Director's Notes

Well, it looks as though you'll be hearing from me for "four more years." The faculty associates of the Center and the Dean, in an apparent fit of absentmindedness, decided to renew my tenure as director of the Center.

Grants

I am pleased to announce that our curator, May Kyi Win, obtained $9,000 from the State of Illinois for purchasing additional microfilm of primary sources relating to the reign of King Rama V—this time from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The FLIS software development team of Jim Henry and Bob Zerwekh and the language team of John Hartmann and Pat Henry were recently awarded two federal grants to continue the computerized Foreign Language Instruction Station (FLIS)-related software development. The first comes from the United States Department of Education for over $81,000, to conduct work on an interactive electronic dictionary for Thai and Indonesian. The second award, for $66,000, was obtained from the National Security Agency to import FLIS to the Windows Environment and other enhancements, including changing from instavox to digitized audio. Clark Neher received a Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad award for a project entitled "Democratic Pluralism in Southeast Asia." The Center also received over $71,000 for FLAS Fellowships for academic year 1992-1993 and SEASSI 1993 from the USDE.

Acquisitions

Microfilm from the Cornell-NIU-Michigan project with Rangoon University continues to arrive. Ultimately, we hope to have in our collections copies of nearly 11,000 pesa (palm leaf manuscripts) dealing with secular and religious subjects. Microfilm from the British and India Office Libraries also continue to be purchased. The latest arrival concerns both the Burmese and translated versions of the valuable Digest of Burmese Buddhist Law on Marriage and Inheritance in several volumes. The library has also purchased microfilm of select papers belonging to John F. Cady, the noted Burma historian from Ohio University, was also purchased recently. (The complete Burma holdings are in the Center for Burma Studies' checklist.) Select microfilm of Northern Thai manuscripts from Chiangmai University is being purchased as well. We have also purchased microfilm of The British Missionary Society Archives, The International Missionary Council Archives, and the Methodist Missionary Society Archives dealing with various countries in Southeast Asia from the period 1910-1961. Microfilm of the Records of the Department of State relating to the internal affairs of Southeast Asia between 1910-1929 has also been purchased.

The Center's Southeast Asia Videotape Library Project has progressed rapidly under the energy and efficient management of Panitan Wattanayagorn (Purn), teaching assistant in our Southeast Asia survey course. The 150-plus inventory mainly reflects videotapes that faculty associates have collected in the course of their research and travels. These tapes deal with a variety of subjects on Southeast Asia. We expect to complete the project and produce an annotated master list some time during the spring semester.

Visitors

In June, Paññānanda Bhikkhu, from Wat Cholapratthan, and Phrakhru Silananda, from Wat Buddha Padipa (London), visited our Center and exchanged ideas with our editor, Grant Olson. In May, Grant had given a talk at Wat Buddhadharmar, Chicago, on the biography of Paññānanda Bhikkhu.

Dr. Chakrapand Wongburanarart, dean of Chiangmai University's Faculty of Social Science and a graduate of NUI, visited last spring to arrange a faculty exchange between NIU and Chiangmai. Associate dean, Sidthinat Prabudhinitisam, subsequently visited for a follow-up discussion. President and the dean of social sciences of Prince of Songkhla University—Pattani, Manoh Yuden, his wife, Wanao, a member of the faculty there, and three other faculty members, visited NIU. The PSU-NIU project began two years ago and is nearing completion. A new phase is being discussed.

Dr. Tuan Ismail Tuan Soh, fine arts faculty member from the National University of Malaysia, is here with us for two semesters conducting research and visiting other centers. We
expect U Ko Ko, Burma musician supported by the Asian Cultural Council, to arrive some time in early December. He will give lectures at various centers and team teach a course with Kuo-Huang Han on Southeast Asian music.

There are also five civil servants from the Government of Indonesia, Gadjah Mada University, who are pursuing research and participating in a non-degree internship program funded by the World Bank under the guidance of Dwight King, our Indonesia political scientist.

