

SPAFA, a Vehicle for Regional Cultural Cooperation: a Review of Its Achievements

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INTRODUCTION

Through the years of its existence, SPAFA Regional Project has successfully implemented its programmes and activities inspite of shortage of funds and manpower. The successful implementation of the programmes and activities has been made possible through the assistance and support of SEAMEO member countries, individual institutions both from within as well as outside the region. Since its inception until the time when this article was written, 343 persons from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand participated in various SPAFA training courses. During the same period 209 persons from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand participated in SPAFA seminars/workshops, 12 researchers from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand conducted research for the SPAFA Research Programmes. Moreover 86 scholars from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand participated in SPAFA Personnel Exchange Programmes during the period. Furthermore 93 consultants/experts from Australia, Ceylon, England, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, People's Republic of China, the Philippines, Thailand and USA served as consultants/experts to various SPAFA activities.

This article aims to describe the development of a Regional Project in fulfilling the idea of regional cooperation for the improvement of the quality of life among the SEAMEO member countries. The SEAMEO Project in Archaeology and Fine Arts (SPAFA) was born after ten years of preparation, at the time its parent institution, the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) faced various difficulties and obstacles. However, through the endeavours of all participating countries and institutions, the long-awaited Project came into existence.

BACKGROUND

The SEAMEO Project in Archaeology and Fine Arts (SPAFA) is the direct offshoot of the original cultural organization called **Applied Research Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts** or **ARCAFA**. The formation of ARCAFA was initiated by the head delegate of the Khmer Republic at the Sixth SEAMEC conference in 1971 after which many years were spent on planning, task force surveys, review meetings as well as programme development activities. In 1975, the Council at the Tenth SEAMEC Conference, finally approved the ARCAFA Development Plan, thus began the two-year Interim Phase (1975-1977) of ARCAFA which was based in Phnom-Penh, the Khmer Republic.

During the initial stage of ARCAFA, its programmes and activities were concentrated on only one area, namely archaeology which was viewed as the important key to help unfold the glorious past of Southeast Asian culture. Priority was placed on the training of competent and professional staff of the SEAMEO member countries who will undertake archaeological research. Unfortunately, political developments in Indo-China including the Khmer Republic hindered the realization of all the plans for ARCAFA. In spite of the misfortune, the Council was firm to its conviction to establish a SEAMEO cultural organization. At the Eleventh SEAMEC Conference in 1976 it was decided that the SEAMEO's activities in archaeology and fine arts will be continued outside the framework of ARCAFA, and at the same time the Council also directed the Secretariat to initiate planning and development work for the establishment of the **SEAMEO Project in Archaeology and Fine Arts (SPAFA)**.

From 1976 to 1978, a series of planning and development activities were conducted jointly by the Secretariat and various groups of experts the remarkable endeavour that led to the Council's decision, at the Thirteenth SEAMEC Conference in Kuala Lumpur, to set up SPAFA on a trial basis for a period of 3 years beginning June 1978. In March 1978, the SPAFA Governing Board Meeting was convened for the first time in Bangkok, which officially launched the opera-

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tion of SPAFA as a SEAMEO Project.

When the trial period proved a satisfactory one, a great deal of thought and effort was put in to make SPAFA a permanent Project of SEAMEO. This was finally realized by the Council's approval, at its Sixteenth SEAMEC Conference in Singapore, of the First SPAFA Five-Year Plan to take effect from July 1, 1981 to June 30, 1986.

SPAFA OBJECTIVES

As the only SEAMEO Project in the area of culture, SPAFA embraces a wide range of objectives. They are as follows:

- To promote awareness and appreciation of the cultural heritage of the Southeast Asian countries through the preservation of archaeological and historical artifacts as well as the traditional arts;
- To help enrich cultural activities in the region;
- To strengthen professional competence in the field of archaeology and fine arts through sharing of resources and experience through regional activities; and
- To promote better understanding among the countries of Southeast Asia through joint programmes in archaeology and fine arts.

To fulfill these objectives, a variety of programmes and activities in archaeology, fine arts and related subjects were offered. Unlike other SEAMEO Centres/Projects, SPAFA programmes and activities were not limited only to training but also included seminars, workshops, joint programmes in research and development as well as personnel exchanges. These activities were intended to stimulate the meeting of minds, the sharing of experience and resources, increase the awareness and appreciation of the cultural heritage of Southeast Asia as well as contribute towards strengthening the sense of pride and dignity of the various peoples of the region.

In order to advance professional competence in the field of archaeology, SPAFA implemented the following Training Programmes:

1. Training Course in Prehistory Archaeology with emphasis on scientific excavation and retrieval methods;
2. Training Course in Ethno-Archaeology, how to analyze and interpret excavation results in the light of living communities;
3. Training Course in Scientific Illustration, how to conceptualize and represent archaeological findings systematically and objectively;
4. C-14 Dating Methods -scientific procedures in retrieving materials for C-14 dating, procedures of C-14 dating, proper use of C-14 results in the interpretation of archaeological findings;
5. Training Course in the Analysis and Interpretation of Ceramics/Pottery Finds, their classification and functions as archaeological evidence;
6. Training Course in Underwater Archaeology -excavation, retrieval, analysis, interpretation and restoration of finds from submerged sites.

In the field of historical archaeology, SPAFA sponsored

a series of Seminars/Workshops on Researches on Srivijaya which involved interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary studies of the maritime kingdom of Srivijaya whose hegemony reached its zenith from the 8th-13th centuries A.D. SPAFA also conducted Personnel Exchange on the Studying Paintings and Petroglyphs in caves and rock shelters.

In the Performing Arts, SPAFA focused on Training Courses on Labanotation (a system of recording dance); on researches on Ethnic Music of Southeast Asia, and a Workshop of Choreographers and Dancers for the Younger Generation in order to promote Traditional Dance Forms.

SPAFA activities in the field of the Visual Arts focused on the Training of Teachers on the Arts in the Elementary and High Schools, and on development of Handicrafts.

And finally, in the area of Conservation and Restoration, SPAFA undertook Training Courses on the Conservation of Bronze Objects, of Organic Materials, of Ancient Monuments and of Underwater Archaeological Objects.

TRAINING COURSES ON PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY

Six training courses were concluded in the field of prehistoric archaeology with a total of 52 trainees from the SPAFA member countries. The first training courses were: **Technician Training Course in Prehistoric Research** from December 1978 to March 1979; from March to April 1984; and from March to May 1985. All the training programmes were conducted in the Philippines.

The first series of the training courses intended to equip research assistants and technicians with the proper skills in conducting field excavations covering such topics as: surveying, mapping, planning and carrying out excavation, drawing, photography, gathering and systematic compilation of data, report writing, and conservation of archaeological and related finds.

The second series of training courses covered similar topics but on more advanced levels, and also dealt with some comparative materials and relationship of sites within and outside the region of Southeast Asia. The trainees were also given the opportunity to formulate their own theoretical and methodological approaches based on their readings and lecture discussions on physical and cultural anthropology.

The third series of training courses focused on the **Analysis of Prehistoric Pottery** which was held from June to September 1982 at the National Museum of the Philippines. The first portion of the course dealt with pottery description, classification, identification and analysis both of the physical and chemical features of pottery; while the second portion covered categorization and formulation of "pottery traditions", their internal relationships within the site or series of sites, and their external relationships to a wider region. Trainees were also encouraged to view pottery as part of socio-economic processes and social development of a given area.

ETHNO-ARCHAEOLOGY, SCIENTIFIC ILLUSTRATION AND C-14 DATING METHOD

Two training courses on Ethno-Archaeology, one on Scientific Illustration and another on C-14 Dating methods were carried

out by SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit in collaboration with Philippine SPAFA Sub-Centre for Prehistory and SPAFA Thai Sub-Centre respectively. The first **Training Course in Ethno-Archaeology** was held in the National Museum, Philippines from January 15 to June 15, 1982. The training was held in line with the commitment to upgrade the quality of archaeological research in the region. The training was conducted for advance students which involved field research at Atulu, Iguig Cagayan Province, a pottery-making village. Studies were made on how to relate archaeological data to living peoples. A lecture series covered various aspects of anthropology, archaeology, ethno-archaeology, physical anthropology, ethnography, chemistry, conservation and photography. The training course was participated in by nine trainees.

