

SPAFA Affairs

Ceramic Workshop Proposes Two Projects



The participants to the Regional Workshop on Ceramics of East and Southeast Asia

A workshop on ceramics of East and Southeast Asia was held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia on 18-26 May 1981. Sponsored by the SEAMEO Project in Archaeology and Fine Arts, the workshop prepared two project proposals to be incorporated into the SPAFA Development Plans for 1981-1986. One, a training programme, aims to meet the urgent need for trained personnel in ceramic research. The other, a research proposal, will trace the patterns of early maritime shipping and trade networks in Southeast Asia in the protohistoric and early historic times.

Details of the Proposals

The training programme is directed to professionals and technicians. It will serve as a venue for obtaining a more precise identification, analysis and dating of Asian ceramics and for promoting regional exchange of expertise, facilities, and needed information and documentation. The research program-

me is expected to consolidate existing researches and to conduct other studies on the movement of people and trade goods from CA 500 BC to CA 1800 AD. Four basic researches are recommended: bibliographic studies, nautical studies, archaeo-ethnological

studies, and environmental and technological studies on trade products, both perishable and durable.

Country reports from Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand centered on the status of ceramic research in each country and a description and summary of the ceramic wares unearthed in the different excavation sites. The maritime trade routes that gave rise to the presence of large quantities of export ceramics in the region were also mentioned. A system of classifying ceramic materials was provided for further discussion.

Papers Presented

In addition, workshop consultants and resource persons presented research papers on archaeological findings which shed light on other aspects of ceramic analysis. A representative from the People's Republic of China, Professor Feng Xian Ming who is a research fellow from the Palace Museum, Beijing, gave the perspective from the major porcelain exporting country in the past, China. He traced the development of Chinese trade with Southeast Asia and other countries and



Workshop sessions were conducted in the Sarawak Museum at Kuching.

described the porcelains found in various Asian countries. Dr. Janice Stargardt of the University of Cambridge reported on the "Place of Satingpura Ceramics Sequence in Asian Maritime Trade, 8th to 14th Century A.D." Dr. Pierre Yves Manguin summarized his paper on "The Southeast Asian Ship: An Historical Approach" while Dr. Zuraina Majid-Loewe talked of the temmoku ware and the need to conduct comparative studies of the wares found in Sarawak and those in China.

Issues Discussed

Discussions on the complexity of dating ceramics were also conducted. They focused on the validity of utilizing associations of ceramics and other categories of artifacts in burial and other archaeological contexts for dating purposes and on the discrepancies found in dating based on archaeological evidence vis-a-vis those based on stylistic grounds.

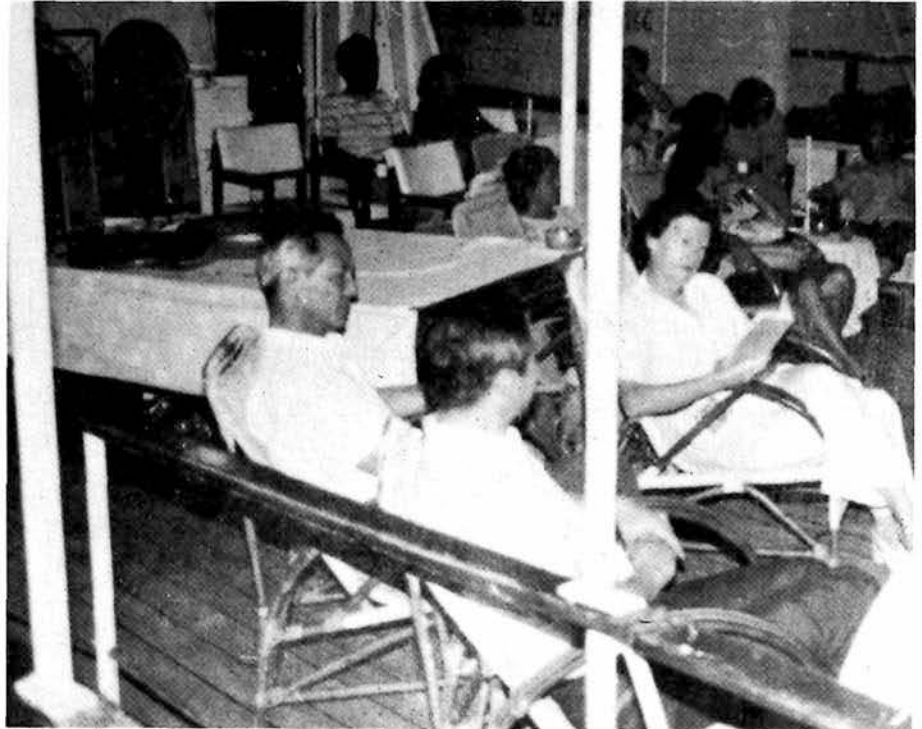
Field trips to archaeological sites in Kabong and the Niah Caves were also organized. These involved all forms of travel: by air, sea, river, land and on foot. The Sarawak Museum also arranged a Ceramics Exhibition where wares excavated in Sarawak and Sabah were displayed.

