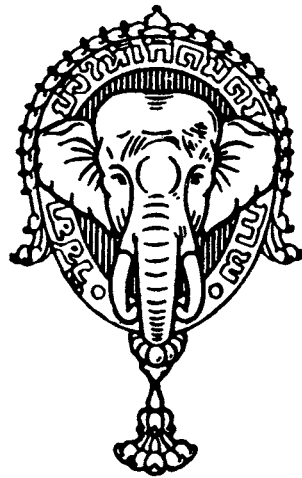


The Journal of the Siam Society



VOLUME 77, PART 2
1989

©
All Rights Reserved
The Siam Society
1989
ISSN 0857-7099

Printed by Amarin Printing Group Co., Ltd., 413/27-36 Arun Amarin Road, Bangkok Noi, Bangkok 10700, Thailand. Tel. 4242800-1

Cover: Borobudur. Photograph by Luca Invernizzi Tettoni. See "Architectural Composition in Java from the Eighth to Fourteenth Centuries," by Jacques Dumarçay, p. 21.

THE SIAM SOCIETY

PATRON	His Majesty the King
VICE-PATRONS	Her Majesty the Queen Her Royal Highness the Princess Mother Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn
HON. PRESIDENT	Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana
HON. VICE-PRESIDENTS	Mr. Alexander B. Griswold Mom Kobkaew Abhakara na Ayudhaya H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul M.R. Patanachai Jayant Maj. Gen. M.R. Kukrit Pramoj
HON. MEMBERS	The Ven. Dhammaghosacariya (Buddhadasa Bhikkhu) The Ven. Debvedi (Payutto) Dr. Fua Haripitak Dr. Mary R. Haas Dr. Puey Ungphakorn Dr. Kraisi Nimmanahaeminda Dr. Sood Saengvichien H.S.H. Prince Chand Chirayu Rajani Professor William J. Gedney Professor Prawase Wasi, M.D.
HON. AUDITOR	Mr. Yukta na Thalang
HON. ARCHITECT	Mr. Sirichai Narumit
HON. LEGAL COUNSEL	Mr. John Hancock
HON. LANDSCAPE CONSULTANT	Mr. William Warren

COUNCIL OF THE SIAM SOCIETY FOR 1989/90

Dr. Piriya Krairiksh	President
Dr. Tem Smitinand	Vice President
Mr. Dacre F.A. Raikes	Vice President
Dr. Rachit Buri	Vice President & Leader of the Natural History Section
Mrs. Virginia M. Di Crocco	Honorary Secretary
Mr. James Stent	Honorary Treasurer
Mr. Sidhijai Tanphiphat	Honorary Librarian
Dr. Warren Y. Brockelman	Honorary Editor of the NHB
Mr. James V. Di Crocco	Honorary Editor of the JSS
H.E. Mr. Hisahiko Okazaki	Honorary Officer
Prof. Wongchan Pinainitisatra	Honorary Officer
Dr. Pintip Tuaycharoen	Honorary Officer (for Publicity)

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

Mrs. Bonnie Davis	Mr. Barent Springsted
Dr. Chek Dhanasiri	Dr. Pornchai Suchitta
Dr. Ing. Hermann W. Heitmann	Mr. William B. Tate
Mr. Henri Pagau-Clarac	Dr. Charit Tingsabadh
Mr. Teddy Spha Palasthira	Dr. Steven J. Török
Mr. Kaset Pitakpaivan	Mr. Steve Van Beek
Dr. Thawatchai Santisuk	M.R. Chirie Voravarn
Mr. Smitthi Siribhadra	

Editor's Note

A special note of thanks is due Mr. Euayporn Kerdchouay for his long-standing contributions to the production of the *Journal of the Siam Society*, particularly but not exclusively in the areas of design, layout and graphics. Appreciation also goes to Peter Rogers for his own special assistance, to Luca Invernizzi Tettoni for his photographs, and to Anothai Nunthithasana for continuing help in a variety of ways. We are grateful to Sayant Pornnatharat and the *Bangkok Post* for permission to use the photograph of modern Thai tattooing on p. 39 which first appeared on p. 46 of the *Bangkok Post* of 8 June 1988.

The Journal of the Siam Society

VOLUME 77, PART 2
1989

CONTENTS

Editor's Note	4
In This Issue	7

ARTICLES

THE PONG TUK LAMP: A RECONSIDERATION	ROBERT L. BROWN ANNA M. MACDONNELL	9
ARCHITECTURAL COMPOSITION IN JAVA FROM THE EIGHTH TO FOURTEENTH CENTURIES	JACQUES DUMARÇAY	21
A NOTE ON THAI TATTOOS— NOTE SUR LE TATOUAGE EN PAYS THAI JUSQU'A LA FIN DU XVII ^e SIECLE	FRANÇOIS LAGIRARDE	29
TECHNICAL STUDY ON THE WHITE-GLAZED WARES WITH GREEN PATTERNS EXCAVATED IN THE TAK AREA, THAILAND	KAZUO YAMASAKI ET AL.	43