The second course was an advance level training in the field of **Ethno-Archaeology** and was conducted by the SPAFA Sub-Centre for Prehistory based at the National Museum, Philippines. The course ran from July 22 to September 22, 1986 and was held in Manila for the theoretical part, and in the Visayan Province of Bohol, Central Philippines for the field work and excavation aspects. Training included lectures on theoretical aspects of anthropology particularly on the dynamics of cultural and social change, and how to make valid inferences about social organization, structure, and social dynamics based on artifacts and other fossilized remains in an archaeological site. Actual field work involving the excavation of a small site associated with a living community, or an extant group was undertaken in barrio Bagacay, Talibon municipality, in Bohol Province. Bohol Province was chosen for its location on the crossroads of cultural transmission and population movements to and from the different island groups. Laboratory analysis of archaeological materials, and the interpretation of archaeological data with reference to social processes of change, continuity, social formation, inter-relationships of society and environment etc. were also carried out.

Throughout the training period focus was directed on how ethnographic research may be utilized to interpret archaeological finds and on methods of sociological reconstruction of the excavated site, i.e. the formulation of the kind of community which might have existed earlier on the site. Besides writing their own field reports, participants were encouraged to design their own research project which they can carry out upon their return home. Ten trainees from the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand attended the training course.

SPAFA Training Course in Scientific Illustration was administered by the National Museum of the Philippines from August 2 to September 30, 1984 where 7 trainees participated. Training involved developing drawing skills suitable for scientific illustration of archaeological data. Trainees learned cartography, anthropometry, scientific photography, and how to represent statistical data and other archaeological information visually through the use of a combination of graphs, charts, etc., isometric or axonometric representation of sites and small finds, and in general how to conceptualize



SPAFA Trainees in Scientific Illustration receive instruction from Mr. Peter Dorrell on Scientific Photography at the National Museum Field Station in Candijay, Bohol, Philippines.

the mass of archaeological information as vividly as possible to illustrate the text of archaeological reports.

SPAFA Training Course in C-14 Dating Techniques was held in Bangkok, Thailand from February 1 to April 29, 1983. The Training Course dealt with radiochemistry, nuclear radiation measurement (such as low level counting), proper use of nuclear instruments, radio carbon dating processes, and processing of C-14 dates as bases for dating archaeological sites and assemblages.

This is the first time that this course was taught in Southeast Asia. Whereas before, archaeologists in the region had to rely on laboratories and scientific institutions from outside the region, after this training course was offered, it was found out that the region has the capability to undertake and conduct training courses on C-14 dating method. The SPAFA Training Course in C-14 Dating was implemented through the cooperation of the Department of Nuclear Technology of Chulalongkorn University; the National Office of Atomic Energy for Peace; Faculty of Archaeology of Silpakorn University; the National Museum Division of Thailand; and the Radiocarbon Dating Research Institute of the Australian National University. Ten trainees from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand participated in the course.

UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY

For centuries man has explored and exploited the seas. Any of his tools, materials, foodstuffs, and even his ships that happened to fall below the waves were lost for all time. Occasionally, fishermen and ship crews hauled up interesting objects from underwater without knowing why and how they got to places where they were found.

Underwater Archaeology has been a neglected field in Southeast Asia due to lack of trained personnel and equipment. In spite of the vast areas of seas which harbor thousands of potential underwater sites, archaeologists in the region had no way of studying them.

To fill this gap in archaeological research, SPAFA launched a series of Training Programmes in Underwater Archaeology



Mr. Jeremy Green, Australian Specialist on Underwater Archaeology Aboard Training Ship briefs SPAFA Participants on Underwater Excavation Procedures during the Advance Training Course on Underwater Archaeology, Sattahip, Thailand on January 6-April 4, 1986.

and as a corollary to the latter, researches in Maritime Shipping, Navigation, and Commerce were initiated in 1984. SPAFA was fortunate in having its Co-ordinating Unit based in Bangkok, for among the countries of Southeast Asia, Thailand was the first country to undertake Underwater Archaeology. First established as a "Joint Danish-Thai Project on Nautical Archaeology", in 1974 it developed into an ongoing project with the assistance of the Danish Government which extended its support up to 1976. When SPAFA was established in 1978, Thailand's Underwater Archaeology Project was administered by Thai archaeologists of the Fine Arts Department under Thailand's Ministry of Education. Thailand was therefore ready to serve as SPAFA's Sub-Centre for Underwater Archaeology.

Four Training Courses in Underwater Archaeology were conducted jointly by the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit and the SPAFA Thai Sub-Centre for Underwater Archaeology from December 1978 to March 1979; from December 1979 to March 1980; from January to March 1984; and from January to April 1986. A total of 36 trainees from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand went through the course which covered: techniques of underwater archaeological survey, excavation and salvaging ships and other remains, recording, photographing, basic and preliminary conservation of objects retrieved from the sea. Introductory lectures on the history of seafaring, ancient ship construction and other forms of water transport were also given. Most of all, the course focused on survival techniques, safety precautions, and team work while working underwater. Australian and French experts assisted SPAFA in these training courses.

PERSONNEL EXCHANGE ON THE STUDY OF PAINTING AND PETROGLYPHS FOUND IN CAVES AND ROCK SHELTERS

Personnel Exchange Programme on the arts found in prehistoric caves and rock shelters was also conducted by SPAFA in Indonesia and Thailand. The specific objectives

of the programme were:

1. To enable experts and scholars in prehistory to investigate and study together the patterns of paintings, petroglyphs and other artistic remains found in cave sites and rock shelters in Indonesia and Thailand as evidence of pre-historic communities; and
2. To enable the implementing agencies and administrators of the SPAFA Sub-Centres to make advance preparations for SPAFA training programmes and seminars/workshops on archaeology.

Researches on rock arts in Indonesia started in the first decade of this century and was stepped up during the 1970's. The artistic remains which form the subject of archaeological investigations include paintings, carvings and other human remains on caves, on cliffs and rock shelters. Subjects depicted are mainly stencils of human hands, sometimes of the feet, silhouettes, and human figures shown hunting, fighting or travelling on boats; and there are also various animals some of which are already extinct; weapons, geometric shapes and other still unidentified symbols.

In Thailand, researches on the same subject were first carried out in the second decade of the century by Lajonquiere and Kerr. More recent investigations are being carried out by the Universities and the Fine Arts Department's Archaeology Division. The latter produced an inventory of rock arts in Northeastern Thailand.

The SPAFA Personnel Exchange Programme on rock arts was undertaken from June 23 to July 8, 1985 with five representatives from the SPAFA member countries.

CONSERVATION

The problem of continuing deterioration of cultural objects necessitates constant conservation. Even under the most favourable conditions, conservation is never a simple one. SPAFA carried out ten activities in the area of conservation consisting of one seminar, and eight training courses.

A SPAFA Seminar on Researches on Conservation of Organic Materials was held from March 9 to 14, 1982 in the Philippines. The main objective of the Seminar was to make comparative studies of methods of conservation of cultural objects made of perishable materials found in the different Southeast Asian countries.

The Seminar proposed the following recommendations:

1. Conservators should educate curators, museum attendants and other museum staff on preventive measures which can be applied to conserve museum collections;
2. Request permission from their respective government to allow conservators to use effective chemicals like DDT and other chemicals whose use has since been prohibited due to health hazards;
3. Request SPAFA to bring about closer coordination of the conservation activities of the member countries by disseminating information through publications;
4. That another seminar/workshop on conservation of organic materials be conducted to evaluate the application of the guidelines suggested during the seminar



SPAFA Training Course on Conservation & Restoration of Ancient Monuments in Jogjakarta, Indonesia. Two Architects-Mr. Vira Rojpojchanarat from Thailand, and Mr. Irineo Ramiro from the Philippines measure stone masonry on the Borobudur before restoration work can proceed, December 1978-August 1979.

based on actual conservation work; and

5. Organize a study tour among the member countries for the purpose of further evaluating and discussing common problems on conservation of organic materials.

