

# Italian Ambassador's Visit to SPAFA

28<sup>th</sup> May 2001



*His Excellency Mr. Stefano Starece Janfolla, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Italy*



*Mr. Paolo Piazzardi, cultural affairs attache of the Embassy of Italy in Bangkok*

His Excellency Mr. Stefano Starece Janfolla, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Italy, visited the Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMEO-SPAFA) on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2001. He was accompanied by Mr. Paolo Piazzardi, cultural affairs attache of the Embassy of Italy in Bangkok. During a meeting with the centre staff, the Ambassador said that he has been very interested in the cultural affairs of the East, even before leaving Rome to assume his post in Thailand. His Excellency related that he wanted to document the initiatives taken in the field, and he called for more facilitation of scholars to visit Thailand, and assist in conservation projects; as well as for scholars in the region to go to Italy and do likewise. "I am very pleased to learn of the involvement of Pisit (SPAFA Centre Director) in enhancing the value of rock art", he added.

Mr Pisit Charoenwongsa, Centre Director, presented an overview of SPAFA and its work; followed by a discussion. The Ambassador expressed his view that "efforts in area of art and

culture are not only useful in terms of attracting visitors - and therefore have economic benefits - but represent the very soul of what we are as people. It is thus a worthy endeavour." He also made enquiries relating to the conditions of associate membership, and expressed his wishes for Italy to become an associate country to SEAMEO. Following that, His Excellency asked about the centres funding sources (a SPAFA proposal of co-operation on conservation with the Embassy and Government of Italy was later presented to the Ambassador).

After a tour of the facilities of the Centre, His Excellency Mr. Stefano Starece Janfolla bid farewell, saying: "I leave here with the best wishes for you in your efforts and activities in the worthy cause ...," adding that, "we should remain sensitive to the value of art and culture, and on the way they should be preserved. Thank you again for inviting me here this morning. It has been a real pleasure to get acquainted with the SPAFA staff and with an outline of your activities."



5 April 2001  
Leiden, The Netherlands  
**IIAS Film presentation** 'Told in Heaven to Become Stories on Earth'. A study of change in Randai theatre of the Minangkabau in West Sumatra using visual documentation from the 1930's. IIAS Contact address: Dr W. van Zanten  
E-mail: zanten@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

11-12 May 2001  
Leiden, The Netherlands  
**Changing the Guard, Guarding the Past: Oral histories of the end of colonialism and the birth of new nations in Asia**  
Organizer: the Foundation for the Oral History of Indonesia (Stichting Mondelinge Geschiedenis Indonesie, SMGI)  
Conference Secretariat: Dr Fridus Steijlen, SMGI, c/o Royal Institute for Anthropology and Linguistics (KITLV), P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel: +31-71-527-2639  
Fax: +31-71-527-2638  
E-mail: smgi@kitlv.nl

6-10 June 2001  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
12<sup>th</sup> Beeld voor Beeld Festival (Picture for Picture Festival).  
**Film, Video and Photography Festival with special emphasis on Asia.**  
Theme: 'Misunderstanding'  
Contact address: Natascha Bregstein  
Tel./Fax: +31-20-620-1368  
E-mail: beeldvoorbeeld@savan.nl  
Http://www.beeldvoorbeeld.com

7-9 June 2001  
Montreal, Canada  
**International Conference on the 'Mahabharatha'**  
Organized by the Chair of Hindu Studies, Concordia University  
Dr. Shrinivas Tilak, Department of

Religion, Concordia University  
1455 de Maissonneuve, Blvd.  
W. Montreal, Quebec, Canada  
H3G 1M8  
Frank Morales  
Tel: +1-608-288-0266 (home)  
E-mail: fmorale@students.wise.uni  
Http://www.dharmacentral.com

2-3 July 2001  
London, United Kingdom  
**Maritime Empires: The operation and impact of nineteenth century British imperial trade**  
Helen Jones, Research Administrator, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE 109 NE  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44-20-8312-6716  
Fax: +44-20-8312-6722  
E-mail: research@nmm.ac.uk  
Http://www.nmm.ac.uk  
Deadline for abstracts:  
1 January 2001

9-12 August 2001  
Berlin, Germany  
**Second International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS 2)**  
ICAS2 organizing unit:  
Prof. Dr Eberhard Sandschneider, Arbeitsstelle Politik Chinas und Ostasiens, Freie Universitat Berlin, Ihnestr, 22 D-14195 Berlin, Germany  
E-mail: sandschn@zedat.fu-berlin.de

2-3 August 2001  
Leiden, The Netherlands  
**International workshop 'The impact of new roads on urban and regional development in Southeast Asia; anthropological and historical perspectives'**  
Freek Colombijn, International Institute for Asian Studies, PO Box 9515, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands  
Fax: +31-71-527-4162  
E-mail: colombijn@let.leidenuniv.nl

6-8 August 2001  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
**3<sup>rd</sup> International Malaysian Studies Conference (MSC3)**  
Organizer: Malaysian Social Science Association (MSSA)  
Mr Foo Ah Hiang, Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research, University of Malaya, 50603 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia  
Tel: +6-03-7959-3606  
Fax: +6-03-7956-7252  
E-mail: hifoo@umcsd.um.edu.my  
Http://www.phuakl.tripod.com/pssm/homepage.htm

