and the media.

As the relation Asia-Europe becomes a more important object of policy making, it is increasingly urgent that intellectual and analytical expertise becomes available to governments, public administration, trade and industry, the media and other sectors of society. PEARL, in close co-operation with other institutions, such as ASEF, will endeavour to find funds to organize get-togethers where representatives from various societal groups meet Asian and European researchers in the humanities and social sciences.

5. Promoting dialogue between researchers from the two regions as well as between researchers and ASEM itself.

PEARL will organize regular meetings between the researchers and leading staff from major Asian and European centres of Asian and European Studies to discuss policies and co-operation in the relevant fields. When funds are available and sufficient trust has been established between the Asian and European partners, it will be possible to commence with tuning in on the existing diversities and to create within the ASEM framework a truly inter-continental dialogue.

**Approach**

Multi-lateral co-operative arrangements are likely to be most effective in achieving the PEARL objectives. The humanities and social sciences presence at the ASEM level needs to be built as far as possible from the bottom up, so that the eventual structure truly reflects and enhances the interests, needs and capacities of the research communities in Asia and Europe. The ESF Asia Committee provides an obvious example of the effectiveness of such multilateral co-operation in an environment of regional integration, but there are clear reasons for caution in attempting to apply the ESF model uncritically to Asia or to ASEM.

At the same time, care should be taken that these multilateral arrangements are not merely a vehicle for recirculating established scholarship through different countries; a certain degree of firm planning is needed to ensure that younger scholars and innovative, border-transcending research ideas are promoted. The main target of any programme must be younger scholars who can be expected to make use of their international contacts over long careers of scholarship and influence. Because the cultivation of lasting international contacts is time-consuming, moreover, young scholars who might otherwise be tempted to orient their connection building to the United States need to have an assurance of long-term institutional and political commitment to the ASEM idea.

**Organizational framework and funding**

It is not the intention of PEARL to develop a large administrative infrastructure. The International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) will provide a secretariat for initially two years. For specific projects, PEARL will seek additional funding.

PEARL gratefully acknowledges the support of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the ESF and wants to develop closer links with these foundations, as well as with the national research councils and funding agencies of the countries involved in the ASEM process. ■

**4. Proposal for an ASEM/PEARL pilot research project**

**Purpose**

**pearl** Collaborative Asia-Europe research projects, on a multilateral basis, are a most effective tool for tightening links between Asia and Europe. The construction of a durable relationship, which deals in more than goods and services, will require careful attention to Europe-Asia interaction in the world of ideas. Understanding the cultural background of others will serve to ensure more peaceful coexistence and more effective integration and co-operation. Long-term joint research projects in the field of the humanities and social sciences will enhance a mutual understanding. They will furthermore contribute to establishing human links and networks based on trust and mutual respect.

**Short description**

The 5-year multilateral research projects should involve both Asian and European scholars. The project should be based on issues of direct contemporary relevance and its topic should be of relevance to both Europe and Asia.

The project should draw together novel combinations of researchers. Research is to be conducted simultaneously in Europe and Asia by teams consisting of both European and Asian researchers. An open 'call for research proposals' will be published. A Committee consisting of representatives from PEARL, ESF, ASEF, AUN, and the EU Academic Committee, decides on the selection of proposals and monitors the project. Constant contact through e-mail, newsletters and seminars must guarantee in the researchers an ongoing awareness of the other team's work and intensify the comparative dimension. Results will be

presented to ASEM officials and published in a new series: the ASEM Series on Contemporary Issues.

Examples of possible topics raised by the intensification of globalization include: The issue of good governance; Globalization and the socio-political challenges of recession; Labour relations and migration; Lifestyles and norms (Globalization and the impact of politico-economic development on lifestyles and norms); Environmental issues; The impact for Asia, especially in economic and strategic affairs, of European integration; The role of the state in promoting economic development; and Comparative legal issues.

**Outline**

The 5-year research projects consist of 1 preparatory year, 3 years of research activities and 1 year of finalization/editing of results.

**Preparatory year**

**Stage 1:**

The call for proposals is published and disseminated. After four months the Steering Group (see below) selects one proposal to be further worked out.

**Stage 2:**

The proposal will be worked out by the main submitter in close cooperation with the Steering Group's Executive Committee. A research template is devised. Advertisements for research candidates will be published in July.

**Stage 3:**

A selection committee will be set up, in co-operation with the submitters of the proposal. Candidates will be selected, teams will be composed.

**Research activities**

**Stage 4:**

Introductory conference; researchers discuss the main tenets of the programme. Leading specialists will give key lectures; an international network is set up. The research template will be attuned where necessary.

**Stage 5:**

Research/fieldwork by the eight teams each on its own designated location.

**Stage 6:**

Mid-term evaluation by the Steering Group.

**Stage 7:**

Conference: comparison of data; contributions by invited top-scholars. Discussion on the results of the mid-term evaluation: possible adjustment of the project.

**Stage 8:**

Continuation of research including one month-visit of each team to the location of another research team.

**Stage 9:**

Continuation of research & drafting of final results.

**Stage 10:**

Final conference; presentation of the results to ASEM representatives.

**Preparation/publication of manuscripts**

**Stage 11:**

Preparation, editing and finalization of manuscripts, publication in a new series: the ASEM Series on Contemporary Issues. Several books are planned: the first as the introductory volume providing the research template and its theoretical implications.

A possible time schedule could be as shown in the table below\*

**Organization / implementation**

**The Steering Group**

A Steering Group consists of representatives from PEARL, ESF, ASEF, AUN, the EU Academic Committee, and invited scholars/specialists. The Steering Group is responsible for the academic quality of the programme. The Steering Group decides on the selection of proposals and monitors the project.

**A POSSIBLE TIME SCHEDULE\***

	Preparatory year		Research activities			Preparatory publication of manuscripts
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
1. Call for proposals and selection	01-04					
2. Elaboration and calls for candidates	05-09					
3. Selection candidates, composition teams	10-12					
4. Programme starts, introductory conference		01-02				
5. Research/fieldwork		02-12	01-03			
6. Mid-term evaluation			03			
7. Mid-term conference			04			
8. Continuation of research incl. field visits			05-12			
9. Drafting final results				01-11		
10. Conference; presentation of results				12		
11. Editing publications of ASEM Series					01-12	



**The Steering Group Executive Committee**

An Executive Committee is formed by PEARL board members; 1 delegate each from ESF, ASEF, EC, and AUN; the PEARL co-ordinator, and one or two specialists in the field.

**PEARL co-ordinator**

The PEARL Secretariat will be responsible for the overall implementation of the programme. At the PEARL secretariat a (1 fte) PEARL co-ordinator is based to co-ordinate PEARL activities, to manage the budget, prepare steering group meetings, to report to potential donors and the like.

**Team leaders**

Each of the teams will have one leader. Both regions (Europe and Asia) will have Asian team leaders, and European team leaders. Team leaders report every 6 months to the Steering Group through the PEARL secretariat.

**Regional project representatives**

The team leaders working in Europe will act as regional representatives for Europe, and the team leaders working in Asia, will act as regional representatives for Asia. It is likely that the main submitters of the project proposal will co-ordinate the regional representative's activities. The regional representatives function as co-ordinators in the region, and as contact persons for the PEARL co-ordinator. They organize the conferences in co-operation with the PEARL co-ordinator.

**Project Duration**

A joint research project has a total duration of 5 years (including a preparatory year). This will enable researchers to come up with results and at the same time to build up necessary networks and ties.

**Topics & call for tenders**

A research project has one common topic. Research topics should be of relevance to both Europe and Asia. The projects should be based on issues of direct contemporary relevance. An open call for research proposals and the criteria will be disseminated through a variety of channels. The Steering Group selects a proposal.

**Participants**

The project should draw together novel combinations of researchers. Research is conducted in Asia and Europe, preferably by 8 teams consisting of 4 persons each (2 Europeans and 2 Asians). Of these 8 teams, 4 teams will be working in Asia, and 4 in Europe. Other junior and senior scholars could join a team (but they will not be entitled to receiving operational fees).

**Communication**

Communications between researchers will take place through e-mail, regular seminars, a newsletter (the already existing IIAS newsletter may be used for that purpose) and a PEARL web-site. Furthermore, the PEARL co-ordinator in co-operation with the regional project representatives are responsible for disseminating information and for keeping

contact with the researchers and the steering group members.

**Reporting/evaluation**

Every six months, team leaders are to report on their teams activities and proceedings. The Steering Group performs a mid-term evaluation.

**Results**

The project should lead to publications (articles and books). Each team will produce at least one book to be published in a new series: the ASEM Series on Contemporary Issues. Several books are planned: the first as the introductory volume providing the research template and its theoretical implications.

**Short description of possible research topics**

Examples of specific topics raised by the intensification of globalization include:

- The issue of good governance.

The globalization process has thrown into disarray common assumptions about the autonomy of states and the responsibility of governments to their citizens. The tension between a global discourse on human rights and the global imperatives of the market require a comprehensive re-evaluation of the nature and practice of good governance and the responsibilities of government.

- Labour relations and migration.

Globalization has brought the world closer than ever before to a single labour market, yet that market operates within a framework of nation states which segment the market both through the instrument of nationality and through various regulatory structures. Capital and labour are both more mobile than at any previous time in history, but the remaining structures of segmentation in the capital market do not match the structures of segmentation in the labour market. The consequences of this disparity need thorough investigation.

- Lifestyles and norms  
(Globalization and the impact of politico-economic development on lifestyles and norms).

It is clear that globalization has pushed the world's cultures in the direction of homogeneity, yet has increased the range of cultural options open to many individuals and groups and well as encouraging a revival of local identities. Not clear, however, are the relationships between these processes, their long-term implications, and the most effective policies which can be adopted to manage them.

- Environmental issues.

As national energy policies can have great consequences for the global community, environmental issues tend to be addressed more and more from a world-wide perspective. Many aspects require attention here: the relationship between the management of natural resources and the national and regional economy, transfer of technological knowledge, the social implications etc.

- Other topics in this range could be:

Globalization and the socio-political challenges of recession;  
Comparative legal issues.

Topics based on the specifics of the Europe-Asia relationship, rather than on global issues, include:

- The impact for Asia, especially in economic and strategic affairs, of European integration.

What will be the implications for Asia when Europe becomes, like the United States, a single large economic and political force in world affairs, whereas Asia remains economically and politically fragmented?

- The role of the state in promoting economic and social development.

Until the recent economic crisis, the dominant discourse in world affairs was sceptical about the value of close state involvement in and management of economic development. The crisis has not overturned this orthodoxy, but it has re-opened a debate on the question of how and whether state intervention can be beneficial. Both Asia and Europe provide many examples in the recent and more distant past of rapid economic development achieved in the context of state dirigisme, and a thorough re-examination of these cases is now needed. Another closely related subject is the role of the state with regard to social welfare systems. ■

## SUMMARY OF THE PEARL PROPOSAL

**RESEARCH IN ASEM**

- ASEM is a unique mechanism for dialogue between Asia and Europe.
- ASEM I and II strongly focused on economic and security issues.
- In ASEM III education and collaborative multilateral research should be given a crucial place.
- Collaborative research is extremely effective in two ways:
  1. it yields results of common interest
  2. it enhances the rapprochement between Asian and European individuals, institutions.
- Within collaborative research activities, the humanities and social sciences should be given special emphasis, since they constitute the integrating force for successful co-operation in the field of economics, culture, science and security issues.

**PEARL**

- PEARL is a network of researchers from Asia and Europe; they represent leading Asian and European Studies departments in the humanities and social sciences.
- PEARL focuses on collaborative research. It believes that long-term joint Asia-Europe research projects, on a multilateral basis, are a most effective tool for tightening links between Asia and Europe.
- PEARL is an effective instrument to enhance efficiency and the impact of the overall co-operation between Europe and Asia. ■

**PROPOSALS**

The ASEM leaders should capitalize on the vast possibilities of joint research in the pursuit of Europe-Asia rapprochement. At present there is no systematic mechanism or body within ASEM to initiate or execute multilateral co-operation in the field of research and education.

**PROPOSAL 1**

- Place joint multilateral research on the ASEM agenda.

**PROPOSAL 2**

- Set up an 'ASEM Research Platform' in 2002.

**PROPOSAL 3**

- Sponsor a 5 year ASEM collaborative pilot research project engaging preferably 8 teams each composed of 4 scholars: 2 from Asia and 2 from Europe. The teams will work on different locations in Asia and Europe on the same topic during the same period. The research will be published in a *ASEM Series on Contemporary Issues* and will be presented to the ASEM leaders.

## NVAPS NEWS

## Activities NVAPS

**In co-operation with the Landbouw Economisch Instituut (LEI)**

- **Lecture: Agriculture and Food Industry in the Yangtze Delta, China**

- Speaker: Prof. Dr Li Weimin, Institute of Agricultural Economics, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (AE-CAAS), Beijing
- Date: December 1999 (free entrance for NVAPS-members)

- **Lecture: Food Supply Chains (distribution and retail structures) and Consumers in Japan**

- Speaker: t.b.a.
- Date: December 1999 (free entrance for NVAPS-members)

- Information:

Theo Jonker (LEI),  
tel.: +31-70-330 8195

**In co-operation with the Erasmus University en Campa research Center**

- Lecture series on **Financial Markets in Asia**

- **Lecture: Informality In Japan's Financial System**

- Speaker: Dr A. van Rixtel, economist at European Central Bank

- **Lecture: Financial Markets in Indonesia**

- Speaker: Dr M.P. van Dijk, economist Erasmus University

- **Lecture: The Financial Ties Between China, Hongkong and Taiwan**

- Speaker: Dr Huang Wei-Xin, director Mees-Pierson China Desk

- **Lecture: The Crisis in Singapore and Malaysia**

- Speaker: Dr Pang Eng Fong, Ambassador of Singapore to the Benelux Singapore and Malaysia and former professor of economics at the University of Singapore

- Dates: March/April 2000 (free entrance for NVAPS-members)

- Information:  
Onno van Steenbeek,  
Erasmus Universiteit,  
tel.: +31-10-408 1494,  
e-mail: steenbeek@few.eur.nl

**In co-operation with Asian Studies in Amsterdam (ASIA) and the Institute for Comparative Political and Economic Institutions (ICPEI)**

- Case-studies for students: **Age of Asia**

Set up for students who would like to know more about Asian Studies. Students can participate in several case-studies related to contemporary Asia, under the supervision of specialists and representatives from the corporate sector.

- Date: May 2000 (reduction for NVAPS-members)
- Information:  
Boris-de Jong,  
+31-6-5149 9365

**NEDERLANDS-VLAAMSE VERENIGING VOOR AZIË EN PACIFIC STUDIES (NVAPS)**

Secretariat  
Sabine Woudstra  
Koningstraat 1  
2316 CA Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-521 3256  
E-mail: sawsf@ironet.nl





IIAS MAIN OFFICE LEIDEN

Visiting address: Nonnensteeg 1-3, LEIDEN  
Postal Address: P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS  
Telephone: +31-71-527 22 27  
Telefax: +31-71-527 41 62  
E-mail: IIAS@RULLET.LeidenUniv.NL  
Newsletter contributions: IIASNews@RULLET.LeidenUniv.NL  
http://www.iias.nl

IIAS BRANCH OFFICE AMSTERDAM

Spinhuis, rooms 214, 215, and 216  
Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185  
1012 DK Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Telephone: +31-20-525 36 57  
Telefax: +31-20-525 36 58  
E-mail: IIAS@pscw.uva.nl

STAFF

15 NOVEMBER 1999

STAFF

Prof. W.A.L. Stokhof (Director)  
Drs S.A.M. Kuypers (Deputy Director)

J. Balassis (Database Assistant)  
Drs M.T. te Boonij (Staff Member)  
Drs A.J.M. Doek (WWW)  
Drs F. Dunk (Trainee)  
E.F.P. Haneveld (Automation Officer)  
Drs E.A.T. van der Hoek (Managing Editor)

Dr J.G.G.M. Kleinen (Co-ordinator Branch Office Amsterdam)  
Drs H.I. Lasschuijt (Projects)  
Drs H.M. van der Minne (Secretary Branch Office Amsterdam)  
S. Sand (Trainee)  
Dr C.J.M.A. Smeets (Project Officer)  
J.A.H. Trel (Secretary)  
Drs C.B.W. Veenkamp (Executive Manager)

BOARD

Prof. F.A.M. Hüsken - Chairman (Nijmegen University)  
Prof. J.L. Blussé van Oud Alblas (Universiteit Leiden)  
Prof. H.W. Bodewitz (Universiteit Leiden)  
Prof. J.C. Breman (University of Amsterdam)  
Prof. A.J.M.W. Hagendoorn (Utrecht University)

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE

Dr E.B. Vermeer - Chairman a.i. (Universiteit Leiden)  
Prof. B. Arps (Universiteit Leiden)  
Dr G.K. Lieten (University of Amsterdam)  
Dr P.J.M. Nas (Universiteit Leiden)  
Dr E. Touwen-Bouwisma (NIOD, Amsterdam)  
Prof. E.J. Zürcher (Universiteit Leiden)

SPECIAL CHAIR

Prof. Hein Steinhauer (the Netherlands)  
Special Chair at Nijmegen University, 'Ethnolinguistics with a focus on Southeast Asia'  
1 September 1998 - 1 September 2001

Prof. Henk Schulte Nordholt (the Netherlands)  
Special chair at the Erasmus University Rotterdam, 'Asian History'  
1 October 1999 - 1 October 2003

Prof. Barend Terwiel (the Netherlands/Germany)  
Special chair at the Universiteit Leiden, 'Cultures of Mainland Southeast Asia'  
1 September 1999 - 1 September 2002

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Prof. J.G. Vredenburg (Jakarta, Indonesia)  
Dr W.G.J. Rummelink (Japan-Netherlands Institute (Tokyo, Japan))

RESEARCH PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS

- CLARA: 'Changing Labour Relations in Asia' The International Institute of Social History - Amsterdam acts as the executing body; Programme Co-ordinator: Dr R. Saptari
- 'International Social Organisation in East and Southeast Asia: Qiaoxiang Ties in the Twentieth Century' (Programme Directors: Dr L.M. Douw and Dr F.N. Pieke)
- PAATI: 'Performing Arts of Asia: Tradition and Innovation: The expression of identity in a changing world' (Programme Director: Dr W. van Zanten)
- ABIA-Project: Key to South and Southeast Asian Art and Archaeology Index (Project Co-ordinator: Prof. K.R. van Kooij; Editors: Dr E.M. Raven and Drs H.I. Lasschuijt)

One of the most important policies of the IIAS is to share scholarly expertise by offering universities and other research institutes the opportunity to benefit from the knowledge of resident fellows. IIAS fellows can be invited to lecture, participate in seminars, co-operate on research projects etc. The IIAS is most willing to mediate in establishing contacts. Both national and international integration of Asian Studies are very important objectives.

In 1999 the IIAS wants to stress this co-operation between foreign researchers and the Dutch field. With regard to the affiliated fellowships, the IIAS therefore offers to mediate in finding external Dutch funding, should the scholar have not yet found ways of financing his/her visit to the Netherlands. For more information please see the IIAS fellowship application form.

At the moment, IIAS fellowship applications can be sent in for affiliated fellowships (no application deadline). If any other fellowships will become available, it will be announced in the IIAS Newsletter and on the Internet. For news about IIAS fellowships, please see our website: <http://www.iias.nl>

The IIAS distinguishes between 8 categories of fellows:

1. RESEARCH FELLOWS (POST PhD)

- a. individual
  - b. attached to a programme, i.e.
    - 'International Social Organization in East and Southeast Asia: Qiaoxiang Ties in the Twentieth Century'
    - 'Performing Arts of Asia: Tradition and Innovation: the expression of identity in a changing world' (PAATI)
    - 'Changing Labour Relations in Asia' (CLARA), in collaboration with IISH Amsterdam
- Research fellows are attached to the International Institute for Asian Studies for maximum 3 years, carrying out independent research and fieldwork, and organizing an international seminar.

2. SENIOR VISITING FELLOWS

The IIAS offers senior scholars the possibility to engage in research work in the Netherlands. The period can vary from 1 to 3 months.

3. PROFESSORIAL FELLOWS

The IIAS assists in mediating between universities in the Netherlands and research institutes in Asia, inviting established scholars (minimum requirement: assistant professor level) to share their expertise with Dutch scholars, by being affiliated to Dutch universities for a period of one to two years.

4. VISITING EXCHANGE FELLOWS

The IIAS has signed several Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with foreign research institutes, thus providing scholars with an opportunity to participate in international exchanges.

The Nordic Institute for Asian Studies (NIAS) in Copenhagen, the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS), the Australian National University (ANU), and the Universität Wien regularly send scholars to the Netherlands to do research for a period from 1 to 6 months. Contacts with many other institutes promise to develop into a more regular exchange in the near future.

5. AFFILIATED FELLOWS

The IIAS can offer office facilities to fellows who have found their own financial support and who would like to do research in the Netherlands for a particular period. The IIAS also offers to mediate in finding external Dutch funding, should the scholar have not yet found ways of financing his/her visit to the Netherlands.

6. ESF/IIAS-NIAS FELLOWS

Selected by the Asia Committee of the European Science Foundation (ESF-AC), ESF/Alliance fellows are attached to the IIAS, partly within the framework of and financed by the Strategic Alliance (IIAS-NIAS-IFA).

7. DUTCH SENIORS

Maximum two Dutch seniors per year can apply for this position of maximum 6 months each at the IIAS. A Dutch senior should have obtained a PhD degree more than five years ago, and be academically very productive. The stay at IIAS (not abroad!) can be used for further research. Funds are made available to finance the temporary replacement for teaching activities of a senior at his/her home university.

8. NORDIC-NETHERLANDS RESEARCH FELLOW

Nordic-Netherlands research fellows are selected by the Strategic Alliance. The duration of the fellowship is 1 or 2 years maximum.

Hereunder you will find, ordered by region of speciality and in alphabetical order, the names and research topics of all fellows working at the International Institute for Asian Studies. Mentioned are further: country of origin, period of affiliation, kind of fellowship, and, in case of an affiliated fellowship, funding source, if available.