The first training course in the field of conservation was entitled **SPAFA Training Course in Conservation of Monuments** conducted at Borobudur in Magelang Indonesia from December 4, 1978 to April 4, 1979 and from July 14, 1980 to January 14, 1981 where ten trainees participated. The training offered courses in the chemistry of conservation (sample analysis, experimentation, pathology and research for remedies); techniques of copying and restitution, apparatus mending and consolidation.

The second training course was **SPAFA Training Course in Conservation of Underwater Archaeological Objects** which were implemented three times, from December 1978 to March 1979, from December 1979 to February 1980 and from March to May 1984, all in Thailand. The training programme covered conservation of materials retrieved from the sea: wood, metal, stone and organic materials; scientific examination: chemical, physical and biological effects of immersion in the sea; conservation procedure: photography and X-rays, cleaning by mechanical, chemical, electrochemical and electrolytic methods; preservation: fumigation, drying, impregnation, coating; restoration; storage and display techniques. 25 trainees from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand underwent this programme.

The third training programme in the field of conservation was three **SPAFA Training Courses in Conservation of Bronze Objects** which were conducted from April to July 1979; from July to September 1980 and from September to November 1983 respectively in Bangkok, Thailand. 32 trainees from SPAFA member countries participated in the programme. The training courses dealt with general introduction to metallurgy, composition of bronzes, corrosion of bronze and treatment of bronze diseases, historical background of Bronze culture in Southeast Asia and introduction to bronze collections



SPAFA Training Course on Conservation of Archaeological Objects Recovered Underwater, Bangkok, Thailand, August 31-September 12, 1982.

and their condition, scientific examination of bronzes, conservation of bronze in the field, photography and application of X-radiography for conservation.

The fourth training course was two **SPAFA Training Courses on Research Methods for Conservation of Organic Materials** which were held from October to December 1982 and from February to May 1985 in Thailand. The two training courses were participated in by 20 trainees from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand to study methods of conservation of wood, bones and ivory, conservation of textiles, leather and paper.

RESTORATION

SPAFA undertook eight activities in the field of restoration consisting of two workshops and six training courses. The first workshop was the **SPAFA Workshop on Techniques of Restoration of Monuments** with the view to formulating guidelines for restoration of archaeological monuments and similar structures in SEAMEO member countries. The workshop adopted recommendations on matters related to legislation, administration, documentation, conservation and restoration of monuments and sites, as well as finance and training of personnel.

Concerning legislation, it was recommended that the existing legislation of SEAMEO member countries be revised and updated. On administration, it was recommended that member countries of SEAMEO encourage the recruitment and staffing of the relevant institutions and departments with qualified personnel in documentation, excavation, architectural conservation and restoration, chemical conservation, museology, aerial survey, scientific dating techniques, research and publication. It was also recommended that the member countries of SEAMEO be encouraged to standardize the documentation of monuments which cover both movable and immovable properties.

Moreover on conservation and restoration of monuments and sites, the following recommendations were adopted:

- a. In the preservation and conservation of ancient monuments, priority of preservation should be extended

to monuments that have perishable materials such as timber, bricks, etc.

- b. No monument or site must be excavated or exposed without adequate funding and other provisions for its conservation and preservation.
- c. In the excavation and exposure of monuments and sites for conservation or restoration, proper documentation (notes, photographs, drawings, reports, etc.) should be a prerequisite and prepared in several copies and retained in institutions.
- d. Reports on all activities connected with excavations, restoration and conservation of monuments should be adequately summarized in at least one of the international languages.
- e. Where special sculptures or cultural objects are found on monuments or sites that are likely to be subject to chemical or other dangers, such objects may be removed to site monuments and suitable replicas placed on the monument or site, provided that the replicas are labelled accordingly.
- f. All decorative materials replaced due to structural or other reasons should be registered and housed in a site museum. The replacement should as far as practicable, be of the same quality and design as the original and the replacement labelled accordingly.
- g. No ancient materials from one monument should be moved and used in another monument.
- h. Bricks or stones made to original sizes should be date-stamped or marked respectively and manufactured to specific standards. As far as practicable any new structures, fixtures, or materials used should follow or be similar to the original construction.
- i. Every effort should be made to understand, appreciate and reflect the original "personality" of the monument restored.

Finance

Recognizing the need for adequate financial resources for the preservation and restoration of ancient monuments, the member countries of SEAMEO are urged to explore the economic viability of cultural tourism as an economic venture. SPAFA is requested to initiate the collection of suitable statistics and other necessary information to provide feasibility studies intended towards establishing the economic viability of cultural tourism. It is further resolved that member countries of SEAMEO evolve suitable machinery to tap revenue derived from tourism to finance restoration projects.

Training

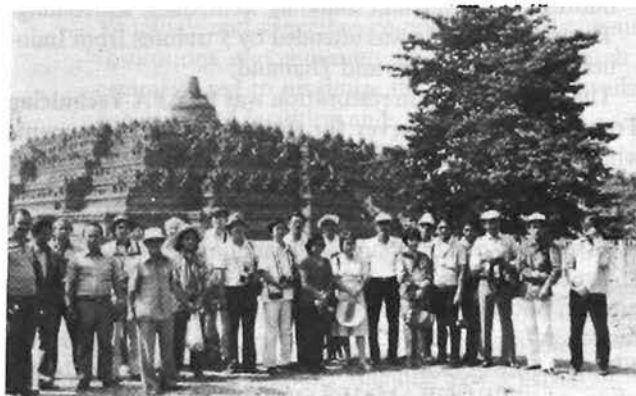
Bearing in mind the need for highly skilled staff at every level and the fact that no risks should be taken in the conservation and preservation of monuments, it is recommended that the best training programmes and facilities be provided to the labour, middle-grade technicians, graduate, post-graduate staff and that in-service training, review seminar levels and technical exchanges should also be undertaken. Such training efforts not only be encouraged but systematically promoted by member countries of SEAMEO covering the various dis-

ciplines required by restoration programmes of ancient monuments.

The second workshop in the field of Restoration was the **SPAFA Consultative Workshop on Restoration of Ancient Monuments** held in August 1983 in Indonesia. The objectives of the workshop were to exchange technical information on different tests and experiments being tried out in connection with restoration and conservation of ancient monuments in the member countries; to discuss problems on recruitment of staff in relevant institutions and departments who could be responsible for carrying out restoration work and concomitant responsibilities such as documentation; and to promote the function of monuments as the country's cultural heritage on the one hand, and as a focus of cultural tourism for boosting the country's economy on the other.

The workshop was attended by nine participants from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. Apart from adopting similar recommendations as those of the first workshop, the following recommendations were also adopted:

1. A workshop should be held to discuss and formulate:
 - a. Standards or guidelines for registration and documentation of historical and archaeological monuments, both movable and immovable, including the technical methods and terms.
 - b. Principles and standards for conservation of cultural properties that should be followed by conservators and acceptable to archaeologists.
 - c. Making up a glossary of local terms for architectural and archaeological terms.
2. The items recommended in the Workshop on Techniques on Restoration of Monuments in October 1980, should be fully implemented.
3. a. Borobudur facilities should continue to serve the SEAMEO region for training on stone conservation and restoration.
- b. The centre for training on restoration and conservation of bricks should be established in one of the SPAFA member countries.
4. a. The site of historical monuments should be protected



Participants of the SPAFA Consultative Workshop on Restoration of Ancient Monuments pose in front of the Borobudur, the main focus of Conservation and Restoration work in Indonesia which received world-wide support

and controlled by the Government.

- b. To assure conservation of historical monuments, the sites where they are located should fall under government zoning plans and their use should be regulated.
5. Graduate students majoring in archaeology should be given an opportunity to be trained in the technical restoration and conservation at national, regional and international levels.
6. Conservators should be given more access to important publications on archaeology and restoration; and translations of the most significant and useful publications be made into a language understood by the people of the SEAMEO member countries.

