



INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES
CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



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FOREWORD

The year 2010 marked the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) by Royal Decree on May 10, 1985. However, recognizing its original formation in 1967 as a unit within the Faculty of Political Science of Chulalongkorn University, IAS has already been in existence for more than four decades. Since its inception, the research and teaching staff of IAS have continually strived to develop their knowledge of the field of Asian Studies in order to support academic excellence in Thailand and to share their expertise with both the private and public sectors with the goal of improving the level of understanding between Thais and other ethnic groups across the Asian region. Throughout this period, IAS has consistently produced a high volume of original research works while also providing quality academic services to the student body of Chulalongkorn University and disseminating the results of its research through publication.

In Fiscal Year 2010, a broad range of program outputs were successfully completed at IAS based upon its three primary modalities for academic activity of research, academic services and knowledge sharing.

In 2010, 11 new research projects were initiated, 22 projects were ongoing and 11 projects were completed. The research projects at IAS were conducted by its two Centers of Excellence, the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM) and the Mekong Studies Center, together with additional specialized research units at the Muslim Studies Center and the Chinese Studies Center (CSC). Research projects were also carried out by the IAS research centers for ASEAN Studies, Japan and Korean Studies, South Asian Studies and individual country experts on Malaysia and Singapore. To support these research activities, IAS research projects received a total of 18,960,836 Baht in funding, provided through grants by public and private organizations.

IAS also contributed to the social development of Thailand through the provision of academic services. In 2010, the Institute organized 36 academic events in the form of meetings, seminars, and talks with no attendance fees. Experts from the Institute were also invited to speak on a broad range of subjects at 56 different events organized by both state and private agencies. The highlight of IAS activities in 2010 was hosting the first academic seminar on Muslim Studies held in Thailand, entitled “Muslims in Thailand: A Constructive Role in Thai Society.”

Finally, IAS researchers and experts supported knowledge sharing through publishing prolifically during the year, with 7 academic articles published in national journals and 46 articles published in other mediums including academic books,

newspapers and other periodicals.

Through its program activities in 2010, the Institute of Asian Studies has demonstrated its continuing commitment to ensuring high quality program outputs and internal operations that support its strategic vision of being a center for excellence in research and academic services in Asian Studies. In the coming year, IAS seeks to continue to serve as the principal pillar of Asian Studies at Chulalongkorn University and to put into practice academic activities that support the sustainable development of Thailand and the Asian region as a whole.

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INTRODUCTION

◆ Background

The Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) is an inter-disciplinary research, teaching and service organization. IAS was established in 1967 as a unit within the Faculty of Political Science at Chulalongkorn University. After a considerable expansion of activities at IAS in 1979, an upgrade in the Institute's status was determined to be necessary. Consequently, on May 10, 1985, IAS was officially recognized as a separate institute at Chulalongkorn University, granting IAS a status equivalent to that of a faculty at the university.

Today, the strategic vision for IAS is to continue to serve the Thai community and the Asian region as a source of knowledge and expertise for a broad range of subject areas in the region including economic, social, political, and security concerns. This has been accomplished through the diligence and cooperation of a team of highly qualified researchers who possess specialized knowledge about each country and sub-region within Asia.

◆ Objectives

The Institute of Asian Studies endeavors to achieve the following objectives through its activities:

- 1) To promote academic excellence in the field of Asian Studies;
- 2) To build genuine interest in Asian affairs among the general public both within and outside of Thailand;
- 3) To promote a better international understanding of Thailand and the rest of Asia;
- 4) To promote improved understanding and relations between Asian communities in Asia and throughout the world.

◆ Activities

Research

IAS research projects are often inter-disciplinary in nature and include basic, applied and action research of both short and long-term duration. IAS strives to maintain high standards of scientific objectivity, quality and academic integrity.

The areas of research at IAS are primarily focused geographically on the Asian region. Thailand is included as a context for research but it is the policy of IAS to avoid duplicating research conducted by existing institutions elsewhere in Thailand. Hence,

the Institute only carries out research on Thailand based subject matter that relates to the nation's connections with other Asian nations.