GENERAL

Dr Kamala Ganesh (India)  
'The Impact of a Changing Social Welfare System on Relations within Marriage, Family, and Social Networks in the Netherlands and the Public Debate on this Process', affiliated fellow (IDPAD)  
1 April 1999 - 1 July 1999 and 1 September 1999 - 1 February 2000

Dr Mario Rutten (Netherlands), stationed at NIAS, Copenhagen  
'Rural Capitalists in Asia: India, Indonesia, and Malaysia Compared', Nordic-Netherlands research fellow  
15 February 1999 - 15 February 2000

CENTRAL ASIA

Dr Henk Blezer (the Netherlands)  
'The 'Bon'-Origin of Tibetan Buddhist Speculations Regarding a Post-Mortem State Called 'Reality as It Is'', individual research fellow  
Until 1 August 2000

SOUTH ASIA

Dr Hanne de Bruin (the Netherlands) stationed in Leiden and at the Amsterdam Branch Office  
'Kattaikkuttu and Natakam: South Indian theatre traditions in regional perspective', research fellow within the programme 'Performing Arts of Asia: Tradition and Innovation' (PAATI)  
Until 15 July 2001

Dr Thomas de Bruijn (the Netherlands)  
'Nayi Kahani: New stories and new positions in the literary field of Hindi literature after 1947', affiliated fellow (NWO)  
15 June 1998 - 15 June 2001

Dr Ruchira Ganguly-Scrase (Australia), stationed at the Amsterdam Branch Office  
'The Social and Cultural Impact of Globalisation in India', affiliated fellow (Charles Sturt University)  
15 October 1999 - 15 January 2000

Dr Rubya Mehdi (Denmark/Pakistan)  
'Islamic Law of Property Relations: Gender and the discourses of disputing in Pakistan', visiting exchange fellow (NIAS)  
November 1999

Dr Prabhu Mohapatra (India) stationed in New Delhi  
'Industrialisation and Work Culture: Steel workers in Jamshedpur: 1950 - 1990s', research fellow within the framework of the CLARA research programme  
1 February 1999 - 31 January 2002

Dr A. Satyanarayana (India)  
'Emigration of South Indian Labour Communities to South-East Asia: Burma (Myanmar) and Malaysia, 1871-1982', senior visiting fellow within the framework of the CLARA research programme  
1 December 1999 - 1 March 2000

Dr Sanjay Srivastava (Australia)  
'Masculinity, Sexuality, and the Body in the Time of AIDS: Culture, globalization, and the Pandemic in India', visiting exchange fellow (ANU)  
November 1999 - January 2000

Dr Janice Stargardt (Australia)  
'Relic Worship and Sacred Burials in Ancient Buddhism of India, Sri Lanka and Burma', affiliated fellow (NWO)  
4 October 1999 - 1 January 2000

INSULAR SOUTHWEST ASIA

Prof. Vinesh Hookoomsing (Mauritius) stationed at the Amsterdam Branch Office  
'South West Indian Ocean', senior visiting fellow  
1 November 1999 - 30 November 1999

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Dr Matthew Cohen (USA)  
'The Shadow Puppet Theater of Gegekik, North West Java, Indonesia: Memory, tradition, and community', research fellow within the programme 'Performing Arts of Asia: Tradition and Innovation' (PAATI)  
1 January 1998 - 1 January 2001

Dr Freek Colombijn (the Netherlands) stationed in Leiden and at the Amsterdam Branch Office  
'The Road to Development: Access to natural resources along the transport axes of Riau Daratan (Indonesia), 1950-2000', individual research fellow  
Until 1 January 2002

Dr Hans Gooszen (the Netherlands)  
'A Demographic History of the Chinese Population in Batavia (1775-1950)', individual research fellow  
1 January 1999 - 1 January 2000

Dr Michael Jacobsen (Denmark)  
'Ethnic Identity, Nation Building and Human Rights in a Globalizing World' Nordic-Netherlands research fellow  
1 August 1999 - 1 August 2000

Dr Doris Jedamski (Germany)  
'The Count of Monte Christo and his Desire for Vengeance in Indonesia', affiliated fellow (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft)  
7 September - 31 December 1999

Dr Li Minghuan (P.R. of China)  
'A Demographic History of the Chinese Population in Batavia (1775-1950)', individual research fellow  
1 January 1999 - 1 January 2000

Dr Samsuddin Rahim (Malaysia)  
'Communication and Change: Focusing on social issues among youths in Malaysia', senior visiting fellow  
1 - 30 November 1999

Dr Martin Ramstedt (Germany)  
'Hindu Dharma Indonesia - The Hindu-movement in present-day Indonesia and its influence in relation to the development of the indigenous culture of the Toraja (Aluk Todolo) in South Sulawesi', ESF/Alliance fellow  
1 December 1997 - 30 November 2000

Dr Shigeru Sato (Japan) stationed at the IISH, Amsterdam  
'The Altered Labour Relations in the Outer Islands of Indonesia: 1942-1945', senior visiting fellow within the framework of the CLARA research programme  
19 October 1999 - 18 January 2000

Dr Reed Wadley (USA)  
'The Ethnohistory of a Borderland People: The Iban in West Kalimantan, Indonesia', individual research fellow  
1 August 1998 - 1 August 2001

EAST ASIA

Dr Altantsetseg (Mongolia)  
'Mongol-Sino Relations', visiting exchange fellow (Mongolian Academy of Sciences)  
5 - 31 October 1999

Dr Cen Huang (Canada) stationed in Leiden and at the Amsterdam Branch Office  
'Structure and Social Organization of Transnational Enterprises and Entrepreneurship in East and Southeast Asia', research fellow within the programme 'International Social Organization in East and Southeast Asia: Qiaoxiang ties in the twentieth century'.  
1 November 1996 - 1 March 2000

Dr Karpchon Kim (Korea)  
'An Authentic Record of the Yi Dynasty', visiting exchange fellow (Korea Research Foundation)  
1 August 1999 - 1 August 2000

Prof. Chen-kuo Lin (Taiwan, ROC)  
'Chinese Buddhism', third Chair-holder of the European Chair for Chinese Studies, professorial fellow  
1 September 1999 - 1 September 2000

Dr Evelyne Micollier (France) stationed at the Amsterdam Branch Office  
'Practices and Representations of Health and Illness in the Context of Chinese Culture. Interactions with social facts (illness prevention and Human reality of AIDS)', ESF/Alliance fellow  
1 July 1998 - 1 July 2000

Dr Yuri Sadoi (Japan)  
'The Problems of the Japanese Automobile Production System in the Different Cultural Setting: the case of the Netherlands', affiliated fellow (Mitsubishi Motors Corporation)  
1 September 1999 - 1 September 2000

Dr Hae-kyung Um (Korea/UK)  
'Performing Arts in Korea and the Korean Communities in China, the Former Soviet Union and Japan', research fellow within the programme 'Performing Arts of Asia: Tradition and Innovation' (PAATI)  
1 January 1998 - 1 January 2001



# IIAS AGENDA

More information about IIAS Seminars and Workshops is available on the Internet: <http://www.iias.nl/iias/agenda.html>. Also refer to the Agenda Asia, a database of Asian Studies conferences, workshops and seminars: <http://www.iias.nl/gateway/news/agasia/index.html>. Unless otherwise mentioned, the contact address for conferences organized by the IIAS is: IIAS, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands, Tel.: +31-71-527 2227 Fax: +31-71-527 4162 E-mail: [IIAS@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:IIAS@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

## OCTOBER 1999

28-30 OCTOBER 1999  
**Copenhagen, Denmark**  
Mongolians from Country to City: Floating boundaries, pastoralism, and city life in the Mongol lands during the 20<sup>th</sup> century  
IIAS-NIAS-IFA-ESF AC workshop  
Convenors: Dr Li Narangoa and Dr Ole Bruun  
Contact address: Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Leifsgade 33, 2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark  
Tel.: +45-32-54 88 44  
Fax: +45-32-96 25 30  
E-mail: [nara@nias.ku.dk](mailto:nara@nias.ku.dk)

## NOVEMBER 1999

22-24 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Bangkok, Thailand**  
Subcontracting Labour in Asia: A longitudinal analysis in global perspective, Workshop in the framework of the IIAS/IISH research programme CLARA, 'Changing Labour Relations in Asia'  
Convenors: Prof. Jan Lucassen and Dr Ratna Saptari  
Contact address: International Institute of Social History, Cruquiusweg 31, 1019 AT Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-20-668 5866  
Fax: +31-20-664 8141  
E-mail: [rsa@iisg.nl](mailto:rsa@iisg.nl)

24 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Brussels, Belgium**  
IIAS-NIAS-IFA 'Asia Update'  
Organized in co-operation with Dr W. van der Geest, European Institute for Asian Studies  
Contact address: International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 2227  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: [iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

## DECEMBER 1999

9-10 DECEMBER 1999  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
Archival Sources and Overseas Chinese Communities, 1775-1950, IIAS Workshop  
Convenors: Dr Hans Gooszen and Dr Li Minghuan  
Contact address: Drs Helga Lasschuijt, International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands

Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: [hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

10-12 DECEMBER 1999  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
Islam and the electoral process  
Organizers:

Professor Martin van Bruinessen, International Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern World (ISIM), in cooperation with the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), and the African Studies Centre (ASC)  
Contact address: Rapenburg 71, 2311 GJ Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 7905  
Fax: +31-71-527 7906  
E-mail: [isim@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:isim@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)  
or:  
Tel.: +31-30-253 6146  
E-mail: [martin.vanbruinessen@let.uu.nl](mailto:martin.vanbruinessen@let.uu.nl)

13-17 DECEMBER 1999  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
Nationalism in Present-day Southeast Asia  
Joint KITLV/IIAS Seminar  
Convenor: Dr K. van Dijk  
Contact address: Drs Helga Lasschuijt, International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: [hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

## JANUARY 2000

9-16 JANUARY 2000  
**Dharwad, India**  
Fourth ABIA Workshop  
Prof. Karel van Kooij, Dr Ellen Raven, Drs Helga Lasschuijt

## APRIL 2000

27-29 APRIL 2000  
**Amsterdam, The Netherlands**  
Fourth Euro-Japanese International Symposium on Mainland Southeast Asian History: 'Mainland Southeast Asian Responses to the Stimuli of Foreign Material Culture and Practical Knowledge (14<sup>th</sup> - mid 19<sup>th</sup> century)'  
Convenor: Dr John Kleinen  
Contact address: IIAS Branch Office Amsterdam, Spinhuis, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185, 1012 DK Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-20-525 3657  
Fax: +31-20-525 3658  
E-mail: [IIAS@pscw.uva.nl](mailto:IIAS@pscw.uva.nl)

## JUNE 2000

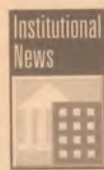
24-30 JUNE 2000  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
Ninth Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies (IATS)  
Convenor: Dr Henk Blezer  
Contact address: Drs Helga Lasschuijt, International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: [hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

## AUGUST 2000

10-11 AUGUST 2000  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
Environmental Change in Native and Colonial Histories of Borneo: Lessons from the past, prospects for the future  
IIAS Seminar  
Convenor: Dr Reed L. Wadley  
Contact address: Drs Helga Lasschuijt, International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: [hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

23-27 AUGUST 2000  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
PAATI Conference 'Audiences, Patrons and Performers in the Performing Arts of Asia'  
IIAS and CHIME  
Contact address: Drs Helga Lasschuijt, International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: [hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

## IIAS Research Partners



The IIAS signs Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with research institutes in the field of Asia Studies all over the world, in order to stimulate further co-operation in this field, and to improve the mobility of scholars through the exchange of research fellows at a post-Ph.D. level. The IIAS mediates in establishing contacts with the Institute's MoU partners.

The IIAS has signed MoUs with the following institutions:

1. Nordic Institute for Asian Studies (NIAS), Copenhagen, Denmark
2. East-West Center in Hawai'i (EWC), USA
3. Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies of the Australian National University (RSPAS-ANU), Canberra, Australia
4. Division of Social Sciences and Humanities, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI), Jakarta, Indonesia
5. Institut für Kultur und Geistesgeschichte Asiens der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna, Austria
6. Institute of Oriental Studies (IOS) of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia
7. Vietnam National University Hanoi (VNU), Hanoi, Vietnam

8. University Grants Commission (UGC)/Ministry of Education of Pakistan, Islamabad, Pakistan
9. Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS), Shanghai, P.R. China
10. L'École Française d'Extrême-Orient (EFEO), Paris, France
11. Academia Sinica, Taiwan, ROC
12. Korea Research Foundation (KRF), Seoul, Korea
13. National Science Council, Taipei, Taiwan, ROC
14. Mongolian Academy of Sciences, Mongolia
15. Institut de Recherche sur le Sud-Est Asiatique, Aix-en-Provence, France
16. Bureau of International Cultural & Educational Relations, Ministry of Education, Taipei, Taiwan, ROC
17. Centre d'Études et de Recherches Internationales, Paris, France ■

## Lin New Holder of European Chair of Chinese Studies



The scholar of Buddhism, Professor Lin Chen-kuo, became the new holder of the European Chair of Chinese Studies in September of this year. Like his predecessors Fu and Shen, he will spend one year in Leiden carrying out research and lecturing at the Sinological Institute.



In 1996 the Bureau of International Cultural & Educational Relations (BICER), Republic of China, and the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding. It was decided to establish a 'European Chair of Chinese Studies at IIAS', in the field of the Humanities and Social Sciences for an initial period of five years.

Professor Fu Pei-jung, Department of Philosophy, Tai Da University in Taipei, was the first scholar to hold the Chair in 1997. Labelled 'the man with the golden mouth' in IIAS Newsletter 15, Fu considers it his moral duty to imbue youngsters with Confucian values. Besides organizing a seminar on 'Values in Chinese Philosophy' and writing productively, he taught a course on the



Prof. Chen-kuo Lin

Confucian Analects for students in Leiden.

One year later Professor Vincent Shen from the Department of Philosophy, National Cheng-Chi University, Taipei, was appointed the second

occupant of the Chair. Shen, a scholar of Taoism, studied and lectured the philosophy of Chuang Tzu during his stay in the Netherlands. An interview with Professor Shen will be published in the next issue of the IIAS Newsletter.

Recently, in September of this year, Professor Lin Chen-kuo, like Shen attached to the Department of Philosophy at National Cheng-Chi University, became the new holder of the European Chair of Chinese Studies. He will stay on until September 2000 and will teach a course on Chinese Buddhism at the Sinological Institute of Leiden University. Lin plans to concentrate on two specific topics of research during his stay at the IIAS: 'Yogacara Buddhism in China: a study and translation of the Samdhinirmocana Sutra' and 'Building a Pure Land at Earth: Master Yin-shun and Buddhism in Taiwan'. ■



# New IIAS Publication

In August 1999 'Qiaoxiang Ties. Interdisciplinary Approaches to 'Cultural Capitalism in South China', edited by Leo Douw, Cen Huang, and Michael Godley, was published jointly by the IIAS and Kegan Paul International (London). It is the seventh volume within the series 'Studies from the International Institute for Asian Studies'. The next volume will come out in January 2000, titled 'New Aspects of Asian Studies', edited by Dick van der Meij. The latter contains articles on a wide variety of topics, thus providing a unique picture of recent top-level research within the Asian Studies. All contributors are scholars who have been or are still affiliated to the IIAS.

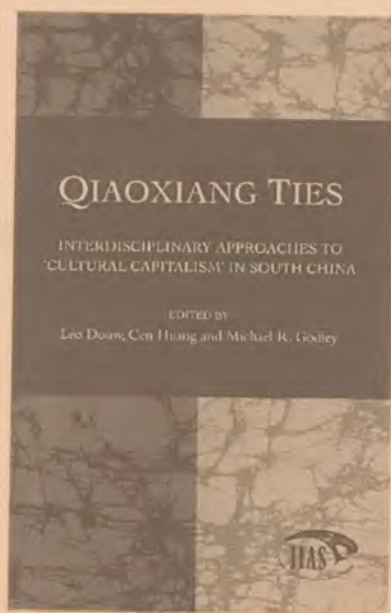


**Q**iaoxiang Ties. Interdisciplinary Approaches to 'Cultural Capitalism in South China' is a product of the IIAS research programme 'International Social Organization in East and Southeast Asia: Qiaoxiang ties during the twentieth century'. The articles are the outcome of a panel that was organized by the programme during the International Convention of Asia Scholars, 25-28 June 1998 in Noordwijkerhout, the Netherlands.

This book explores the claims, that cultural affinity facilitates the business ventures into Mainland China launched by residents of Chinese descent in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and Southeast Asia. The economic boom which has occurred in South China over the past two decades seems to confirm these claims. The business ventures of South Chinese descendants into China can easily be represented as a return to their *Qiaoxiang* (the sojourner's village or hometown). The cultivation of hometown ties is part and parcel of the Chinese culture of establishing *guanxi*, or relationships of mutual obligation between individuals, and supports the construction of Chinese business networks.

The contributors to the book, however, apply a multi-disciplinary approach which embraces anthropology, history, and political science, allowing them to examine how the cultivation of *qiaoxiang* ties works in actual practice. In doing so they question the plausibility of this apparent cultural affinity, even more so when the sharing of certain cultural traits is used as an explanation of business success and economic.

The papers in this volume are empirical studies of the dynamics of *qiaoxiang* ties construction. They are concerned with the question of how diaspora communities come about; how they work on a day-to-day basis, and how they relate to existing political formations. They introduce a long-term perspective on the emergence of these communities, and present much-needed fieldwork on how people link up to them and use them for the advancement of their interests. Taken together, the articles illustrate the rich textures and the many layers that are contained by *qiaoxiang* linkages. ■



For more information about the IIAS publications, see: <http://www.iias.nl/iias/public.html> or contact

**DRS CATHELIJNE VEENKAMP**  
executive manager at  
[veenkamp@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:veenkamp@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

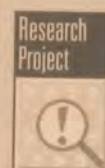
All books within the Series of the International Institute for Asian Studies are available through:

From Europe and the rest of the world excluding the USA and Canada:  
**JOHN WILEY & SONS LTD.**  
Southern Cross Trading Estate  
1 Oldlands Way, Bognor Regis  
West Sussex PO22 9SA, Great Britain  
Tel.: +44-1243-779 777  
Fax: +44-1243-820 250  
Telex: 86111 WILEY G  
E-mail: [customer@wiley.co.uk](mailto:customer@wiley.co.uk)  
<http://www.wiley.co.uk>

From the USA and Canada:  
**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS**  
Order Department  
136 South Broadway  
Irvington, NY 10533, USA.  
Tel.: +1-914-591 9111 or  
toll Free: +1-800-944 8648  
Fax: +1-914-591 9201 or  
toll Free: +1 800 944 1844  
E-mail: [mm441@columbia.edu](mailto:mm441@columbia.edu)  
(Michael McCullough, Sales Manager).  
<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/cup>

# PAATI Research Programme

## Performing Arts of Asia: Tradition and Innovation; The Expression of Identity in a Changing World



**T**he PAATI research programme (1997-2001) is concerned with analysing and comparing processes of change in Asian performing arts, and, in particular, traditional Asian theatre. The focus is on the way in which the performing arts are institutionalized and standardized; how they balance between flexibility and fixation, influenced by globalization and localization; and how these processes of change affect form, content, and organization of the teaching. ■

The members of the PAATI Research Programme are:

- **Dr Wim van Zanten**  
Programme Director  
E-mail: [zanten@fsw.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:zanten@fsw.leidenuniv.nl)
- **Dr Hanne de Bruin**  
(Kattaikkuttu and Natakam: South Indian theatre traditions in regional perspective)  
E-mail: [hdebruin@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:hdebruin@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)
- **Dr Matthew Cohen**  
(The Shadow Puppet Theater of Gegesik, North West Java, Indonesia: Memory, tradition, and community)  
E-mail: [mcohen@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:mcohen@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)
- **Dr Hae-kyung Um**  
(Performing Arts in Korea and the Korean Communities in China, the Former Soviet Union and Japan)  
E-mail: [haekyungum@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:haekyungum@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

You may find more information about the PAATI research project on the website of the IIAS: <http://www.iias.nl/iias/research/paat/index.html>.

## 'Good Learning' The PAATI masterclasses

'Good learning' is that which is in advance of development.'  
— LEV S. VYGOTSKY

By **MATTHEW ISAAC COHEN**



**F**olk wisdom has it that you never know as much about your field as you did when you were a graduate student. There is some truth in that: the atmosphere of intense debate, concentrated reading, singular concentration, and barely sublimated aggression heightens critical awareness and invests scholars-in-the-making with a buoyant sense of professional dedication. Maintaining this atmosphere requires constant effort. Teaching gives an excuse to keep up with general developments in the field, as long as one makes it a point to assign newly published books and articles. Attending and organizing workshops and seminars can also go part of the way. Inter-disciplinary faculty reading groups provide solace and stimulation for scholars in many universities. 'Think tanks' and institutes for advanced study likewise provide inspiration for limited numbers of people for limited periods of time. New models are needed, however, for experience shows that there are clear limitations to all of these approaches.

The PAATI programme sponsored three masterclasses during 1998 and 1999 as a pilot project for a new kind of 'good learning.' Outstanding scholars in the field of Asian expressive culture were invited to submit a

required reading list of 400-600 pages (including their own recent work) and then present on this reading and their research interests (past, present, and future) over three days of intense discussion at IIAS with the PAATI researchers and 8-12 additional faculty members, postdoctoral researchers, and advanced graduate students. Stuart Blackburn (SOAS), a folklorist and anthropologist; Martin Stokes (University of Chicago), an ethnomusicologist and anthropologist; and David Shulman (Hebrew University), an Indologist and scholar of comparative religion, each brought their individual approaches and current passions to the attention of a highly eclectic group of literary scholars, anthropologists, ethnomusicologists, philologists, and area experts from the Netherlands, France, Israel, Germany, the United States, South Korea, Great Britain, and elsewhere. Basic assumptions were queried, particular findings debated, soapboxes quickly erected and just as quickly knocked out from under participants, voices raised and silenced, and knowledge shared and built upon.

Each masterclass defined its own set of issues and had its distinctive tone. Blackburn concentrated on the usefulness of 'performance' as a research topic across cultures, and took his own two major projects on South Indian bow song and shadow puppet theatre as examples of how to operationalize theoretical ques-

tions in the definition of performance. Ethical issues about who owns and represents performance texts were central to the discussion. Stokes presented the early stage of a major work-in-progress on music as cultural intimacy. Examples ranged far and wide, from Country and Western to classical Javanese gamelan to Egyptian popular song to Sardinian folk music, and the theoretical discussion was constantly enlivened by looking at videos and listening to CD recordings. Shulman presented the case for an affective approach to understanding myth, art, literature, and celebration, with reference in particular to his work on South Indian civilization. Building on his own and other's explorations of framing, masks, and games (including his recent book on Shiva's game of dice and the Satyajit Ray film, *The Chess Players*), Shulman argued strongly for the importance of coming to grips with the emotional registers invoked in the reception of art, as a level of comprehension beyond structure.

Investing the time necessary for a significant amount of reading in a field not entirely one's own, placing one's trust in a 'master' to lead discussions over several days time, and taking the chance to voice an opinion on a topic which one might not have yet mastered: all involve a temporary renunciation of professional authority and a possible risk of injury to one's dignity. But as with the legendary kings of South and Southeast Asia, who had to become mediant ascetics to achieve virtue, such apparent regressions are necessary in the service of good learning. Shared prior texts, a discursive event, and plenty of time: this is where true dialogue begins. ■

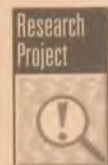


# News from the PAATI Research Programme

By WIM VAN ZANTEN & HANNE DE BRUIN

Below you will find (1) a short report about events concerning the PAATI project in the first half of 1999, (2) a call for papers for the August 2000 conference, and (3) a report by Dr Hanne de Bruin about a Summer School in traditional Tamil Theatre in Britain.