Publications

The Center recently published Martha Ratliff's Meaningful Tone: A Study in Tonal Morphology in Compounds, Form Classes, and Expressive Phrases in White Hmong and Carol Compton and John Hartmann's edition of Papers on Tai Languages, Linguistics, and Literatures, a festschrift for Professor William Gedney. A recent issue of our journal, Crossroads (7:1), commemorates the work of anthropologists Lucien and Jane Hanks. The next issue will deal with Vietnamese poetry and history.

John Okell's Beginning Burmese will be available from the Center in the future, perhaps as early as next summer. The project has been in the works for several years with a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation. It will be the first text on beginning Burmese produced in the West since Cornyn and Roop's Beginning Burmese was published in 1968.

A special Burma issue of Crossroads is under consideration for the future. It would incorporate papers given at the recent (October 1992) Burma Colloquium. Paper topics included current literature, kingship, language, the Sangha, art history, and anthropology.

Euan Bagshaw, a long-time Burma scholar, has completed translating the entire five volumes of Myanma Min Okchokepon Sadan [Record of the administration of Burma's kings]. It is absolutely indispensable for the study of many aspects of precolonial Burma: history, laws, administration, politics, economics, literature, and society. Never before translated, we are considering it for publication in a Translation Series of the Occasional Papers monographs.

Faculty

The faculty have been involved in many activities that are detailed below. Let me point out here, however, that Brantly Womack, our China-Vietnam specialist, has, unfortunately, left us and moved on to the University of Virginia. Ron Provencher was chosen as acting director of the university libraries. Congratulations are also in order for Chalermsee (Ete) Olson, who has accepted the position of assistant professor in the NIU Libraries.

Students

Welcome to our old and new students! Several have left for the field, graduated, or moved on to other programs at other centers. Grace Mateo completed her MA in Southeast Asian history and is now at the University of Hawaii doing her doctoral work in Southeast Asian history with Leonard Andaya. Michael Egan, who received his MA in political science, is working with NGOs in Thailand. Melik Sumana­dar has returned to Indonesia. Barbara Provencher received her MA in history. Tom McGowan and Tracy Wood received BA degrees and are both pursuing graduate studies at the University of Washington. Matt Landon finished a BA in political science and is now living in Bangkok.

John Baker is in Bangkok teaching, working on his dissertation, and studying NGOs. Ida Fadzillah is working on her MA thesis in anthropology on 'Prostitution in Thailand.' Jo Jo Fornier is instructor in the History Department here for the ASUAS survey course and is nearing completion of his dissertation. Than Than Win is a teaching assistant in Burmese, who continues with her doctoral work in English; she volunteered to work for Asia Watch in New York City last summer. Robert Vore, teaching assistant in Indonesian, is also a doctoral student in English and is now learning Burmese after attending SEASSI last summer. Khin Win Kyu, a graduate assistant at the Center for Burma Studies, is completing her MA program in English. Supa Angkurawaranon continues as a teaching assistant in Thai, and Boonchai Angkurawaranon is a graduate research assistant in the Southeast Asian language lab. Panitan Wattanayagorn, currently a teaching assistant in the Center's Southeast Asia survey course, is writing the final chapters of his dissertation in political science on "Military Dependence and Counter-Dependence Strategies: A Comparative Case Study of Diversification of Arms Supply and Indigenous Arms Production by ASEAN States." David Mullikin, our copy-editor and doctoral student in English, is also in the final stages of his program. George Fisher, a FLAS recipient, is pursuing his PhD in history, focusing on the Burma Army. Another FLAS recipient is Jack Daulton, who gave up a career as corporate lawyer, has decided that Burma's art history is more rewarding (spiritually anyway). Alex Greene, also in art history, is studying Chinese influences in Burma's art. They are both working with Richard Cooler, our art historian of Southeast Asia and Burma. Tammy Duckworth, Bryan Hunsaker, Jeff Lattimer, and David Oldfield are FLAS recipients from political science. Steven Browning was awarded a graduate assistantship in political science. Philip Schwehm, political science, continues to work on his PhD dissertation on "Local Government in the Philippines: Inter-organizational Relations and Development." Andi Mal­larangeng, a PhD student in political science, concentrates his studies on public policy and comparative politics with a specialization on Southeast Asia rural development. Taejoon Ahn, a PhD student in political science, is focusing specifi-
cally on Malaysian and Indonesian processes of democratization and development; James Scott (a great name for a SEA scholar), a PhD student in political science, continues to work on his dissertation. Liu Jun will graduate this December with her MA in political science. Barbara Griffiths continues to pursue her PhD in history with the hope of someday teaching and working in a library specializing in Asian studies. Anne-Marie D’Aprix and Katie Wiegele are Luce Fellowship recipients pursuing their graduate studies in anthropology; Ann Parsons, anthropology, returned safely from her summer trip to Indonesia where she was studying jamu (herbal medicines).