The Participants.

The participants coming from the Southeast Asian countries were as follows: Indonesia — Mrs. Satyawati Suleiman, Mr. Santoso Sugondho, and Mrs. Sri Soejatmi Satari; Malaysia — Mr. Adi Haji Taha, Mr. Lucas Chin, Mr. Jimmy Foo, Mr. Michael Chong, Mr. Mohd Mokhtar bin Abu Bakar, Mr. Mohamed bin Haji Abdullah, Mr. Tuton Kaboy, Mr. R. Nyandoh, and Mr. Edmund Kurui; Brunei — Mr Ahmad bin Sha'ari; Philippines: Dr. Alfredo E. Evangelista, Dr. Jesus T. Peralta, and Mrs. Leonisa Ramas; Thailand — Dr. Phasook Indrawooth, Mrs. Natthapatra Chandvij, and Mr. Seehawat Naenna.

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Other Workshop Activities in Photo



The participants relaxed in the boat which took them to the Kabong site.



Going to the Niah Caves meant walking through forest areas.



The sherds excavated in Kabong were laid out for inspection of the participants.

The Relation

- Pelliot, Paul 1904, "Deux itinéraires de Chine en Inde a la fin du VIII siècle. B.E. 4: 131 – 385.
- Poerbotjaroko, R.Ng. 1952, "Riwayat Indonesia I". P.T. Pembangunan Djakarta.
- 1958, "Crivijaya, de Calendra – en de Sanjaya vamca", Bijdragen Tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde, deel 114, pp. 254 – 264.
- Soekmono, R. 1974, "Candi, Fungsi dan Pengertiannya". Disertasi untuk memperoleh gelar Doctor dalam ilmu-ilmu Sastra pada Universitas Indonesia di Jakarta.
- Stutterheim, W.F. 1927, "Een Belangrijke oorkonde uit de Kedoe", Tijdschrift voor Indische Taal-, Land-en Volkenkunde. Uitgegeven door het Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen, deel LXVII, pp. 172 – 215.
- Fogel, J.P. 1919, "Het Koninkrijk Sriwijaya", Bijdragen Tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde, deel 75. pp. 626-637.

Ceramic

The consultants/resource persons were the following: Prof. Feng Xian-Ming and Mr. Li Hui-Ping from China; Dr. Janice Stargardt from Cambridge University; Dr. Pierre-Yves Manguin from Ecole Française D'Extrême-Orient; Prof. Meitoku Kamei from Kyushu Historical Museum; and Dr. Zuraina Majid-Loewe from the Universiti Sains Malaysia. Dr. Rosa Tenazas represented the SPAFA Coordinating Unit.

Jiu Gang	Indonesia	Longchuan celadon and big and small jars
Pu Ban	Indonesia	Green-ware rough bowls, and big and small jars
Wen Lao Gu	Indonesia	Green wares, jars and the like
Long Ya Men Hua Mian	Indonesia Indonesia	Longchuan celadon Rough bowls and green Longchuan porcelain
Dan Yang	Indonesia	Rough bowls and the like
Gou Lan Shan	Indonesia	Green wares and the like
Ban Da Li	India	Blue-and-white wares
Man Tuo Lang Nan Wu Li	Unidentified Indonesia	Green wares Blue-and-white wares
Jia Li Na	Iran	Blue-and-white wares
Qian Li Ma Xiao Ba Nan	Unidentified India	Rough bowls Blue-and-white wares
Peng Jia La	Bangladesh	Blue-and-white wares
Tian Tang	Saudi Arabia	Blue-and-white wares
Tian Zhu	India	Blue-and-white wares
Gan Mai Li	Iran	Blue-and-white wares, jars and vases
Wu Die	India	Blue-and-white wares

The above list mentions green porcelains (celadons) fifteen times, Chu hou porcelains five times, blue-and-white floral porcelains sixteen times, blue and white porcelains three times, porcelain ware three times and rough bowls five times. Most of the exports came from the kilns in Jiangxi and Xhejiang provinces and a lesser number from those in Fujian province.

(to be continued)

Footnotes

¹Page 1868, Vol 3, Zhonghua Shuqu edition.

²⁻³Page 2516, Vol 3, Zhonghua Shuqu edition.

⁴⁻⁵Page 4537-38, Vol 13, Zhonghua Shuqu edition.

⁶"Zhu Fan Zhi, Revised and Annotated" Page 5, 1966 edition, Zhonghua Shuqu edition.

⁷Page 7. "Ku Jin Yi Shi" (photomechanical Printing).