## 1. Highlights PAATI Programme



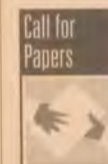
In the first half of 1999 the fellows were involved in teaching in several institutions in the Netherlands. After the first Masterclass in 1998 by Dr Stuart Blackburn (London), this year there were two other Masterclasses organized by the project. From 7-9 May 1999 Dr Martin Stokes (Chicago) gave a Masterclass on Mediterranean performing arts and the concept of 'cultural intimacy'. From 12-14 July Dr David Shulman gave a Masterclass on the issues involved in the gambling of Shiva and other games,

like chess, in India. The Masterclasses have proved to be very effective in stimulating a discussion between the about 15 participants, mostly post-PhD research fellows and PhD candidates.

The third issue of *Oideion*; Performing Arts Online, a peer-reviewed multimedia journal on the World Wide Web: <http://www.iias.nl/oideion>, was published in July 1999. This third issue contains articles based on papers of the fellows (Dr Hae-Kyung Um, Dr Matthew I. Cohen, Dr Hanne M. de Bruin), presented at the ICAS conference in June 1998. ■

23 > 27 AUGUST 2000  
LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS

## 2. Audiences, Patrons, and Performers in the Performing Arts of Asia



From 23 to 27 August 2000, Leiden University, the Netherlands, will host the conference 'Audiences, Patrons, and Performers in the Performing Arts of Asia', a joint initiative of the International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS-PAATI research programme), the European Foundation for Chinese Music Research (CHIME), and the Department of Cultural and Social Studies, Leiden University. For CHIME this event will serve as the 6th annual CHIME conference on creativity in Asian music and ritual. Selected papers will be published in 2001.

In this conference we look beyond performance as a 'self-contained act' towards what performance essentially constitutes: an on-going and dynamic interaction with the environment. To reverse what is perhaps the most habitual direction of our viewing, we emphasize the role of the environment: the audiences, the patrons who protect the arts, the people who organize and support, politically or otherwise, the arts: the theme at the heart of this conference is how they influence performances and performers, and are in turn influenced by them. Whatever singers, storytellers, puppeteers, actors, or musicians in Asia have on offer for

their audiences - in terms of entertainment, ritual, or re-enactment of social relationships and dilemmas - for the viability of their art they depend on more than just one-way communication with the environment. How do they cope with the many different - often contradictory - voices and expectations that emerge from different groups in society, each with their own norms and values?

### Panels and workshops

1. Hybrid-popular theatres in Asia (convenor: Dr Hanne de Bruin)
2. Art criticism (convenor: Dr Wim van Zanten)
3. 'Liveness' (convenor: Dr Matthew Cohen)
4. The Asian diaspora (convenor: Dr Hae-Kyung Um)
5. Workshops CHIME: The creative process in folk music and musical ritual in Asia (convenor: Frank Kouwenhoven)

A description of these topics for the panels and workshops may be found on the website, or it may be sent to you by the conference secretariat (see below). For the semi-closed CHIME workshops participants will be asked to prepare draft manuscripts of papers which will be circulated in advance. In the workshop presenters will be allowed ten

16 > 20 AUGUST 1999  
LEICESTER HAYMARKET THEATRE, G.B.

## 3. Summer School in Traditional Tamil Theatre



From August 16 to 20, 1999, a special summer school in theatre took place at the Haymarket Theatre, Leicester, G.B. Rajagopal, an Indian actor, playwright, and director, and Dr Hanne M. de Bruin, research fellow of the IIAS, the Netherlands, worked together with a group of twenty young people. They introduced the 12 to 17 year-olds to Kattaikkuttu, a traditional, story-telling theatre from rural Tamil Nadu in South India.

During the intensive morning and afternoon sessions the students were instructed in Kattaikkuttu's characteristic way of singing and voice projection, including rhythm and melody, its physically demanding dance movements, use of space, various acting skills, make-up, as well as the development and maintenance of a story-line on stage. At the end of the week-long training, the students performed their own version of the play *Mayakkutirai* or *The Magic Horse*, a children's play written and composed by Rajagopal, at the Castle Park Festival in Leicester. Jesse Bannister, a saxophone player trained in Western and Indian music, and Pradap, a mrdan-

gam-player from Bangalore, provided musical support and instruction during the training and the performance.

The summer school was received with great enthusiasm. At the conclusion, the students rated the course excellent, though very different from what they had expected it to be. And indeed, the event was unique in several ways: It exposed a group of young students in Britain to an entirely different way of 'making theatre'. Several of the students had an Indian background. For them, the introduction to a South Indian theatre expanded their cultural horizon of possible 'Indian-ness', which until then appeared to have been filled, in particular, by North Indian cultural images, as well as by stunning acts of martial arts as demonstrated in the popular Indian films. For Rajagopal, the invitation to teach at Leicester Haymarket Theatre

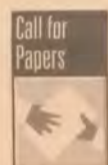
and the reception of the summer course were not only an acknowledgment of his work as an innovative playwright and director, but also a recognition of Kattaikkuttu as a full-fledged, contemporary theatre in its own right. The co-operation with two musicians, playing instruments which are not used in Kattaikkuttu, provided some wonderful and innovative musical examples.

Finally, the efforts of Leicester Haymarket Theatre to bring Indian theatre and culture to the doorstep of Leicester's inhabitants, 26% of whom have an Asian background, should be lauded. Here the often heard promise that cultural events should be made accessible to a larger audience has been put into practice.

The summer course was organized by the Education and Outreach of Leicester Haymarket Theatre and its Youth Theatre, Peacock. Dr Vayu Naidu, artistic associate of the Haymarket Theatre and herself a professional performer, was the initiator and moving force behind the Kattaikkuttu summer course. Youth leaders Gary Brown and Deborah Sathe's enthusiasm and tact were essential to the success of the event. ■

27 > 29TH APRIL 2000  
LEIDEN, THE NETHERLANDS

## Symposium on Mainland Southeast Asian History



The objective of the Fourth Euro-Japanese International Symposium on Mainland Southeast Asian History: 'Mainland Southeast Asian Responses to the Stimuli of Foreign Material Culture and Practical Knowledge (14th to mid-19th Century)' is to elucidate how foreign elements and complex techniques of producing new types of material culture are modified, adapted, and emended as part of the process of enculturation. The theme of this symposium is 'Acceptance, Rejection, or Modification of Material Culture and Technical Knowledge'.

The spread of material and technical culture in Mainland Southeast Asia has hitherto been researched very sparingly. Information on techniques such as that of iron-making, types of forges, gold, silver, and tin mining, gun-making, silk manufacture, the making of panelled walls, the spread of fireworks, paper-making, and the diffusion of architectural features lies largely forgotten in a variety of archives, hidden in manuscripts written in a dozen different languages, waiting to be unearthed and to be discussed.

Two topics have received relatively much attention: the flow of ceramics and the use of cloth in the region, but even in these relatively well-studied fields there are still many questions left open. The purpose of the symposium is to go beyond the gathering of information on when a particular item of technical knowledge was introduced in traditional Mainland Southeast Asia, but to elucidate how foreign elements and complex techniques of producing new types of ma-

terial culture are modified, adapted, and emended as part of the process of enculturation.

Through our research on the Southeast-Asianization of technical knowledge we expect to throw light not only on the local economic factors at play, but also on the role of indigenous value systems in the acculturation process. In addition we will ask our participants to take note of the local limitations of technical innovation and take into account local environmental factors.

A limited number of new participants, who have to send us an elaborate proposal, can still be accepted. The core of the participants always consists of a circle of scholars from Europe and Japan, who: 1) accept the historical approach, 2) who are interested in studying cross-cultural contact situations, and 3) who are specialised in the period between the 13th and the end of the 19th century. ■

The convenors are:

- **Dr John Kleinen** (University of Amsterdam; ASSR, IIAS)
- **Prof. Nguyen The Anh** (École Pratique des Hautes Études (Sorbonne), Director of the Laboratoire Peninsule Indochinoise)
- **Prof. Baas Terwiel** (Abteilung Thailand und Vietnam Studien Seminar für Sprache und Kultur Chinas, Universität Hamburg).

For further information, please contact:

**DR J. KLEINEN**  
IIAS Branch Office Amsterdam  
O.Z. Achterburgwal 185  
1012 DK Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Fax: +31-20-525 3658  
E-mail: [kleinen@pscw.uva.nl](mailto:kleinen@pscw.uva.nl)

or fifteen minute slots for summaries of their findings, after which group discussion will be initiated.

### Abstracts

Abstracts should consist of 200-300 words; the deadline is 1st March 2000. You may enter your proposal in any one of the panels and workshops listed below. Please indicate the equipment you would like to use for your presentation. We welcome abstracts sent before the deadline; you will be informed within about a month whether the abstract has been accepted or not. Please use the electronic registration form on the WWW (see below) or ask a paper version from the IIAS conference secretariat. ■

For further information and for sending in abstracts, please use the following address:

**INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES**

Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
Conference e-mail address:  
[audiences@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:audiences@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

More detailed information will be provided on the Internet:

<http://www.iias.nl/oideion/general/audiences.html>, or  
<http://www.iias.nl/iias/agenda.html>

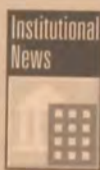
You may also contact:

**DR WIM VAN ZANTEN (CHAIR)**  
Institute of Cultural and Social Studies  
Leiden University  
P.O. Box 9555  
2300 RB Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 3465 / 74 / 69  
Fax: +31-71-527 3619  
E-mail: [zanten@fsw.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:zanten@fsw.leidenuniv.nl)



# 7<sup>th</sup> Nordic-European Workshop in Advanced Asian Studies

## THE STRATEGIC ALLIANCE



In 1997 the IIAS-NIAS Strategic Alliance was established: an international co-operation between the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS), Copenhagen, and the IIAS. In October 1998 the Strategic Alliance was joined by the Institut für Asienkunde in Hamburg. The Strategic Alliance was set up to enhance research on (contemporary) Asia and to create networks in Asia and Europe with academic and non-academic institutions and actors. The Alliance has its own fellowships/stipends programme: the Alliance research fellowships, and Nordic-Netherlands research fellowships.

Both the Dutch Minister for Education and the Nordic Council of Ministers have contributed to this new form of co-operation.

Addresses:

### THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES (IIAS)

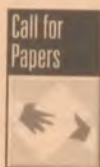
P.O. Box 9515  
2300 RA Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 2227  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: [iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)  
<http://www.iias.nl>

### NORDIC INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES (NIAS)

33 Leifsgade  
DK 2300 Copenhagen S  
Denmark  
Tel.: +45-32-54 88 44  
Fax: +45-32-96 25 30  
E-mail: [sec@nias.ku.dk](mailto:sec@nias.ku.dk)  
<http://nias.ku.dk>

### THE INSTITUT FÜR ASIENKUNDE (IFA)

Rothenbaumchaussee 32  
D-20148 Hamburg  
Germany  
Tel.: +40-44 30 01-03  
Fax: +40 410 79 45  
E-mail: [ifahh@uni-hamburg.de](mailto:ifahh@uni-hamburg.de)  
<http://www.rrz.uni-hamburg.de/ifa>



The seventh Nordic-European Workshop in Advanced Asian Studies (NEWAS) is organized by the Strategic Alliance between the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, the International Institute for Asian Studies (Leiden/Amsterdam), and the Institute for Asian Affairs (Hamburg) in collaboration with the Center for Asian Studies Amsterdam and other Dutch and Nordic Research Institutes.

### The NEWAS Model for Research Student Support

One part of the support programme for research students in Asian studies within the framework of the Strategic Alliance is the organization of a series of Nordic-European Workshops in Advanced Asian Studies (NEWAS), arranged in collaboration with leading European institutions.

The aim is to provide postgraduate students carrying out PhD-thesis work on contemporary South and Southeast Asia from a social science perspective (including social history), with:

1. supervisory support and opportunity to profit from intellectual milieus of established research institutes operating at an international level;
2. a forum where they can meet fellow students from other European countries working on the same region and similar topics and establish contacts during the critical and difficult period of the thesis writing;
3. opportunity to meet internationally leading scholars in the field, scholars who can serve as sources of inspiration for thesis writing.

### Format

The duration of the workshop is three days. It brings 6-10 PhD-students from the Nordic countries and 6-10 students from one or more institutes in the Netherlands together to a closed, intensive and well-prepared workshop led by 4-6 senior scholars at professorial level, one half from the Nordic countries and the other from the Netherlands.

The workshop starts with inspirational lectures by two of the professors who set out the limits of the research in question and discuss the latest findings in the field. Most of the time is used to discuss in seminar form the thesis work of each participating student, based on written material circulated in advance. The

thesis work can be at any stage prior to the final writing-up phase. In addition, each student is given an opportunity to get individual guidance from those of the professors who are best equipped to give qualified viewpoints on the thesis.

### Procedures

The selection of the Nordic PhD-students will be made by the NIAS (Copenhagen) and the selection of the Dutch PhD-students will be made by the participating Dutch research schools co-ordinated by the IIAS in Leiden. The major criteria will be the scholarly merits of the projects. Applicants will be informed about admittance around 15 January 2000. Those who are selected to participate in the workshop must submit the papers they wish to have discussed at the workshop not later than 1 March 2000.

The cost of travel and accommodation/meals in Copenhagen will be covered for the supervisors through a grant from the 'Strategic Alliance'. This grant will also cover the cost of accommodation/meals for the selected PhD-students whereas the students' travel costs must be paid by their home institutions. Only in exceptional circumstances can Nordic PhD-students apply for travel support from NIAS. PhD students from the Netherlands may apply for such support from the IIAS.

### Application for participation

6-10 Nordic and 6-10 PhD-students from Dutch universities and research schools will be selected for participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> NEWAS. At present, there are a number of Nordic PhD-students registered in NIAS's Support Programme for Asian Studies (SUPRA) who are carrying out thesis work which falls within the scope decided for the workshop. At the same time, there are a number of Dutch PhD-students, e.g. within the research schools of CASA/ASSR, CNWS and CERES who conduct research on contemporary South and Southeast Asia from a social science perspective. These students are hereby invited to apply for participation. The deadline for application for participation is 15 December 1999. ■

## Products & Services

### INFORMATION CARRIERS

#### Asian Rare Books

175 W. 93rd Street  
Suite 16-D  
New York, NY 10025-9344  
United States of America  
Tel.: +1-212-316 5334  
Fax: +1-212-316 3408  
E-mail: [arbs@erols.com](mailto:arbs@erols.com)  
<http://www.erols.com/arbs/>

#### Charbo's Antiquariaat

Koninginneweg 79  
1075 CJ Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-20-676 1229  
Fax: +31-20-676-1726  
E-mail: [mail@charbo.nl](mailto:mail@charbo.nl)  
<http://www.charbo.nl>

#### China Information: A Journal on Contemporary China Studies

Please visit our website:  
<http://www.let.leidenuniv.nl/tcc/journal>

or contact the Chief Editor:

Dr Woei Lien Chong  
Sinological Institute  
Leiden University  
Arsenaalstraat 1  
P.O. Box 9515  
2300 RA Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 2516  
Fax: +31-71-527 2526  
E-mail:  
[docchin@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:docchin@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

#### Fine Books Oriental

38 Museum Street  
London WC1A 1LP  
United Kingdom  
Tel.: +44-171-242 5288  
Fax: +44-171-242 5344  
[http://](http://www.finebooks.demon.co.uk)

#### Hotel Wilhelmina

Koninginneweg 167-169  
1075 CN Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-20-662 5467  
/ 664 0594  
Fax: +31-20-679 2296  
E-mail:  
[wilhlht@euronet.nl](mailto:wilhlht@euronet.nl)

#### King Hotel

Leidsekade 86-86  
1017 PN Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-20-624 9603  
/ 627 6101  
Fax: +31-20-620 7277

#### MMF Publications

P.O. Box 287  
2160 AG Lisse  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-252-432 121  
Fax: +31-252-418 658  
E-mail: [microformat@compuserve.com](mailto:microformat@compuserve.com)

#### Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute (intensive summer language program)

Center for Southeast Asian Studies  
University of  
Wisconsin-Madison  
Room 207, 1155 Observatory Dr  
Madison  
Wisconsin 53706 USA  
Tel.: +1-608-263 1755  
Fax: +1-608-263 3735  
E-mail:  
[mjstuden@facstaff.wisc.edu](mailto:mjstuden@facstaff.wisc.edu)  
<http://www.wisc.edu/seassi>

#### Tamarind Books

Books about Southeast Asia  
P.O. Box 49217, Greensboro  
NC 27419  
United States of America  
Tel.: +33-6-852 1905  
Fax: +33-6-852 0750  
E-mail:  
[tamarind@greensboro.com](mailto:tamarind@greensboro.com)  
<http://www.abebooks.com/home/tamarind/>

#### The Old Bookroom

Out of print and  
antiquarian books on Asia  
Unit 1, 54/60 Weedon Close  
Belconnen  
ACT 2617, Australia  
Tel.: +61-2-6251 5191  
(24 hours)  
Fax: +61-2-6251 5536  
E-mail: [books@OldBookroom.com](mailto:books@OldBookroom.com)  
[http://](http://www.OldBookroom.com)

#### Tri Jaya Tour & Travel

Medan-Indonesia  
For individual tours all over Indonesia,  
adventure travel, cultural holidays,  
architectural/historical tours, beach holi-  
days, jungle trekking.  
Fax: +62-61-786 3324  
E-mail: [trijaya@ibm.net](mailto:trijaya@ibm.net)  
<http://www.trijaya-travel.com>

#### Advertise now in the Products and Services!

3 placements (1 year) for only US\$ 100  
Please contact Mr Sudhir Sand or the  
Managing Editor, Elzeline van der Hoek  
P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31 71 527 2227  
Fax: +31-71 527 4162  
E-mail: [iiasnews@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:iiasnews@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)





6 > 7 SEPTEMBER 1999  
AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDSCLARA  
RESEARCH PROGRAMME'CHANGING  
LABOUR  
RELATIONS  
IN ASIA'CLARA Programme Co-ordinator:  
DR RATNA SAPTARIc/o International Institute  
of Social History (IISH)  
Cruquiusweg 31  
1019 AT Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-20-668 5866  
Fax: +31-20-665 4181  
E-mail: chlia@iisg.nl  
http://www.iisg.nl/asia

## CLARA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Prof. Jan Breman (CASA-ASSR)
- Prof. Marcel van der Linden (IISH)  
- Chair
- Prof. Jan Lucassen (IISH)
- Dr. Ratna Saptari (IIAS / IISH)  
- Secretary
- Prof. Willem van Schendel  
(University of Amsterdam / IISH)
- Prof. Thommy Svensson (NIAS)

Documenting  
Asian Social  
History

On September 6-7, 1999 CLARA and the International Institute of Social History brought together a small group of Asian specialists from Asia, Australia, and the Netherlands in a workshop on 'Documenting Asian Social History'. This workshop which was held at the IISH and attended by around twenty participants, was to discuss the problems and challenges of documenting Asian social history faced by labour research and/or archival centres in these regions.



As Jaap Kloosterman, the director of the IISH, stated in his introductory address, scholarly interest in Asian social history in general and labour history in particular, is on the rise. One major problem encountered by researchers, however, is the deficiency of accessible primary sources. Other problems which are equally important are: the criteria used to document material; the problem of identifying the agencies and actors

who have the material; problems of preservation, and the problem of accessibility by the different kinds of publics.

These problems have been identified on the basis of the experiences of the IISH as a collecting institution since 1935 and its relationships with organizations in Asia with whom it has maintained contact in the field of documentation. In attempting to find solutions to these problems it was also felt that there was a need for better co-ordination of the different endeavours. The workshop therefore began with two premises, namely: that socio-historical documentation deserves to be properly preserved; and that in principle it ought to be accessible to each and every interested researcher. On the basis of these premises the questions to be addressed were, namely: identification of the collectors; how to know what has been done; what to document; how to guarantee access; and how to preserve the documents.

In examining the agencies and actors who are documenting information about social/labour history it was established that material could be found in various places in both state and non-state establishments. The state institutions could be: state archives, law courts, and tripartite institutions as well as the various ministries (ministry of labour or manpower, ministry of social affairs etc.). The non-state establishments could be divided into the private companies and the NGOs and/or labour organizations. Quite often individuals, with a political or scholarly interest could also be a source of documents. Both types of collecting agents brought with them their own limitations, either in the type of material collected and in the accessibility of the material. It is clearly important to distinguish between actors or agencies who are generating the information and those who are collecting the information. With reference to both these aspects it was clear that other people outside the working population could also be a source of information. This group would include the political leaders or witnesses to a particular event.

Participants in the workshops also discussed the fact that material could be 'lost' in a multitude of ways: either because of technical factors which may include humidity,

the type of paper, conditions of preservation etc., or because of political factors, where mention was made of whole collections totally destroyed in of state-sponsored raids.

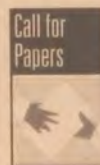
In the discussion about what types of information should be documented, the question of the nature of usefulness came up; on the one hand, there was a need not to be too limited by ongoing political or theoretical fashions or interests and to keep the boundaries open as broadly as possible, all the time being aware that information not considered useful today could be useful in the future. There was also an awareness of the need for the direct applicability of documentation collected. Another issue was that of separating between 'the past' and 'present' since there is a tangible link between the two. There was also the issue of the source of the information. Most sources are on paper and in the form of writing, but particularly on the basis of the past experience of the IISH, it is clearly important to consider other forms of documentation namely posters, pictures and the like. Clearly, what constitutes a source is largely defined by researchers, but it should be borne in mind that a variety of sources can be used. And whatever existing sources are collected, it will be essential to create sources as well and in this sense

oral history is indispensable. Great attention was paid to this latter form of documentation and the instruments used to collect such material.