Since its inception, and particularly during the last 20 years of its existence, the research work of IAS has been widely respected in academic circles both nationally and internationally. This increasingly well-established reputation for academic quality at IAS has resulted in high levels of cooperation and networking with other academic institutions. It is a primary objective of IAS to continually develop and improve the quality of its research in order to ensure that it maintains and further enhances its status as a research institute recognized for its excellence and as an important constituent of Chulalongkorn University.

Graduate Studies

IAS, in cooperation with other academic units of Chulalongkorn University, has recently launched two Master's degree programs: the Master of Arts in Southeast Asian Studies Program and the Master of Arts in Human and Social Development Program. These programs provide a forum for IAS researchers to share their knowledge and research experiences in order to benefit the student community.

The Master of Arts in Southeast Asian Studies is an international graduate program which is conducted in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts at Chulalongkorn University. It is a unique and pioneering program within the Asian region which has as its conceptual root a shared interest in providing an Asian perspective on the Southeast Asian region, in contrast to the dominant Western interpretation. The understanding and implications of this Western point of view were particularly important during the Vietnam War and the Cold War. While the interest of the West in Southeast Asia has waned somewhat since that time, there is an increasing local interest in the subject for the people of Southeast Asia themselves. Consequently, the direction and objectives of the Southeast Asian Studies Program have been adjusted in order to understand Southeast Asia from a more locally-based perspective with the objective of building up an alternative body of knowledge on the region that takes into account the rapid and dramatic changes which are currently taking place.

IAS and Chulalongkorn University are ideally placed to offer a Master of Arts in Southeast Asian Studies Program for several reasons. These include the rich academic and research staff resources of IAS, its strong regional and international cooperative network based on this area of study and its broad experience in international studies programs and research administration. These resources have provided IAS and Chulalongkorn University with the tools and infrastructure to establish one of the most unique Southeast Asian Studies programs in the region.

Similarly, the Master of Arts in Human and Social Development Program is based upon a cooperative effort with the College of Population Studies (CPS) and the Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute (CUSRI). It represents a renewed impetus and commitment by IAS and its institutional counterparts to promote academic excellence in human and social development in response to the dynamic challenges of

the present global development situation.

Consultative and Informational Services

IAS staff members are frequently called upon to provide curriculum advice and information on Asian affairs to students at other universities, private individuals and institutions, and government officials. A significant number of IAS academics have been invited to coordinate entire courses or give individual lectures in their areas of specialization during the last few years.

Special Lectures and Panel Discussions

Thai and foreign scholars passing through Thailand are often invited to give special lectures and engage in panel discussions on Asian affairs at IAS. Participants in these programs have included scholars, students and the general public. This type of activity is carried out at least once a month in order to promote better understanding of the Asian region among the public as well as to encourage more in-depth and inter-disciplinary study of the Asian region and individual Asian countries in the academic community.

Seminars

IAS organizes seminars, workshops and conferences at national, regional and international levels regarding specific topics of interest related to Asia. The purpose of these activities is to promote cross-disciplinary interaction on issues of mutual interest.

Training Programs

IAS annually organizes training programs on Japanese studies for teachers in secondary schools throughout Thailand. These programs are designed to serve as in-service training to upgrade teachers' knowledge of Asian countries. Interested members of the public are also welcome to attend.

Audio-Visual Aids Center

The Audio-Visual Center was established in 1982 in response to requests from teachers in secondary schools in Thailand. The Center has received the support and cooperation of private and public organizations both within and outside of Thailand. In late 1998, the Center began development of Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI). The CAI product has been marketed since 1999.

Publications

IAS publishes the *Asian Review*, a peer-reviewed journal that is published in Thai with English language abstracts. An entirely English version is also published annually. The *Asia Yearbook*, another Thai language periodical, provides school teachers and college lecturers with information and reference materials on Asia which are updated on an annual basis. In addition, IAS in cooperation with *Matichon Newspaper* regularly

sponsor feature articles on Asian affairs written by staff and associates of IAS. Other publications, both in Thai and English, include research papers, seminar proceedings, monographs, textbooks and translations.

