

**ສຳມະນາວິຊາການ
ຄວາມສຳຄັນຂອງໜັງສືໃບລານ
ແລະການປົກປັກຮັກສາໃຫ້ຍືນຍົງ
ທີ່ວັດປ່າຜາໂອ ນະຄອນຫຼວງພະບາງ**

**SEMINAR ON THE IMPORTANCE OF
THE PALM-LEAF MANUSCRIPTS AND
THE SUSTAINABLE PRESERVATION**
At Vat Pa Pha O, Luang Prabang City

ສະໜັບສະໜູນໂດຍ
ENDANGERED ARCHIVES

ຈັດໂດຍ:
ອົງການພຸດທະສາສະໜາສຳພັນລາວ ແຂວງຫຼວງພະບາງ
ແລະ ສູນຂໍ້ມູນພຸດທະສາສະໜາຫຼວງພະບາງ

ວັນຈັນ ທີ່ 12 ມິຖຸນາ 2023
ເລີ່ມເວລາ 08:00AM - 16:30PM

Monday 12th June, 2023
START AT 08:00AM - 16:30PM

Visit Our Website:
www.buddhist-archive.org

ສູນຂໍ້ມູນພຸດທະສາສະໜາ
020-55-372-753

Live Academic Seminar from Laos



Photo credit:
Photo 1 : Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization of Luang Prabang Province and the Buddhist Archive of Luang Prabang
Photos 2-3 : Dr. Khamvone Boulyaphonh

Soon before the last semester break, on 12 June 2023, Professor Dr. Volker Grabowsky, cordially invited by Dr. Khamvone Boulyaphonh, a 2016 alumni of the Asia-Africa-Institute of the Universität Hamburg and currently the Director of the Buddhist Archives of Luang Prabang, joined the *Seminar on the Importance of the Palm-leaf Manuscripts and the Sustainable Preservation* hosted by the Lao Buddhist Fellowship Organization of Luang Prabang Province and the Buddhist Archives of Luang Prabang at Vat Pa Pha O in Luang Prabang, Laos. Senior scholars from Laos and Northern Thailand richly experienced

in the preservation and documentation of manuscripts and library systems lively exchanged their knowledge and contributions on surveys and storage of palm-leaf manuscripts with the aim to sustain the transmission of long-inherited local wisdom for future generations. The seminar was broadcasted live on the Facebook Fanpage of the Buddhist Archives of Luang Prabang and attended by large audience from Laos, Thailand, and other countries.



Conference on Thai Textbooks in Thailand

On 10 August 2023, at the main convention hall of the National Library of Thailand (Bangkok), several of our post-doctoral researchers and PhD students of Thai Studies were invited to give academic lectures at the Conference on Thai Textbooks organized by the Fine Arts Department within the Ministry of Culture of Thailand.

Peera Panarut, a post-doctoral researcher, presented *Cindamani*, the earliest textbook on Thai orthography and poetics in the session which focused on the influence of *Cindamani* in the Early Bangkok period (after 1782 CE), several hundred years after the original composition of the text. Along with his presentation, Boontuen Sriworapot, an expert of Thai literature from the Fine Arts Department and a National Artist, delivered a special lecture on the history of Thai textbooks in this session, which was moderated by Assistant Professor Thanachot Keatnapat, lecturer of Thai language at Ram Khamhaeng University (Bangkok). In the afternoon, Sutheera Satayaphan, a PhD student from the AAI, presented the topic *Subin Kò Ka* and *Sri Sawatwat: Siamese Reader in Bangkok Period*. Besides, researchers from the Fine Arts Department presented their research on Thai textbooks composed during the late nineteenth century before the educational reforms were implemented in Siam.

Photo credit:
Photos 1, 3 : Pitakpong Kaoweien
Photo 2 : Sutheera Satayaphan





A successful former Hamburg student in Saigon

“Chaulity” stands for Châu and (German) quality. Our former student Mandy Châu Khánh has recently opened a modern salad bar in the posh Thảo Điền district (41, Thái Ly). This is her third enterprise in the city. First was Tellelo, selling Vietnamese high-end leather products in Germany, and selling German leather care products in Vietnam. The second enterprise is a co-working space with affiliated textile export company. She invites German and other Western textile designers to come to Vietnam and, with Mandy’s help, realize their projects together with Vietnamese producers. We remember her entrepreneurial spirit very much, when she organized the supporting program for EUROVIET in 2008 and many other cultural events of our Vietnamistik. We miss her in Hamburg, but wholeheartedly wish her success in all of her three ventures and, surely, will eat in her salad bar as often as possible. (Thank God, she has fish, meat and beer as well.)

