

## SPAFA AFFAIRS

# SPAFA HELD ITS TECHNICAL WORKSHOP ON CERAMIC

SPAFA conducted on December 2-12, 1985 a Technical Workshop on Ceramics. The objectives of the workshop were to get experienced scholars to study the technology involved in the production of ceramics through time with special reference to early Thai export ceramics and to examine finds excavated from certain sites in order to find correlation among those, both within and outside the region of Southeast Asia.

Fifty six participants attended the workshop, consisting of 11 official participants from Indonesia, Philippines and Thailand, 19 experts from Australia, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, 34 observers and 2 from SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit.

The workshop which took place in Bangkok, Sukhothai, Si Satchanalai, and Chiang Mai, Thailand was jointly organized by the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit, the SPAFA Thai-Sub Centre and Chiang Mai University.



SPAFA Technical Workshop on Ceramics in session at Chiang Mai University.

Continued from page 43

Asia is expanding however, as the site gazetter indicates, and with it reliable data which can be subjected to historical interpretation. The Ko Si Chang shipwreck sites in the Gulf of Thailand offshore from Si Racha are providing undisturbed evidence of late 16th and early 17th century ships and their cargoes.

As more sites of this kind are located so they can be added to the ceramic map of Southeast Asia. The site gazetter brings together the contributions of archaeologists and art historians working in Southeast Asia over the last thirty years. It is hoped that it will stimulate the contribution of information on new sites from those currently engaged in this field of ceramic study. For those working on broader historical and cultural issues pertaining to the region I hope it will make more accessible much of the archaeological information so far to hand.

## NOTES

1. J.S. Guy  
*Ceramic Excavation Sites in Southeast Asia. A Preliminary Gazetteer*, 1986. Available from the Research Centre for Southeast Asian Ceramics, University of Adelaide, Box 498, GPO Adelaide 5001, Australia.
2. Chung Yang-Mo  
*The Sunken Treasures off the Sinan Coast*. Tokyo, Chunichi Shimbun, 1983.
3. D. Whitehouse  
"Chinese stoneware from Siraf. The earliest finds", in N. Hammond, (ed.) *South Asian Archaeology*, London, Duckworth, 1973, pp. 241-55.
4. M. Medley  
*Tang Pottery and Porcelain*. London, Faber, 1981, p. 90.
5. M. Satō  
*Chinese Ceramics*. Tokyo, Weatherhill, 1981, p. 88.
6. J.S. Guy  
"Vietnamese Trade Ceramics", in Southeast Asian Ceramic Society, *Vietnamese Ceramics*, Singapore, 1982, pp. 28-35.
7. D. Hein  
*Phitsonulok Kilns*. University of Adelaide, Research Centre for Southeast Asian Ceramics, in-press.
8. J.S. Guy  
"Trade Ceramics in Southeast Asia and the Acculturation Process", *Trade Ceramic Studies*, no. 4, 1984, pp. 117-126.

In his speech, during the opening ceremony of the workshop on December 2, 1985 at the National Library Auditorium, Bangkok, Mr. Samarn Sangmahli, Permanent Secretary for Education, Ministry of Education, Thailand, stated that the past had always fascinated men into a long and enduring quest, and even have tempted many of those into becoming historians and archaeologists. He said that old bits and pieces, how tiny they were, represented not merely exotic fragments, but the clues to lighten the understanding of ourselves, what we were and have been. Concluding his speech he stated: "Kiln site, pattern and textures of ceramics which scattered all over the mainland and pave the seabed of Southeast Asia unite all nations in this region together in common activities relating to the development of technology, production, trade, navigation, ritual, and way of life. Through this complex-structured society that we lived and have lived, it has always been a sharing experience". The papers presented by participants as well as consultants and experts disclosed

results of their respective researches many of which also discussed re-interpretation of data resulting from the previous research.

Country reports from Thailand were presented separately by **Asst. Prof. Malinee Gumperayarnnont**, lecturer of Dept. of Art History, Faculty of Archaeology, Silpakorn University; **Mrs Nathapatra Chandavij**, Curator, National Museum, Fine Art Department, **Mr. Sayan Praincharnchit** and **Mr. Staporn Kwanyuen**, both Archaeologists from Archaeology Division. The Indonesia Country Reports were presented by **Miss Naniek Harkantiningsih**, **Dr. Hasan Muarif Ambary** and **Mrs Satyawati Suleiman**, all from the National Research Centre of Archaeology. The Philippines Country Reports were presented by **Dr. Alfredo E. Evangelista**, Asst. Director and Officer-in-Charge, National Museum of Manila, **Dr. Jesus T. Peralta**, Curator of Anthropology Division, National Museum, Manila and **Dr. Florante G. Henson**, also from National Museum, Manila.