Exchanges of Scholars

IAS welcomes and provides support to visiting Asian scholars from abroad who wish to conduct research in Thailand. *The Asian Studies Fellowship Award Program*, offered by IAS since 1989, is sponsored by the *Keizo Shibusawa Memorial Fund*. The purpose of the award is to promote international intellectual and cultural exchanges between scholars within Asia.

Area Studies Programs

IAS' work in education and research promotes cooperation both within Chulalongkorn University's research environment and with research institutions based outside of the university. Through this mutual effort, researchers from Thailand and other Asian countries are able to build a greater level of harmony and understanding between the peoples of the countries involved. At IAS, the *Chinese Studies Center*, the *Mekong Studies Center*, and the *Japan Studies Program* have been particularly active in enlarging their academic networks. The *Muslim Studies Center* is also engaged with this type of networking as part of the IAS plan of action. In addition, plans have been made to upgrade the Japan Studies Program to a *Japanese and Korean Studies Center*.

Special Programs

As part of its efforts to stimulate research in Asian studies, IAS has initiated the *Wolfgang Wittwer Fellowship Program for Asian Studies*. The program awards research grants to students conducting research for an M.A. thesis, a Ph.D. dissertation or other academic scholarship on Asian studies and selects the best for publication.

The *Asian Public Intellectuals (API) Fellowships* are fully funded by The Nippon Foundation, an independent non-profit organization in Japan. The API Fellowships are provided to public intellectuals in Asia who wish to pursue intellectual, cultural or professional projects in other Asian countries.

The Thai World Affairs Center is affiliated with but autonomous from IAS organizationally. The Center was formally established in 1986 and is administered by its own director in close consultation with IAS management.

IAS Website

IAS is accessible via website at <http://www.ias.chula.ac.th>. The site provides a brief overview of the Institute of Asian Studies including the objectives, administration, personnel, finances, and activities of its various programs and projects. It also provides access to services, information and data on Asian countries and Asian affairs. Additionally, the IAS website provides information about the diversity of expertise and

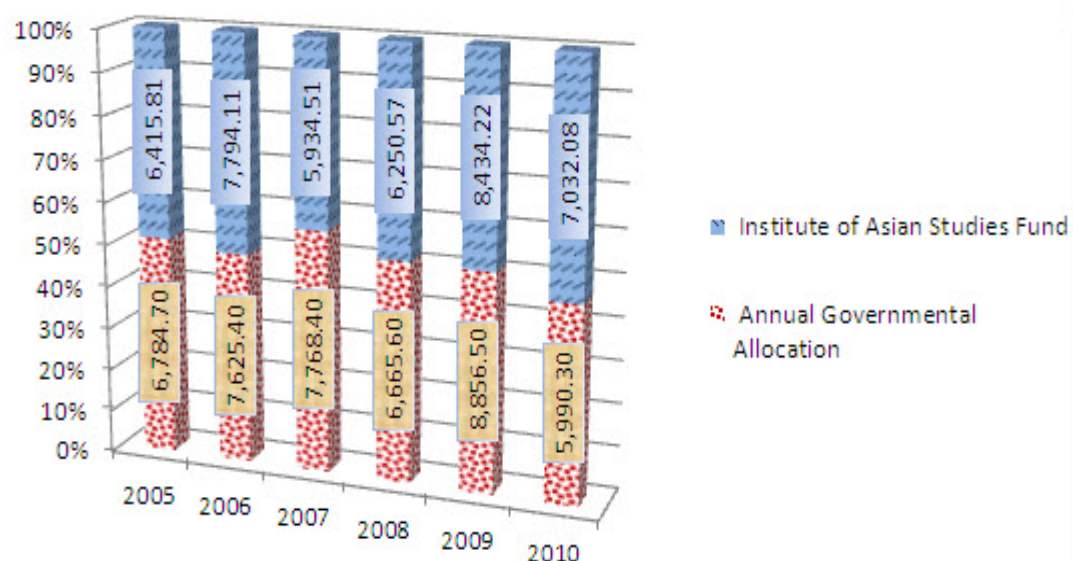
research activities at the Institute and a searchable database of IAS publications and abstracts. In addition, the IAS website provides newsflash updates to inform its visitors of upcoming institutional events such as conferences or seminars held or sponsored by IAS, relevant news reports, recent publications and articles. Finally, the site also provides links to useful websites and other sources of information on Asian affairs and a search engine and bulletin board are available for interested individuals and organizations.

The Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM) website <http://www.arcm.ias.chula.ac.th> can also be accessed via the IAS website. ARCM's website is the result of cooperation and support by the Academic Information Database Project, Research on the Net: 200 Years of History: Global Diaspora, Keio University, Japan. The website provides a brief introduction to ARCM's objectives, activities, personnel, projects and publications. In addition, data sharing of various quantitative data sets related to migration in Southeast Asia is provided as well as digitized maps of migratory movements in the region.

The Institute of Asian Studies has a general delivery electronic mailing address at ias@chula.ac.th and many members of the IAS staff also have individual electronic mail accounts where they can be contacted.

◆ Finance

As a government university unit, IAS receives allocations from both national and university budgets. However, these have proved insufficient for IAS to effectively carry out the expanding scope of its activities. Therefore, other sources of funding are solicited from international and domestic sources in the form of research grants, support for various components of IAS programs, sponsorship of seminars and others. The Institute of Asian Studies is sincerely appreciative of the donor support which makes its activities possible.

Income 2005-2010

(in unit: 1,000 B.)

	2005 *	2,006	2,007	2,008	2,009	2,010
1 Annual Governmental Allocation	6,784.70	7,625.40	7,768.40	6,665.60	8,856.50	5,990.30
1.1 General Administration	1,400.60	1,213.40	836.80	763.30	872.80	765.90
1.2 Applied Research	5,384.10	6,412.00	6,931.60	5,902.30	7,983.70	5,224.40
2 Institute of Asian Studies Fund	6,415.81	7,794.11	5,934.51	6,250.57	8,434.22	7,032.08
2.1 Asian Research Center for Migration	1,418.39	3,654.24	1,319.48	375.01	1,042.85	1,206.71
2.2 Chinese Studies Center	606.42	707.59	601.76	1,030.83	900.94	965.16
2.3 Mekong Studies Center	-	243.90	284.27	338.81	457.93	769.20
2.4 Muslim Studies Center	-	153.92	279.41	62.63	10.07	210.62
2.5 Publication Program	784.07	1,226.73	1,208.74	1,064.94	1,050.94	552.15
2.6 Audio-Visual Aids Center	604.31	196.40	332.62	357.20	309.87	202.63
2.7 Research Fund	1,490.91	1,007.53	1,100.54	2,562.45	3,676.22	2,426.94
2.8 Academic Training Service	1,511.71	603.80	807.69	458.70	985.40	698.67
3 Total Income	13,200.51	15,419.51	13,702.91	12,916.17	17,290.72	13,022.38

* Fiscal year Starts in October

◆ Contributors for Research at IAS (FY 2010)

- Chulalongkorn University
- The Sasakawa Peace Foundation
- The United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- Neighbouring Countries Economic Development Cooperation Agency (Public Organization)
- The Thailand Research Fund
- United Nations Development Programme, Thailand Office
- Board of Investment
- The Embassy of the United States of America, Bangkok, Thailand
- The World Bank

◆ Administration

Although administratively a part of Chulalongkorn University, IAS functions as an intra-university, inter-university and inter-community organization. Many of its scholars, specialists and staff are devoted volunteers from other faculties, universities and communities.

The day-to-day management and administration of IAS is the responsibility of the IAS Director, assisted by three deputy directors and two assistant directors. IAS is also guided by the counsel of a team of advisors, an Executive Committee and other project specific committees.