There are several new graduate students enrolled this term in our program and some who have joined us in other capacities. They are Anthony Altucher, Robert Dayley, Ted Mayer, and Tsui Xiang in political science; Glenn Guba and Sun Laichen, a Luce fellowship recipient, in history; Glenn Szczypka, formerly one of our undergraduates in anthropology, is now pursuing his graduate studies in cultural anthropology; and Vitri Mallarangeng has joined the program as a graduate teaching assistant in Indonesian. We welcome them to the world of Southeast Asia amidst the cornfields of Illinois.

This fall semester finds eleven undergraduates minoring in Southeast Asian Studies: in political science are Michael Eldridge, Katherine Hawkins, and Joy Klannukarn; in anthropology, Heather Fisher and Julie Tumbarello; in economics, Amy Khaiham, Somrith Manivong, and Josephine Ramangkoun; Ketkesy Sanavongsay in education; Bill Potts in sociology and Ratti Paungam in finance.

**Council on Thai Studies and Center for Burma Studies**

The Council on Thai Studies (COTS) held its annual conference at NIU last October. The Center for Burma Studies held its biennial colloquium on Burma studies between Friday, October 30th, and Sunday, November 1st. The program schedules are printed below. The CBS is also holding a new, public exhibition of Burma art in the NIU Art Gallery.

It is with great sorrow and affection that we remember John Musgrave, long-time friend, staunch Burma studies supporter, and all-around Southeast Asia librarian. He used to tell me that when he retired, he would like it to be in Burma, a wish that unfortunately was not fulfilled. Yet, even in death, he supported Burma and Burma Studies by bequeathing a large part of his library to the Center for Burma Studies. Our most sincere condolences go to Betty Musgrave and her family.

**Southeast Asia Lecture Series**

An excellent series of Southeast Asia lectures continue to nourish our academic program. This fall, we have been fortunate to have the following share their research and insights with us:

**Sept. 4 — Clark Neher, political science, NIU**

“The Thais That Bind”

**Sept. 11 — William Frederick, history, Ohio U**

“Society and Social Change in the Indonesian Revolution”

**Sept. 18 — Jack Daulton, grad. student, art history, NIU**

“From Ancient India to Modern Burma: The Relics of Sariputta and Moggallana, the Buddha’s Chief Disciples”

**Sept. 25 — Kirsten Ewers Anderson, U of Copenhagen**

“Biodiversity Conservation in Karen Areas of Burma and Thailand”

**Oct. 2 — Wajuppa Tossa, Visiting Fulbright Scholar, Srinakharinwirot U**

“Images of Women in Isan Folk Literature”

**Oct. 9 — William Turley, political science, S. Illinois U**

“The Reinvention of Vietnamese Socialism”

**Oct. 6 — Robert Albritton, political science, NIU**


**Oct. 23 — William Liddle, political science, Ohio State U**

“Indonesian Democratization: Some Preliminary Considerations”

**Oct. 30 — Victor Lieberman, history, U of Michigan**

“The Structuring of Early Modern SE Asian History”

**Nov. 6 — Chuimei Ho, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago**

“Chinese Temples in Bangkok”

