

THE SPAFA LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

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An important function of the Co-ordinating Unit aside from monitoring and co-ordinating the operation of programmes and activities at the Sub-Centres of Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand and various other activities including helping SEAMES to secure funding for particular activities and the participation of resource persons and consultants to these activities, was to set up a data bank and clearing house services at its SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre.

The objectives of the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre are as follows :

1. To compile a comprehensive bibliographical data on South-east Asian prehistory, archaeology and fine arts with the view to facilitate comparative research on any topic dealing with these topics,
2. To provide means of disseminating information on the above through publications, and
3. To collect documentaries on vanishing forms of both the creative and performing arts which are threatened by extinction through intensified technological advancements.

As a clearing house of information on on-going activities in the region as well as bibliographical material on every aspect of prehistory and/or archaeology, fine arts and related fields, one of its important aims through its various publications is to make the data widely available to scholars to facilitate studies on specialized topics not otherwise easily available within as well as outside the region.

To be a permanent feature of the Co-ordinating Unit the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre's establishment as a going concern is dependent upon funding resources to subsidize it as a package project.

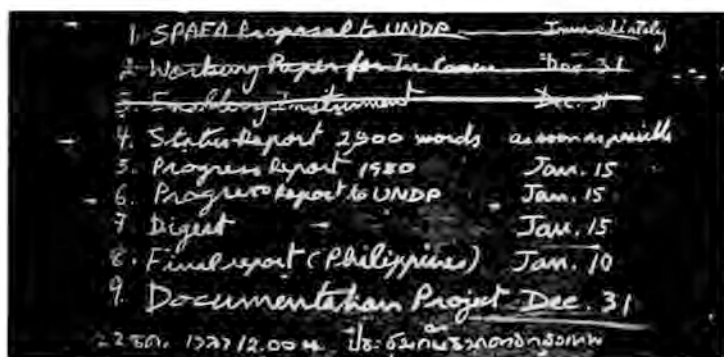
Grant awards were subsequently obtained from The Ford Foundation for programmes of compilation of bibliographical data from selected libraries and museums in Indonesia and the Philippines in 1979. These documentation projects were conducted over a period of from 2 to 8 months at different institutions in the two countries.

When SPAFA became fully operational in mid 1978 a programme of collecting bibliographical data was already started although concentrated in Bangkok. Two reasons underlie this decision : documentation activities in Bangkok was not going to involve much capital outlay and the Co-ordinating Unit being based in Bangkok its staff could be mobilized for the initial task of compiling the necessary data. The initial activities conducted at selected institutions in Bangkok was first made possible through the contribution of the French Government. Later the continuation of the programme in Bangkok which is now into its second year was the result of subsequent funding of the project by the Bangkok Bank.



As the initial SPAFA 3-year phase of operation draws to a close the following is a list of on-going activities that will be continued into the second phase of operation aside from the publication of workshops, meetings and various progress reports:

1. Preparation of the list of holdings of the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre for publication.
Over 900 reference materials have been accessioned and catalogued of donations from the Netherlands and French Governments; donations by institutions within the region; acquisitions from private individuals within as well as outside the region and SPAFA purchases under line item Library Materials.
2. Preparations for a series of publications based on inputs from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand of bibliographical data compiled through funding from The Ford Foundation for the Indonesian and Philippine segment and the Bangkok Bank subsidy of the Thailand portion of the documentation project.
3. The planned series of publications will start on topics dealing with prehistory and archaeology to be followed by data on the fine arts.



The format for presentation will be on a country basis based on geographical limits, especially for data on prehistory defined by prehistorians at the 11th Pacific Science Congress in Tokyo, 1966, as follows :

- i) Mainland Southeast Asia, consisting of the area from the thirtieth parallel north (roughly the Yangtze in South China) to the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula including Singapore and from the shores of the South China Sea to the Irrawaddy in Burma, and
- ii) Island Southeast Asia, consisting of all the islands off the shore of Mainland Southeast Asia, including Formosa, the Philippines and Indonesia as far east as West Irian.

Materials from neighboring countries such as India, China, Australia, Oceania and Madagascar in Africa will, however, be included as relevant data.

The planned series of publication

The planned series of publications will be as follows :

SERIES I : Prehistory and Archaeology

(Library and Museum Holdings at selected institutions in Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand through grants from the Ford Foundation and the Bangkok Bank)

- Volume 1** Prehistory
A. General References
B. By Country and Periods
- Volume 2** Archaeology
General References on Country Basis
- Volume 3** Specialized Topics and Related Fields

SERIES II : Fine Arts

- Volume 1** Performing Arts
A. Theatre
(dance; drama, spoken drama, mime, music drama; ballet; puppet show; shadow play; folk performances, etc.)
B. Music
(instrumental, vocal, traditional, etc.)
- Volume 2** Visual Arts
(Creative)
A. Painting/murals
B. Sculpture/iconographic
C. Decorative
D. Traditional/ethnographic

SERIES III : Unpublished Materials

- Volume 1** Theses (prehistory, archaeology and fine arts)
- Volume 2** Monographs, etc. (prehistory, archaeology and fine arts)