At the end of the workshop with the results of the discussions and the needs of the participants in mind, a number of plans for the future were formulated. Firstly there was a great need for training particularly in the field of archive preservation and also for conducting interviews to collect oral history. Another plan is to establish an electronic network of labour documentation centres. The idea of setting up a website on labour issues and labour documentation was also mooted. Such plans should then be co-ordinated by the International Institute of Social History in collaboration with CLARA. ■

16 > 18 MARCH, 2000  
NEW DELHI, INDIASecond Conference  
Association of  
Indian Labour  
Historians

The Association of Indian Labour Historians seeks papers for its second conference from historians and scholars interested in labour history. Contemporary issues relating to labour with a historical perspective will be of interest to us. Papers relating to non-Indian labour history specially with a comparative perspective are also solicited. The following themes will be discussed in the conference, though papers on any other aspect of labour history are welcome:



- Informalisation of Labour:  
Historical and Contemporary Processes
- The Working Class and Politics of Identity
- Gender, Work and Historiography
- Housing the Working Poor:  
Everyday Life in Workers settlements
- Recovering Labour History:  
Resources and Memories

Please send the following information to the address below:

'I am interested in and/or will attend the Labour History Conference, Delhi, March 16-18 2000. Please keep me informed.' Name, corresponding address (telephone and fax), e-mail, title of proposed paper (if any) with 100-word abstract, signature. ■

## DR PRABHU P. MOHAPATRA

Archives of Indian Labour  
VVGiri National Labour Institute  
Sector 24, NOIDA  
Gautam Budha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh  
India 201301  
Fax: +91-118-532 974  
E-mail: shram@ndf.vsnl.net.in

(Advertisements)

Hotel

Wilhelmina

KONINGINNEWEG 167-169

1075 CN AMSTERDAM

THE NETHERLANDS

TEL.: +31-20-662 5467 / 664 0594

FAX: +31-20-679 2296

E-MAIL: WILHLHTL@EURONET.NL

King  
Hotel

LEIDSEKADE 86-88

1017 PN AMSTERDAM

THE NETHERLANDS

TEL.: +31-20-624 9603 / 627 6101

FAX: +31-20-620 7277





# Asia Committee

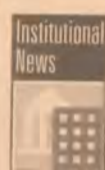
EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION

## ESF OFFICE

1 quai Lezay-Marnésia  
67080 Strasbourg Cedex  
France  
Tel: +33-388 76 71 51  
Fax: +33-388 37 01 01  
<http://www.esf.org>

## The ESF Asia Committee

In the earlier issues of the IAS newsletter, the reader has been kept regularly informed about the various activities of the Committee during its first mandate (32 workshops; long-term fellowships; various publications; sponsoring of international scientific events; etc.). In 1997 an international Committee of Asia scholars was invited to review the Asian Studies programme. Although the programme at that moment was barely three years underway, much work had been done, enough to make some observations about the achievements, and the direction chosen as well as to formulate recommendations for a second mandate period.



In short, the conclusion of the review Committee was that the ESF should continue to support the Asian Studies programme; its activities were judged to be appropri-

### THE ESF ASIA COMMITTEE IN A NUTSHELL

The European Science Foundation (ESF) acts as a catalyst for the development of science by bringing together leading scientists and funding agencies to debate, plan and implement pan-European scientific and science policy initiatives.

The ESF is an association of more than sixty major national funding agencies devoted to basic scientific research in over twenty countries. It represents all scientific disciplines: physical and engineering sciences, life and environmental sciences, medical sciences, humanities and social sciences. The Foundation assists its Member Organisations in two main ways: by bringing scientists together in its scientific programmes, networks and European research conferences, to work on topics of common concern; and through the joint study of issues of strategic importance in European science policy.

The ESF maintains close relations with other scientific institutions within and outside Europe. By its activities, the Foundation adds value by co-operation and co-ordination across national frontiers and endeavours, offers expert scientific advice on strategic issues, and provides the European forum for fundamental science.

## ESF OFFICE

Ms M. Yagoubi / Ms M. Blumenroeder  
1 quai Lezay-Marnésia  
67080 Strasbourg Cedex, France  
Tel: +33-388 767 151  
Fax: +33-388 370 101  
<http://www.esf.org>

## SECRETARIAT OF THE ESF ASIA COMMITTEE

International Institute for Asian Studies  
att. of: Drs Sabine A.M. Kuypers  
or Drs Marieke te Boonij  
P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel: +31-71-527 2227  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
<http://www.ias.nl/esfac>

ate and useful. The Asia Committee (AC) should capitalize on the progress made during the first three years and ensure the steady expansion of contacts newly engaged within the Asia Committee framework. The following recommendations were offered:

- The Committee should make unequivocally clear its principle commitment is to strengthen a community of European scholars in diverse institutional settings committed to an improved understanding of Asia and Europe's relationships with Asia.
- The Committee has to help create demand for effective and durable networking, especially on issues related to Asia-Europe relations.
- The Committee should continue to support international workshops, but it should expand its range of action to attract more proposals addressing contemporary issues. Other (i.e. not primarily Asia-focused) institutions and individuals should be encouraged to apply.
- Apart from the long-term fellowships scheme, a short-term grant scheme should be established, allowing young researchers to help create institutional co-operation such as joint research programmes.
- The Asia Committee should do even more than at present to enhance the visibility of the Committee's activities towards its putative community. It should keep raising financial support from research organizations, governmental departments in European countries, and the EU.
- The Asia Committee should try to function as a bridge between academia and policy makers. A higher percentage of activities on contemporary issues in Asia will make the Committee more interesting to policy makers at national and European levels.

It was concluded that, given the importance to Asia for Europe's future, the efforts of the ESF to strengthen the European research community and to give new impetus to the study of Asia, are praiseworthy and deserve continuing support from research organizations and governmental departments of all European countries. The activities have clear European added value, and the achievements of the ESF Asia Committee thus far give confidence

that the small sums of money requested for a programme such as that of the Asia Committee are well spent.

## Research themes

On the basis of these insightful and positive recommendations, the ESF executive council decided to continue the Asian Studies programme. The new programme has been the fruit partly of the recommendations above and partly of an exchange of views between the ESF standing Committees for the Social Sciences and the Humanities. It has been published in IAS Newsletter 16 and only the main tenets will be repeated here.

The new programme will encourage research disciplines in the Humanities and the Social Sciences to study developments in Contemporary Asia against their cultural and historical backgrounds, while emphasizing the importance of joint (long-term) Asia-Europe research on themes of common interest / concern. It underlines the need to compare the European and Asian perspectives and experiences. A research agenda has been drafted consisting of eight research themes. These themes are both broad and general enough to allow creative and individual approaches to the topics from the work-floor, on the other hand, the themes 'are sufficiently specific for researchers and research councils to recognize an academic agenda of work to which researchers in the Social Sciences and the Humanities can contribute' (M. Sparreboom, IASNL 16: 48).

The following have been chosen:

1. Welfare systems and modes of social security;
2. Demographic change;
3. Security and regionalization;
4. Value systems and cultural heritage;
5. Changing labour relations in Asia;
6. Knowledge systems, environment, and transmission of technology;
7. Institutional frameworks for industrial developments in Asia; and
8. 'Asianization' of politics, democracy, and human rights.

Most themes fall either into the domain of the Social Sciences or into that of the Humanities; some fall into both. In some themes there is a significant interface with other disciplines such as Life Sciences and Technology.

In anticipation of the establishment of the new committee, the ESF has issued a call for workshop proposals on the above-listed topics so as not to lose the momentum.

## Members

On 2 July 1999 the ESF Asia Committee (1999-2000) was reconstituted in Strasbourg. The Committee consists of the following members nominated by their respective National Research Councils:

- Professor Klaus Antoni (Germany)
- Professor Alessandra Avanzini (Italy)
- Professor Jan Breman (the Netherlands)
- Professor Jean-Luc Domenach (France)
- Professor Jan Fagerberg (Norway)
- Professor Marc Gaborieau (France)
- Professor Carl le Grand (Sweden)
- Professor Terry King (Great Britain)
- Professor Reijo Luostarinen (Finland)
- Professor Wolfgang Marschall (Switzerland)
- Professor John Martinussen (Denmark)
- Professor Rosa Maria Perez (Portugal)
- Professor Nicolas Standaert (Belgium)
- Professor Ernst Steinkellner (Austria)
- Professor Wim Stokhof (secretary) (the Netherlands)
- Professor Thommy Svensson (chairman) (Sweden)
- Professor Rudolf G. Wagner (Germany)

## Observers are:

- Professor Taciana Fisac (Spain)
- Mr Chimaki Kurokawa, Toyota Foundation (Japan)
- Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange (Taiwan ROC)
- Association for Asian Studies (USA)
- Academia Europaea (pending)

At its first meeting, in July 1999, the new Committee decided to ask Professors Svensson and Stokhof to continue in office, as chairman and secretary, respectively. Prof. Domenach was invited to become the Committee's vice-chairman. The ESF secretariat will again be based at the IAS. It was agreed to have an Executive Group and to establish a rotating system for the three additional (apart from the chairman, vice-chairman and secretary) members of that Executive Group. The composition of the EG will be based on a balanced division of disciplines, regions, and country of origin, and has the following members:

- Prof. Thommy Svensson, (Social Sciences and Humanities, Southeast Asia; Sweden)
- Prof. Jean-Luc Domenach (Social Sciences, China; France)
- Prof. Wim Stokhof (Humanities, Southeast Asia; the Netherlands)
- Prof. Klaus Antoni (Humanities, Japan; Germany)
- Prof. Rosa Maria Perez (Social Sciences, South Asia; Portugal)
- Prof. Terry King (Social Sciences, Southeast Asia; Great Britain)

## Workshops

Discussing several alternatives as possible AC activities, the Committee showed a strong preference for continuing the Asia Committee workshops. Given the limited financial resources available, workshops are effective since they provide visibility and promote contacts between scholars. It was considered monitoring the workshops more closely than had been done dur-

ing the first mandate, so as to be able to find out whether they might be interesting for follow-up activities. In principle, the Asia Committee decided to continue support for programme development. This could include new programmes, resulting from new ESF AC workshops, plus already existing ones such as the programmes East-West Linkages or Changing Labour Relations in Asia. The Executive Group has been asked to take further initiatives within the parameters of the financial possibilities of the programme (such as short-term grants for pilot studies; sponsoring of programme publications, etc.).

Several aspects were considered significant to the activities in which the Asia Committee might engage in the future:

- Europeanization of Asian Studies in Europe, a process in which high quality Asian scholars should also take part to avoid 'Eurocentricity';
- Promotion of European co-operation through multilateral approach, including European but also Asian countries
- Border-transcending research (bringing Asianists and generalists together; Social Sciences and Humanities, Life Sciences, Technology)
- Innovative research involving both junior and senior scholars
- Added value: Asia Committee activities should have a surplus impact in comparison to programmes executed bilaterally or at a national level.

The Committee selected 15 workshops (from a total of some 75 applications) which will enjoy its support for 1999/2000. The following proposals received ESF AC financing:

26-27 AUGUST 1999

## Hong Kong, PR China

Chinese Transnational Enterprises and Entrepreneurship in Prosperity and Adversity: South China and Southeast Asia during the twentieth century

7-12 SEPTEMBER 1999

## St Petersburg, Russia

Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Collections

28-30 OCTOBER 1999

## Copenhagen, Denmark

Mongolians from Country to City: floating boundaries, pastoralism, and city life in the Mongol lands during the 20th century

EARLY 2000

## SOAS, London, Great Britain

Centre and Periphery in Southeast Asia

19-20 FEBRUARY 2000

## Coventry, Great Britain

Migration, Urban Development and Demographic Change in Punjab 1890s-1990s

1-3 MARCH 2000

## Seoul, Korea

Good Government, Eastern and Western Perspectives: 4<sup>th</sup> EPCReN Workshop

15-17 MARCH 2000

## London, Great Britain

Interpreting Asian Cultures in Museums: displays, activities, strategies



16-17 MARCH 2000

**Bonn, Germany**

Demographic Developments and Value Change in Contemporary Modern Societies - East Asian and Western societies in comparative perspective

3-5 APRIL 2000

**Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

Brokers of Capital and Knowledge: producer services and social mobility in Provincial Asia

7-9 APRIL 2000

**Uppsala, Sweden**

Indigenous People: the trajectory of a contemporary concept in India

27-29 APRIL 2000

**Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium**

Building the Social Safety Net for Asian Societies in Transition

MAY 2000

**Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

Gender and the Transmission of Values Systems and Cultural Heritage(s) in South and Southeast Asia

25-26 MAY 2000

**Budapest, Hungary**

The Last Decade of Migration from the People's Republic of China to Europe and Asia

2-4 JUNE 2000

**Oslo, Norway**

Human and Regional Security around the South China Sea

21-23 JUNE 2000

**Paris, France**

Medicine in China. Health techniques and social history

The maximum grant per workshop is FFR 100,000. Possible publication grants will be considered only after the workshop has taken place. An Asia Committee delegate will be assigned to each workshop. Their task will be to attend or at least monitor a workshop selected by the Committee. The Asia Committee member will function as a bridge between workshop organizers and the Committee (advise the Committee about possible follow-ups / publications, etc.).

**European association**

The idea of setting up a 'European Association for Asian Studies (EAAS)' was well received by all the Asia Committee members. Apart from the clear strategic and organizational advantages (critical mass/higher impact;

higher visibility at national and regional/EU levels; unambiguous, broad based representation) it was believed that such body could be instrumental in the study of broad border-transcending / discipline-transcending issues. In the meanwhile, the Asia Committee will continue to support the individual European Associations (AKSE, EACS, EAJS, EASAS, ESCAS, and EUROSEAS). Each will receive a small grant of FFR 10,000 in 1999 for general support. The associations will be invited to a meeting in Leiden on 5 November to discuss topics of common interest.

The July meeting bade farewell to Dr Max Sparreboom, the ESF Scientific Secretary seconded to the Asia Committee. He was crucial to the establishing and performance of the Asia Committee. His tireless efforts and patient diplomacy prevented the Asia Committee from shattering to smithereens against many a perilous cliff. Marianne Yagoubi succeeds him. ■

**ESF ASIA COMMITTEE FELLOWS**

**Dr Evelyne Micollier** (*Aix-en-Provence*)

Stationed at: IIAS, Leiden, the Netherlands

Topic: 'Practices and Representations of Health and Illness in the Context of Chinese Culture. Interactions with social facts (Illness prevention and Human reality of AIDS)'  
Period: July 1998 - July 2000

**Dr Martin Ramstedt** (*München*)

Stationed at: IIAS, Leiden, the Netherlands

Topic: Hindu Dharma Indonesia - The Hindu-Movement in Present-Day Indonesia and its Influence in Relation to the Development of the Indigenous Culture of the Toraja (*Aluk Todolo*) in South Sulawesi  
Period: December 1997 - December 2000

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATIONS FOR ASIAN STUDIES**

**ASSOCIATION FOR KOREAN STUDIES IN EUROPE, AKSE**

Prof. Werner Sasse (President)

E-mail: or5a007@rrz.uni-hamburg.de

Secretariat:

c/o Dr Young-sook Pak

E-mail: Yp@soas.ac.uk

http://www.dur.ac.uk/~dmu0rcp/aksepage.htm

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE STUDIES, EACS**

Prof. Glen Dudbridge (President)

E-mail: glen.dudbridge@orinst.ox.ac.uk

Secretariat:

c/o Prof. Christian Henriot

E-mail: chenriot@ish-lyon.cnrs.fr

http://www.soas.ac.uk/eacs

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR JAPANESE STUDIES, EAJS**

Dr Peter Kornicki (President)

E-mail: pk104@hermes.cam.ac.uk

Secretariat:

c/o Prof. Werner Pascha

E-mail: eajs@uni-duisburg.de

http://www.eajs.org/

**EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR CENTRAL ASIA STUDIES, ESCAS**

Dr Turaj Atabaki (President)

E-mail: Turaj.Atabaki@let.uu.nl

Secretariat:

c/o Dr Gabriele Rasuly-Paleczek

E-mail: gabriele.rasuly@univie.ac.at

http://www.let.uu.nl/~escas/

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES, EUROSEAS**

Prof. Thommy Svensson (President)

E-mail: thommy.svensson@smvk.se

Secretariat:

c/o Prof. Peter Boomgaard

E-mail: EUROSEAS@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

http://www.iias.nl/institutes/kitv/euroseas.html

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES, EASAS**

Prof. Dr Dieter Rothermund (President)

E-mail: ag5@vm.urz.uni-heidelberg.de

Secretariat:

c/o Prof. Dirk Kolff

E-mail: Kolff@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

**Asia Committee**

INVITES PROPOSALS FOR WORKSHOPS TO TAKE PLACE IN 2001

EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION

**Procedure**

Workshop proposals (of no more than five pages) should be sent to the secretariat of the Asia Committee before **February 1, 2000**. Workshop proposals will be selected for realization in 2001. The received proposals will be refereed by external reviewers. Initiators will be informed of the Committee's decision in July 2000.

Financial support consists of a contribution to travel costs and accommodation costs up to a maximum of EUR 15,000 per workshop. This support is intended exclusively for participants who contribute a paper. Publications of workshop results can, in principle, be supported.

**Criteria**

**Workshop format**

- A 2 to 3 day meeting bringing together some 20 senior as well as junior researchers;
- the workshop should be jointly organized by European\* and Asian institutes;
- participation should be from both Asian and various European countries (altogether from at least 7 different countries). In addition to Asian and European participation it is also possible to include participants from countries outside of Asia and Europe;
- all participants are required to contribute to the workshop programme through the submission of papers and/or involvement in discussion.

**Disciplinary and geographical scope**

- The study - ancient and modern, humanities and social sciences - of the languages, cultures, societies, and economies of South Asia, Central Asia, Southeast Asia, and East Asia.

**Scientific content**

- The proposal must demonstrate that the multinational participation in the workshop will generate added-value;
- the workshop should fall within ONE of the following categories. If more topics are indicated, the first mentioned will be chosen:

- Welfare systems and models of social security
- Demographic change
- Security and regionalization
- Value systems and cultural heritage
- Changing labour relations in Asia
- Knowledge systems, environment, international business operations and transmission of technology
- Institutional frameworks for company/ industrial development and for internationalization of business in Asia
- 'Asianization' of politics, democracy, and human rights

For a short description of these categories, please check the Internet, <http://www.iias.nl/esfac>, or contact the Committee's secretariat.

**The Proposal**

The workshop proposal must contain the following information, and be presented in the order given hereunder:

- Title of workshop
- Proposed date and venue
- Names of initiators and organizing institutions (both European and Asian), and one contact address
- Category (themes 1 to 8)
- Introduction to the topic to be addressed
- Scientific objectives
- Publication(s) envisaged, if applicable
- A list of expected participants, indicating for each participant his/her affiliation and disciplinary competence in relation to the workshop's topic. These participants may be contacted by the Asia Committee.
- An itemized, detailed budget. If support for publication is needed, the ESF may grant a maximum of EUR 1,500 within the aforementioned maximum budget of EUR 15,000. This decision will be made, however, after the workshop has taken place.

Please note that your proposal, if selected, will be published on the ESF pages of the IIAS Newsletter. The required final report will also be published in the IIAS Newsletter.

**Address & deadline**

The workshop proposals should be received by the ESF Asia Committee secretariat in Leiden by **February 1, 2000 at the latest**. Proposals may be sent through regular mail only. Applications by fax or e-mail will not be considered. Kindly note that the secretariat makes use of university postal services, therefore please allow an extra four days for delivery.

Further information about the policies of the Asia Committee with regard to workshop proposals can be obtained from the Internet: <http://www.iias.nl/esfac> or from the Committee's secretariat:

Mrs Drs S.A.M. Kuypers  
International Institute for Asian Studies  
P.O. Box 9515  
2300 RA Leiden  
The Netherlands  
Tel: +31-71-527 22 27  
Fax: +31-71-527 41 62  
E-mail: [iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl)

Workshops supported in 1999 and 2000 are listed in the article above.

\* European institutes refers to institutes based in ESF member countries. These member countries are: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey. Participants in the workshop may come from other European countries as well.



# ESF Asia Committee Workshops

The ESF Asia Committee hereunder presents all fifteen workshops that were selected for funding in 1999 and 2000. The workshop 'Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Collections' was already successfully held in September of this year. A report is included below. All other workshops are introduced through short abstracts of their proposals. Full reports of these workshops will be published in the IIAS Newsletter in due course.

7 > 12 SEPTEMBER 1999  
ST PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

## Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Collections

**1** The conference 'Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Collections' was devoted to preservation of the valuable materials found during the last quarter of the nineteenth and the first part of the twentieth at the Mogao Grottoes (North-Western China, Gansu province, Dunhuang district), in the dead city of Khara-Khoto (North-Western China), and in the oases of Eastern Turkestan (Turfan, Kucha, Khotan, Kashgar others) century by European, Russian, Chinese, and Japanese scholars. The conference was conceived as a workshop to demonstrate new methods of restoration and scholarly research as a basis for carrying out this work.

Two centres combined their efforts to represent the cultural unity of Dunhuang and Central Asia of the first millennium AD in all its completeness - the St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies, where the most important written sources - the manuscripts in old Indian, Iranian, Chinese, Tibetan, Uighur, Tocharian, Tangut, and other languages are kept - and the State Hermitage, the custodian of the works of art, found in the same region. These materials represent the unique written evidence of the political, cultural, and religious history of the region along the most important part of the Great Silk Road. As they had been excavated, the manuscripts and the works of art needed to be cleaned, conserved, and restored to a condition in which it would be possible to study them. This work has taken more than eighty years and the end is not yet in sight. The task of preserving the materials and then introducing them into scholarly circulation can be accomplished only by the joint efforts of the scholars and conservators working in this field. The conference gathered them together in the framework of the International Dunhuang Project. This was created on the initiative of the British Library. Its centre is based in London, but the curators and conservators of Dunhuang and other collections in Europe, Asia, and the USA are represented among its members.

This conference was the fourth; the first three were held in London, Paris, and Berlin. These have greatly promoted Dunhuang and Central Asian Studies and have produced results in many fields, for example, in the comparison on the paper fibre of the different manuscripts, the meth-

od of analysing Dunhuang manuscripts by Raman microscopy and chemical analysis of dyes, and the creation a computer database of Buddhist texts. We have decided to prolong the chain of such conferences at which it is possible to share the results achieved. It is our bounden duty to save these manuscripts and works of art for future ages.

More than fifty specialists from the following centres took part in this fourth conference: the British Library (London), the Bibliothèque Nationale (Paris), the Staatsbibliothek (Berlin), the Library of Congress (Washington), the Getty Conservation Institute (Los Angeles), the representatives of Ryukoku and Kyoto Universities (Japan), the State Hermitage (St. Petersburg), plus some others.

### Macroscopic examination

A central point of the conference was the presentation of two keynote communications: Dr Neville Agnew from the Getty Conservation Institute (the group director, information and communications) delivered a report on wall painting conservation at the Mogao Grottoes. The Getty Conservation Institute and the Dunhuang Academy have been working at Mogao for ten years to conserve the paintings and to research causes of their deterioration. The scientific studies, currently focused on Cave 85, are examining the binding media, pigments, and clay-fibre substrate.

Dr K.B. Kepping (St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies) spoke about the so-called Khara-Khoto Suburban, which was discovered in 1909 by the Russian explorer Colonel P.K. Kozlov. This find opened the culture of the Tangut State (982-1227) to the world. This had been completely lost spite

of its importance to the history of Central Asia and its culture. Located between two powers - Tibet and China - this state has so far remained a mystery, puzzling because of its sudden appearance as a formidable power, brilliant but short prosperity, and sudden fall.