◆ IAS Executive Committee

- Director, IAS
- Deputy Director, Research Affairs, IAS
- Deputy Director, Academic Affairs, IAS
- Deputy Director, Administrative Affairs, IAS
- Assistant to the Director, Research Affairs, IAS
- Assistant to the Director, Academic Affairs, IAS
- Director, Chinese Studies Center, IAS
- Director, Asian Research Center for Migration, IAS
- Director, Muslim Studies Center, IAS
- Director, Mekong Studies Center, IAS
- Director, South Asia Center, IAS
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suthipand Chirathivat
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suwanna Satha-anand
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Vira Somboon
- Dr. Klairung Amratisha
- Dr. Patcharawalai Wongboonsin
- IAS Secretary

◆ IAS Administrators

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sunait Chutintaranond
Director



Ajarn Major Dr. Ra-shane Meesri
Deputy Director for Administrative Affairs



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nualnoi Trirat
Deputy Director for Research Affairs



Asst. Prof. Dr. Montira Rato
Deputy Director for Academic Affairs



Ms. Pornpimon Trichot
Associate Director



Mr. Ukrist Pathmanand
Associate Director



Ms. Sirinuch Angkinandana
Secretary

◆ IAS In-House Research Staff

Name	Specialization
Mr. Adisorn Semyam Adisorn.S@chula.ac.th	Laos: politics, economy and society
Ms. Aungkana Kamonpetch Aungkana.K@chula.ac.th	Migration and gender
Ms. Chpa Chittpratoom Chpa.C@chula.ac.th	Malaysian politics
Ms. Dollaya Tiantong Dollaya9@yahoo.com	Middle East and security issues
Ms. Kanokphan Usha Kanokphan.U@chula.ac.th	South Asian affairs and socio-cultural development
Mr. Nuttapot Yuenyong Nuttapot.Y@chula.ac.th	Singaporean affairs and socio-economic development
Ms. Pornpimon Trichot pornpimon07@gmail.com	Burmese politics and ethnic minorities
Ms. Premjai Vungsiriphisal Premjai.V@chula.ac.th	Migration and health, migrant children and refugees
Mr. Ronnaphol Masuntisuk mr_phol@yahoo.com	Sino economy
Ms. Saikaew Thipakorn Saikaew.T@chula.ac.th	Japanese affairs with an emphasis on urban and human development, foreign aid
Mr. Samarn Laodumrongchai Samarn.L@chula.ac.th	Taiwan affairs with an emphasis on migration
Dr. Srawut Aree tfarida@hotmail.com	Middle East and Muslim world
Ms. Supaphan Tangtrongpairoj Supaphan.K@chula.ac.th	Indonesian affairs and ASEAN

Name	Specialization
Dr. Thanyathip Sripana sthanyat@yahoo.com	Vietnamese affairs with an emphasis on politics; socio-economic development; foreign policy including Vietnamese foreign policy towards Thailand; international relations including Thai-Vietnamese Relations; Overseas Vietnamese in Thailand; Greater Mekong Sub-Region Development
Mr. Ukrist Pathmanand pukrist@chula.ac.th	Thai relations with other countries, political economy
Ms. Wacharin Yongsiri	Cambodian politics, border trade

◆ Secretarial and Clerical Staff

Name	Responsibility
Ms. Arunothai Supalertmongkonchai Arunothai.S@chula.ac.th	Audio-Visual Center secretarial staff
Ms. Aucharee Lubpairee pu_aucharee@hotmail.com	Financial staff
Ms. Charunee Lucktong Charunee.L@chula.ac.th	Academic affairs chief
Ms. Dolrudee Taivejasatr Dolrudee.T@chula.ac.th	Financial accountant chief
Ms. Jintana Ritthisen Jintana.R@chula.ac.th	Data processing
Ms. Jirapa Sukruengsuwan Jirapa.S@chula.ac.th	Secretarial staff
Ms. Jittima Kimsuksri anntima_mlsc@hotmail.com	Secretarial staff