Philippines
Film Screening



(Chinese: 台北星期天; 'Taipei Sunday')

**2nd of November 2023,
16:00 - 18:00 CET**

**AAI – Ostflügel, R. 221
Flügel Ost ("East Wing"),
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1,
20146 Hamburg**

A 2009 Taiwanese comedy-drama film inspired by a 1958 Roman Polanski short and directed by Ho Wi Ding.

The film follows two migrant Filipino workers in Taipei, Taiwan as they get themselves into a day full of adventure upon discovering an abandoned red couch.

Language: in Tagalog and some Chinese, with English subtitles

Participation of doctoral students in the Conference on Conceptual History

From 28 to 30 of September, 2023, Adonis Elumbre and Rangga Eka Saputra, two Ph.D. candidates from the Austronesian Studies Department, participated in the 24th International Conference of the History of Concepts, hosted by the University of Warsaw (Poland). The conference was organized by the History of Concepts Group (HCG), and focused on the theme 'Agency of Concepts in Interface Regions: Asymmetries, Asynchronities, and Discontinuations.'



Adonis Elumbre presented a paper entitled *"Conceptualizing the native: Ethnoracial classifications in the European ethnological imaginaries of the late 19th century Philippines"*. Drawing from a chapter of his dissertation, Adonis' presentation inquired on what constituted "native-ness" in the Philippines according to the evolving European ethnological science in the late 19th century. According to him, various modes of conceptualization were employed by Westerners to make sense of the expanse of physical and cultural attributes that mark the unity

and diversity of the population. Adonis argued that these resulting conceptual symmetries and asymmetries were also related to the geopolitical conditions of the region at that time. This moment, he furthered, rippled through the 20th century as both the discursive and political artefacts of conceptualizing the native kept permeating the society even in the post-colonial context. Using a range of primary sources such as academic, travel, and exhibition texts, his presentation demonstrated that the ethnoracial classifications tended to accentuate both the homogeneity of the native as belonging to certain races and their heterogeneity according to constructed cultural or indigenous traits. Notwithstanding this discursive coherence, it was pointed out that a plurality of approaches and conceptualizations likewise distinguished the intellectual persuasions from among the Spanish, German, French, and British sources analyzed. In his conclusive note, Adonis suggested that accounting for this could re-position the narrative as well: that in conceptualizing the native, the conceptualizing observer also conceptualizes his own scientific culture—and by extension, his own native self.

>>>

Editorial Board:

Prof. Jörg Thomas Engelbert
Prof. Volker Grabowsky
Prof. Elsa Clavé
Dr. Silpsupa Jaengsawang

Editorial Team:

Roberta Zollo
Rangga E. Saputra

Content:

Kornkanok Khetnongbua
Thanh Ha Nguyen
Quang Minh To


Layout:


E. Hellen Kustanti

SUBSCRIBE:

suedostasien.unihh@outlook.de

FOLLOW US:

 @seastudies_hamburg

 <https://www.aai.uni-hamburg.de/soa.html>

The paper presented by Rangga Eka Saputra, titled *“Enjoyed life in the hostland: Hadhrami-Arab diaspora and socio-economic adaptation in the post-independence Singapore, c. 1967-1998”*, aimed at pushing forward the alternative concept of ‘diasporic minority’, which considers minorities in all the complexity of their history and migration story, which in the case under study are seen as empowering. Rangga developed this argument by analyzing the case of Hadhrami-Arab communities in Southeast Asia, which integrated into the local societies and obtained a respected status, especially among Indonesian-Malay-speaking communities. More specifically, Rangga delineated the socio-historical trajectories that led to the Hadhramis transformation and their adaptation into newly different socio-economic circumstances, precisely, after the independence of Singapore. By scrutinizing case studies in Malay business associations and religious charities, he demonstrated that the ‘Malayization’ of the Arabs has roots in mutual



socio-economic interests between this minority diaspora and local Malays, under harsh socio-economic circumstances and competition among ethnic groups. These collaborations enabled everyday interactions among both communities and brought the Hadhramis group to reinvent certain aspects of their culture to facilitate their co-existence with the local Malay. For Rangga, this was a rational and functional choice Hadhramis took to secure their control over economic capital and maintain a certain respected status. Moreover, equally important was to highlight how the Malays needed the Hadhramis, who were known to be transregional merchants and philanthropists, to help them improve their economic performance and manage community development projects. In conclusion, Rangga argued the economic aspects of these interactions with the local population as a major factor explaining the successful integration of Hadhramis in the host communities, despite the political and ideological change.