The first training in restoration was **SPAFA Technician Training Course in Restoration of Monuments** focused on excavation: site clearance and excavations; training in buttressing, boring and sounding, removal techniques, earthworks, foundation, protection against water, drainage, reconstruction, consolidation repair, restoration, protection techniques: protection against fire, protection during transportation; technology; apparatus mending and consolidation. The training courses were held in Indonesia from December 1978 to June 1979 and from November to April 1980 for the duration of six months each, and were participated by 10 trainees.

The second training in restoration was **SPAFA Training Course in Restoration of Monuments** held in Indonesia from December 4, 1978 to August 1979 for the period of nine months. The training was devoted to the following activities:

Study of Structures: material; implementation; structure: vaulting, buttressing, foundation; individual constructions: elements and compositions; building complexes: elements and composition.

Study of Problems and Remedies: mechanical troubles; remedies: restoration of ancient building components, consolidation and reinforcement, replacement, problems related to foundations and drainage.

Architectural Techniques: foundation process; removal techniques; stone work; ways of reinforcement; site clearance; buttressing; boring and sounding techniques; scaffolding. The training course was attended by 5 trainees from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.

The third training in restoration was **SPAFA Technician Training Course in Survey for Restoration of Monuments** which was conducted twice in Indonesia, from December 1979 to May 1980 and from November to April 1981 respectively. The training course was attended by 15 trainees. The course focussed on excavation, survey of monuments; conservation; analytical documentation, analysis survey, drawing, photography, photogrammetry, techniques of copying and restitution.

SPAFA SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES ON CERAMICS

The widespread occurrence of ceramics in almost all archaeological sites, their durability and characteristic features make them useful evidence about the nature of past societies and

their interrelationships. For these reasons, SPAFA organized three Seminars/Workshops and one Training Course on Ceramics. The first was the **SPAFA Workshop on Ceramics of East and Southeast Asia** held in May 18-28, 1981 in Sarawak, Malaysia. The Workshop was a milestone in archaeological research in Southeast Asia for it was the first time that scholars and experts on Chinese ceramics from the People's Republic of China were involved in an international scientific meeting. The Workshop had important implications on related researches being carried out under SPAFA auspices, namely Researches on the History, Archaeology and Environmental Studies on Srivijaya, and on Maritime History, Navigation, and Trade. The Chinese experts-Prof. Feng Xian-Ming, Mr. Li Hui-Ping and Mr. Cheng Ruo-Yo, helped SPAFA participants clarify problems of identification and classification of Chinese ceramics found in the different archaeological sites in the region. The Chinese experts shared their knowledge of excavated and kiln sites in China in order to identify and establish the relative chronologies of wares and their assemblages in Southeast Asia.

The second workshop was **SPAFA Workshop to Standardize Studies on Ceramics of East and Southeast Asia** held in Cebu City, Philippines from February 15 to 20, 1983. The objectives of the workshop were: to meet the urgent need for trained personnel in Ceramic research; to standardize terminology and typology procedures; to create a system of formulating reference collection of sherds, photographs of sherds and ceramic assemblages; to provide data for information and documentation on sources of ceramic materials; to introduce and/or create a curriculum on ceramic studies at educational institutions; to initiate and strengthen the cooperative undertaking between teaching institutions, laboratories, and museums with the aim of maximizing the utilization of available expertise and facilities in the region; and to ensure continuity in ceramic research in the region of Southeast Asia.

The third workshop was **SPAFA Technical Workshop on Ceramics** held in Bangkok and Chiang Mai, Thailand from December 1 to 12, 1985. The objectives of the workshop were: to get experienced scholars together to study the technologies involved in the production of early Thai export ceramics, and to examine the finds excavated from kiln sites in San Kamphaeng and its vicinity in order to find out the types of ceramics produced in the district, and to compare them with ceramic finds in other Southeast Asian countries.

The following were the recommendations of delegates, observers and experts which were adopted at the two workshops:

Recommendations on substantive issues:

1. Equal, if not more attention should be given to the study, research of local pottery or earthenware as that given to imported ceramics and other glazed wares. The development of earthenware production is a complementary study to imported ceramics which will provide deeper understanding of the relationships between ceramic-importing countries like the Philippines and Indonesia. Earthenware or pottery should be



SPAFA Workshop to Standardize Studies of Ceramics of East and Southeast Asia, held at the University of San Carlos, Cebu City on February 15-20, 1983.

studied in its various aspects in order to relate it to the non-material aspects of culture.

2. There is need to adapt more uniform, scientific analysis of pottery and ceramics not only their physical and chemical features but also methods of description, categorization, and identification. A glossary of terms should be adopted to avoid confusion and clarify vague and controversial areas.
3. Produce, publish and distribute to scholars an inventory of archaeological sites where pottery and ceramics were found, preferably those which were scientifically excavated. Sites should be arranged by types such as: land sites (burials, habitation, kiln sites, etc.), shipwrecks, and other underwater sites. Information on their associated finds should also be included.
4. Collect data and information on pottery and ceramic manufacture both from excavated sites and from ethnographic present. Distribution, uses and functions of pottery and ceramics, their social and ritual uses, as well as symbolic and artistic significance should also be included.
5. Systematic collection of the development of pottery and ceramic technology should be undertaken, the implications on other related crafts and industries should also be investigated such as: metallurgy, glass making, mining etc.

Recommendations on research strategies and institutional arrangements:

1. Organize a Ceramics and Pottery Studies Project under SPAFA to be based in Bangkok, Thailand. This project should undertake documentation and collect information on the various aspects of ceramic research; publish regular newsletter or bulletin on recent findings on ceramic and pottery researches in the region, and set up a collection of representative samples of sherds collected from kiln sites, and from excavated sites in Southeast Asia, as well as other Asian countries particularly from China.
2. Establish closer cooperation among scholars, experts

and institutions interested in pottery and ceramic research such as laboratories, universities, research centres, museums, in various Asian countries as well as countries outside the region such as Japan, Australia, etc.

3. SPAFA should establish linkages with research institutions and funding agencies to help support researches and excavations. Funding institutions such as Asian Cultural Centre of UNESCO in Tokyo, the Toyota Foundation, etc. should be contacted for possible funding assistance.
4. SPAFA should organize Seminars/Workshops and Training Courses regularly so that scholars and other researchers can keep up with the latest developments in this field of research.
5. The teaching of pottery and ceramics should form part of the curriculum for College and University students majoring in Anthropology and History.
6. SPAFA should seek linkages with the scholars and experts on ceramics from the People's Republic of China in order to arrange for personnel exchanges, visits of scholars to excavation and kiln sites, exchange information and publications, and of excavated finds.
7. Survey, register and request the Thai Government to conserve kiln sites in Thailand to serve as focus of research.

Since the SPAFA Technical Workshop on Ceramics coincided with the last weeks of the SPAFA Training Programme on Ceramics of East and Southeast Asia, the trainees had the opportunity to participate in the workshop.

The SPAFA Training Programme on Ceramics of East and Southeast Asia was carried out in Bangkok and Chiang Mai, Thailand, from October 15 to December 15, 1985. The objectives of the training programme were:

- To meet the urgent need for trained personnel in ceramic research;
- To obtain a more information for precise identification, analysis and dating of Asian ceramics considering the enormous amount of materials appearing in archaeological sites throughout Southeast Asia;
- To provide data for information and documentation on the sources of these ceramic materials;
- To initiate and strengthen co-operative research among institutions and museums undertaking research on ceramics, and to maximize the utilization of available expertise and facilities; and
- To ensure continuity in ceramic research.

Participants in the training programme were 12 trainees from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. The training programme constituted the last SPAFA activity in the field of ceramics.

RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON SRIVIJAYA

Srivijaya is generally accepted as the first Southeast Asian Maritime Empire. Its history spanned over a period of half a century, and yet controversies still persist regarding the exact location of its capital, and the nature and extent of its hegemony over the other areas of Southeast Asia. Srivijaya's existence is attested by a number of inscriptions in

Sumatra, as well as in Chaiya, Southern Thailand. Moreover, the widespread dispersal of artifacts believed to be related to the trade activities of Srivijaya have been found in many areas particularly around the Straits of Malacca.

An overall Research Programme on Srivijaya was carried out by scholars of the region. This research programme provided a unique opportunity for scholars of Southeast Asia to pool together their expertise, resources and experience to work on a common problem.