There was especially impressive progress booked in the section 'Paper Workshop'. Chemists from Ryukoku and Kyoto Universities (Japan) devoted their efforts to the analysis of the chemical elements in Dunhuang and Turfan papers. They demonstrated which types of metals are to be detected in this paper now and how these have penetrated the paper. In combination with research into morphology and microstructure of the fibre of these various papers, it is possible to suggest criteria for their dating and the place of origin.



Participants of the conference 'Preservation of Dunhuang and Central Asian Collections'

The second direction of the 'Paper workshop' was clearly demonstrated by Dr Anna Grethe Rischel, chief of department of conservation in the National Museum of Denmark. She had prepared material for macroscopic examination of Central Asian paper. She brought samples of different types of restoration paper - Japanese, Chinese, European - and the tables used to help count the water-lines characteristic of different forms, used in the process of paper manufacture.

The 'Database and cataloguing section' held its own session at the conference. The participants not only shared new results of their work, but also agreed to undertake one more joint project. The so-called Tocharian manuscript collections, spread throughout the depositories in France, Germany, and Russia, have not been studied enough so far. They might be put within reach of more scholars by producing a CD-ROM.

Interesting scholarly research has been begun by chemists from Kiel, Dr Marie-Josée Nadeau and Prof. Pieter Grootes. They have tried to date the Turfan murals in the Berlin Museum of Indian Art, using the radio-carbon method. Straw included in the clay layer of walls under the murals for strengthening them was taken as the initial sample. The problem of dating the murals is important for drawing analogies. This is why the conservators of the State Hermitage have shared their straw with the scholars from the Leibniz-Labor for Radiometric Dating and Isotope Research in Kiel.

Other laboratories made their appearance. The Laboratory for the

conservation of the murals of the State Hermitage Museum proposed methods for fixing unstable plaster of paintings on loess; removing the painting from the wall; transporting it, and restoring it for exhibition and storage. The Laboratory for Restoration of Oriental Painting restores the Chinese and Japanese scroll-paintings on paper as well as on silk, album-leaves, fans, and screens, and of Buddhist painting on silk and canvas.



Viewing samples of different types of restoration paper.

### Straw

The 'Restoration workshop' was of a special interest to the participants. The speakers were curators of the St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of Oriental Studies, who have had the possibility to demonstrate real manuscript fragments from Khara-Khoto (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> cent. AD) Work in the conservation of small fragments of manuscripts made of birch bark was also shown.



The Conference in St Petersburg

For further information, please contact:  
Head of the Manuscript Fund of the  
St. Petersburg Branch of the Institute of  
Oriental Study, Russian Academy of Sciences  
**PROFESSOR YU.A. PETROSYAN**  
Supervisor of the Manuscript Fund  
**DR M.I. VOROBYOVA-**  
**DESYATOVSAYA,**  
Tel.: +7-812-311 80 88  
Fax: +7-812-311 51 01  
E-mail: orient@ieos.spb.su  
Http://orient.thesa.ru



26 > 27 AUGUST 1999  
HONG KONG, PR CHINA

## Chinese Transnational Enterprises and Entrepreneurship in Prosperity and Adversity: South China and Southeast Asia during the twentieth century

**2** The proposed conference is the final one in the series of international workshops/conferences organised by the Qiaoxiang Ties Programme of the IIAS. It is also an international collaboration between the European scientific institution (IIAS) and its Asian research counterpart (the Centre of Asian Studies, the University of Hong Kong). The focus of this conference is on how Chinese transnational enterprises are operated and managed cross borders, and how transnational entrepreneurship affects industrial relations and management styles in both China and Southeast Asia. The conference is a fact-finding meeting. It is intended to carry out comprehensive and in-depth theoretical analysis on the research topics, and to encompass the boundaries of different academic disciplines.

The objectives of the conference are:

1. To conduct a comprehensive analysis from a comparative perspective of the great variety of management styles, modes of enterprise ownership and organization, methods of labour recruitment and labour organization, and ways of dealing with administrators and politicians. All these have developed under the specific circumstance of border-crossing towards and within the wider region of

South China and Southeast Asia. The comparative analysis will be conducted between transnational enterprises in China, Southeast Asia, and the European multinational companies in China.

2. To explore the complexity of transnational entrepreneurship manoeuvring in different societies, separated by national boundaries; to ask for submissions by business people to very different discourses and socio-cultural codes of behaviour. Finding out these ambiguities is, however, of the utmost importance, because entrepreneurship, as a system of values and attitudes which underlay new institutions in East and Southeast Asia, has become a central dynamic in the globalization and transnationalization of the region.
3. To concentrate on case studies and empirical findings in order to explore how during the past century entrepreneurs who operated across national boundaries have adapted their management styles, and their dealings with administrators and with labour, to local circumstances abroad, and whether and how this process has affected their mode of entrepreneurship back home.
4. To discuss how in different periods the processes of adaptation and change occurred. In view of the ongoing economic crisis in East and Southeast Asia, it is particular-

ly relevant to discuss how Chinese transnational enterprises and entrepreneurship have adapted to large-scale set-backs, such as the World Economic Crisis of the 1930s, and to consider the consequences of the current economic crisis for business enterprise in South China and Southeast Asia.

An edited volume based on selected papers is intended to be published in summer 2000. ■

Organizers: **Dr Leo Douw** (Universiteit van Amsterdam, The Netherlands), **Dr Cen Huang** (IIAS, The Netherlands), **Dr Elizabeth Sinn** (University of Hong Kong).

For more information please visit the conference website:

[www.iias.nl/iias/research/qiaoxiang](http://www.iias.nl/iias/research/qiaoxiang)

or contact **Dr Cen Huang** or **Dr Leo Douw** at

**INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ASIAN STUDIES**

P.O. Box 9515

2300 RA Leiden

The Netherlands

Fax: +31-71-527 4162

E-mail: [chuang@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:chuang@rullet.leidenuniv.nl) or

[douw1@let.vu.nl](mailto:douw1@let.vu.nl)

Note: The conference was successfully held on 26-27

August, 1999 at the University of Hong Kong.

A comprehensive academic report will appear in the next issue of the IIAS newsletter.



EARLY 2000  
SOAS, LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

## Centre and Periphery in Southeast Asia

**3** SOAS will be hosting an inter-disciplinary workshop in mid-2000 on 'Centre and Periphery in Southeast Asia'. The workshop, which has received funding from the European Science Foundation, will focus on three themes:

- a. Historical evolution of nation states and constitutional structures in Southeast Asia, and their implications for contemporary economic and political developments;
- b. Emerging disparities in economic development in Southeast Asia and the extent to which these disparities reinforce existing ethnic and linguistic cleavages;
- c. Political and legal aspects of devolution/ decentralisation in federated and non-federated states in South East Asia.

To the greatest extent possible, participants will be encouraged to adopt a comparative approach, so that the experience of different countries can be compared and policy implications drawn out. Now that most countries in the region publish national income and other social accounts at the sub-national level, it is possible to explore differences in per capita GDP and in poverty levels across regions. Some resource rich regions in South East Asia, (Irian Jaya, Terengganu) are noteworthy in that they have high per capita GDP but also high levels of poverty and poor social indicators. It seems plausible to hypothesize that in such regions there is likely to be a widespread sense of exploitation and demand for changes in the division of resource revenues between centre and regions. Even those resource rich regions which are relatively prosperous in comparison with other parts of their own country may appear poor and backward in comparison with neighbouring countries (Aceh is an example of this). The complex relationships between economic backwardness, adverse resource flows and demands for political and constitutional change, and even for outright secession, will be a central feature of the workshop.

The workshop will also be interdisciplinary with contributions from lawyers, political scientists, economists, geographers and historians. Some papers may focus on the impact of constitutional structures and administrative procedures on the division of resource revenues between central and regional governments, while others may examine the effect of regional diversity of patterns of economic and social development. It is hoped that the outcome of the project will be a volume that integrates a range of disciplinary approaches and will also serve to set the research agenda for future scholars.

It is expected that around thirty scholars from Europe and South East Asia will participate. Younger scholars and students completing doctoral research are welcome to submit paper outlines to the workshop organisers. ■

28 > 30 OCTOBER 1999  
COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

## Mongolians from Country to City: Floating boundaries, pastoralism, and city life in the Mongol lands during the 20<sup>th</sup> century

**4** In the Mongol Lands (covering Mongolia, Inner Mongolia in China, and The Republic of Buryatia of the Russian Federation), there has been a dramatic social and cultural transformation during the twentieth century. What was formerly one of the largest nomadic cultures in the world has undergone extensive process of urbanization. Always intimately linked to a pastoral nomadic way of life, both the Mongolian cultural heritage and system of values have come under enormous pressure because of these changes in living spaces and economic circumstances.

Although it has been conventional in some economic circles to describe the most recent changes as a straightforward 'transition' from a planned to a market economy, the

effects have been disastrous for Mongols in the northern and central regions (Buryatia and Mongolia) and damaging to those in the southern region. Under the economic liberalization policy introduced in 1990, the pressure on nomadic existence and its cultural expressions has continued. The discussion of nomadic culture and its relation to Mongol identity is a central part of political discourse in the Mongol lands.

The purpose of this conference is to examine the process of cultural change in Mongol societies during the twentieth century. We will consider the interaction of the basic features of pastoral nomadism in Mongolia with larger economies, both communist and capitalist, and examine the impact of deliberate cultural reconstruction by external actors, including the educational

system and the violence of purges and outright cultural destruction. Equally important are the efforts made by Mongols themselves to develop aspects of their own cultural identity under conditions of territorial partition, episodes of intense political repression and, in the Russian and Chinese regions, very substantial immigration by non-Mongol groups.

The workshop has three principal scientific objectives:

- To take the analysis of cultural change beyond a simple tradition-modernity dichotomy by examining the variety of forces working for cultural change in Mongol societies systematically. In this respect, the workshop will contribute to an integration of the study of cultural change into broader political and economic studies. It will also contribute to the understanding of recent changes in Mongol society in terms of the long-term processes at work during the 20th century.
- To give close consideration to the viability of Mongol nomadic life at the close of the twentieth century. There has been a common assumption that traditional soci-

eties and cultures in many parts of the world form a reliable cushion against the eruption of irregularities in the globalizing world-economy, but practical observation suggests that this is not the case in the Mongol lands.

- To take the analysis of Mongol society out of the rigid framework of national states and to provide a framework within which similarities across the whole of Mongol society can be recognized while taking due account of differences. ■

The workshop, which is a joint activity of the IIAS-NIAS Strategic Alliance, is convened by **Dr Li Narangoo** (contact person) and **Dr Ole Bruun** and will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 28-30 October 1999.

For further information, please contact:

**NORDIC INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES**

Leifsgade 33

2300 Copenhagen S

Denmark

Tel.: +45-32-54 88 44

Fax: +45-32-96 25 30

E-mail: [nara@nias.ku.dk](mailto:nara@nias.ku.dk)

For further information, please contact:

**PROFESSOR ANNE BOOTH**

Department of Economics, SOAS

University of London

Russell Square

London WC1H 0XG

Great Britain

Fax: +44-171-323 6277

E-mail: [ab10@soas.ac.uk](mailto:ab10@soas.ac.uk)



19 > 20 FEBRUARY 2000  
COVENTRY, GREAT BRITAIN

Migration, Urban Development, and  
Demographic Change in Punjab 1890s-1990s

**5** The Punjab has experienced massive demographic upheaval during the past century. Some of this transformation is historically unique as in the massive rural to rural migration of the colonial era arising from irrigation development. The population transfers in the wake of the 1947 partition of the region provide insights into an increasingly common problem with the rising tide of ethnic violence and cleansing. The Punjab also historically foreshadowed aspects of globalization. By the beginning of this century, it was tied into global markets for agricultural produce following the canal colony developments. These newly irrigated areas drew Sikh migrants from the Central Punjab to the Muslim West Punjab where they re-established their traditional cultural patterns. Early global migration was encouraged by Punjabi military recruitment. Punjabi communities were well established in the Asia Pacific, Canada and North America before the outbreak of World War One.

The 1947 partition sparked off a massive migration involving 11 million people across the new international boundaries which now divided East and West Punjab. This remains the largest displacement of population in the twentieth century. In many cases Hindus and Sikhs settled in their Indian ancestral villages which their grandparents had left for the canal colonies. Their experiences shed light on the wider issue of the survival strategies of uprooted rural migrants of contemporary Asia.

The Indian Punjab's further partition in 1966 transformed it into a Sikh majority state. Its demographic composition has also been modified by the impact of the Green Revolution. Sikhs have continued their colonial era tradition of overseas migration. Muslim overseas migration from Pakistan Punjab has been less extensive and is largely limited to the poorer northwestern regions and the Mirpur region of Azad Kashmir. Industrialization has encouraged rural-urban population movement.

The Workshop's panels will focus on these major developments by applying the disciplines of history, politics, economics, and sociology. A further objective is to inject a strong comparative dimension. This will possess temporal dimensions (colonial and post-colonial eras) and spatial dimensions (the three Punjab-Indian Punjab, Pakistan Punjab, Punjabi diaspora). Scholars from both India and Pakistan will be brought together and the workshop will enhance the tradition of multi-disciplinary approaches to South Asian Studies. ■

Organizers: **Dr Ian Talbot** (Coventry University), **Shinder Thandi** (Coventry Business School)

For further information, please contact:  
**DR IAN TALBOT**  
Centre for South Asian Studies  
School of International Studies and Law  
Coventry University  
Priory Street  
CV1 5FB Coventry  
United Kingdom  
E-mail: i06432.1724@compuserve.com

1 > 3 MARCH 2000  
SEOUL, KOREA

Good Government,  
Eastern and Western Perspectives  
The 4th EPCReN workshop

**6** In the late 20th century, the Asian Values debate has developed into an important dimension of global discussions about the impact of culture on social development. Unfortunately, much of this discussion rests on an incomplete understanding of the main societies involved. There is a strong need for empirical evidence to underpin our analysis of the cultural differences between societies, and this empirical evidence should be based on both qualitative and quantitative research.

The continuing discussions between cross-cultural, universalistic and indigenous approaches in the social sciences need to be substantiated by being related to theoretical considerations, methodological experiences, and most importantly, to empirically based evidence. By developing, testing, and conducting survey research in eight different countries in East Asia and Europe, EPCReN\* has gathered extremely

interesting data concerning perceptions of good government. In so far as deeper insights and knowledge about similarities and differences between our respective values, norms, and worldviews are considered relevant to the relationship between Asia and Europe, our results will contribute to strengthening our mutual understanding and thus the links between Asia and Europe.

The topics to be addressed at the 4th EPCReN workshop to be held in Seoul late spring 2000 are designed to explore theoretical and methodological experiences gained from more than two years of intensive collaboration between scholars from four Nordic and four East Asian countries. The network team consists of scholars from different academic disciplines, but the core members of the EPCReN group are trained in political science, sociology, and social psychology. The group also consists of specialists in intercultural communication, sinology, and applied statistics. With

experiences from these diverse disciplines, from previous international assignments, and with a strong urge to contribute to strengthening the academic and cultural links between our different countries and regions of Asia and Europe, the EPCReN group is in a position to present materials from its comparative research project in a way that is relevant to the social science community as well as to the concerned public both in Europe and Asia. ■

\* EPCReN, the Eurasia Political Culture Research Network, was established in October 1997, initiated by Dr Geir Helgesen, senior research fellow at the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies in Copenhagen, who is currently the network co-ordinator. Initially members of the network came from Denmark, Norway, Sweden, China, Taiwan, Korea, and Japan. In 1998 a research team from Finland joined EPCReN, and at the time of writing researchers from Vietnam, Thailand, and the Philippines are in the process of joining the group.

For further information, please contact:

**DR GEIR HELGESEN**  
Nordic Institute of Asian Studies  
Leifsgade 33  
2300 Copenhagen S  
Denmark  
Fax: +45-32-96 25 30  
E-mail: geir@nias.ku.dk

ESF Asia Committee  
workshops

which some outside interpreters have resorted in the past, and bring to wider recognition the scholarship and imagination through which Asian peoples have sought to understand themselves.

With the generous support of the European Science Foundation Asia Committee, participants from Asian museums and European and North American institutions will present case studies based on their own experience of interpreting aspects of Asian culture(s) and will participate in a searching debate on the practical consequences and opportunities arising from these interpretations. With a view to the future, we will explore how new galleries might be developed (including a new Asian gallery in the British Museum) as well as how to optimize the use of increasingly important electronic communication networks. These open up new prospects, not only within and between institutions, but also between them, varied and changing audiences, and other organisations which also help shape public understanding of contemporary Asian cultures. ■

Organizers: **Dr Brian Durrans**, **Ms Sarah Posey**, **Ms Sara Pimpaneau**

For further information, please contact:

**DR BRIAN DURRANS**  
Department of Ethnography,  
British Museum  
6 Burlington Gardens  
London W1X 2EX, Great Britain  
Tel.: +44-207-323 8027  
Fax: +44-207-323 8013  
E-mail: bdurrans@british-museum.ac.uk

ADVERTISE IN  
THE IIAS NEWSLETTER

Please ask for  
our advertisement rates  
for the possibilities  
(advertorials, enclosures),  
deadlines, and copy requirements.

For further information contact  
Mr S. Sand or the Managing Editor  
at the IIAS.  
Telephone: +31-71-527 22 27



15 > 17 MARCH 2000  
LONDON, GREAT BRITAIN

Interpreting Asian Cultures in Museums:  
Displays, activities, strategies

**7** The present tendency for creating, refurbishing, and reorganizing museums and galleries – and, above all, for adapting them to changing conditions – calls into question how curators interpret objects in their care and how museum visitors receive, and rework, the interpretations they are offered. Against that background, the Workshop will focus on the influence of exhibitions of Asian objects on public understanding of the cultures to which they refer. Special attention will be paid to activities, such as performances and demonstrations, that enhance the displays of artefacts and engage more than the visual and literary forms of understanding commonly associated with museums.

A broader collaborative approach to preparing exhibitions might en-

gage curators, teachers, and artists from both inside and outside Asia, and particularly local voices and scholarly perspectives from the countries or communities concerned. In addition, there might be more liaison with organizations and individuals experienced in presenting cultures of Asia outside Asia itself. The outcome would then be not so much a fixed interpretation as a dialogue or conversation around a theme – but one in which a clearer, more accessible, and ultimately more memorable message can be conveyed about the cultures and peoples concerned. Such an approach would help incorporate cultural change and intangible heritage into displays so that the complexity and dynamism of contemporary Asian cultures can be more vividly and accurately communicated. Above all, it would combat the essentialism to



16 > 17 MARCH 2000  
BONN, GERMANY

## Demographic Developments and Value Change in Contemporary Modern Societies

### East Asian and Western societies in comparative perspective

**8** Social mentality – values and attitudes and, correspondingly, world-view and individual motivations – is changing in most, if not all societies of the world. Multinational empirical research as well as surveys on a national basis, have confirmed the ubiquitous nature of this process. They have also revealed important differences in the timing and the content of the resultant value patterns. Individual value structures as well as socially propagated value systems are moving in the direction of 'personal independence or autonomy,' often coupled with hedonistic or even egoistic traits at the individual level.

At the same time, egalitarian attitudes are growing in importance, be this in gender relations, workplace organization, or political and social participation. A closer look at the data has shown that these changes do not lead unidimensionally from traditional to modern values; 'modern' often stereotypically depicted as egalitarian, individualistic, and democratic. Separate groups of values, both 'traditional' and 'modern', combine to form value systems at the

individual level, reflecting the historical and social peculiarities of each society and culture.

Judging from recent research, value change has intensified since 1990 with a trend towards an increasing multitude of value patterns. Therefore, currently held views of value and attitude change are in urgent need of revision. Especially the role of traditional value systems (not only religion!) and the influences that these exert on the modern situation should be considered in more detail.

Demographic changes in Western and East Asian societies must be seen in a direct – but still unclear – connection with these processes of value change. Analyses show that a fertility decline is fostered by the postponement of marriage and a growing rate of persons with no intention of marrying at all. In Japan, this change in marriage behaviour is the most interesting, since for decades marriage in Japan was known to occur late but to be universal, with unmarried adults being the object of pity or contempt, or urged to marry by arrangement. Japanese fertility and nuptiality trends have reached levels comparable to those of European

societies. The factors of the decline in fertility and the increase in non-married or childless persons have far-reaching ramifications into other fields. The pace of demographic ageing, already extremely high by international comparison, will rise steadily, and hitherto close intergenerational family ties that have been used as old-age care networks will loosen making way for a bilateral rather than patrilineal family system.

Turning to the underlying causes, the recent declines in fertility and nuptiality can be interpreted as the expression of a value change seen in a long-term perspective. As in other industrialized countries, the production utility as well as the family successor and the old-age security values of children has declined with growing post-war affluence. To view children as 'consumption commodities' that brighten family life and foster personal growth has come to the fore instead.

Taking the developments described above into consideration, the symposium will attempt to discuss the changes in relation to their causes. It will address both concrete daily life determinants that might be called specific to a particular country

or continent and value change factors. The scientific objectives of this symposium can be observed at three different levels.

- Overview of current trends in demographic and value changes
  - The relationship between processes of demographic and value change
  - On the nature of modernization
- The following questions will be addressed:
- Which factors have been most important in the recent demographic developments? Do value factors like individualization or pluralization of life-styles, or changing perceptions of gender roles matter the most, or should these changes be interpreted instead as the outcome of growing constraints in an era of 'neo liberalism'?
  - Are the causes of these demographic changes seen in Japan and

in different Western societies comparable, or should we place more stress on country-specific factors

- Are there indications that the newly industrialized or industrializing societies of East and South-east Asia are beginning to follow the path taken earlier by Japan and the Western societies, will they do this in a modified manner, or will 'traditional' family patterns survive – at least for the next one to two more decades? ■

The initiators of the conference are: **Dr Axel Klein, Dr Ralph Lützel, and Dr Hans Dieter Ölschleger.**

For further information, please contact:

**DR AXEL KLEIN**

Forschungsstelle Modernes Japan  
Regina-Pacis-Weg 7  
D-53113 Bonn  
Tel.: +49-228-737023  
Fax: +49-228-735054

7 > 9 APRIL 2000  
UPPSALA, SWEDEN

## Indigenous People: The trajectory of a contemporary concept in India

**10** During the last few decades we have witnessed an international mobilization of indigenous and tribal peoples. By making references to colonial and post-colonial exploitation and marginalization, indigenous peoples all over the world are raising demands for control over resources and territories, and above all for 'self-determination'. Although the concept 'indigenous people' is widely used and accepted in most international forums, it is still a highly debated and controversial term. In recent years the term has also found its way into Indian politics and has become a rallying point as well as a topic of academic debate.

India has its own constitutionally recognized tribal peoples, referred to as 'scheduled tribes', which are subject to affirmative action. The novelty today is the increased usage of the English term or concept 'indigenous people', mostly by the tribal people themselves. Obviously the self-identification as 'indigenous' signals an attempt to internationalize their struggle and place themselves in relation to the indigenous peoples' movement in other parts of the world.