Field Research on Acehese Manuscripts in Aceh (Indonesia)



Syukri Rizki, a Ph.D. candidate of the Department of Austronesian Studies, conducted a three-month field research (from July 20 to October 20, 2023) in Banda Aceh (Indonesia), which aimed to gather philological and codicological data from a selection of manuscripts stored in two museums, the Aceh Museum and the Ali Hasjmy Museum.

The research trip was part of Syukri's Ph.D. project, which deals with the history of the Acehese manuscript tradition and the changes occurring during the Dutch occupation from the late nineteenth to the onset of the twentieth century, a period considered as the peak of the manuscripts' production.

The Aceh Museum holds roughly 2,000 volumes, whereas the Ali Hasjmy Museum houses 232. The two collections exhibit a broad variety of texts and codicological unique features. These manuscripts have received only scant attention from manuscript scholars so far, which was seen as the main reason for Syukri to study them. While there are no distinguishing traits between the Acehese manuscripts kept in European holdings and those remaining in Aceh, it has been perceived that the latter had less chance to be ordered copies, and hence could contain more traces of the scholarship and literature that once existed in the region and partly disappeared.

During his fieldwork, Syukri collected 60 manuscripts in the Aceh Museum and 40 manuscripts in the Ali Hasjmy Museum. Overall, the identified manuscripts' texts are written in Arabic, Malay, and Acehese, thematically ranging from Islamic law, Arabic grammar, theology, Sufism (Islamic mysticism), prophetic tradition, medicine, and history. Syukri aims to analyze different aspects of this manuscript tradition, such as the popularity of certain text, imported and local elements, and places of manuscript production – all with relevance to the Dutch presence as a colonizing force.



Indonesian Film Screening



“KISAH 3 TITIK”

**16th of November 2023,
17:00 - 19:00 CET**

**Discussion (Q & A) with film
producer Lola Amaria via Zoom:
19.00 – 20.00 CET**

AAI – Ostflügel, R. 221
Flügel Ost ("East Wing"),
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1,
20146 Hamburg

The film tells the stories of three female workers who happened to have the same name, Titik. Titik Sulastri, a widow with two children who works as a low-paid contract worker in a garment factory; Titik Dewanti Sari, a spinster who holds a prestigious position in a giant company full of scandals, and Titik Kartika or Titik Tomboy, a tomboy of a thug who works as a home factory worker who is unafraid to die for justice. Apart from having the same name, they are all trapped in a situation that will transform their life radically.

Director: **Bobby Prabowo**

Scriptwriter: **Charmantha Adjie**

Cast: **Lola Amaria, Ririn Ekawati, Maryam Supraba, Donny Alamsyah, Ingrid Widjanarko**
Language: Indonesian Language with English Subtitle.

Indonesian Film Screening

LUNA PUJIANTO

AMELIA ARNOLD



“Mata Hati / Eye of the Heart” (2023)

30th November 2023, 17:00 CET
**Discussion (Q & A) with the film
Director, Adrian J. Putra:
19.00 – 20.00 CET**

AAI – Ostflügel, R. 221
Flügel Ost ("East Wing"),
Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1,
20146 Hamburg

“Eye of the Heart” is a documentary film that delves into the world of inclusive education in Indonesia, focusing on blind students in North Sumatra. Centred around YAPENTRA, a boarding school for visually impaired students, located in Tanjung Morawa, the film introduces students who have come from distant places, such as the island of Nias, and have faced blindness since a young age. The documentary also describes the path that led alumni of the same boarding school to return there as educators. As adults who have overcome their own challenges as blind individuals, they now are mentors and role-models for the younger students, showing them that everything can be possible with hard work and determination.

Through the points of view of students and alumni of YAPENTRA, “Eye of the Heart” explores the transformative power of education and the importance of the community in helping individuals reaching their full potential.

Directed by: **Adrian Janitra Putra**

Written by: **Luna Tahiya Pujianto**

Cinematography: **Amelia Riska Arnold, Adrian Janitra Putra**

Produced by: Reel Change Media

Duration: 60 minutes

Language: Deutsch/Bahasa Indonesia w. English subtitle