The first SPAFA Workshop on Srivijaya was held in Jakarta on March 12-17, 1979 which launched the series of researches related to the Srivijayan empire. The Workshop formulated an inter-disciplinary research programme involving the different scholars and research institutions of the SPAFA member countries which covered the following topics:

1. Compilation of an annotated bibliography on Srivijaya;
2. Archaeological research on sites attributed to Srivijaya focused on Sumatra particularly: Palembang (Bukit Seguntang, Talang Kikim, Sungsang and Upang), Barus and Jambi, and Southern Thailand and Malaysian peninsula:
 - a. Undertake excavations and restorations of temples, monuments, and other structures related to Srivijaya;
 - b. Analysis of archaeological finds, their styles and style sequences in order to show relationships and their development;
 - c. Iconography of statues and other artistic remains to draw information on religious beliefs and practices as well as artistic expression.
3. Study of ancient texts from foreign sources which refer to Srivijaya such as Indian, Chinese, Arabic, texts including historical accounts of European writers;
4. Study of inscriptions and analysis of epigraphy as historical and linguistic evidence;
5. Study of the evidence of trade and commerce based on historical as well as archaeological evidence;
6. Study of the history and technology of boat and ship building; navigation and maritime activities of Southeast Asian peoples;
7. Study of the ethnography of Southeast Asian peoples, including ethno-linguistic studies.

Each member country agreed to undertake research on some or all of the topics listed above, and to encourage continuous consultations and cooperation among individual scholars and institutions among the SPAFA member countries as well as with experts from countries outside the region. It was also suggested that SPAFA sponsor Personnel Exchange Programmes and other related activities to advance Srivijaya Studies.

Three other Consultative Workshops on Archaeological and Environmental Studies on Srivijaya were implemented by SPAFA with the cooperation of the SPAFA Sub-Centres in the hosting countries. All three Workshops combined presentation and discussions of research papers with field trips to ancient sites believed to have been associated with Srivijaya.

The first of the three Workshops was held on August 31 to September 12, 1982 in Jakarta and then field research was conducted in Palembang and Jambi in Sumatra from September 2 to 11, 1982. The second Workshop was held in Thailand with field trips to Surat Thani, Nakhon Si Thammarat, and Songkhla provinces in the South from March 29 to April 11, 1983. The concluding Workshop was held in Indonesia with field trips to Padang, Bukit Tinggi, Prapat and Medan, Sumatra from September 17 to 29, 1985.

Formerly, only a handful of specialists in history and art history were involved in researches on Srivijaya. Their researches focused primarily on a few statues, and written texts, comprising mostly inscriptions found in Sumatra, Bangka, and the Thai-Malay peninsula as well as references in Chinese and Arabic texts. Since the first SPAFA Consultative Workshop was convened in March 1979, the ranks of scholars working on Srivijaya expanded to include those from other related disciplines. Archaeologists, geologists, and specialists in shipping, navigation have contributed increasing numbers of evidence of the existence and trading activities of Srivijaya and other Southeast Asian kingdoms. The research topic has also broadened in scope to cover various aspects of socio-cultural developments in Southeast Asia from the beginning of the Christian era to the advent of European colonial expansion. Among the topics which have been brought within the scope of Srivijayan Studies are: settlement patterns and population movements, trade and commercial activities, mercantile and craft organizations, mechanisms of trade; the impact of international trade on local socio-political structures; intra-state relations; evaluation of archaeological evidence from monuments to small finds, ecological changes in the region, music and musical instruments, and the role of the seas in the cultural history of the region.

Other significant achievements of the series of Workshops on Srivijaya are: the development of inter- and multi-disciplinary researches on Southeast Asia, and the undertaking of more comparative studies of the various prehistoric and historic sites in the region, as well as their possible relations to archaeological sites outside Southeast Asia.

A direct outgrowth of the researches on Srivijaya is the **SPAFA Consultative Workshop on Research on Maritime Shipping and Trade Networks in Southeast Asia**. The Workshop was convened in Indonesia from November 20 to 27, 1984. Scholars from Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Australia, France and Britain, presented their research findings and later undertook field trips to Serang, Karangantu, and Banten to study the 17th century entrepot famous as the centre of pepper trade in the region, as well as the springboard for Muslim expansion. The papers presented showed a wider perspective and analysis in depth of research topics raised throughout the series of Srivijaya Workshops, such as: settlement patterns and urbanization, inland shipping and trade based on evidence from historical texts and ancient maps; trade routes and trade networks and the goods exchanged; ancient ports, harbours and ship building techniques; evidence from shipwrecks and their implications on the

history of trade and economic production, etc. As a result of the series of Workshops, it was decided that SPAFA Training Projects in Underwater Archaeology, and Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology should be strengthened further.

SPAFA ACTIVITIES ON FINE ARTS OF SOUTHEAST ASIA.

SPAFA's activities in the fine arts encompass the visual arts: architecture, sculpture, painting, graphics, and handicrafts; and the performing arts: music, dance and theatre. The focus of these activities are mainly on traditional arts of the region since they are the most visible manifestations of the region's cultural heritage. Moreover, since most other sectors of society specially the mass media are actively engaged in modern and contemporary arts, SPAFA has taken it upon itself to concentrate its meagre resources on traditional artistic expressions which provide the bases for cultural continuity and identity.

In most of the deliberations in SPAFA Seminars/Workshops, in the course of Training Programmes, as well as in Research Projects on the arts, all those involved although concerned with the preservation of traditional arts were aware of the inevitability of change, and the necessity, even the practicality of adapting artistic traditions to the needs of contemporary life. As Dr. I Made Bandem of Indonesia stated, traditional arts can serve as "the instrument of social change and progress", that they be developed to "reach a wider audience in the rural and urban areas, and use them as a means of expressing the needs and aspirations of the people".

Soon after the establishment of SPAFA, the first **Workshop on the Preservation of Traditional Handicrafts** was organized with the cooperation of UNESCO in December 1978. This was followed by two Workshops on the **Traditional Performing Arts in the Modern Environment**, the first one was held in Bali in October 1979 and the second in Jakarta in 1981. As a result of these two Workshops, SPAFA programme of activities in the Arts were drawn up comprising three types of activities: Training Programmes, Seminars/Workshops, Research and Development and Exchanges of Personnel.

The country reports presented before these two Workshops discussed the diversity and wide range of traditional and of performing arts in the region. They agreed that this diversity is an asset to the countries of the region for they reflect the richness and complexity of national cultures. Two broad categories of arts were brought up: (1) the arts of the courts which were consciously nurtured by the royalty which are characterized as highly-refined and stylized, generally of very high quality but limited to a small circle of the nobility and their retinues; (2) Folk art or popular arts-arts which evolved spontaneously from the people to serve communal ritual needs and the basic human need for entertainment and play. Folk and popular arts have their own artistic standards often inseparable from the socio-religious context.

As far as public acceptance and public support for traditional arts are concerned, the discussants agreed that in com-

munities where traditions are strong such as in Indonesia and Thailand, the arts receive full support of the people. Since the arts are part of the daily life of the community, dance troupes, sculptors, architects, etc. are supported by the people. In addition, artists perform their services as part of their social and religious obligations. What also makes traditional arts flourish in these two countries is that once royal patronage diminished, the national government took over this role. Hence traditional arts from the national, to the provincial and local levels receive government support and subsidies. Tourism, a modern phenomenon among affluent and advanced societies have also provided a boost to traditional arts since tourists go to distant places to experience different kinds of cultural milieus. However, tourism have negative effects on traditional arts. It often leads to distortion of the arts since artists has to cater to the tastes and standards of the foreigners. The tendency is to highlight the more "exotic", and "sensational" aspects of traditional arts.

The recommendations which evolved from the Seminars/Workshops provided the framework for the subsequent SPAFA activities in its efforts to promote traditional arts and enrich cultural activities of the region.

1. Education and Training of the Arts is the best assurances for traditional arts to flourish and to develop. Educational programmes should take two inter-related approaches: (a) Formal-make the teaching and learning of traditional arts part of the school curriculum from the elementary through to college; (b) Informal-increase cultural activities in schools and the community, by organizing artistic productions, competitions, festivals, etc. However, to make the teaching and learning of the arts effective, teachers must be well trained and motivated. There should be effective syllabi of the arts, and art teachers must be carefully chosen. Art subjects should not be assigned just to anyone who cannot teach any other subject.