Opposing such a notion, the Indian Government has consistently stated that neither the tribal people nor any other category of people in India can be defined as 'indigenous'. Leading scholars have lent their voices to opposing the equation of tribal with indigenous. B.K. Roy Burman, renowned professor of anthropology and expert on tribal matters, points to the 'Eurocentric bias' and the Western hegemonic interest lurking behind the work of these organizations, interests, or forces that are trying to undermine the newly independent countries in Asia and Africa which have the majority of the world's indigenous people.

The workshop Indigenous People – The Trajectory of a Contemporary Concept in India aims to question the concept indigenous people, focusing on the relevance of the term in the Indian context. ■

### Themes:

- Indigenous People: concept and definition
- Self-determination movements and ethnic mobilization among tribal/indigenous peoples
- Resource conflicts and indigenous rights to forest and land
- Tribal Development: the present paradigm and its efficiency
- Cultural transformations and global processes
- Comparative cases: indigenous people in the Nordic countries and in Southeast Asia

Latest date of registration: 1 December 1999

Organizers: **Dr B.G. Karlsson**, The Seminar for Development Studies, Uppsala, Assist. **Prof. Peter B. Andersen**, Dept. of History of Religions, University of Copenhagen, **Dr Mohan Gautam**, Dept. of South and Central Asian Studies, Rijksuniversiteit Leiden.

Organized in collaboration with: **the Seminar for Development Studies, Uppsala; Dept. of History of Religions, University of Copenhagen; and The Nordic Association for South Asian Studies.**

For further information, please contact:

**DR B. G. KARLSSON**

The Seminar for Development Studies  
Uppsala University  
Övre Slottsgatan 1  
S-753 10 Uppsala  
Sweden  
Tel.: +46-18-471 6852  
Fax: +46-18-12 0832  
E-mail: beppe.karlsson@uland.uu.se

3 > 5 APRIL 2000  
AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

## Brokers of Capital and Knowledge: Producer services and social mobility in provincial Asia

**9** In economic development in Asia producer services have been playing a key role in channelling the widening access to markets, capital, and commercial knowledge, and thus in shaping new business arenas and new patterns of social mobility. The workshop welcomes contributions that focus on the ways in which manifestations of global economic integration have reshaped opportunities for social mobility in Asian (provincial) societies. Assessing the role of producer services as gate-keepers governing access to fundamental resources such as land, capital, labour, and knowledge demands an understanding of the manifold institutions and networks active in Asian countries under various political and economic regimes.

Geographically, the workshop will focus on urban areas in general and provincial cities that are centres of commercial and industrial expansion in particular. Concentrating on the activities of producer services enterprises at the provincial level offers a unique vantage point from which to analyse changing linkages between provincial societies and the

global economy, and the effects of these changes on social mobility. It is within this context that the social impact of what are apparently new opportunities must be placed. Knowledge, like the more tangible bases of production, must be seen as a scarce resource, the control of which can generate both power and wealth. Access to knowledge – in terms of performance-enhancing professional information and expertise and 'insider' knowledge essential to successful networking – is influenced by existing power structures, but its effective use also depends on the capacity for fast and flexible response to changing circumstances.

In particular, the workshop will revolve around the following partly converging and partly conflicting hypotheses:

1. The 'polarization' hypothesis claiming that established businessmen with contacts and capital are relatively quick to recognize the need for and benefits of new forms of access and consolidate their position, thus creating a two-tiered system of increasingly wealthy innovators versus increasingly isolated small business men.

2. The 'open economy' hypothesis claiming that a more open market with declining emphasis on political patronage offers new men the chance to create their own connections and gain access to capital, markets, and knowledge.
3. The 'elite continuity' hypothesis claiming that successful personnel in the services sector have moved from an already favoured position qua family background to dominate new opportunities.
4. The 'new opportunities, new people' hypothesis claiming that the service sector offers an avenue for upward mobility to relatively unconnected people.

The workshop that will be held in April 2000, will bring together scholars from different disciplines to guarantee an innovative contribution to the study of both mobility in modern Asia and the debate on producer services. ■

The initiators of the conference are:

**Professor O.D. van den Muijzenberg, Professor H. Sutherland, Dr H. Dahles, Dr R. Rutten, Dr M. Rutten, Dr H. Schulte Nordholt.**

For further information, please contact:

**DR H. DAHLES**

Centre for Asian Studies Amsterdam (CASA)  
Het Spinhuis  
Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185  
1012 DK Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Fax: +31-20-444 6722  
E-mail: h.dahles@scw.vu.nl



27 > 29 APRIL 2000  
LOUVAIN-LA-NEUVE, BELGIUM

### Building the Social Safety Net for Asian Societies in Transition

**11** The conference will bring together specialists from Asia and Western Europe to describe the main characteristics of the social security institutions within their societies and to identify the main policy challenges that will have to be faced in the next ten years. In this way, we hope to achieve two concrete results: (1) create an awareness of the variety of policy approaches that have been adopted and in this way stimulate imaginative solutions to the challenges of coming years; and (2) establish a network of social security researchers and research institutions which will foster continuing interchanges.

Western Europe is characterized by a dense social safety net organized by the state. This great emphasis on the collective responsibility for the welfare of individuals has important economic consequences. First, it is costly, and the financing of these charges can pose serious difficulties

for the country. Some ask whether the existing system will be sustainable in the long-run. Furthermore, the process of European integration and the enlargement of the European Union have led many to question whether the principle of social solidarity is doomed to extinction. At a deeper level, many have begun to question whether the social safety net itself discourages entrepreneurship and slows economic growth.

In Asia the state does not generally guarantee the welfare of the individual. Instead there has been greater reliance on family and communal systems on the one hand and the social responsibility in the workplace on the other. However, the region has been exposed to a number of different forms of stresses which, despite their diversity, share the common feature that they expose the weaknesses of the systems, notably, that that many individuals find themselves effectively without any social support whatsoever. Stress may come from the rapid develop-

ment of industry which has effectively cut some people off from the family and the traditional economy. In other cases, the reorientation of the economy from state planning to a market-based system has undermined the ability of large enterprises to continue to bear their historical social responsibilities. More recently, the financial crisis of 1997 has produced major shocks to the terms of trade, creating as a consequence sharp increases in unemployment. Thus there is an awareness that the system of social protection needs to be reinforced. But if so, how is added social protection to be provided while still maintaining the capacity for rapid economic growth? ■

*Organizers: Professor Ronald Anderson Institut de Recherches Economiques et Sociales (IRES) and Professor I-Chuan Wu (Eurasia Center for Asian Studies), Université catholique de Louvain; Belgium.*

*For further information, please contact:*  
**PROFESSOR RONALD ANDERSON**  
IRES  
Université catholique de Louvain  
Place Montesquieu 3  
B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve  
Belgium  
Tel: +32-10-47 41 46  
Fax: +32-10-47 39 45  
E-mail: anderson@ires.ucl.ac.be

MAY 2000  
AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS

### Gender and the Transmission of Values Systems and Cultural Heritage(s) in South and Southeast Asia

**12** A workshop on 'Gender and the Transmission of Values in South and Southeast Asia' will be held at the Belle van Zuylen Institute of the University of Amsterdam in May, 2000. This international conference will concentrate on the agency of women in the preservation, transmission, and transformation of cultural practices and values before and after independence. In many social contexts in South and Southeast Asia women are often represented as embodying 'authentic' traditions, as if they are the guarantors of religious values and cultural customs deemed original and pure. The daily lives of women, in the words of the historian of British India, Antoinette Burton, have constituted 'a discursive playing field' on which colonial civil servants or post-colonial policymakers have been able to act out and champion their political visions.

Accordingly, a basic assumption of the two-day Workshop will be that women are pivotal actors in the transmission of cultural values and that they tend to be ones who intervene between innovative social policies and traditional practices in their daily existence. A gendered component is inherent in most popular reactions at the grassroots level to changes in the socio-cultural environment, whether these transformations were caused by the policies of

European colonialism prior to World War II or are brought about by post-colonial politics and the globalization of the world economy since independence. During both chronological periods such external influences have produced a necessity to reconfigure the meanings and implications of cultural identity. But the questions whether economic development produces modernity and secularization, on the one hand, or a rise of fundamentalism and the emergence of anti-modernist movements, on the other hand, is often mediated through a re-orientation of women's political status. Instead of treating these paradoxical developments as passive processes through which women's positions are altered owing to forces beyond their control, however, the Workshop Belle van Zuylen Institute will emphasize and try to decipher how particular groups of women consciously judge, negotiate, accommodate, or reject particular changes in the cultural and religious practices of their day-to-day lives. ■

*For further information, please contact:*  
**PROFESSOR S. LEYDESORFF** or  
**DR FRANCES GOUDA**  
Belle van Zuylen Instituut  
Universiteit van Amsterdam  
Rokin 84-90, 1012 KX Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Fax: +31-20-525 22 19  
E-mail: leydesdorff@pscw.uva.nl or fgouda@aol.com

25 > 26 MAY 2000  
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

### The Last Decade of Migration from the People's Republic of China to Europe and Asia

**13** Migration from the People's Republic of China to Europe and Asia has both increased in volume and become more diverse in channels in the last decade. (We use 'migration' here in a broad sense to mean the movement of people between countries.) Chinese catering enterprises have spread to Southern and Eastern Europe. Self-financed language and college study, especially in England and Japan, has increased. Chinese traders have created large markets and new Chinese communities from Eastern Europe and Russia to Burma. Smuggling of Chinese migrants by 'snakeheads' has become a recurring theme in the European and Japanese media. Chinese contract labourers have appeared in Russia, Japan, and Singapore. Tour groups and trade delegations have become common and are catered for by Chinese-owned travel agencies in Europe, Japan, and Southeast Asia. Individuals often participate in several of these diverse flows at the same time or shift from one to the other.

Yet only in two cases have Chinese migration flows to Asia and Europe been treated within a single perspective. One is in Russian scholarship, which of necessity includes labour and trade migration both across the border to the Russian Far East and to the European part of

Russia. Most of this scholarship is not available in Western languages. The other is research on the trafficking in migrants, written overwhelmingly from the standpoint of North American receiving countries.

Our workshop will bring together academics from different fields (anthropologists, sociologists, demographers) and regions and some journalists who have researched migration from the PRC into Europe, Northeast Asia (Russia, and Japan), and Southeast Asia in order to piece together disjointed and partly unpublished empirical knowledge, and analyse these together with the help of well-known migration scholars. In doing so, we want to take into account forms of migration traditionally excluded from its discussion: the movements of students and tourists.

Our aim is to treat Chinese international migration in the last decade within a single perspective that would link shifts between countries, roles and legal/illegal status chosen by migrants with expediencies for social mobility in China and policies of government agencies in China which influence such mobility. Most presenters have been identified, but we are looking for two more papers within the above scope, preferably on the topics of Chinese tourism; social, polit-

ical or economic organization of new migrants; or Chinese labour migration to Singapore and Malaysia. ■

*Organizers: Dr Igor R. Saveliev (Niigata University, Japan), Dr Pál D. Nyíri (University of Oxford, Great Britain)*  
*Abstracts of proposed papers, as well as inquiries, should be sent to:*  
**DR PÁL D. NYÍRI**  
at both nyirip@mail.mta.hu and nyirip@yahoo.com.0

## SHORT NEWS

25 SEPTEMBER 1999  
MARSEILLE, FRANCE

## SEALG 1999

**On September 25 1999 the SEALG group met on the premises of the new CNRS Maison Asie Pacifique - Bibliothèque Asie du Sud-Est, Université de Provence, which has just been moved from Aix-en-Provence to Marseilles. The programme was crammed and in fact it was impossible to cover all the business.**

By ROSEMARY ROBSON-MCKILLOP



The response to the SEALG questionnaire for the Directory of Southeast Asia Collections has been disappointing. Dr Lieu Cao Thi reported that she has had only 25 percent of the forms sent to French universities and research institutions returned. In many instances she has been hindered by academic arrogance, scientists refusing to give information about collections which for the most part have been formed on the basis of government grants. This

evoked a discussion about the position of libraries and librarians, which can only assume more importance as a huge flood of information on every conceivable topic now pouring in. Librarians have to play a pivotal role in making information on every conceivable topic available to scientists who are very often entirely specialized on one very small field of expertise. All participants were agreed upon the necessity to increase Asian language expertise among librarians, especially in the languages of Mainland Southeast Asia.

The Group was treated to two engrossing papers on two impor-

tant Southeast Asian libraries and collections. Dr Cao Thi gave a report of her recent visit to Myanmar to make an evaluation of the University Library of Rangoon. Louise Pichard-Bertheaux spoke of her experiences with the famous library of the Siam Society in Bangkok. Both these reports will be published in full in the next IAS Newsletter.

If you have any comments, queries, or suggestions about the role of libraries in Asian Studies, we would be very pleased indeed to hear from you. This is an important debate on a matter which has been allowed to slumber far too long in an era when libraries are being enriched with ever growing number of publications from Asia itself, be this Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or East Asia.

On behalf of the SEALG Group I should like to thank Dr. Charles Macdonald, Dr Cao Thi, and Mme Pichard of the Maison Asie Pacifique for their warm reception and stimulating ■

*Rosemary Robson-McKillop is editor of Excerpta Indonesica, and a member of SEALG. E-mail: robson@rullet.leidenuniv.nl*



2 > 4 JUNE 2000  
OSLO, NORWAY

## Human and Regional Security around the South China Sea

**14** The security situation in the South China Sea has been characterised by multinational disputes over sovereignty to the so-called 'Paracel' and 'Spratly Islands', and over the delimitation of continental shelves and maritime zones. These disputes have overshadowed other concerns, such as the depletion of fish stocks, threats to the maritime and coastal environment, and the safety of sea-lanes.

For the last ten years, under the direction of the eminent expert in the law of the sea, Ambassador Hasjim Djalal (Jakarta), annual workshops have been held in Indonesia, gathering unofficial representatives of the countries around the South China Sea. The purpose has not been to discuss the disputes over sovereignty and maritime delimitation, but to take up topics of shared concern, and to encourage co-operation in resource management and research. Similar discussions have been held in other fora. In many countries, both in and outside the region, the South China Sea has become the focus of research within a range of scholarly disciplines.

The objectives of the workshop to be held in Oslo, Norway, are to: a) bring scholars from several disciplines together, b) bridge the gap between scholars of respectively East and Southeast Asia, and c) strengthen European expertise on the situation in the South China Sea.

The workshop is sponsored by the Norwegian Research Council and the European Science Foundation

(ESF). Professor Dr. Ambassador Hasjim Djalal has been invited to serve as keynote speaker, and Dr. Mark J. Valencia of the East-West Center in Hawaii to give the main introduction on the second day. ■

Separate panels are planned on:

1. The history of the South China Sea
2. Regionalism and Regional Security
3. Economic integration and disintegration
4. Energy, Environment and Maritime Affairs
5. Legal issues
6. Confidence Building and Conflict Management

The workshop is organized by **Dr. Stein Tønnesson**, Professor of Human Development Studies at the Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo, with the assistance of **Mr. Johan Henrik Nossun**.

For further information, please contact:

**MR JOHAN HENRIK NOSSUN**  
Centre for Development and the Environment  
P.O. Box 1116 Blindern  
N-0317 Oslo, Norway  
Tel. +47-22-85 89 00  
Fax: +47-22-85 89 20  
E-mail: j.h.nossun@sum.uio.no

Additional information can be found on:  
<http://www.sum.uio.no/southchinasea/>

21 > 23 JUNE 2000  
PARIS, FRANCE

## Medicine in China: Health techniques and social history

**15** It is only for the last 20 years that historical studies of medicine in China have really reached an academic level. Many factors have contributed to the great upsurge of development in this field of research: archaeological discoveries, better knowledge of the various sources, new problematics influenced by anthropological approach or by historical contextualization, the growth of research on the history of technology and science in East Asia, international collaboration... The very active research, has been and is still concerned with the social history of medicine ('external approach') as well as history of more technical subjects (nosological or therapeutic systems, for instance - 'internal approach' - or history of diseases). In these circumstances, we think that the time has come to organize an international workshop which will be

the first in Europe to present a general view of the research on the history of medicine in China.

The analysis of previous results and the current concerns of the expected participants has shown that two large research directions are especially promising: firstly, the social and political responses to illnesses, and in particular to epidemics; secondly, the 'health techniques', for instance, preventive and curative techniques, or dietetics, from a point of view of history of techniques as well of history of medicine - in other words, can we consider medicine as a 'technical system'? These various topics are of great importance not only from an academic perspective, they can also be very useful in understanding better the present-day evolution of so-called 'Traditional Chinese Medicine' (TCM), in China and in Europe.

The scientific objectives of the workshop are the following: ■

- To draw up a general view of the most recent research on history of medicine in China;
- To show that social history of medicine and 'internal history' of medicine are complementary;
- To promote international collaboration;
- To give to the junior researchers the chance to be informed about the most pressing problematics;
- To publish a volume of Conference Proceedings, with a complete bibliography.

Initiators and organizing institutions

**Centre d'Études sur la Chine Moderne et Contemporaine, Frédéric Obringer** (CNRS, France), **Françoise Sabban** (EHESS, France), **Professor Pierre-Etienne Will** (Collège de France), **Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, Professor Catherine Despeux** (Département Chine, France)

For further information, please contact:

**DR FRÉDÉRIC OBRINGER**

Centre d'Études sur la Chine Moderne et Contemporaine  
54, boulevard Raspail  
75006 Paris France  
Fax: +33-1-4954 2078  
E-mail: obringer@ehess.fr

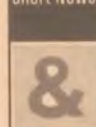
# ESF Asia Committee workshops

## SHORT NEWS

4 OCTOBER > 5 NOVEMBER 2000  
DAKAR, SENEGAL

# Extended Workshop for Young Historians

Short News



From October 4 to November 5, 2000, a workshop on new theories and methods in social history will be organised by CODESRIA (Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa) in collaboration with SEPHIS (South-South Exchange Programme for Research on the History of Development). The focus of this comparative workshop will be on Latin America, Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.

The workshop aims to bring together about 15 historians (aged between 25 and 35) for a period of five weeks. They will share their research experiences and get an opportunity

to improve the theoretical and methodological quality of their work. The workshop will be held in Dakar (Senegal, West Africa). CODESRIA will provide a stimulating environment and take care of the travel and living expenses of the participants.

Participants will discuss new theoretical and methodological approaches in social history, as well as their current work. The workshop will be led by a researcher with an established reputation in the field. Three distinguished historians from various parts of the South will join the workshop to give intensive three-day courses on the latest developments in social history in their respective areas.

### Eligibility and application

The workshop is open to PhD students in history registered in Southern universities. Applications should include the following:

- An academic curriculum vitae (one page);
- A letter certifying that the candidate is enrolled in a PhD course at a university in the South;
- A proposal outlining the current research project, including its methodology (at most 4 pages);
- A sample of the applicant's work (a draft paper, a draft research proposal or a draft thesis chapter);
- A letter from the thesis supervisor indicating why this workshop is of importance for the applicant's research.

Applications must be written in English. The deadline for submission is 30 March 2000. An international scientific committee will select the candidates in April 2000. Incomplete applications, applications by fax or email and/or too lengthy applications cannot be taken into consideration. ■

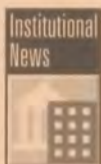
Applications and requests for more information should be sent to:

**MADAME NDÉYE SOKHNA GUÉYE**  
Programme Sephis/Codesria  
Extended workshop for young historians  
CODESRIA  
B.P. 3304, Dakar, Senegal  
Tel.: +221-825 98 22 / 23  
Fax: +221-824 12 89  
E-mail: codesria@telecomplus.sn



# The French Centre for Research on Contemporary China

The French Centre for Research on Contemporary China (CEFC) was founded in 1991 as a publicly financed research institute, based in Hong Kong. A branch office was opened in Taipei in 1994. The CEFC's mission is to study political, economic, and social developments in the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau. The CEFC currently houses five researchers (two of them seconded from the French National Centre for Scientific Research, CNRS) and five research fellows. The CEFC is helped in its work by an advisory council made up of academics and researchers, which meets each year in Paris.



## Research department

The CEFC will be pleased to help researchers and doctoral students who are passing through Hong Kong or Taiwan by offering them access to its various research resources.

Both in Hong Kong and Taipei the CEFC can make available to them:

- A social science library, in French, English, and Chinese, of more than 700 books on the People's Republic of China, Hong Kong, and Macau (at the CEFC in Hong Kong), and on Taiwan (at the Taipei branch). In addition, we subscribe to more

than forty periodicals and newspapers, most of them in English and Chinese.

- An archive of press cuttings (in French, English, and Chinese) on more than 150 subjects, going back to 1995. To aid research, each subject is cross-referenced under chronological or thematic headings.

The Taipei branch also keeps a computerized database listing more than 600 articles on Taiwan selected from the leading Taiwanese and Western social science journals. These articles are all available at the Centre.

## Doctoral studies

- We organize regular seminars for PhD candidates based Hong Kong and visiting students alike. During these meetings, students are given

the opportunity to discuss their own thesis in progress, as well as articles in preparation for the CEFC's journal, *China Perspectives*. These seminars are organized by François Gipouloux in Hong Kong and Fiorella Allio in Taiwan.

- We can help students to get into contact with local specialists in their field of research.

## Organization of seminars and conferences

- We organize regular seminars in co-operation with other local research centres:
- In Hong Kong mainly with the Centre of Asian Studies at the University of Hong Kong and with the Universities Service Centre of the Chinese University of Hong Kong;
- In Taiwan with the Sun Yat-sen Institute of Social Sciences and Philosophy, Academia Sinica.

We also invite visiting scholars (whether established researchers or doctoral students) to present their research both in Hong Kong and Taipei. If you wish to be one of them, please contact Jean-Pierre Cabestan in Hong Kong or Fiorella Allio in Taiwan.

- Every year the CEFC organizes or co-organizes international conferences on contemporary China.

Recent and forthcoming conferences include:

'The Development of Contemporary Taiwan and Its Implications for Cross-Straits Relations, the Asia-Pacific Region and Europe', Taipei, Taiwan, December 16th-17th, 1998.

'The Emergence and the Structuring of Corporate Groups in the People's Republic of China: an International Perspective', Hong Kong, November 4th-5th 1999.

'The Relations Between the Centre and the Periphery on the Eve of the Third Millennium: Integration, Disintegration or Reshaping of an Empire?', Hong Kong, March 24th-25th, 2000.

## China Perspectives

Already in its fourth year, *China Perspectives*, the English-language edition of the French scholarly bi-monthly journal *Perspectives Chinoises* published by the centre since 1992, has a lot to do with the growing reputation of the CEFC. *China Perspectives* combines academic authority and integrity with a refreshing lack of stuffiness to provide highly readable and in-depth analyses of the underlying causes and implications of events as they happen in 'Greater China'.