30 August-1 September 2001  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
**People and the Sea: Maritime Research**  
In the social sciences-an agenda for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, Inaugural conference for the Center for Maritime Research  
Center for Maritime Research (MARE), Plantage Muidersgracht 4 1018 TV Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
Tel: +31-20-527-0661  
Fax: +31-20-622-9430  
E-mail: mare@siswo.uva.nl  
Http://www.siswo.uva.nl/mare

5 September 2001  
Singapore  
**Asian Diasporas and Cultures: Globalization, Hybridity, Intertextuality**  
Dr. Robbie Goh, Department of English Language and Literature, National University of Singapore, Block AS5, 7  
Arts Link, Singapore 117570  
Fax: +65-773-2981  
E-mail: ellgohbh@nus.edu.sg

6-8 September 2001  
London, United Kingdom  
**3<sup>rd</sup> EUROSEAS Conference**  
Ms Hilga Prins, Management Assistant, EUROSEAS Secretarian, C/O KITLV, P.O. Box 9515, 2300 RA

## conferences

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Leiden, The Netherlands  
Tel: +31-71-527-2639  
Fax: +31-71-527-2638  
E-mail: euroseas@rullet.leidenuniv.nl  
Deadline for abstracts:  
28 February 2000

### **EUROSEAS Conference, London**

As a sequel to the most successful conferences in Leiden (1995) and Hamburg (1998), EUROSEAS is very pleased to announce that it is preparing the third EUROSEAS Conference which will be held in London, from Thursday 6 September to Saturday 8 September 2001. The Conference will be hosted by the Association for South-East Asian Studies United Kingdom (ASEASUK) in co-operation with the School for Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and The University of North London (UNL).

The actual conference will open on the morning of Thursday 6 September with a public opening session during which leading scholars and officials will share their views on current themes with regard to Southeast Asia. On Thursday afternoon the actual panel sessions will start. On Friday and Saturday plenary panel sessions will be held in addition to the 'ordinary' panels. Themes for these plenary sessions will be selected from the 'ordinary' panels.

All through the conference there will be ample occasion for social interactions with other conference participants after panel sessions during specially organised social events and in the numerous local establishments.

Some of the panel topics are as follow :

- Centre and Periphery in Southeast Asia
- History of Food-crop Production,

Animal Husbandry, and Fisheries in Southeast Asia

- Interaction of Political and Economic Change in Southeast Asia in the Twentieth Century
- Leadership and the Culture of Reform in Southeast Asia
- Management and Business Culture in Southeast Asia
- Media and Literature
- Ritual, Pain, and the Religious Body in Southeast Asia
- Social Security in Southeast Asia
- South China Sea
- Tourism and Heritage in Southeast Asia

Because of its great success during the Hamburg Conference in 1995, there will be a Young Scholars' Panel at our 2001 Conference in London as well. In this panel, promising young scholars will have the opportunity to present a paper on their research project and have a chance to discuss their work with other scholars in their field of interest. The organisers are looking for enthusiastic scholars who are willing to chair the Young Scholars' Panel.

If you are a scholar specializing in the Southeast Asia region and are interested in organizing a panel at our conference in London, you are invited to submit a panel proposal. Please use no more than 100-300 words to state clearly what the content, focus, and objective of your panel will be. Should receive your proposal before September 1, 2000. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the EUROSEAS Secretariat.

<curoseas@rullet.leidenuniv.nl>

**By John Kleinen, Peter Post,  
& Remco Raben**

14-15 February 2002  
Singapore  
The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this Major Event of the Second World War Sixty Years On  
The Fall of Singapore Revisited: A Conference to Commemorate  
Organizer: Department of History, National University of Singapore, Dr Brian P. Farrel, 10 Kent Ridge Crescent, Singapore 119260  
Fax: +65-774-2528  
E-mail: hisbpf@nus.edu.sg  
Deadline for submissions:  
15 August 2001



# DICTIONARY OF SOUTH & SOUTHEAST ASIAN ART

Gwyneth Chaturachinda  
Suranda Krishnamurty  
Pauline W. Tabtiang

Who is Avalokitesvara?  
Where is the Golden Temple?  
What is a dharmachakra?  
What kind of creature is the Garuda?  
Of what significance is the naga?  
What is a zari?

This basic dictionary of South and Southeast Asian art offers clear and concise explanations of all these terms and hundreds more. With over 700 entries, 78 line illustrations, and 15 colour photographs, this little volume makes a handy reference for anyone interested and engaged in South and Southeast Asia - travellers and residents, new students in the field, museum goers, and general readers. Explanations are succinct and easy to understand. Entries range from terms encountered in South and Southeast Asian history, religion, mythology, and literature, to those specific to art and architecture. Words are drawn from the diverse religious traditions of the region, including Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Jainism, Sikhism, and



Taoism, and from the countries of the region, including Burma, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

From abhayamudra through ziarat, this is an essential dictionary for anyone stepping into the fascinating world of South and Southeast Asian art.

Published in 2000 by  
Silkworm Books

Suriwong Book Centre Building  
54/1 Sridon Chai Road, Chiang Mai 50100  
Thailand.

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**Website :** [www.silkwormbooks.com](http://www.silkwormbooks.com)