In other words, there is need to professionalize the teaching and practice of the arts. As for pupils who may not be per-



Balinese School Children, dancing for the Delegates to the SPAFA Seminar on the Preservation of Traditional Performing Arts in the Modern Environment, held in Denpasar, Bali, October 16-20, 1979.

sonally-inclined to practice art, they should nevertheless be instructed in the appreciation and understanding of the arts since they comprise the majority of the audience and consumers of art. It was deplored that most policy-makers in the government do not realize the importance of art and of artistic expression for the mental health of the community.

2. Organize Festivals of Traditional Arts at various administrative levels focusing on the arts characteristic of the locality. Competitions in the various categories of visual and performing arts will generate wide public interest and support as a community activity.

3. Awards and Recognition to Outstanding Artists, Performers, and the writing of biographies of outstanding artists, and production of children's books informing them about the arts.

4. Research and Documentation of the Traditional Arts, and exchange of publications. SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit should undertake systematic compilation of information about traditional arts of Southeast Asia and disseminate these to the member countries. Information can be in the form of print media, photographs, slides, films, cassette tapes, video tapes, etc.

5. SPAFA should sponsor regular Seminars/Workshops and Personnel Exchanges among SPAFA member countries in the field of traditional arts to enable artists and art specialists to exchange views and experience.

6. Artists, art specialists, teachers of the arts, should make a concerted effort to influence policy makers, public opinion makers, and other institutions and agencies of the value and importance of keeping traditional arts alive, and to interest the youth to continue and develop their cultural heritage.

7. Tourism industry should be directed towards providing foreign visitors more opportunities to learn and experience the traditional cultures of the countries they visit, and to enhance mutual appreciation and understanding between the tourists and the local population. Professional artists, art specialists, etc. should be more involved in the tourism industry to provide correct information and minimize the distortion of traditional culture which tend to be reduced into superficialities. It was recommended that specialists in the arts work closely with their respective Ministries of Tourism.

In the light of these recommendations, SPAFA undertook the following activities:

1. Training of Teachers of the Visual Arts from the Elementary and High Schools. These were one-month courses for public school teachers to enable them to acquire proper attitudes and skills in teaching the arts effectively to their pupils, and to undertake creative activities. The training courses also involved the preparation of art education syllabi suitable to the local conditions and resources. The training courses were attended by 17 trainees which was held in Manila, Philippines in 1982 and 1983.

2. Training Course for Teachers of Music in the Elementary

and High Schools.

This is the music counterpart of the training course in the visual arts, held in Manila, Philippines in 1983. The course involved not only effective teaching methods but preparation of syllabi for teachers of music. Eleven trainees from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand participated in the Training Course.

3. Training Courses on the Extension Education for Art Teachers. These were two one-month courses participated in by 34 trainees from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand. The Training Courses were held in the Philippines in 1984 and 1985.

4. Technical Workshop to Work Out a System of Documentation for the Traditional Dance and Dance Drama was held in Indonesia in 1983. This workshop discussed the best methods of documenting traditional dances and dance drama in Southeast Asia, and gave opportunity to dance specialists to learn each others methods of teaching, documenting, and choreographing dance. The workshop recommended the adoption of Labanotation as the most effective system of documenting and teaching dance. The workshop recommended further that SPAFA sponsor Training Courses on Labanotation to the younger generation of dancers, dance teachers and choreographers.

5. Training Course on Labanotation was implemented on August 21-26, 1986 in Indonesia.

Nine personnels consisting of dancers and dance teachers from Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand participated in this training course to enable them to acquire skills in documenting dance and dance drama using Labanotation, a universally-accepted system of documenting dance.

6. Workshop for Choreographers and Dancers for the Younger Generation was held in Indonesia from October 20-26, 1986. The workshop gathered together outstanding dancers, choreographers and teachers of dance from the three SPAFA member countries to exchange views and experience in teaching and choreographing dance.

7. Personnel Exchange Programme of Traditional Performing Arts in Thailand and Indonesia was implemented in 1984. Specialists in traditional performing arts from Indonesia and their counterparts from Thailand visited art institutions and schools in Thailand to acquaint themselves about the status of the traditional performing arts in these countries and to exchange views and experience on teaching and promotion of the arts.

8. Research Programme in Ethnic Music of Southeast Asia

This is an integrated research project on the Ethnic Music of Southeast Asia focused primarily on the music of tribal and rural communities believed to exemplify the oldest or the indigenous music of Southeast Asia. The project had three components: (a) Training in Ethno-Musicology Research Theory and Methodology.



Dance Ritual of Sadange villagers, Mt. Province, Northern Luzon, Philippines, photographed by SPAFA Trainees on Field Research Methods on Ethnic Music, May 1983.

The training period was held in Manila, in 1983; (b) Application of Research Theory and Methodology by undertaking field research in Sadanga Village, Mt. Province, Northern Luzon, Philippines; (c) Field Research in one's own country-the Filipinos, worked in the same sample village at Sadanga, Mt. Province; the Thais worked in Northeastern provinces; while the Indonesians chose Southern Sulawesi. The three groups of researchers worked from 1984 to 1986; (d) As a winding-up activity, a **Consultative Workshop on Researches and Documentation of Ethnic Music** was convened on June 22-28, 1986 in the Philippines where the three groups of researchers presented their findings before other specialists on music, ethnomusicology and musicians.

The outcome of the research project on ethnic music consists of:

1. Collection of music from the three areas of research in the form of cassette tapes, photographs and samples of musical instruments;
2. Recorded music were transcribed and translated from the original languages into English;



Thai researchers present their findings on the Music of Northeastern Thailand at the SPAFA Workshop on Researches and Documentation of Ethnic Music, held at National Arts Center, Mt. Makiling, Los Banos, Philippines, June 22-29, 1986.

3. Analysis of musical forms, styles, and categories;
4. Ethnographic information on functions and significance of music, occasions for musical performances, dispersal of musical forms, styles, etc.
5. Status of music in the areas studied, the general conclusion appears to be that there is a tendency for diminution of traditional music and that lesser numbers of the younger generation can perform them.

In summary, since SPAFA's founding in 1978, it has implemented 38 Training Programmes, 20 Seminars/Workshops, 19 Personnel Exchange Programmes, and 2 Research and Development Projects bringing to a total of 79 Programmes and Activities implemented through the 8-year period of its existence.

SPAFA LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

Since the establishment of the Applied Research Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (ARCAFA), the predecessor institution of SPAFA, scholars from both within and outside the region of Southeast Asia have been undertaking various researches, seminars/workshops, scientific meetings and other activities in the field of archaeology, performing arts and visual arts, and other cultural activities. Those activities generated a great deal of information. SPAFA disseminated this information through publications in the form of books, pamphlets, reports of scientific meetings, excavations, slides, photographs and recordings (in case of performing arts).

When SPAFA came into being in 1978, one of its activities was the setting up of a documentation centre. The documentation centre aimed at promoting awareness of the cultural heritage of Southeast Asian countries. With the cooperation of various libraries and institutions the centre was able to provide information on various aspects of archaeology, performing arts and visual arts by acquiring information materials, and disseminating them to scholars and researchers engaged in the same fields of SPAFA's concerns. To a certain extent the contribution of the documentation section have been acknowledged by many scholars and researchers from within and outside the region.

The services of the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre are:

1. To compile a comprehensive bibliography on Southeast Asian prehistory and archaeology, fine arts and the performing arts for the purpose of facilitating comparative research on any aspect of prehistory, archaeology, and in the creative and performing arts;
2. To disseminate information throughout the region on archaeology, fine arts, museology and related disciplines through publications, and exchanges of materials.
3. To compile and update card-catalogue of holdings of libraries, museums, universities and other cultural institutions in the member countries;
4. Audio-visual documentation of SPAFA programmes and projects;



The SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre.