Contributors to *China Perspectives* represent a wide range of expertise, both Asian and Western, truly reflecting the promise of the title. The bi-monthly publication schedule allows *China Perspectives* to follow events closely and remain topical while avoiding the temptations of instant journalism. Needless to say, the fact that *China Perspectives* is published from right within the heart of the region is a distinct advantage. *China Perspectives* can be discovered on the CEFC's website. Online readers will enjoy free access to a wide and ever-expanding selection of its articles at <http://www.cefc.com.hk>

## Call for papers

*China Perspectives* is an externally refereed journal, whose aim is to provide regular in-depth and up-to-date coverage of 'Greater China' (China, Hong Kong, Taiwan). *China Perspectives* welcomes articles in English from informed observers of the region, whether they be established researchers, PhD candidates, or participants in its economic, political, or cultural life. Please also note that articles submitted to this journal will be republished in French in *Perspectives Chinoises*.

Such contributions should not have been published before and, as a general rule, should not exceed 8,000 words in length. Guidelines on how to prepare manuscripts for publication can be obtained on people's request at [cefc@hkstar.com](mailto:cefc@hkstar.com)

## Researchers

Current researchers and research programmes at the CEFC are:

- Jean-Pierre Cabestan  
Director of the CEFC and director of publication of *China Perspectives*  
The reform of the political and legal systems in the People's Republic of China (PRC). Relations between Taiwan and the PRC: political and diplomatic aspects.  
E-mail: [cabestan@hkstar.com](mailto:cabestan@hkstar.com)

- François Gipouloux  
Research programme director and chief editor of *China Perspectives*  
The role of China's coastal cities in the network of port cities in East Asia.  
E-mail: [gipouloux@chess.fr](mailto:gipouloux@chess.fr)

- Fiorella Allio  
Director of the Taipei office of the CEFC and deputy-editor of *China Perspectives*  
Local politics, socio-religious organizations in Taiwan.  
E-mail: [cefc@gate.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:cefc@gate.sinica.edu.tw)

- Jean-François Huchet  
Researcher and deputy-editor of *China Perspectives*  
The reform of state-owned enterprises and the structuring of industrial groups.  
E-mail: [jfhuchet@hkstar.com](mailto:jfhuchet@hkstar.com)

- Eric Sautédé  
Researcher and editor of *China Perspectives*  
Democratic transition in East Asia: national identity, elections, and citizenship in Taiwan and South Korea.  
E-mail: [esautede@cefc.hk](mailto:esautede@cefc.hk)

- Nicolas Becquelin  
Research fellow  
Thesis in preparation: 'Relations between the Centre and the Periphery - The case of the autonomous region of Xinjiang'.

E-mail: [nicolasb@hkstar.com](mailto:nicolasb@hkstar.com)

- Philippe Chevalérias  
Research fellow  
Thesis in preparation: 'Taiwanese investments in China'.

E-mail: [cefcetud@hkstar.com](mailto:cefcetud@hkstar.com)

- Raphaël Jacquet  
Research fellow  
Thesis in preparation: 'From Refugee to Citizen: the emergence of a political community. The case of Hong Kong (1967-1997)'.

E-mail: [rjacquet@hkstar.com](mailto:rjacquet@hkstar.com)

- Pierre Miegé  
Research fellow  
Thesis in preparation: 'The new role of the Danwei since the beginning of the economic reforms in China: 1978-1998'

E-mail: [cefcetud@hkstar.com](mailto:cefcetud@hkstar.com)

- Véronique Poisson  
Research fellow  
Thesis in preparation: 'Crossing borders - Case study on the Zhejiang diaspora'.

E-mail: [vpoisson@hkstar.com](mailto:vpoisson@hkstar.com)

(Advertisement)

## Discover

# China Perspectives

A bimonthly journal on Contemporary China published in Hong Kong by the French Centre for Research on Contemporary China (CEFC).

Another perspective on China

*China Perspectives* is there to give its own insightful analysis on all the issues—whether political, economic, social, anthropological or cultural—through in-depth articles on the news as it happens, background dossiers on various themes, book reviews of the latest publications (especially out of Europe) and detailed scrutiny of official Chinese statistics.

An interdisciplinary journal on the Chinese world in all its variety—PRC, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau. *China Perspectives* combines authority and integrity with a refreshing lack of stuffiness.

*China Perspectives* is an academic journal, but not in the classic mould. Order a complimentary copy to see for yourself.

Valid for one complimentary copy

\* Offer limited to one copy per person until 31/12/99. Photocopy this page and fax or send it to the address below to get a complimentary copy of *China Perspectives*

French Centre for Research on Contemporary China  
Room 304, Yu Yuet Lai Building, 43-55 Wyndham Street, Central, Hong Kong - Fax: (852) 2815 3211

Name / Institution:

Address:

For further information:

HONG KONG  
**CEFC - CHINA PERSPECTIVES**  
Room 304, Yu Yuet Lai Building  
43-55 Wyndham Street, Central  
Hong Kong.  
Tel.: +852-2815 1728  
Fax: +852-2815 3211  
E-mail: [cefc@hkstar.com](mailto:cefc@hkstar.com)  
<http://www.cefc.com.hk>

TAIWAN  
**CEFC - CHINA PERSPECTIVES**  
P.O. Box 48-477, Taipei, Taiwan  
Tel.: +886-2-2789 0873  
Fax: +886-2-2789 0874  
E-mail: [cefc@gate.sinica.edu.tw](mailto:cefc@gate.sinica.edu.tw)



# An Archive of Indian Social History

In April 1994 the first set of microfilm rolls reached the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences from the studio, that was the beginning of a very special type of archive, Hitesranjan Sanyal Memorial Collection at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, which is a premier social science research institute in eastern India. In the course of five years, the archive claimed its uniqueness to the scholars working on social history of Bengal and on Communist Party and Labour movement in India.

By ABHIJIT BHATTACHARYA

From the very beginning the archive aimed not to making a depository of documents available in Government archives or in other places. Rather it started restoration and preservation work of such documents which are neglected and in bad shape but useful tools for scholars all over the world working on the social and cultural history of colonial Bengal and the history of labour organizations and of the Communist Party in India and Great Britain. Those documents are scattered in different public institutions, libraries, and private collections.

Here one thing should be mentioned - this project of preservation is also a project of rescuing documents from respective public institutions and libraries. It is difficult for these institutes to maintain all these

things in proper order due to poor infrastructural support for preservation. Particularly, paper and photograph preservation are a quite difficult task in the tropical countries, where humidity level lies at some point between 70 to 100 per cent and temperature in between 35 to 42 c for most of the time in a year. Whereas the ideal climatic condition for preservation both of paper and photographic documents is: temperature 16 to 20 c and relative humidity should be maintained within 40% with maximum fluctuation of 5%. Moreover keeping original paper documents and photographs requires huge space for proper storage. Keeping all these things in mind, the Centre preferred to restore the textual documents in microfilm form and the visual documents both in colour transparencies and black and white

Kalighat style courtesan doing embroidery, Artist unknown, c.1880,



negative forms. Still the climatic condition barely allows retaining the photographic documents without proper climatization, temperature, and humidity control in the depositories but it adds few more years to the life of these documents.

The Centre aimed to preserve documents related to the cultural and social history of the civil society in Bengal during the colonial period, and to fulfil the purpose it chose Bangla periodicals for preservation. Bangla text books and other monographs are equally important for such type of archive, but the emphasis was given on Bangla periodicals because these are the most neglected documents and hardly preserved anywhere systematically.

From 1818 to 1930 at least 2080 periodicals were published in Bangla (Banerjee 1936 & 1952 and Chatterjee: 1990 & 1994). Among them at least 50 periodicals continued for more than 25 years and 20 more than 50 years; and today barely 400 titles survived in a very poor condition in the public libraries and private collections. The 1857 press regulation act imposed by the British Government in India compelled the publishers for handing over copies of all published books to the Government but the periodicals were not included in the regulation. The India and Oriental Office Library in London preserved a considerable number of such printed books in their depository collected by the colonial Government in India.

The Centre undertook the project of preservation of Bangla periodicals with financial assistance from ENRECA for a collaborative project between the Centre and the Roskilde University, Denmark on 'Nationalism, Modernity and Urban Culture' under the leadership of Partha Chatterjee, Pradip Bose, Gautam Bhadra, and Tapati Guha Thakurta. Abhijit Bhattacharya co-ordinates the documentation and reader services at the archive.

## Hitesranjan Sanyal

Besides the microfilm holdings of Bangla periodicals, the Collection also has documents relating to the Communist Parties of India and Great Britain, materials on Positivism in 19th century Bengal and microfiches of Indian Census reports, 1872-1951. Of the Communist Party materials, Janayuddha was the Bangla organ of the Communist Party of India in the 1940s. The organ of the Third International published by the Communist Party of Great Britain, International Press Correspondence (1921-37), is a source book of world Communist and Labour movements. The Collection



Hitesranjan Sanyal Memorial Collection. Courtesy R.P. Gupta.

also has the proceedings and evidences of Meerut Conspiracy Case, framed by the colonial government against the Communist Party and labour movement leaders in 1930.

The latest addition to this Archive is the collection of visual documents on colour transparencies and black and white negatives. The visual collection focuses mainly on the nineteenth and early twentieth century paintings, prints, illustrations, and photographs from various institutional and private collections in Calcutta, Mumbai, and London. This is part of an ongoing project of the Centre on 'Hybrid Genres: A Photographic Archive of Visual Material of the Late 19th and Early 20th Century in Various Calcutta Collections'. This project is funded by the India Foundation for the Arts, Bangalore and being co-ordinated by Tapati Guha-Thakurta in collaboration with Amitabha Ghosh mainly for the photographic collection.

The visual collection is distinctly divided in two sections, one is the visual sources of early modern popular culture, i.e. paintings, lithographs etc.

Tea-table adda, photograph by Gaganendranath Tagore, c.1900

from nineteenth and early twentieth century Bengal and another part is the studio and indoor, amateur, and professional photographers work from 1850 to the mid of the twentieth century. The visual archive proved its worth and is currently being used by many scholars from different parts of the world. At present, the archive has over 600,000 pages of printed documents on microfilm, over 3,000 colour transparencies of early modern popular paintings and prints and a considerable number of manuscripts and books from different private collections gifted to the archive.

The entire collection is named after Hitesranjan Sanyal, who, until his sudden death in 1988, was at the forefront of the Centre's researches in social and cultural history of Bengal.

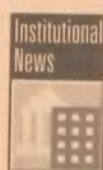
Presently the Centre is keen to collaborate with South Asian documentation centres all over the world for the betterment of archiving system and for broader information network. One such collaborator is the International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam, which providing technical support and a collaborator of research programme on South Asian history. A descriptive catalogue of the archive (Bhattacharya, 1998) which was earlier published in book form is now also available electronically from the internet site of the IISH in PDF format from the following location: <http://www.iish.nl/asia/csssc.htm>. Among many other, the Centre's academic interest is presently revolving around the archive. It is expected that the gradual development of the archive's combined pool of visual and textual materials would open new avenues in the research on social and colonial history of colonial Bengal. ■

Abhijit Bhattacharya, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, can be reached at [abhijit@csssc.ernet.in](mailto:abhijit@csssc.ernet.in).



# Melbourne Institute of Asian Languages and Societies

The Melbourne Institute of Asian Languages and Societies (MIALS) was set up on 1 February 1998 at the University of Melbourne, charged with the responsibility for co-ordinating and developing Asian Studies across the University. It is a major teaching and research initiative aimed at establishing the University as a major international university in its programme of Asian Studies. The founding director of MIALS is Professor Merle Ricklefs, who previously held the position of the Director of the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University.



The Institute promotes the study of the rich intellectual, cultural, political, and religious traditions of Asia and their contemporary manifestations in the modern world. Within its own departmental structure and in collaboration with other departments and faculties in the University of Melbourne, it gives particular emphasis to the study of Japan, China, Indonesia and the Arab and Islamic worlds. The interests of

MIALS and the University of Melbourne's do not stop at these regions but extend across many other regions of Asia and a wide range of disciplines. New courses introduced or to be introduced next year include: Bridges to China (a web-based Graduate Certificate in Modern Chinese), MA (Japanese Linguistics), MA (Islamic Studies) which is available in an on-line mode for external students, and a Master in Contemporary Asian Analysis, a cross-faculty inter-disciplinary programme.

The study of Asia at Melbourne encompasses disciplines as diverse as anthropology, geography, political science, political economy, art and architecture, history, philosophy, gender studies, law, economics, music, Islamic and other religious studies, linguistics, languages and literature. Academic staff and students have interests in many societies other than China, Indonesia, Japan, and the Middle East, notable examples being Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and India.

MIALS collaborates with colleagues across the university to offer comprehensive programmes of study at all levels, from undergraduate degrees to the doctorate. The Law School offers the opportunity to study constitutional law, commercial law, and dispute resolution in countries such as Japan, China, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, and Taiwan. Architecture, Building, and Planning offers a focus on the architecture of Asian countries, in areas of urban policy and design, planning and architectural theory, history and contemporary practice of architecture. Teacher education is consolidated by in-country visits to Beijing, Vietnam, or Indonesia. Engineers learn about technological choice in developing and industrializing countries, especially those of Asia. In-country study opportunities are available in a number of programmes.

In addition, Melbourne Abroad Language scholarships offer students the opportunity to practise their language skills, and observe at

first-hand, the customs and lifestyles of the peoples of Asia.

The Asian studies programme at the University is both strengthened and enhanced by the University's membership of Universitas 21 (an international consortium of like-minded universities) and its exchange agreements with a number of other international universities. These structures facilitate the exchange of staff and students, and collaborations across a broad range of research activities.

For its outreach programmes, MIALS works closely with Asialink, a non-academic department of the University which promotes understanding of Asia in the wider community. The University of Melbourne has been invited to provide 100 bilingual students (Chinese/English) and a smaller number of Thai/English speaking students to be Australian 'ambassadors' to visiting Asian business entrepreneurs attending the 5th World Chinese Entrepreneurs Convention which will be held in the Melbourne Exhibition Centre from 6-9 October. MIALS will be working closely with the International Centre to select and provide training to these student ambassadors.

MIALS works with other University departments and/or faculties and other universities to host conferences and seminars. MIALS has recently been host to a number of major international Asian conferences, e.g. on the Indonesian crisis, on Islam, and Chinese Linguistics. MIALS will be hosting the 13th Biennial Asian

Studies Association of Australia Conference next year (3-5 July 2000). The theme 'Whose Millennium?' is expected to attract a significant number of participants, both from within Australia and from overseas, and promises to generate challenging and lively discussions.

For more information see <http://www.asaa2000.unimelb.edu.au/>.

In affirmation of the importance the University of Melbourne has placed on the study of Asia and its societies, a new six-level building with a 500-seat lecture theatre and the state-of-the-art laboratory facilities has been commissioned to house both MIALS and Asialink. The Sidney Myer Asia Centre is expected to be completed for occupation by 2001.

MIALS reflects the importance in the modern world of understanding Asian societies. It is also powerful evidence of the commitment of the University of Melbourne to the study of Asia. ■

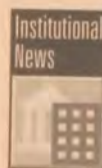
## MELBOURNE INSTITUTE OF ASIAN LANGUAGES AND SOCIETIES

Fifth Floor, John Medley Building, East and West Towers  
The University of Melbourne  
Parkville Victoria 3052  
Australia  
Tel: +61-3-9344 5555 / 5554 / 0160  
Fax: +61-3-9349 4870  
<http://www.mials.unimelb.edu.au/>

# The 'Study Indonesia Program'

## Studying in Indonesia, made easy

One of the most efficient and satisfying ways of learning a language must surely be while studying and living in the country. This is certainly the experience of students studying in Indonesia under a collaborative partnership between Australian and Indonesian universities.



Intrepid individual foreign students have long been able to enter Indonesian universities. However, negotiating the complex bureaucratic procedures required to obtain a study visa and a university place has often been daunting. In an effort to overcome these hurdles, in 1994 the Australian government provided Murdoch University with seed funding to establish a national consortium of universities to facilitate the placement of students into Indonesian universities for one semester or more. This organization, known as Australian Consortium for

In-Country Indonesian Studies (ACICIS), now has 21 Australian universities as members, including all those with significant profiles in Indonesian studies. It enables foreign students of Indonesian language and culture to undertake semester-long studies at Indonesian universities with a minimum of frustration and delay.

After five years of operations, ACICIS is now inviting non-Australian universities to join the consortium as Associate Members, and would welcome expressions of interest. In addition to students from member and associate member universities, ACICIS also accepts private participants from



A student dressed for a field trip to Imogiri

beyond the university sector.

ACICIS maintains a small, part-time Secretariat at Murdoch University to process applications, provide information and pre-departure advice, and liaise with member universities. The consortium employs a senior Australian academic as Resident Director in Indonesia. The Resident Director, currently Associate Professor David Reeve from the University of New South Wales, provides academic, administrative, and pastoral support for students in-country. This includes running an initial Orientation Program on arrival and regular 'checkpoint' meetings with all students to monitor academic progress and social and cultural adjustment. The Resident Director also ensures that accurate academic reports are provided to the students' home universities, since member universities give full ac-

ademic credit to their students for the ACICIS 'Study Indonesia Program'.

Students select from a wide variety of semester-long study options. The two most popular options are the Intensive Language Program for Foreigners (available at Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced level), or immersion in regular curriculum across the various faculties. Both these options are offered at Gadjah Mada University in Yogyakarta.

In addition, advanced students capable of independent study using Indonesian language may choose between three 'field study' options offered through the Muhammadiyah University in Malang, East Java. There is a General Field Study option, one specifically designed for Indonesian language teachers, and another Practical Arts option (with training in carving, music, batik and other arts). The General Field Study option has proved popular for students intending to undertake research for an undergraduate thesis.

Despite the rigours of in-country study, student satisfaction has been high. More than 98% of respondents



A student on a field trip to Pacitan

to anonymous Student Evaluation questionnaires completed at the conclusion of each semester have indicated they would recommend the Study Indonesia Program.

To a large extent, this high level of satisfaction can be attributed to the presence of the Resident Director who provides a comprehensive support for students, from arrival to departure, encouraging them to move outside the classroom and into the broader Indonesian community through a variety of activities. In addition, the Resident Director plays a vital role in ensuring the students are safe and secure during periods of social and political unrest, as occurred in May 1998 during the events leading to the fall of Soeharto.

In fact, the political turbulence of 1998-1999 appears only to have stimulated interest in Indonesian 'in-country' study. This semester there are 60 students in Indonesia on the 'Study Indonesia Program'. Since its establishment ACICIS has placed more than 330 students in Indonesian universities.

Universities or individuals interested in joining the ACICIS Study Indonesia Program are invited to contact or the Consortium Director, Professor David Hill (email: [dhill@central.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:dhill@central.murdoch.edu.au)) or the Secretariat (email: [acicis@central.murdoch.edu.au](mailto:acicis@central.murdoch.edu.au) or fax: 61 89360 6575). Further details are available on the ACICIS web-site at: <http://www.she.murdoch.edu.au/acicis/default.htm>



NOVEMBER 1999

15-17 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Amsterdam, The Netherlands**  
 Child Labour Workshop  
 g.k. lieten, university of amsterdam,  
 anthropological-sociological center,  
 centre for asian studies, oudezijds  
 achterburgwal 185, 1012dk amsterdam,  
 the netherlands  
 E-mail: irewoc@pscw.uva.nl  
 Deadline papers: early september

16-19 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Madrid, Spain**  
 V Congreso Internacional  
 'España y el Pacífico'  
 La Asociación Española de Estudios del  
 Pacífico, Dpto. de Historia Moderna y  
 Contemporánea, Centro de Estudios  
 Históricos, Consejo Superior de  
 Investigaciones Científicas, Duque de  
 Medinaceli 6, 28014 Madrid, Spain  
 Tel.: +34-91-4290626  
 Fax: +34-91-3690940  
 E-mail: elizalde@cch.csic.es

22-23 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Canberra, Australia**  
 Malaysia Society - 11th Biennial  
 Colloquium: Malaysia: Globalisation  
 And Identity, Prospects  
 For The Twenty-First Century  
 Prof. Amarjit Kaur (Convenor),  
 School of Economic Studies,  
 University of New England, Armidale,  
 NSW 2351  
 Tel.: +61-02-6773 2874  
 Fax: +61-02-6773 3596

22-24 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Bangkok (Chulalongkorn  
 University Social Research  
 Institute), Thailand**  
 Workshop 'Subcontracting Labour in  
 Asia: A longitudinal analysis in global  
 perspective'. In the framework of the  
 IIAS / IISH research programme CLARA,  
 'Changing Labour Relations in Asia'  
 Convenors:  
 Prof. Jan Lucassen, Dr Ratna Saptari  
 International Institute of Social History,  
 Cruquiusweg 31, 1019 AT Amsterdam,  
 The Netherlands  
 Tel.: +31-20-668 5866  
 Fax: +31-20-664 8141  
 E-mail: rsa@iisg.nl  
 Or Chulalongkorn University,  
 Social Research Institute (CUSRI),  
 Henri Dunan Road, Bangkok,  
 10330 Thailand, Fax: +66-2-2546498,  
 E-mail: gnapat@netserv.chula.ac.th

24 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Brussels, Belgium**  
 'Asia Update'  
 IIAS-NIAS-IFA, in co-operation with  
 Dr W. van der Geest, European Institute  
 for Asian Studies  
 Contact address: International Institute  
 for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515,  
 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands  
 Tel.: +31-71-527 2227  
 Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
 E-mail: iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

24 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Dunedin, New Zealand**  
 13th International NZASIA Conference:  
 Asian Nationalisms in an Age of  
 Globalization  
 Dr Roy Starrs, Japanese Studies,  
 University of Otago, P.O. Box 56,  
 Dunedin, New Zealand  
 Tel.: +64-3-479 9030  
 Fax: +64-3-479 8689  
 Http://www.otago.ac.nz/Japanese/

24-26 NOVEMBER 1999  
**Canberra, Australia**  
 Australia-Malaysia Conference, 1999  
 Second Biennial Conference to Increase  
 Understanding of Malaysia  
 Helga McPhie, ANU Centre for  
 Continuing Education  
 Tel.: +61-2-6249 2888  
 Fax: +61-2-6279 8066  
 E-mail: helga.mcphie@anu.edu.au.  
 Or Colin Barlow  
 Tel.: +61-2-6251 2507  
 Fax: +61-2-6249 5523  
 E-mail: cbarlow@dynamite.com.au

DECEMBER 1999

1-4 DECEMBER 1999  
**Rockhampton, Australia**  
 Biennial Conference of the Japanese Studies  
 Association of Australia:  
 Discourse, Dissonance and Diaspora:  
 Identities for the New Millennium  
 Conference Secretariat, Angela Hyslop  
 Tel.: +61-7-4930 6871  
 E-mail: a.hyslop@cqu.edu.au  
 Http://www.edca.cqu.edu.au/jsaa/JSAA  
 -Site/JSAA-Folder/