## SPAFA CONCLUDED ITS TRAINING COURSE IN UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY



*The trainees were briefed before diving*

A three-month Training Course in Underwater Archaeology was conducted by the SPAFA Thai Sub-Centre in Thai-



*The trainees during their preparation for diving.*

land. The Training Course that was started on January 6, 1986 and lasted until April 4, 1986 was the fifth in the series

of training along this line carried out by SPAFA. Apart from trainees from the 3 SPAFA participating member countries, the training course was also attended by three trainees from Malaysia: **Mr. Ibrahim Bin Kalali, Mr. Peter Koon and Mr. Peter Molijol**. The trainees from SPAFA member countries were: **Mr. Harry Widiyanto, Mr. Santoso Pribadi and Mr. Soeroso M.P.** from Indonesia, **Mr. Jose G. Santiago, Mr. Larry A. Alba and Mr. Mahatika A. Guevas** from the Philippines, Chief Petty Officer **Yok Nuangpaeng**, Chief Petty Officer **Kamanit Direksil** and **Mr. Thongchai Rachasomboon** from Thailand.

The activities covered both theory and practical training. The theoretical phase comprised: (1).-History of ancient sea-faring; (2).-History of sea-faring in Southeast Asia: trade routes, ancient sea ports, majority of goods; (3).-Pottery of East and Southeast Asia: (a). Pottery of Southeast Asia in general. (b). Pottery of Thailand: Characteristics and techniques of production, import and export of Thai pottery, and (c). Pottery of China: Characteristics and techniques of production, import and export of Chinese pottery. The Practical Training phase comprised: (1).-Techniques of underwater survey and excavation, (2).-Underwater photography, and (3).-Preliminary treatment of object retrieved

from sea.

The activities of the training took place at the Office of the Underwater Archaeology Project (for the theory), as well as at Kham Yai Island near Si Chang, off the coast of Chonburi where wrecksite was found 10 km northwest of Si Chang Island at the depth of 27 metres (for the practical training).

In his speech delivered during the ceremony of the presentation of the certificates at the National Library Auditorium on April 3, 1986, **Mr. Prapat Saengwanit**, Deputy Director General of the Fine Arts Department, Thailand stated that in a time when hunger in developing countries was in the headlines, our concern here was unfortunately often taken to represent an "old-fashioned" classic scholarship. One striking fact we probably realized, he continued, was that our region was being confronted with the risk of losing its identity. Concluding his speech he stated that much of the problem virtually revolved around culture, which brought people close together, not, of course, that of economy which he was afraid to say, tended to make people competitive rather than cooperative, just for the better well-being of their own groups and countries.

## SPAFA CO—ORDINATOR PARTICIPATED IN TRAINING WORKSHOP HELD IN NEW DELHI, INDIA

Upon the invitation of the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, India, Miss Suchitra Vathisathira, the SPAFA Co-ordinator left Bangkok on March 30, 1986 for New Delhi to attend a 7-day Training Workshop in Documentation and Dissemination of Performing Arts of Asia as a resource person. The workshop was jointly organized by the Indian National Commission for Cooperation with Unesco and the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, India, and was aiming at solving the problems of a methodology for research and documentation suitable for the Region; formulating a framework for the process of documentation of the Performing Arts of the Region;

providing guidelines on production of programmes for disseminating information about the artists and cultural heritage using the collected materials during documentation and evolving methodology for cataloguing and indexing the documented materials that had been collected.

The Workshop was held at the India International Centre, New Delhi from March 31 to April 5, 1986 and was attended by participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Japan, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and Thailand. UNESCO, ROEAP, Asian Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU) and SPAFA were also represented.

## UNESCO—SPAFA HELD A WORKSHOP

Under the sponsorship of UNESCO, the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit organised a Consultative Workshop to Develop Training Modules for Cultural Administrators from march 17-21, 1986 in Pattaya, Thailand. The workshop was attended by experts from India (Miss Premlata Puri), Indonesia (Mr. Bastomi Ervan), Japan (Mr. Tetsuhiko Yasui), Malaysia (Mr. Abdullah bin Nawwi), Philippines (Prof. Virginia F. Agbayani), Thailand (Mr. Taveesak Senanarong, Dr. Ruang Chareonchai, and Mr. Vira Rojpojchanarat) and representatives from both UNESCO and SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit (Mr. Muhammad Ishtiaq Khan and Miss Suchitra Vuthisathira respectively).