BANGKOK IN 1883: AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROFILE	CONSTANCE M. WILSON	49
THE TRAVELS IN FRANCE OF THE SIAMESE AMBASSADORS, 1686-7	MICHAEL SMITHIES	59
BLOCKPRINTED FABRICS OF GUJARAT FOR EXPORT TO SIAM	MICHÈLE ARCHAMBAULT	71
ON THE ORIGIN OF THE URAK LAWOI'—A RESPONSE TO J. IVANOFF	STEPHEN W. PATTEMORE DAVID W. HOGAN	75
HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY IN THAILAND—WHAT'S NEW	PORNCHAI SUCHITTA	79
REVIEWS		
JACKSON, Buddhism, Legitimation and Conflict: The Political Functions of Urban Thai Buddhism	WILLIAM J. KLAUSNER	82
BICKNER, HARTMAN and PEYASANTIWONG (eds.), Selected Papers on Comparative Tai Studies by William J. Gedney	JAMES R. CHAMBERLAIN	84
LINDELL, SWAHN and TAYANIN Folk Tales from Kammu - IV: A Master-Teller's Tales	JAMES R. CHAMBERLAIN	87
EDMONDSON and SOLNIT (eds.), Comparative Kadai: Linguistic Studies Beyond Tai	JAMES R. CHAMBERLAIN	89
Index to the Siam Society Newsletter 1985-1989	MICHAEL SMITHIES	91

In This Issue

The Pong Tuk lamp, excavated before 1927 by villagers at the important Dvaravati site of the same name northwest of Bangkok, has been the focal point of high interest because of its identification as of Roman or Graeco-Roman provenance, with all that such a derivation implies for early contacts between the Mediterranean world and what is now Thailand. The lamp was dated to the 1st or 2nd century A.D. by Coedès, and to some time before the birth of Christ by Picard. ROBERT L. BROWN and ANNA M. MACDONNELL now marshal evidence to demonstrate that the lamp is of a common Byzantine type dating to the 5th or more probably 6th century A.D., consistent with the early florescence of the Dvaravati cultural period.

JACQUES DUMARÇAY analyzes the constraints which affected the architectural composition of monuments in Java between the 8th and 14th centuries. These constraints were both economic and technical; in addition, there were those imposed by the ritual uses of the building, the iconographic element, and the representation of the universe embodied in the structure, as well as the traditional fixing of concepts of beauty through manuals and treatises and reference to pleasing buildings already constructed. The re-use of ancient monuments saw old foundations adapted to the taste of the time.

The practise of tattooing has been carried to special degrees of elaboration in Thailand. FRANÇOIS LAGIRARDE explores the origins, history and purposes of this custom by examining the first-hand reports of visitors and the accounts of ethnographers up to the end of the 17th century, placing these in the context of tattooing in Southeast Asia in general.

In 1984 a veritable treasure-trove of ceramics, many of types and of a quality previously unknown, was discovered in burial sites situated on the mountains in the Tak area along the Thai-Burmese border. Among the most striking and puzzling of these were handsome white-glazed wares with green patterns. The first identifications of these wares encompassed a varied spectrum of origins, but a variety of evidence indicated that they were of Burmese origin with lead glazes opacified by tin. (see *The Siam Society Newsletter*, Vol 1, No. 4, 1985, pp. 6-13). KAZUO YAMASAKI, MASAYO MUROZUMI, JOHN C. SHAW and ALAN R. GEORGE present a detailed preliminary technical analysis of these wares using the instruments and facilities of the Fast Neutron Facility of Chiang Mai University and of institutions in Japan. This analysis suggests that the wares were indeed made in Burma and confirms the composition of the glazes.

CONSTANCE M. WILSON draws upon volumes of the Bangkok Postal Directory of 1883 to provide information concerning the economic and social structure of Bangkok in

that year. These show among other things that at that time the Thais not only held most of the government positions, as expected, but also dominated the professions and were holding their own with Chinese immigrants in manufacturing and commerce. Although the Thais naturally held a strong position as landlords, the Chinese were already making heavy investments in property.

MICHAEL SMITHIES presents a comprehensive narration of the itinerary in France of the three Siamese ambassadors during their mission of 1686-7, noting in detail the monuments, palaces and personalities they visited, the entertainments that they were offered, the court formalities of the day, and the interplay between visitors and hosts on this lengthy journey.

MICHÈLE ARCHAMBAULT recently visited one of the living national treasures of India, Mr. Maneklal Gajjar, who in his home village of Pethapur in Gujarat continues the tradition of making "saudagiri blocks" to imprint patterns on fabrics originally intended for export to Siam. This trade flourished for a century before it ended in about 1940. Mme. Archambault traces the patterns from their origin in Siam through three trading companies to the blockmakers in Pethapur, touches on the nature of the motifs used, and describes in detail the making of the blocks. Many "saudagiri patterns" are still used today to carve blocks and print fabrics for local markets; the designs which once were so fashionable in Siam are still popular in Gujarat.

STEPHEN W. PATTEMORE and DAVID W. HOGAN respond to a statement by J. IVANOFF in a previous issue of the *JSS* that the Sea People of Phuket Province who call themselves the Urak Lawoi' are ethnically derived from intermarriage between the Moken Sea People and Malays. While welcoming Mr. Ivanoff's sensitive treatment of the Moken, Messrs. Pattemore and Hogan maintain that the Urak Lawoi' are distinct in origin from the Moken and also have been distinct from the mainstream of Malay life for centuries.

An index to scholarly articles which appeared in the *Siam Society Newsletter* from March 1985 to March 1989, before the nature of its contents was modified, is provided by MICHAEL SMITHIES, a former editor of that publication.

In his regular feature on developments of interest in Thai archaeology and history, PORNCHAI SUCHITTA draws attention to the recent work of Dr. DHIDA SARAYA of Chulalongkorn University in presenting a pandisciplinary overview of the Dvaravati period as the initial phase of Siam's history, focusing on the interaction of people, culture and society to help clarify Dvaravati economic, political and social structures.