**Nov. 13 — Tuan Ismail Tuan Soh, National U of Malaysia**

“Seni Silat Melayu: An Introduction to the Malay Art of Self-Defense”

**Nov. 20 — Pamela Myers-Moro, Illinois Wesleyan U**

“Thai Music and Musicians in Contemporary Bangkok”

*Michael Aung-Thwin*
Schedule from the
Council on Thai Studies Meeting
October 2-3, 1992
Northern Illinois University

Friday, October 2nd

5:30 Thai feast at Professor Clark and Arlene Neher's home

After-dinner activities:

Atsushi Kitahara, visiting fellow, SEA Program Cornell U
“A Briefing on Thai Studies in Japan”

Penny and John Van Esterik, York U
“A Briefing on Thai Studies in Canada”

A Discussion of Recent Political Events in Thailand
With comments by Clark Neher, Ladd Thomas, Bryan Hunsaker, Grant Olson, Panitan Wattanayagorn, and
Thongchai Winichakul

Wanao Yuden, Prince of Songkhla U—Pattani
A Poetry Reading of Selected Original Work (in Thai)

Saturday, October 3rd

8:45 Prachitr Mabuking, Prince of Songkhla U—Pattani
“The Buddhist Order and the Thai State”

Hasan Madmarn, Prince of Songkhla U—Pattani
“Muslim Culture in Thai Society”

William Ball, Northern Michigan U
“Ethnic and Cultural Roadblocks to Full Integration: The
Thai-Islam in the Southern Provinces”

Robert B. Albritton, Northern Illinois U
“Social and Political Cleavages in Southern Thailand: The
Parliamentary Elections of 1992”

10:50 Scott McNabb, U of Iowa
“Tribal Education in Northern Thailand: Policies, Sponsors, and Routes”

11:10 Jo Ann Koltyn, U of Wisconsin—Madison
“The Telling of Narratives through Home Videos: Hmong Refugees and Self-documentation of Life in the
Old and New Country”

11:30 Jacqueta Hill, U of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign
“Candles for the New Year”
A video ethnographic study of a 1992 Lahu New Year
celebration in Chiang Rai that shows how Lahu New Year
activities interlink sets of Lahu villages in the Northern
tier of Thailand.

Noon Lunch and COTS business meeting

1:30 An Unconventional Panel on Literature and Translation

Wajuppa Tossa, Srinakharinwirot U, Mahasarakham
“The Translation of Unconventional Isan Folk Epics”

Grant A. Olson, Northern Illinois U
“An Unconventional Translation and Presentation of
Buddhist Texts?”

Theodora Bofman, Northeastern Illinois U
“Dealing with Conventional Puns in the Ramakian”

Carol Compton, U of Wisconsin—Madison
“Conventional and Unconventional Issues in Translating
Lao Texts”

3:15 Ormsin Sommoonpin Gardiner, Winona State U
Harry W. Gardiner, U of Wisconsin—LaCrosse
“Stress Among College Students in Four Cultures—Thailand, USA, Great Britain, and Japan:
Some Preliminary Findings”

3:45 John F. Hartmann, Northern Illinois U
“Recent Developments in the Teaching of Thai—Experiencing the U of Hawaii Experiment, Summer 1992”

Courses on Southeast Asia

We anticipate the following courses being offered next
term in spring of 1993.