The Workshop aimed at developing modules for the training of cultural administrators at different levels and in all sectors to affect a better understanding of their roles in cultural affairs and, thereby, the efficient dissemination of cultural information; and working out a list of institutions that could form a network of agencies for the implementation of the training modules that are hoped to be developed.

In her welcoming speech, Miss Suchitra Vuthisathira, the SPAFA Co-ordinator, hoped that the objectives of the Workshop could be achieved through regional co-operation for the benefit of the whole of Asia and the Pacific. Meanwhile in his opening remarks, Mr. Taveesak Senanarong, Director General of the Fine Art Department, stressed the need for true understanding of cultural needs, clear policy, and a true perspective and flexible execution of policies to ensure effective cultural programmes and activities including the training of cultural personnel at different levels. He then hoped that this belief would be shared by all of the participants and also that after the immediate goal was achieved it could be followed up and developed further so that higher goals might be attained for the greatest benefits of the greatest number of people in this region.

In his remark, Mr. Muhammad Ishtiaq Khan, Regional Adviser for Culture in Asia and Pacific UNESCO, ROEAP, made clear that all UNESCO sponsored inter-governmental

regional conferences on cultural policies had underlined the need for specialised personnel to implement cultural policies. He also reminded the Meeting that UNESCO's purpose was not to educate an individual but rather to make him realise that all cultures, however individualistic, national or regional they might be, could be compatible in many ways with the modern world. Therefore, a cultural administrator should have roots not only in his own culture but at the same time should be fully aware of the needs of the modern world. The present workshop offered the opportunity of exchanging views and giving concrete shape to training modules which might concentrate on the ways and means to equip him well in his job. He stated that the guideline laid down by SPAFA provided a sound framework and expressed confidence in the recommendations of the workshops.

During the workshop four modules proposed by the Philippines, India, Japan, and Thailand were presented and discussed: **The Training of High-Level Cultural Administrations: Programmes and Implementation (Philippines)**, was presented by Prof. Virginia F. Agbayani, Director, Philippine High School for the Arts, National Art Centre, the Philippines; **The Inter-disciplinary and Multi-sectoral Approach for Training of Middle and Junior Level Cultural Administrators (India)**, was presented by Miss Premlata Puri, Director, Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, India; **The Training Module of Middle Level Administrators in Culture and Information (Japan)**, was presented by Mr. Tetsuhiko Yasui, Director, Cultural Affairs Division, Asian Cultural Centre for UNESCO, Japan; and **The Training of Middle-Level Personnel in the Preservation and Conservation of Historic/Ancient Cities (Thailand)**, was presented by Mr. Vira Rojpojchanarat, Project Architect of Archaeology Division, Thailand. In Addition to concrete recommendations for future planning, the Meeting adopted five sample modules for Trainings of Cultural Administrators.

## ASSISTANCE TO SPAFA FOR 1986 FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE

For the year 1986 the French Ministry of External Relation confirmed through the French Consultant to the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Secretariat and Supervisor for Scientific Regional Cooperation, its assistance programmes to SPAFA in the following forms:

1. Support for the operation of the SPAFA Coordinating Unit in the amount of US\$5,000.-
2. Two three-month scholarships for study/training in the Preservation of Historic/Living Monuments

in France.

3. A 35-day consultancy mission of Mr. Guy Dauphin in the field of Underwater Archaeology.

Meanwhile, on the occasion of her visit to the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit on April 17, 1986 Miss Fabienne Mansencal, the French Consultant to SEAMES handed over eighteen publications of EFEO, sent by Dr. Pierre-Yves Manguin, to Miss Suchitra Vathisathira, the SPAFA Co-ordinator for the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre.

## THE COUNCIL APPROVED ENABLING INSTRUMENT OF THE SEAMEO REGIONAL CENTRE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY AND FINE ARTS (SPAFA)

During the 21th Conference of SEAMEO Council held in Brunei Darussalam from 23 to 25 January 1986, the SEAMES Director presented three working papers pertaining to the reconstitution of SPAFA into a Regional Centre, namely the Progress Report on the Reconstitution of SPAFA into a Regional Centre, the Draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Thailand and SEAMEO concerning the Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts and the Draft Enabling Instrument for the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts.

After minor amendments of the proposed Enabling In-

strument, the Council adopted the following resolutions:

- 1). The Council notes the progress report on the reconstitution of SPAFA into a Regional Centre.
- 2). The Council approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Thailand and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization concerning the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts.
- 3). The Council Approves the Enabling Instrument of the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts.