The Journal of the Siam Society
Patrons of the Siam Society

Patron
His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej

Vice-Patrons
Her Majesty Queen Sirikit
His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn

Vice-Patron & Honorary President
Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn

Honorary Vice-Presidents
Her Majesty Ashi Kesang Choeden Wangchuck,
The Royal Grandmother of Bhutan
His Imperial Highness Prince Akishino of Japan
His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark

Council of the Siam Society, 2008 - 2010

President             Mr Athueck Asvanund
Vice-President        Mrs Bilaibhan Sampatisiri
Leader, Natural History Section   Dr Weerachai Nanakorn
Honorary Secretary    Mr Barent Springsted
Honorary Treasurer    Mr Suraya Supanwanich
Honorary Librarian    Ms Anne Sutherland
Honorary Editor, JSS   Dr Chris Baker
Honorary Editor, NHB   Dr William Schaedla

Members of Council    Mrs Eileen Deeley
                      Ms Raksaswan Chrongchitpracharon
                      Dr Nirun Jivasantikarn
                      Mr Peter Laverick
                      Mrs Beatrix Latham
                      Mr James D Lehman
                      H.E. Mr Juan Manuel Lopez Nadal
                      Mr Paul Russell
As this volume was in press, in May 2009, the Society received the information that Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn had graciously accepted to become Honorary President of the Society, in addition to being a Vice-Patron.

The President, Council, and Society members wish to express their gratitude to Her Royal Highness for honouring the Society in this way.
Cover: A tinted lithograph by Delaporte, showing the Lao weights in use in the market in Luang Prabang, in François Garnier, *Voyage d’exploration en Indo-Chine effectué pendant les années 1688, 1867, et 1868*. Paris, Hachette, 1873, vol. 2

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the Siam Society.

The *Journal of the Siam Society* is a forum for original research and analysis. Opinions expressed in the *Journal* are those of the authors. They do not represent the views or policies of the Siam Society.

Printed by Amarin Printing and Publishing Public Company Limited
65/16 Chaiyapruk Road, Taling Chan; Bangkok 10170, Thailand.
Tel. (662) 422-9000 Fax (662) 433-2742, 434-1385
e-mail: info@amarin.co.th
http://www.amarin.com
The Journal of the Siam Society
Volume 97 2009

Contents

Articles

Chris BAKER and PASUK Phongpaichit
The career of Khun Chang Khun Phaen 1

Edward VAN ROY
Under duress: Lao war captives in Bangkok in the nineteenth century 43

Joachim GABEL
Lao weights and the Luang symbol 69

Elizabeth MOORE
Place and space in early Burma: a new look at ‘Pyu culture’ 101

Jean-Noël JUTTET
Phnom-Penh, April 1975: a personal souvenir 129

Notes

Hiram WOODWARD
Observations on Wat Si Chum 153

Carol STRATTON
Sop-Li, a late fifteenth century bronze workshop in Lan Na 161

From the archives

Memoirs of PIERRE POIVRE: The Thai Port of Mergui in 1745
Edited and translated by Kennon Breazeale 177

HSH Prince SITHIPORN Kridakara, ‘Memorandum on Opium in Siam’ (1921), introduction by Dr Tej Bunnag 201
Reviews

Peter Skilling, ed., *Past Lives of the Buddha: Wat Si Chum – Art, Architecture, and Inscriptions*
Bangkok, River Books, 2008
Reviewer Hiram Woodward 221

Dawn Rooney, *Ancient Sukhothai, Thailand’s cultural heritage*
Bangkok, River Books, 2008
Reviewer Carol Stratton 226

Damrong Rajanubhab, H.R.H. Prince, *A Biography of King Naesuan the Great*
Translated and edited by Kennon Breazeale
Bangkok, Toyota Foundation, 2008
Reviewer Michael Charney 231

Leonor de Seabra, *The Embassy of Pero Vaz de Siqueira to Siam (1684–1686)*
Macau, University of Macau, 2005
Reviewer Kennon Breazeale 234

Direk Jayanama, ed. Jane Keyes, *Thailand and World War II*
Chiang Mai, Silkworm, 2008
Reviewer Chris Baker 238

Anders Poulsen, *Childbirth and tradition in northeast Thailand; forty years of cultural development and change*
Copenhagen, NIAS Press, 2007
Reviewer Lisa Vandemark 240

Michael Montesano and Patrick Jory, eds, *Thai South and Malay North: Ethnic interactions on a plural peninsula*
Singapore, NUS Press, 2008
Reviewer Thak Chaloemtiarana 243

Martin Stuart-Fox, *Naga Cities of the Mekong: A guide to the temples, legends and history of Laos*
Singapore, Media Masters, 2006
Reviewer Milton Osborne 247
Vatthana Pholsena, *Post-War Laos: The Politics of Culture, History and Identity*
Institute of South-East Asian Studies, Singapore, 2006
Reviewer Mayoury Ngaosrivathana 249

Sao Sanda, *The Moon Princess, Memories of the Shan States*
Bangkok, River Books, 2008
Reviewer Susan Conway 251

Penny Edwards, *Cambodge, the cultivation of a Nation 1860–1945*
Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2008
Reviewer John Tully 254

Anne Ruth Hansen, *How to behave: Buddhism and modernity in colonial Cambodia 1860–1930*
Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2008
Reviewer Ian Harris 257

Milton Osborne, *Phnom Penh, a cultural and literary history*
Reviewer David Chandler 260

Pratapaditya Pal, ed., *Buddhist Art: Form and Meaning*
Mumbai, Marg Publications, 2007
Reviewer Donald M. Stadtner 263

Olga Dror, *Cult, Culture, and Authority: Princess Liễu Hạnh in Vietnamese History*
Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2008
Reviewer George Dutton 266

Philip Taylor, *Cham Muslims of the Mekong Delta: place and mobility in the cosmopolitan periphery*
Copenhagen/Singapore, NIAS/NUS Press, 2007
Reviewer Amnuayvit Thitibordin 270

G. L. Balk, F. van Dijk, D. J. Kortlang, F. S. Gaastra, H. E. Niemeijer, and P. Koenders, *The Archives of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and the Local Institutions in Batavia (Jakarta)*
Leiden, Brill, 2007
Reviewer Bhawan Ruangsilp 273
   Copenhagen, NIAS Press, 2007
   Reviewer Duncan Stearn 276

Lee Hock Guan and Leo Suryadinata, eds, *Language, Nation and Development in Southeast Asia*
   Singapore, ISEAS, 2007
   Reviewer Titima Suthiwan 279

Christopher Duncan, ed, *Civilizing the margins: Southeast Asian Government policies for the development of minorities*
   Singapore, NUS Press, 2008
   Reviewer Nicola Tannenbaum 284

Howard M. Federspiel, *Sultans, Shamans, and Saints: Islam and Muslims in Southeast Asia*
   Chiang Mai, Silkworm, 2008
   Reviewer Patrick Jory 287

**Books received for review** 291

**Obituaries**

Mom Kobkaew Abhakara na Ayudhya 1908–2008 293
M. L. Manich Jumsai 1908–2009 294
Prok Amranand 1925–2008 296
Heng Thung 1934–2009 297
Anthony Farrington 1939–2008 299
Michael Wright 1940–2009 301
Roxanna M. Brown 1946–2008 302
Smitthi Siribhadra 1949–2008 305
Domnern Garden 1928–2009 308

**In-house note**

Khun Euayporn’s semi-retirement 310
New publication

*As Mother Told Me*  312
HRH Princess Galyani Vadhana
Krom Luang Naradhiwas Rajanagarinda

Notes about contributors  313
Notes for contributors  317