ANTH 320 Folklore
ANTH 328 Anthropology of Religion
ANTH 527 SE Asian Peasant Economy
ART 294 Art History Survey IV: Arts of the East
ART 487 Southeast Asian Art
FLBU 104 Beginning Burmese II
FLBU 204 Intermediate Burmese II
FLIN 104 Beginning Indonesian II
FLIN 204 Intermediate Indonesian II
FLIN 421 Introduction to Indonesian Literature
FLIS 481 Independent Study in SE Asian Language
FLST 382 Special Studies in SE Asian Language
FLST 482 Special Topics in SE Literature
FLTH 104 Beginning Thai II
FLTH 204 Intermediate Thai II
HIST 342 History of SE Asia Since 1800
HIST 446 History of Thailand
HIST 560 Seminar: Asian Reading (Burma)
ILAS 225 Southeast Asia: Crossroads of the World
POL S 260 Foreign and Comparative Politics
POL S 376 Political Violence
POL S 568 Seminar: Political Economic Development
POL S 573N Foreign Area: Thailand
POL S 660 Research Seminar in Comparative Politics
POL S 670 Research Seminar in SE Asian Politics
Michael Aung-Thwin, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, reviewed J. S. Furnivall’s Leviathan for Anthropological Forum (Monash University, Australia) and William Koening’s book The Konbaung Polity in the Journal of the American Oriental Society. He also gave the following lectures: “Political Correctness and Revisionism of Burmese History,” at the University of Michigan’s Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies in April; “Cultural Centrism and Its Discontents: Authority, Power, and Legitimacy in Burma’s Conceptual System,” at the East-West Center, University of Hawaii, in August; and “The Structure of Pre-Colonial Burmese Society” at Beloit College’s (Wisconsin) Department of Anthropology in September.

John Hartmann, foreign languages and literatures, edited a festschrift volume for Professor William Gedney’s 77th birthday, entitled Papers on Tai Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics in Honor of William J. Gaine (DeKalb: Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Northern Illinois University, 1992). His own contribution to this work is entitled, “Proto-Tai and Tai Dam Poetic Structures.” He will be on sabbatical in the spring.

Patricia Henry, foreign languages and literatures, is currently on sabbatical and is “catching up” on her reading. She will return to teaching in the spring.

Dwight King, political science, chaired a panel on “Influences on Electoral Behavior: Indonesia, Philippines, and Thailand in Comparative Perspective,” at the 1992 AAS meetings. His own paper was entitled “Contextual Influences on Indonesians’ Electoral Behavior.” Last summer he participated in the NIU-Prince of Songkhla (Pattani) Linkage Project, gathering data on voting behavior in Southern Thailand. From Nov. 2-21st he was in Indonesia as a member of a World Bank team of regreening and reforestation.

Hsin Yi Ling, geology, participated in the First Asia Geological Congress in Islamabad, Pakistan, in February 1992. He presented a co-authored paper on “Miocene Siliceous Microfossils from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands of the Bay of Bengal.” His trip was financed by NSF and Smithsonian Institution grants. In late May, he visited London for discussion with the Southeast Asia Research Group of the University of London on the geology of Indonesia. His first paper dealing directly with Southeast Asia ophiolites was published in a special issue of the Journal of Southeast Asian Earth Sciences (1992).

Grant Olson, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, has published “Thai Cremation Volumes: A Brief History of a Unique Genre of Literature,” in Asian Folklore Studies (Nagoya). His translation of a collection of Buddhadasa Bhikkhu’s aphorisms, Food for Thought (Ahan chai), is forthcoming. His re-
vised translation of Phra Debvedi’s *Buddhism and Thai Education* (1987) will be published by Mahachulalongkorn Buddhist University. In addition, he will be teaching a section of “Introduction to Anthropology” in the spring.

Ron Provencher, anthropology, accepted a position as acting director of university libraries at NIU.

Susan Russell, anthropology, returned from the Philippines where she was continuing her research on fishermen on a National Science Foundation award.

Harold Smith, sociology, and his wife Rhea pursued a very interesting three-week tour in south central Java and Bali in September 1992. The program was organized by Elderhostel, Inc. (USA). Included were scholarly lectures on history, the economy, and politics, plus excursion trips and an in-depth look at Balinese culture. The local leader was Ruchina Ballinger, a student of anthropology who is currently writing a book on Balinese life cycle rites.

M. Ladd Thomas, political science, was invited to give a presentation at a special conference on the current economic and political situation in Thailand, which was held in New York City in June and was jointly sponsored by the Asia Society and the Thai government. The audience consisted of more than one hundred business executives, bankers, and representatives of private foundations. On October 25th, he chaired a panel on Southeast Asia at the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs held at the University of Wisconsin—Osh Kosh.