5. To compile technical documents on topics of SPAFA's concerns such as field reports, abstracts of dissertations, project proposals, project reports and other specialized documents and publications.

SPAFA SPECIAL BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SERIES

Within the first three years of operations, the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre succeeded in collecting as many as 23,943 catalogue cards of bibliographical data consisting of books and articles on various disciplines of concern to SPAFA. The SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre published bibliographical series starting with Pre-history in August 1981, followed by a supplement which came out in June 1982. Bibliographical Series on Archaeology, Visual Arts and Performing Arts were published in September 1984, February 1985 and July 1985 respectively. Other topics of the bibliographic series that await publication are: history, ethnography, ceramics and an annotated bibliography on Srivijaya.

REFERENCES AND LIBRARY MATERIALS COLLECTION

Before SPAFA was in full operation, the SEAMEO Secretariat had been receiving books and other publications from the Netherlands Government through its Literature Aid Programme. Upon the establishment of the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit, the donations from the Netherlands were handed over to the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit. These publications formed the first collection of the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre.

Books are purchased through a small annual budget, and donations from the Netherlands through SEAMES, from the French Government, the EFEO, SEAMEO member countries, and other international agencies such as ICCROM, UNESCO, ACCU, and through exchange of publications.

The SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre has a good collection totalling to 2,383 volumes of basic reference works in Archaeology and Fine Arts and related fields.

A total of 50 titles of selected journals, bulletins and periodicals on areas of prehistory/archaeology, visual and performing arts have been acquired.

COLLECTION OF CULTURAL MATERIALS, ART OBJECTS, AND OTHER AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS

Apart from printed materials the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre has been collecting documentary materials on the traditional and performing arts which are threatened by extinction through intensified technological advancement.

SPAFA does not have a budget for acquiring cultural and other art objects. Whatever samples of art objects SPAFA possesses such as musical instruments and other handicrafts have been acquired through donations. The collection hardly constitutes a representative sample of musical instruments or handicrafts in Southeast Asia. Collecting the items themselves would require a great deal of funds and energy. Hence the alternative is to collect documentaries on vanishing forms of visual and performing arts.

The Library was able to collect audio-visual materials in the form of films, slides, records, cassette tapes, video tapes, or photographs of the following:

- Visual Arts:
 - Architecture
 - Painting
 - Sculpture
 - Engraving, prints, etc.
 - Pottery, ceramics
 - Textiles, batik, tapestry, etc.
- Performing Arts:
 - Sample of Costumes of: dances,

- drama, ballet, musical drama, puppet show, folk performance, etc.
- Sample of musical instruments (traditional, modern, etc.)
- Cassette tapes of music and songs.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre provides the following services to users:

1. Clearing House Service

The SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre collects, processes, stores, retrieves and disseminates information on archaeology, prehistory, fine arts, performing arts and related disciplines to educational, research institutes, museums, and other agencies both inside and outside the region. It also facilitates two-way flow of information between SPAFA and individual researcher, scholars, professionals, artists, technicians, as well as entities, institutions and agencies, who share SPAFA's concerns.

2. Union Catalogue Service

The SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre, assists information seekers in tracing special reference materials which are available in other institutions and libraries of SEAMEO member countries. It has a list of publications and cards on the subjects of archaeology, prehistory, visual arts, performing arts and other related subjects by country, and identifies the library or institution where the material is located. This listing however, is only partial and needs to be updated.

3. Publication Exchange Programme

The exchange of publications is one of the efficient means by which the SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre is able to obtain certain categories of publications which cannot be purchased in the open market. The SPAFA Library offers its own publications or other duplicate publications to effect exchanges. Through these exchanges, reference materials are acquired without burdening SPAFA's annual budget. Since its operation, 58 libraries, institutions, agencies and universities all over the world exchange publications with SPAFA.

SPAFA PUBLICATIONS

The SPAFA Publication covers the followings:

- a. The **SPAFA Digest**, a bi-annual publication which provides information on programmes implemented by the SPAFA Sub-Centres in the member countries, articles on accomplished and on-going programmes of researches in the region, and reports on seminars/workshops and other SPAFA affairs. It also serves as a medium for the expression of opinions, reports of research findings and evaluation of scholars, researchers and creative thinkers on Southeast Asian Archaeology, Fine Arts, Visual Arts and Cultural related activities.
- b. **SPAFA Brochure**.

- c. **SPAFA Special Bibliographical Series**.
- d. **Final Report of the SPAFA Seminars/Workshops, SPAFA Governing Board Meetings and other special meetings**.
- e. **Progress Reports to SEAMEC Conferences**.
- f. **SPAFA Development Plans**.
- g. **Compilation of Historical and Archaeological Sites and Monuments of Southeast Asia**.

Since its establishment, the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit has put out the following publications:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. SPAFA Digest | 13 vols. |
| 2. SPAFA Brochure | 2 vols. |
| 3. SPAFA Bibliographical Series | 5 vols. |
| 4. Final Reports of SPAFA Seminars/Workshops | 18 vols. |
| 5. Translation of Archipel 18; Trade and Shipping in the Southern Seas | 1 vol. |
| 6. Final Reports of SPAFA Governing Board Meetings | 11 vols. |
| 7. SPAFA Progress Reports to SEAMEC | 8 vols. |
| 8. Compilation of Sites and Monuments of Southeast Asia | 1 vol. |

THE FORMATION OF A REGIONAL CENTRE

After eight years of existence, SPAFA has acquired enough experience to take a bigger role in regional cultural activities. During the Twentieth SEAMEC Conference held in Manila in 1985, the plan to reconstitute SPAFA from a SEAMEO Project to a Regional Centre was approved. The new Regional Centre was to be hosted by the Royal Thai Government once it was in full operation on July 1, 1987. Subsequently, the Proposed Five-Year Development Plan; the budgets and other documents for its operations were approved by the First SPAFA Regional Centre Governing Board Meeting which was held on August 5-7, 1986.

The objectives of the Regional Centre are:

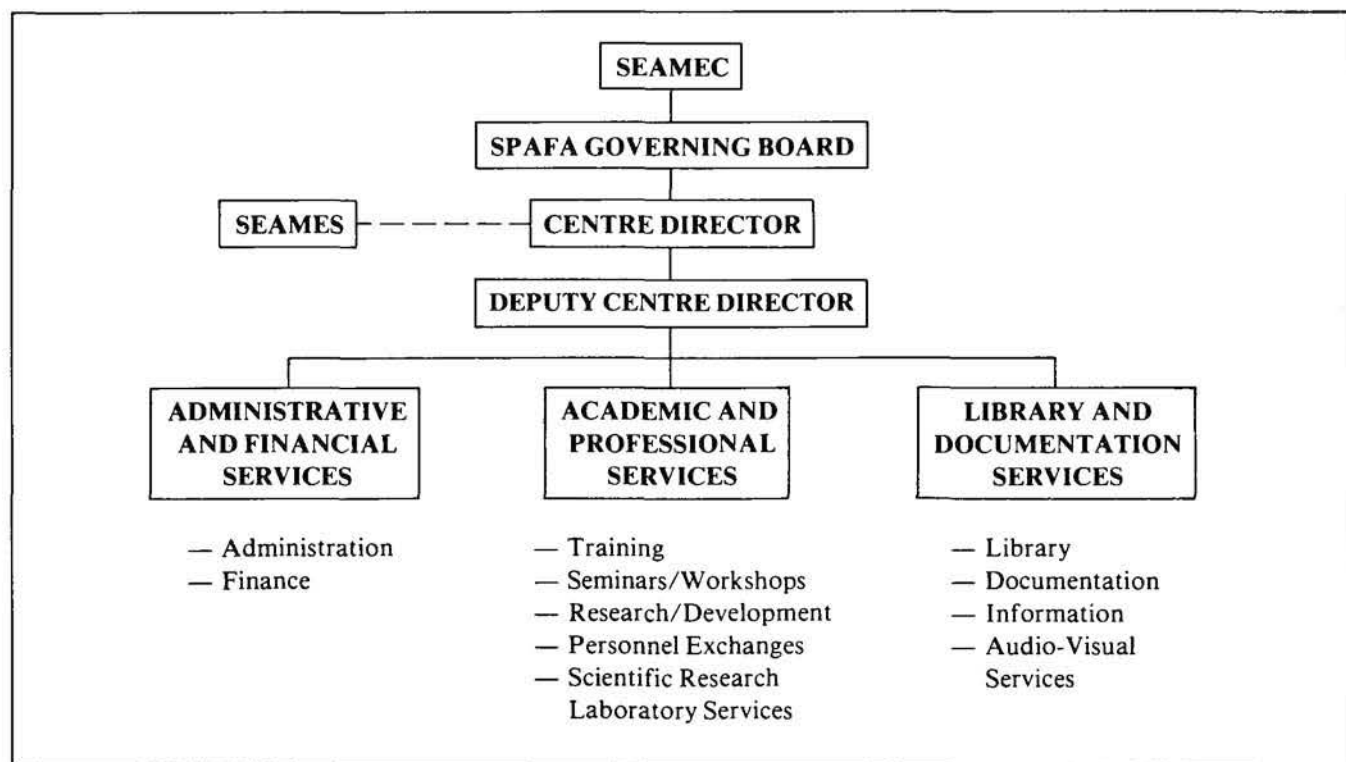
1. To help cultivate awareness and appreciation of the cultural heritage of Southeast Asia through regional cooperation in cultural activities;
2. To help promote and enrich cultural activities in the region through information dissemination; training and exchange programmes, and the sponsorship of other regional cultural activities;
3. To help strengthen professional competence in the fields of archaeology and fine arts; and
4. To provide regional mechanisms for sharing resources, expertise and other facilities in the field of culture.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Like other SEAMEO Centres, the SPAFA Regional Centre operates as an autonomous, international institution, drawing its juridical personality from the SEAMEO. The organizational structure of the SPAFA Regional Centre consists of the policy-making body called the Governing Board whose executive power is vested in the Centre Director with the help of a number of Professional and other support staff.

