

BULLETIN OF THE BURMA STUDIES GROUP  
ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNCIL

# 13

March, 1978

Colloquium Cancelled

Due to the fact that no papers were offered for the proposed colloquium to be held on the Monday following the AAS meeting in Chicago, it was decided to cancel the event and begin work on holding our next colloquium in the fall of 1978.

Burma Studies Group Meeting at Chicago

The Burma Studies Group will gather for its annual meeting between 8 and 11 p.m. on Saturday, April 1st, 1978, in Room PDR #8 at the Palmer House in Chicago. At that time we hope to hear directly from a few of our members (Michael Aung Thwin and Jon Wiant?) who have just returned or come from Burma. As a special treat, Sarah and Konrad Bekker have agreed to present an informal program on the nats, using color slides and tapes of natpwe music.

At the meeting we would like members to propose ideas for another colloquium, specifically plans for papers that could be prepared by next fall. Members are reminded that papers prepared for a fall colloquium could be considered for publication in the forthcoming collection of current scholarship on Burma to be published by E. J. Brill.

Those members who wish to arrange informal joint Saturday dinner plans with each other, as has been our pleasant custom of the past, are urged to meet outside room PDR #8 between 5:30 and 6 p.m. so that we can seek out some good Southeast Asian food.

We hope to see you all in Chicago!

More News of Burma Studies

Robert Garfias, Professor of Music at the University of Washington, reports that he is offering a graduate course on the Music of Burma during the Winter Quarter of 1978. U Ohn Saing, formerly a trustee of the Shwedagon Pagoda and a lecturer in the Burmese language and Buddhism, is currently available as a potential educator. His address is 929 N. Menard Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60651. Dr. Edith L. Piness wrote to say that she has completed her Ph.D. dissertation entitled "Moulmein to Mandalay: Sketches of Anglo-Burmese Administrators," dealing with 19th c. administrators. She delivered a paper on British administration in Burma to the West Coast AAS meeting last June and will be on a panel this June as well. Shiro Saito sends our readers the following message:

On behalf of the NEH Southeast Asian Research Tools Project, I would like to thank all who responded to the Research Tools Questionnaire. Your thoughtful contributions have made the effort of sending out such a questionnaire very worthwhile. I would also like to request those who did not return the questionnaire because they may have missed the due date to consider completing it now and sending it to me, as we will be able to incorporate late responses into our report.

Shiro Saito, Project Director

William Scully reports that the sit-tàn manuscript being prepared by the Burma Research Project of N.Y.U. has now been completed and approved for publication by the Monographs, Occasional Papers and Reference Series of the Association for Asian Studies, Inc. The U. of Arizona Press will publish it, hopefully later this year.

This publication, titled Burmese Sit-tàns 1764-1826, is a joint undertaking of the Burma Research Project, New York University and the Burma Research Society, Rangoon. The authors of the volume are Dr. Frank N. Trager of New York University and Dr. William J. Koenig of the London School of Oriental and African Studies, with the assistance of Dr. Yi Yi, Senior Research Officer, Historical Research Department, Ministry of Culture, Burma. The translations were completed by Dr. Koenig.

This work will include some prefatory remarks, a long introduction to the sit-tans, a considerable (over 500 pages) and representative sample of many of the known sit-tans still extant in Burma or elsewhere in the world, a glossary of terms, dynastic lists, maps, bibliography and index.

This volume will, in our estimation, present a thorough and representative picture of the local governance of the Kingdom of Burma before the British annexation.

William Scully and Frank N. Trager have prepared the annual review of Burma which will be printed in the February, 1978, issue of Asian Survey. Burmese journalist and novelist U Thaung (also known as Aung Bala) is here in the U.S. and is looking for help to publish a book on the role of the press in the third world, with particular attention paid to newspapers in Burma. He can be contacted at 109 West Main St., Apt. #2, Washington, MO 63090.

Your editor will welcome further news. Please write

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