U Saw Tun, foreign languages and literatures, taught Burmese at SEASSI 1992 in Seattle, WA. He is currently working on an old Burmese concordance using his Macintosh computer.

**News From Other Mandalas**

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### University of Sydney — Thailand Update 1992

The University of Sydney held a conference on “The Rise of the Urban Middle Class and the Push for Democracy” on October 16th, 1992. The conference was divided into four sessions: 1) the rise of the urban middle class and democracy in 1992; 2) political change and its economic implications; 3) the role of the media in Thailand’s democratization; and 4) social change: the military, Buddhism, and the middle class. For more information write to: Ms. Margaret Prendergrast, Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific, University of Sydney (H40) NSW 2006.

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Hoa cá lạng.
Blend into the village.

— A Vietnamese Folk Saying

Bầu ơi thuong láy bì cùng
Tuy rằng khác giống nhưng chung một gián.

Squash, take care of the melon;
Despite your different races,
you grow under the same roof.

— A Vietnamese Folk Saying

Tắc hưu tran sa hưu
Vi không nhất thiết không
Hưu không nhu thủy nguyệt
Vạt trước hưu không hưu.

To say “have,” includes having even one speck of dust;
To say “have not” means having nothing at all.
To have and to have not is like the moon in the sky
and the moon on the river.
Don’t accept that you have or have not.

— Zen monk Từ Đạo Hạnh

These verses are excerpted from a forthcoming CROSSROADS article by Tran Quoc Vuong, entitled “Popular Culture and High Culture in Vietnamese History.”

We are pleased to announce that the next issue of our CROSSROADS journal will be devoted to papers on Vietnamese poetry and history.
Publications Program Information

The Publications Program
Center for Southeast Asian Studies
Northern Illinois University

...is taking direct and standing orders for all its publication series!

For a complete listing of available texts and monographs, write to the editor below.

The Center is constantly in search of high-quality manuscripts for its Crossroads journal, Special Report Series, and Occasional Paper Series. For more information on style and format, write to Grant A. Olson, Editor, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 140 Carroll Ave., Northern Illinois Univ., DeKalb, IL 60115 USA.

Subscribe Now!
Subscriptions to Crossroads, a journal of Southeast Asian studies, are available at $15/volume (2 issues/vol.). For air mail, add $8. Send checks to the Center written out to “Center for Southeast Asian Studies.”

Recent Publications at NIU

Crossroads 7:1
Commemorating the Work of Lucien and Jane Hanks

This issue of Crossroads is comprised of an Association for Asian Studies panel that commemorated the works of Lucien and Jane Hanks. Special biographies of these two scholars, along with their definitive bibliographies, are included.

Crossroads:
An Interdisciplinary Journal of Southeast Asian Studies

If you have not noticed, in recent years our Crossroads journal has undergone a metamorphosis and a major facelift. We invite you to subscribe and try our journal. We are the only journal covering pan-Southeast Asian topics in the United States. At $15.00 a volume year, the valuable information we provide is a bargain.

Issues are often focused on special topics, while others are of a more general nature. Recent issues include the following:

- Two Special Thai Issues (4:2 and 5:1) are still available as back issues (part one is a collection of recent research on Thailand; and part two is comprised of a panel commenting on sacred space in Northern Thailand);
- 5:2 is a general issue containing articles on Malay political cartoons, the language of a gay community in the Philippines, and Japanese aid to Burma;
- 6:1 contains a major article by Craig Lockard on modern Malay pop music, which sets this music in the context of other neighboring SEA countries;
- 6:2 contains articles on writers and activists in Southeast Asia, featuring an article by Donald Swearer on the life and works of Sulak Sivaraksa, a Thai writer and activist in exile;
- 7:1 summarizes the contributions of Lucien and Jane Hanks to Southeast Asian studies (including definitive bibliographies of this couple’s work);
- 7:2 will deal with Vietnamese poetry and history.