Since the SPAFA Regional Centre will be located in Bangkok,

THE SPAFA REGIONAL CENTRE'S ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Thailand, most of the activities and programmes will be conducted in this country. However, considering the diverse needs and resources of the member countries, it is considered desirable to have some projects implemented in the other SEAMEO member countries where more suitable or appropriate expertise and facilities may be available. Alternating or changing the venue of SPAFA activities has the added advantage of enriching and widening the experiences of the SPAFA participants.

FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

During the initial years of operation, the SPAFA Regional Centre will be based at the Department of Fine Arts, Ministry of Education in Bangkok. The implementation of SPAFA programmes and activities related to archaeology, conservation, visual and performing arts and related subjects will be jointly conducted by the SPAFA Regional Centre and the corresponding agencies of the Department of Fine Arts. However, certain programmes and activities of the SPAFA Regional Centre will be conducted in other Member States with the cooperation of the Government concerned in order to share expertise, facilities and resources.

In the initial years of operations the SPAFA Regional Centre will be housed at the premises currently occupied by the SPAFA Co-ordinating Unit at Darakarn Building, 920 Sukhumvit Road, Bangkok. One of the buildings within the compound of the Archaeology Division, Fine Arts Department, 81/1 Sri-Ayuthaya Road, Sam-sen, Theves, Bangkok will house its Library and will also serve as its Labora-

tory.

PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE

The projects are divided into three broad areas of concern: 1) general cultural projects of interdisciplinary and multi-disciplinary nature; 2) archaeology; and 3) fine arts.

The strategies for their implementation are organized into 4 types of projects: 1) training; 2) seminars and workshops; 3) research and development; and 4) personnel exchanges.

The objectives of each type of SPAFA activity are as follows:

Training

- To provide the most relevant and urgent skills supportive of the cultural programmes of the member countries which otherwise are not available in any of the SEAMEO Member Countries;
- To help broaden and intensify the scope of knowledge and skills of the personnel engaged in cultural development.

Seminars/Workshops

- To bring together the different experts and specialists in the fields of archaeology, fine arts and culture in order to exchange and share experience, skills and knowledge;
- To expand the field of knowledge and explore new theories and methodologies in the study and development of culture.

Research/Development

- To undertake research in order to generate new data;

- To seek solutions to problems and questions in the field of culture;
- To test, probe and develop theories, methodologies suitable for the understanding of culture, cultural development and processes of the region.

Personnel Exchanges

- To share human resources such as experts, specialists, artists and technicians among SEAMEO Member Countries.

In view of the existing limitations of resources and facilities, SPAFA has to be selective of the types of activities to be implemented during the first phase of its operation as a Regional Centre. Priorities therefore have to be identified. The types of activities which are to be given high priorities are as follows:

1. Activities which will benefit as many SEAMEO Member Countries as possible, in other words activities which are region-wide in scope.
2. Activities which will have long-term impact for improving the skills, capabilities and will provide self-sustaining, and self-reliant capacities whether for individuals or institutions.
3. Activities which will have wide-range of practical application and which can interface with other development efforts in the field of culture and other aspects of society.
4. Activities which will utilize the human and material resources of the region, or adapt intrusive extra-regional resources to make them more suitable to the needs and aspirations of the peoples of the region.
5. Activities which will not duplicate what other agencies, institutions, organizations, etc., can undertake more ably; in other words, those activities which SPAFA alone can undertake or needs SPAFA to serve as a pioneer.

LIBRARY AND DOCUMENTATION SERVICES

As an International Documentation and Information Centre for Archaeology, Performing Arts, Visual Arts and other related cultural activities, the existing SPAFA Library and Documentation Centre is renamed the **SPAFA Library and Documentation Services** by setting up the following units:

- A. Library Unit
 - B. Clearing House
 - C. Documentation Centre/Scientific Information and Documentation Centre:
 - ARDOC (Archaeology Documentation)
 - FADOC (Fine Arts Documentation)
 - D. Computerized-Bibliography and Information Centre
 - E. Audio-Visual Unit
- A. Library Unit:
1. Acquisition of:
 - Books on Subjects Relevant to SPAFA Concerns
 - Periodicals on SPAFA Subject Areas
 - Reports of Scientific Meetings
 2. Cataloguing and Classification for Reader Services:
 - Reading Room Services

- Loan/Inter-Library Loan
- General Reference Services
- Display of New Library Materials

3. Literature Exchange Services.

B. Clearing House:

1. Management of Editing and Publication of:

- Final Reports of Governing Board Meetings and SPAFA Seminars/Workshops
- SPAFA Digest, SPAFA Newsletter, SPAFA Brochure, SPAFA Information on Training Courses and SPAFA Seminars/Workshops.

2. Storing and Stock Checking of the SPAFA Publications.

3. Distributing of SPAFA Publications:

- Packing and Mailing SPAFA Publications
- Handling Correspondence Relating to the Despatch of Publications
- Maintenance and Updating of Mailing List.

C. Documentation Centre/Scientific Information and Documentation Centre:

This section may be sub-divided into:

- Archaeology Documentation (ARDOC)
- Fine Arts Documentation (FADOC)

The Units will undertake the following activities:

1. Collecting, processing, abstracting and listing books, publications, scientific reports, etc. on SPAFA subject areas.
2. Maintaining the records of completed and on-going research works.
3. Compilation of special bibliographies for research projects.
4. Compilation of checklist of readings for SPAFA training courses and seminars/workshops.
5. Training of SPAFA participants in the use of the computer and audio-visual equipment.
6. Provision of internal and external current awareness services by means of indexing and abstracting of publications on SPAFA subject areas.
7. Maintaining a file of events of national, regional and international importance on SPAFA subject areas.
8. Establishing co-operation with libraries and institutions for more efficient dissemination and exchanges of information.

D. Computerized Bibliographic and Information Centre:

The existing Union Catalogue will be converted into a computerized quick reference information centre on the topics of SPAFA's major concerns.

E. Audio-Visual Unit

1. Producing films, slides, photographs, video-cassette tapes of activities in areas of concern to SPAFA.
2. Maintenance and proper upkeep of all audio-visual equipment.
3. Documentation and maintenance of artifacts, art objects and other cultural materials, and other audio-visual materials in the SPAFA collection which can be used as tools for conveying information that are not available in the form of verbal and written information.