Name	Responsibility
Ms. Manasa Banditkittisakun Manasa.B@chula.ac.th	Financial staff
Ms. Michiko Yoshida, Japan Michiko.Y@chula.ac.th	Program coordinator, API
Ms. Nukun Boonwong Nukun.S@chula.ac.th	Publication staff
Mr. Pakpong Saengsoi Pakpong.S@chula.ac.th	Audio-Visual Center technical staff
Ms. Pranee Dejchok	Janitorial services
Mr. Preeda Duangdee	Driver and secretarial staff
Ms. Pasawan Sir-on pasawan07@gmail.com	Secretarial staff
Ms. Sireethron Kowitveevatham ksrt.28@gmail.com	Secretarial staff
Mr. Sanond Homsuwan Sanond.H@chula.ac.th	Data processing, programmer
Ms. Sirinuch Angkinandana Sirinuch.A@chula.ac.th	Secretary
Mr. Sompot Intrapat	Driver, messenger
Ms. Suda Santiseveekul	Secretarial staff
Mr. Surapol Chumchoojan Surapol.Ch@chula.ac.th	Financial staff
Mr. Sutee Boonla Sutee.B@chula.ac.th	Publication staff
Ms. Thitikarn Pichaisornplang Thitikarn.P@chula.ac.th	Librarian

◆ Visiting and Affiliated Fellows

IAS welcomes and provides support to visiting Asian scholars from foreign countries who wish to do research in Thailand. IAS has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with several foreign research institutions and provides financial support to scholars through the Asian Studies Fellowship Award Program. In addition, IAS offers facilities to outstanding scholars who have found their own financial support and who would like to do research in Thailand for a certain period of time.

In 2009, IAS was host to 7 API fellows from abroad through the Asian Public Intellectuals (API) Program. Additionally, 4 scholars were affiliated with IAS as visiting fellows.

Visiting Fellows

- Name/address: Ms. Sanlatt Phyu/Myanmar
 Research Title: Sustainable Solutions to the Displaced People Situation on the Thai-Myanmar Border (ARCM research project)
 Period: 1/11/09 – 31/01/11
 Funding: United Nations Development Programme
 Resources:

- Name/address: Mr. Ben Harkins/USA
 Research Title: Sustainable Solutions to the Displaced People Situation on the Thai-Myanmar Border (ARCM research project)
 Period: 1/02/10 – 31/12/10
 Funding: United Nations Development Programme
 Resources:

- Name/address: Mr. Aung Aung Hlaing/Asia-Europe Institute/University of Malaya/Malaysia
 Research Title: Exploring the Prospect for Thai Investment in Myanmar ICT Market (Mekong Studies Center research project)
 Period: 1-30/06/10
 Funding: Asia-Europe Institute
 Resources:

- Name/address: Professor Dr. Pei-Hsiu Chen/Graduate Institute of Southeast Asian Studies/National Chi Nan University /Taiwan
 Research Title: The Substantial Relations between Taiwan and Thailand
 Period: 1/07/10 – 31/10/10

Funding The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Taiwan
Resources:

- Name/address: Dr. Christopher Mark Joll/New Zealand
Research Title: Consultant of the Muslim Studies Center
Period: 1/07/10 – 30/06/11
Funding None
Resources:

- Name/address: Ms.Sushma Joshi/Writer and Filmmaker/Nepal
Research Title: In Search of Rubies: The Nepali Migration in Burma and Thailand
Period: 1/11/10 - 31/07/11
Funding Asian Scholarship Foundation
Resources:

- Name/address: Ms. Deng Lan/Institute of South Asian Studies/Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences/China
Research Title: BIMSTEC: Implication and Lessons for Sub-Regional Cooperation
Period: 1/11/10 - 30/04/11
Funding Asian Scholarship Foundation
Resources:

IAS RESEARCH (2009-2010)

◆ Research Theme: Regionalism and Sub-regionalism ◆

Cross-Border Economic Relations in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS): Impacts and Implications (2nd Year)

Research Team : Dr. Theera Nuchpiam
Dr. Myat Than
Pornpimol Trichot

The purpose of this Sasakawa Peace Foundation funded research project is to explore cross-border movements and activities in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS), and to analyse their social and economic impacts on the area and beyond. The GMS countries covered by this study include Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, and Yunnan Province in southern China.