We would like to suggest the use of Crossroads for classroom texts. Ample copies of most back issues are in stock. For more information on how to order back issues and current subscriptions, please see the enclosed publications order form.
**MEANINGFUL TONE:**  
*A Study of Tonal Morphology in Compounds, Form Classes, and Expressive Phrases in White Hmong*

Martha Ratliff

The significance of this book is twofold. First, it makes a contribution to our understanding of a language that has become important to many Westerners since the end of the Vietnam war in 1975 and the subsequent arrival of tens of thousands of Hmong refugees to the United States. Prior to this time, only two dictionaries and one grammar by missionary linguists existed for White Hmong. Since the arrival of the Hmong refugees, linguists have started to take the task of describing the language seriously. The publication of this major study of Hmong language will bring multiple benefits: to students of Hmong, students of the Southeast Asian linguistic area and language history, and to students of the nature of human language. Second, it corrects the mistaken notion that Asian tone languages do not use tone for grammatical purposes as do African tone languages.

$23.00 (shipping included)  
Please place all orders directly with the Center.

**Papers on Tai Languages, Linguistics, and Literatures**  
*In Honor of William J. Gedney*

Carol J. Compton  
John F. Hartmann, Editors

Twenty-one scholars from Australia, Canada, China, Thailand, and the United States have contributed to this unique collection of articles on Tai languages, linguistics, and literature. The book is organized into four major sections: Tai linguistics, Phonology, Syntax and Semantics, Linguistics and Literature. The research produced is a reflection of the profound influence Emeritus Professor William J. Gedney has had on the field of Tai and Sino-Tibetan linguistics.

$27.00 (shipping included)  
Please place all orders directly with the Center.
Special Report no. 25

An Introduction to the Thai Poem
"Lilit Phra Law"
(The Story of King Law)
Robert J. Bickner

The ancient Thai poem entitled Lilit Phra Law holds a position of great importance in the literary heritage of Thailand. Countless Thai students have read it and many can cite parts of it from memory. Despite the enduring popularity of the story, those who composed the poem are frequently criticized for seeming flaws in their poetic forms. There is a curious dichotomy of opinion among modern scholars who have studied the classics: the ancient poets are appreciated for their skill and storytelling, but they are also criticized for the imagined limits of that skill. This study addresses the curious dichotomy in modern treatments of this ancient work by examining the text Lilit Phra Law and the verse forms used to create it, as well as the criticism made of it by contemporary scholars, especially from the point of view of linguistic analysis.

$16.00 (shipping included)

Please place all orders directly with the Center.

Special Report no. 26

Ku Dang—Thirty Years Later
A Village Study in Northern Thailand
1954-1984
Konrad Kingshill

Konrad Kingshill has updated his classic ethnography of the village of Ku Dang. This volume contains indispensable information on Thai village life, rituals, and beliefs. Over three hundred pages, including charts, maps, glossary, and index.

$22.00 (shipping included)

Please place all orders directly with the Center.

Occasional Paper no. 15

Irrigation in the Heartland of Burma:
Foundations of the Pre-Colonial Burmese State
Michael Aung-Thwin

Since the last two centuries of the first millennium BC, except for a short span of sixty years, the pre-colonial state in Burma has been centered in the dry zone of Upper Burma. The basis of this state was agrarian, yet little has been written on its economic wherewithal. Instead, scholars have tended to focus their attention on the state’s political, legal, religious, cultural and administrative structures and institutions. This study attempts to fill this crucial gap. In part, it highlights a major theme in pre-colonial Burmese history—“dry-zone paramountcy”—which was the result of state-run irrigation works constructed in six critical regions of central Burma, most of them existing before the 15th century AD.

This volume contains a unique and valuable set of maps to illustrate the areas discussed above.

$10.00 (shipping included)
Available immediately.
Please place all orders directly with the Center.

The NLA Mandala is published by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 140 Carroll Ave, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115, when the leaves turn. We welcome news from other centers and scholars.

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