3-6 DECEMBER, 1999  
**Canberra, Australia**  
 Asia, Sri Lanka, and diasporic communities:  
 retrospect and prospect  
 7th Sri Lanka Studies Conference  
 Ms. Karen Long, Conference Secretariat,  
 Sri Lanka Studies Conference, PO Box  
 5032 Albury, NSW 2708, Australia  
 Tel.: +61-2-6040 1064  
 Fax: +61-2-6040 6164  
 Email: expo@albury.net.au

6-9 DECEMBER 1999  
**Guangzhou, China**  
 International Conference on Urban  
 Development in China  
 Professor Yan Xiaopei, Center for Urban  
 & Regional Studies, Zhongshan  
 University, Guangzhou 510275,  
 Guangdong Province, PR China,  
 Fax: +86-21-8419 8145  
 E-mail: eesyxp@zsu.edu.cn

6-9 DECEMBER 1999  
**Göttingen, Germany**  
 Translating Western Knowledge  
 into Late Imperial China  
 Ostasiatisches Seminar der Universität  
 Göttingen, Modern Chinese Scientific  
 Terminology Project, Waldweg 26, 37073  
 Göttingen, Germany  
 Tel.: +49-551-39 22 99  
 Fax: +49-551-39 93 24  
 E-mail: nvittin@gwdg.de  
 Http://www.gwdg.de/~oas/wsc

6-11 DECEMBER 1999  
**Pondicherry, India**  
 The Portuguese and the Socio-Cultural  
 Changes in India: 1500-1800  
 Dr K.S. Mathew, Department of History,  
 Pondicherry University, Pondicherry  
 605 014, India  
 Tel.: +91-413-65 177  
 Fax: +91-413-65 211  
 E-mail: bioinpu@iitm.ernet.in

7-9 DECEMBER 1999  
**London, Great Britain**  
 Death, After-lives and Other-realms:  
 Issues Inside and Outside Contemporary  
 Japanese Religiosity  
 Dr John Breen, Department of the  
 Languages and Cultures of East Asia,  
 SOAS, University of London,  
 Great Britain  
 E-mail: jbb8@soas.ac.uk

Agenda



9-10 DECEMBER 1999  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
 IIAS Workshop 'Archival Sources and  
 Overseas Chinese Communities, 1775-1950'  
 Convenors:  
 Dr Hans Goossen and Dr Li Minghuan  
 Contact address: Drs Helga Lasschuijt,  
 International Institute for Asian  
 Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden,  
 The Netherlands  
 Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
 Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
 E-mail:  
 hllasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

10-12 DECEMBER 1999  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
 Islam and the Electoral Process  
 Organizers:  
 Professor Martin van Bruinessen,  
 International Institute for the Study of  
 Islam in the Modern World (ISIM),  
 in cooperation with the International  
 Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS), and  
 the African Studies Centre (ASC)  
 Contact address: Rapenburg 71,  
 2311 GJ Leiden, The Netherlands  
 Tel.: +31-71-527 7905  
 Fax: +31-71-527 7906  
 E-mail: isim@rullet.leidenuniv.nl  
 or: Tel: +31-30-253 6146  
 E-mail:  
 martin.vanbruinessen@let.uu.nl

13-17 DECEMBER 1999  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
 Joint KITLV / IIAS Seminar on  
 'Nationalism in Present-day Southeast Asia'  
 Convenor: Prof. C. van Dijk  
 Contact address: Drs Helga Lasschuijt,  
 International Institute for Asian  
 Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden,  
 The Netherlands  
 Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
 Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
 E-mail:  
 hllasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

15-17 DECEMBER 1999  
**Yangon, Myanmar**  
 Myanmar Two Millennia  
 Universities Historical Research Centre,  
 Amara Hall, Yangon University  
 Campus, Yangon 11041, Myanmar  
 Tel.: +95-1-532 622 / 524 248  
 Fax: +95-1-530 121

29 DECEMBER 1999 -  
 5 FEBRUARY 2000  
**Jinghong City, Yunnan, China**  
 The Third International Conference  
 on Hani/Akha Culture  
 Yang Zhe-Hua or Zhu Ji-Ying,  
 Conference Secretariat, Hani Language  
 Department of People's Broadcasting  
 and Radio Station of Xishuangbanna,  
 No. 10, Jinghong East Road, Yunnan  
 666100, China  
 Tel.: +86-691-212 7460 / 7824  
 Fax: +86-691-212 7460

2000

EARLY 2000  
**SOAS, London, Great Britain**  
 Centre and Periphery in Southeast Asia  
 Professor Anne Booth, Department of  
 Economics, SOAS, University of London,  
 Russell Square, London WC1 HOXG,  
 Great Britain  
 Fax: +44-171-323 6277  
 E-mail: ab10@soas.ac.uk

JANUARY 2000

8 JANUARY 2000  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
 ECARDC VI:  
 Shaping the New Rural Society in China  
 E-mail: Ecardc@ivry.inra.fr  
 Http://www.liv.ac.uk/  
 ~kegangwu/ccardc.htm

9-16 JANUARY, 2000  
**Dharwad, India**  
**Fourth ABIA Workshop**  
 Prof. Karel van Kooij, Dr Ellen Raven,  
 Drs Helga Lasschuijt

14-15 JANUARY 2000  
**Rotterdam, The Netherlands**  
 Entrepreneurship and Institutions in  
 a Comparative Perspective:  
 Europe and Asia, 16th-20th Centuries  
 Http://www.eur.nl/FHKW/nwp2000

15 JANUARY 2000  
**Riverside CA, USA**  
 The Chinese Labour Camp: Theory,  
 Actuality, and Fictional Representation  
 Convenors: Yenna Wu and Philip F.  
 Williams, Center for Ideas & Society,  
 1150 University Ave., 227 Highlander  
 Hall, building C, Riverside, CA 92521,  
 U.S.A.  
 Tel.: +1-909-787 3987  
 Fax: +1-909-787 6377  
 E-mail: Idassoc@citrus.ucr.edu  
 URL: http://www.ucr.edu/cis/chinese

19-21 JANUARY 2000  
**Quezon City, Philippines**  
 2nd International Conference  
 on Southeast Asia  
 Ruptures and Departures: Language and  
 Culture in Southeast Asia  
 Prof. Teresita M. Isidro or Dr. Lily Rose  
 R. Tope, Department of English and  
 Comparative Literature, University of  
 the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City,  
 Philippines 1101  
 Tel.: +63-2-426 3668  
 Fax: +63-2-926 3496  
 E-mail: tmisidro@kal.upd.edu.ph or  
 lrt@kal.upd.edu.ph  
 Deadline papers: 15 August 1999

FEBRUARY 2000

3-5 FEBRUARY 2000  
**Amsterdam, The Netherlands**  
 What Is To Be Done? Global economic  
 disorder and policies for a new  
 financial architecture in  
 the millennium  
 Convenor: Dr Geoffrey R.D. Underhill  
 Conference secretariat at the ICPEI  
 (Universiteit van Amsterdam)  
 Tel.: +31-20-525 6075  
 Fax: +31-20-525 2898  
 E-mail: icpei@bdu.uva.nl  
 Http://www.icpei.uva.nl/witb

18-20 FEBRUARY 2000  
**Bangalore, India**  
 The Human Sciences and  
 the Asian Experience  
 Dr Vivek Dhareshwar, Centre for the  
 Study of Culture and Society, 1192, 35th  
 B Cross, 4th T Block, Jayanagar,  
 Bangalore 560 041, India  
 Fax: +91-080-663 6229  
 E-mail: admin@csesban.org  
 http://www.csesban.org

19-20 FEBRUARY 2000  
 Coventry, Great Britain  
**Migration, Urban Development  
 and Demographic Change in  
 Punjab 1890s-1990s**  
 Dr Ian Talbot, Centre for South Asian  
 Studies, School of International Studies  
 and Law, Coventry University,  
 Priory Street, CV1 5FB Coventry,  
 United Kingdom  
 E-mail: 106432.1724@compuserve.com

20-21 FEBRUARY 2000

**North India**  
 Approaching Asia from Asia:  
 Journeys, Displacements, Themes  
 Professor Tessa Morris-Suzuki, Pacific  
 and Asian History, RSPAS, Australian  
 National University  
 Tel.: +61-2-6249 2277  
 Fax: +61-2-6254 9050  
 E-mail: tms@coombs.anu.edu.au

MARCH 2000

1-3 MARCH 2000  
**Seoul, Korea**  
 Good Government, Eastern and  
 Western Perspectives: 4th EPCReN Workshop  
 Dr Geir Helgesen, Nordic Institute of  
 Asian Studies, Leifsgade 33, 2300  
 Copenhagen S, Denmark  
 Fax: +45-32-96 25 30  
 E-mail: geir@nias.ku.dk

MARCH 2000  
**Leiden, The Netherlands**  
 'The Indian character of Indian literature'  
 Organization: Dr Thomas de Bruijn,  
 dr Theo Damsteegt  
 Information: drs H.J. Lasschuijt, IIAS,  
 P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden,  
 The Netherlands,  
 Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
 Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
 E-mail:  
 hllasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

8-10 MARCH 2000  
**Singapore**  
 Second International Conference on Quality  
 of Life in Cities- 21st Century QOL  
 (ICQQLC 2000)  
 Conference Secretariat (ICQQLC 2000),  
 School of Building and Real Estate  
 National University of Singapore,  
 10 Kent Ridge Crescent,  
 Singapore 119260  
 Tel.: +65-772 3440  
 Fax: +65-775 5502  
 E-mail: qolnet@nus.edu.sg  
 Http://www.qolnet.nus.edu.sg  
 /conf2/main.html

9-12 MARCH 2000  
 San Diego, United States of America  
**2000 Annual Meeting of  
 the Mongolia Society**  
 The Mongolia Society Office,  
 322 Goodbody Hall, Indiana University,  
 Bloomington, IN 47405-7550,  
 United States  
 E-mail: monsoc@indiana.edu  
 http://www.aasianst.org/  
 Deadline for abstracts:  
 9 DECEMBER 1999

16-18 MARCH, 2000  
**New Delhi, India**  
 Association of Indian Labour Historians,  
 Second Conference  
 Dr Prabhu P. Mohapatra, Archives of  
 Indian Labour, VVGiri National Labour  
 Institute, Sector 24, NOIDA,  
 Gautam Budha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh,  
 India 201301  
 Fax: +91-118-532 974  
 E-mail: shram@ndf.vsnl.net.in



# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

15-17 MARCH 2000

**London, Great Britain**

Interpreting Asian Cultures in Museums: displays, activities, strategies  
Dr Brian Durrans, Department of Ethnography, British Museum, 6 Burlington Gardens, London W1X 2EX, Great Britain  
Tel.: +44-207-323 8027  
Fax: +44-207-323 8013  
E-mail: bdurrans@british-museum.ac.uk

16-17 MARCH 2000

**Bonn, Germany**

Demographic Developments and Value Change in Contemporary Modern Societies - East Asian and Western societies in comparative perspective  
Dr Axel Klein, Forschungsstelle Modernes Japan, Regina-Pacis-Weg 7, D-53113 Bonn  
Tel.: +49-228-737023  
Fax: +49-228-735054

APRIL 2000

3-5 APRIL 2000

**Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

Brokers of Capital and Knowledge: producer services and social mobility in Provincial Asia  
Dr H. Dahles, Centre for Asian Studies Amsterdam (CASA), Het Spinhuis, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185, 1012 DK Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Fax: +31-20-444 6722  
E-mail: h.dahles@scw.vu.nl

3-8 APRIL 2000

**Turin, Italy**

XIth World Sanskrit Conference  
Oscar Botto, President CESMEO, International Institute for Advanced Asian Studies, Via Cavour 17, I-10123 Torino, Italy  
Fax: +39-011-545 031

7-9 APRIL 2000

(PROVISIONAL)

**Copenhagen, Denmark**

7th Nordic-European Workshop in Advanced Asian Studies (NEWAS)  
For Nordic PhD students: NIAS, att.: NEWAS, Erik Skaaning, Leifsgade 33, DK-2300 Copenhagen S, Denmark  
Tel.: +45-31-54 88 44  
Fax: +45-32-96 25 30  
E-mail: erik@nias.ku.dk  
For Dutch PhD students: IIAS, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 2227  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: iias@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

7-9 APRIL 2000

**Uppsala, Sweden**

Indigenous People: the trajectory of a contemporary concept in India  
Dr B. G. Karlsson, The Seminar for Development Studies, Uppsala University, Övre Slottsgatan 1, S-753 10 Uppsala, Sweden  
Tel.: +46-18-471 6852  
Fax: +46-18-12 0832  
E-mail: beppe.karlsson@uland.uu.se

14 APRIL 2000

**Southampton, United Kingdom**

Memory of Catastrophe  
Dr Kendrick Oliver, Department of History, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1BJ, GREAT BRITAIN  
Tel.: +44-1703-592 243  
Fax: +44-1703-593 458  
E-mail: ko@soton.ac.uk

27-29 APRIL 2000

**Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

Fourth Euro-Japanese International Symposium on Mainland Southeast Asian History: 'Mainland Southeast Asian Responses to the Stimuli of Foreign Material Culture and Practical Knowledge (14th - mid 19th century)'  
Dr John Kleinen, IIAS Branch Office Amsterdam, Spinhuis, Oudezijds Achterburgwal 185, 1012 DK Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-20-525 3657  
Fax: +31-20-525 3658  
E-mail: IIAS@pscw.uva.nl

MAY 2000

MAY 2000

**Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

Gender and the Transmission of Values Systems and Cultural Heritage(s) in South and Southeast Asia  
Professor S. Leydesdorff or Dr Frances Gouda, Belle van Zuylen Instituut, Universiteit van Amsterdam, Rokin 84-90, 1012 KX Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Fax: +31-20-525 22 19  
E-mail: leydesdorff@pscw.uva.nl or fgouda@aol.com

4-5 MAY 2000

**Limerick, Ireland**

Technology Trade and Technology Transfer between the EU and Asia  
Ms Barbara Merigeault, I.A.E., 20 Rue Guillaume VII Le Troubadour, B.P. 639, 86022 Poitiers Cedex, France  
Tel.: +33-5-4945 4489  
Fax: +33-5-4945 4490  
E-mail: eurosasie@iae.univ-poitiers.fr or bmerigeault@iae.univ-poitiers.fr

6-8 MAY 2000

**Roslyn, VA, USA**

3rd Annual Conf.: National Council of Organizations of Less Commonly Taught Languages  
Scott McGinnis, Senior Associate for Projects, National Foreign Language Center, 1619 Massachusetts Avenue NW, #400, Washington, DC 20036, USA  
Tel.: +1-202-667 8100 ext 15  
Fax: 202-667 6907

25-26 MAY 2000

**Budapest, Hungary**

The Last Decade of Migration from the People's Republic of China to Europe and Asia  
Dr Pál D. Nyíri at 'both' nyirip@mail.mtatv.hu 'and' nyirip@yahoo.com.

JUNE 2000

2-4 JUNE 2000

**Oslo, Norway**

Human and Regional Security around the South China Sea  
Mr Johan Henrik Nossum, Centre for Development and the Environment, P.O. Box 1116 Blindern, N-0317 Oslo, Norway  
Tel. +47-22-85 89 00  
Fax: +47-22-85 89 20  
E-mail: j.h.nossu@sum.uio.no  
http://www.sum.uio.no/southchinesea/

## Agenda



16-19 JUNE 2000

**Massachusetts, USA**

The 2000 North American Taiwan Studies Conference  
Tze-Luen Lin, NATSA President, Harvard University  
Stephane Corcuff, NATSA Secretary, ISUGA, Europe-Asia Management Institute, Creac'H GWEN, F-29000 Quimper, France  
Tel.: +33-2-9810 1616  
Fax: +33-2-9810 1600  
E-mails: tllin@udel.edu, Stephane.corcuff@isuga.fr (information), board@natsc.org (abstracts) http://www.natsc.org

Deadline abstracts: 1 December 1999  
Deadline papers: 1 March 2000

21-23 JUNE 2000

**Paris, France**

Medicine in China. Health techniques and social history  
Dr Frédéric Obringer, Centre d'Études sur la Chine Moderne et Contemporaine, 54, boulevard Raspail, 75006 Paris France  
Fax: +33-1-4954 2078  
E-mail: obringer@chess.fr

24-30 JUNE 2000

**Leiden, The Netherlands**

Ninth Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies (IATS)  
Convenor: Dr Henk Blezer, Organizer: Drs Helga Lasschuyt, International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA, Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31-71-527 4160  
Fax: +31-71-527 4162  
E-mail: hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl

JULY 2000

3-5 JULY 2000

**Berlin, Germany**

Conflict and Violence in Indonesia  
Georgia Wimhofer or Elisabeth Schulze, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Dept. of Asian and African Studies, Humboldt-University Luisenstr. 54/55, 10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49-30-2093 6635 / 6630  
Fax: +49-30-2093 6666  
E-mail: georgia.wimhofer@rz.hu-berlin.de elisabeth.schulze@rz.hu-berlin.de

3-5 JULY 2000

**Melbourne, Australia**

13th Biennial Asian Studies Association of Australia Conference: 'Whose Millennium?'  
Melbourne Institute of Asian Languages and Societies (MIALS), Fifth Floor, John Medley Building, East and West Towers, The University of Melbourne, Parkville Victoria 3052, Australia  
Tel: +61-3-9344 5555 / 5554 / 0160  
Fax: +61-3-9349 4870  
http://www.asaaz2000.unimelb.edu.au

10-14 JULY 2000

**Manila, Philippines**

6th International Philippine Studies Conference  
'Turns of the Centuries: The Philippines in 1900 and 2000'  
Philippine Studies Conference 2000, Technical Services and Information Section, Philippine Social Science Council, P. O. Box 205, UP Post Office, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines  
Tel.: +63-929-2671, +63-922-9621 local 305  
Fax: +63-924-4871  
E-mail: tsis.section@skyinet.net, pssc@skyinet.net, cidslib@ids.org.ph, cids@cids.upd.edu.ph

13-16 JULY 2000

**Prague, Czech Republic**

The 12th International Conference on Korean Linguistics  
ICKL 2000, c/o Prof. Nam-Kil Kim, Korean Studies Institute, University of Southern California, THH 226G, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0357, USA  
E-mail: nkim@usc.edu or: ICKL 2000, c/o Prof. Hee-Don Ahn, Department of English, Konkuk University, Seoul 143-701, Korea  
E-mail: hdahn@kkucc.konkuk.ac.kr

15-17 JULY 2000

**Lhasa, Tibet, China**

2000 International Academic Conference on Tibetan Medicine  
Yang Su, Dolmachi, China Medical Association of Minorities, No. 11 Bei San Huan Dong Lu, Chaoyang District, Beijing, 100029, China  
Tel.: +86-10-6422 0890, +86-10-6428 6597  
Fax: +86-10-6428 7404  
E-mail: cinmbucm@bj.col.com.cn  
Deadline papers: 31 December 1999  
Deadline registration: 14 July 2000

AUGUST 2000

1-4 AUGUST, 2000

**Calcutta, India**

Language, Thought and Reality: Science, Religion and Philosophy  
Dr Chandana Chakrabarti, Elon College Campus Box 2336, Elon College, N.C. 27244, USA  
Tel.: +1-336-538 2705  
Fax: +1-336-538 2627  
E-mail: chakraba@numen.elon.edu  
Http://www.elon.edu/chakraba

5 AUGUST 2000

**Durban, South Africa**

The History of Religions: Origins and Visions  
18th Quinquennial Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions  
Rosalind I.J. Hackett, Program Chair, Dept. of Religious Studies, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA  
Tel.: +1-423-974 2466  
Fax: +1-423-974 0965  
E-mail: rhackett@utk.edu  
Http://www.udw.ac.za/iahr

10-11 AUGUST 2000

**Leiden, The Netherlands**

Environmental Change in Native and Colonial Histories of Borneo: Lessons from the past, prospects for the future  
Convenor: Dr. Reed L. Wadley (rwadley@rullet.leidenuniv.nl), Organizer: Drs. Helga Lasschuyt (hlasschuyt@rullet.leidenuniv.nl), International Institute for Asian Studies, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands  
Fax: +31-71-527-4162  
Deadline paper proposals: 15 November 1999 (300 words)

22-26 AUGUST 2000

**Lahti, Finland**

EASJ Conference 2000  
Secretariat EASJ, Prof Dr. Werner Pasch, Duisberg University, East Asian Economic Studies, D-47048 Duisburg, Germany  
Tel/Fax: +49-203-379 2002  
E-mail: eajs@uni-duisburg.de

23-26 AUGUST 2000

**Leuven, Belgium**

The Eighth Conference on Early Literature in New Indo-Aryan Languages ('Bhakti Conference')  
winand.callewaert@arts.kuleuven.ac.be

23-27 AUGUST 2000

**Leiden, The Netherlands**

Audiences, Patrons and Performers in the Performing Arts of Asia  
PAATI Project, CHIME Foundation, and Leiden University, Dr Wim van Zanten, Institute of Cultural and Social Studies, Leiden University, P.O. Box 9555, 2300 RB Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel. +31-71-527 34-65  
Fax +31-71-527 3619  
E-mail: Zanten@fsw.leidenuniv.nl or IIAS@rullet.leidenuniv.nl  
Deadline paper proposals: 1 March 2000

SEPTEMBER 2000

6-8 SEPTEMBER 2000

**Fife, Great Britain**

History of Tibet Conference  
John Billington (conference organizer) Brook House, Llandyssil, Montgomery Powys, SY15 6LN, Great Britain? Tel.: +44-1686-668 619?

6-9 SEPTEMBER 2000

**Edinburgh, Great Britain**

16th European Conference on Modern South Asian Studies  
Roger Jeffery, The University of Edinburgh  
E-mail: R.Jeffery@ed.ac.uk

OCTOBER 2000

4 OCTOBER -

5 NOVEMBER 2000

**Dakar, Senegal**

Extended Workshop for Young Historians  
Madame Ndéye Sokhna Guéye, Programme Sefhous/Codesria, Extended workshop for young historians, CODESRIA, B.P. 3304, Dakar, Senegal  
Tel.: +221-825 98 22 / 23  
Fax: +221-824 12 89  
E-mail: codesria@telecomplus.sn

NOVEMBER 2000

3-5 NOVEMBER 2000

**Vancouver, BC, Canada**

'Women's Studies: Asian Connections'  
Centre for Research in Women's Studies and Gender Relations, UBC, 1896 East Mall, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1, Canada  
Tel.: +1-604-822-9171  
Fax: +1-604-822-9169  
E-mail: litton@interchange.ubc.ca  
Deadline for initial response: 30 November 1999  
Deadline for papers: 29 February 2000