The project's second year research activities began studying new sites in border towns within the sub-region. The border sites which were investigated during the year are as follows:

- **Thailand:** *Thailand – Laos Border*
Mukdahan – Savannakhet
Nong Khai – Vientiane-Capital
Nakorn Phanom – Khammounae
- **China:** *China – Laos Border*
Mengla County, Mohan Town - Boten Town and Namta Province
- **Myanmar:** *Myanmar – China Border*
Muse – Ruili
Mueng La – Da Luo

Myanmar – Thailand Border
Kawthaung – Ranong
Tachilake – Mae Sai

- **Vietnam:** *Vietnam – China Border*
Lao Cai – He Kou (Yunnan)
- **Laos:** *Laos – Thailand Border*
Savannakhet – Mukdahan
Vientiane-Capital – Nong Khai
Khammouane – Nakorn Phanom

The issues studied during the project's second year include cross-border movements and procedures, social and economic impacts of cross-border movements and activities and the role and activities of important stakeholders. The second phase of this study on cross-border economic relations in selected border areas of the GMS has revealed developments and trends that not only have significant social and economic implications for the study areas but also potentially important impacts for relations among the countries of the sub-region. While the outcome of a more comprehensive analysis of the research findings is still pending and will be documented in the final research report, certain preliminary observations can be put forward here.

First and foremost, cross-border economic relations and movements between GMS countries have expanded remarkably in recent times. Two crucial factors account for this growth in cross-border activity.

On the one hand, infrastructural development has tremendously facilitated cross-border relations. The construction of transportation infrastructure in particular, under the East-West and North-South Economic Corridors projects, has boosted contacts and exchanges of all kinds at both people-to-people and more formal levels.

Secondly, new types and flows of cross-border activities have emerged. While traditional local contacts in the border areas such as barter trade and illegal labour migration still remain, new types of cross-border movements and activities have also begun to develop. Particularly in the Sino-Lao border areas, a wide variety of types of cross-border trade can be identified: general trade, transit trade, border trade, border bazaar trade, barter trade and trade in drug-substitution products. Additionally, as a result of growing Chinese investment in agricultural production in Lao PDR, a new phenomenon of "flying lands" has arisen.

However, there still remain numerous problems and obstacles that have hindered faster growth of cross-border economic flows. Cross-border procedures and facilities remain insufficiently developed and require further streamlining. This requires both policy frameworks established through international agreements and improvement of procedural efficiency at the local level. In the face of these limitations on cross-border transactions, traders have developed their own mechanisms and tools to facilitate their cross-border exchanges and dealings. In Myanmar for example, the problem of acquiring export-import licenses has given rise to a class of "middlemen" who facilitate cross-border transactions. On the Lao-Thai border, specific patterns of trade have developed that rely upon the trust built

through years of close business relations. Meanwhile, on the Sino-Lao border, makeshift financial tools such as “street-booth banks” and other non-formal channels for cash settlements have come into being.

Finally, the impacts of cross-border economic relations on border areas have come in various forms. Most significant are the changes in the status of border areas and even of entire countries in some cases. Observers have noted the transformation of the Thai border areas from “backyards” to “gates.” The changes for Lao PDR in this respect have been even more important, with the transformation from a land-locked to a land-linked country. On the local level, the fast development of Mohan Town on the Sino-Lao border and the extensive changes in Lao cities such as Boten and Luang Namtha are further evidence of the important economic impact of cross-border trade.

It is interesting to consider if the current patterns and directions of cross-border economic relations between and among GMS countries will develop into a new model for sub-regional development. An attempt will be made in the final research report to identify such patterns and directions and propose a model for understanding them.

◆ Research Theme: Foreign Policy ◆

Foreign Aid and Implications for Thai Foreign Policy

Researcher: Saikaew Thipakorn

During the past three decades, Thailand has developed to the stage where it is considered a middle-income country. In other words, it has “graduated” from being a low-income country and is therefore no longer eligible for foreign aid from certain donors. To many donor countries, Thailand has moved from being an aid receiving country to becoming a partner for global development.

As a member of the international community, Thailand has made commitments to provide humanitarian assistance in order to support the elimination of poverty in developing countries. In addition, the economic assistance provided to Thailand’s neighboring countries has had economic and social benefits for Thailand as well. Some of the problems associated with the inequitable levels of economic development with its neighbors have intensified in recent years such as transmission of communicable diseases and drug and human trafficking. These problems may contribute to increased economic and social instability within Thailand as the country cannot prosper among troubled neighbors.

Considering these circumstances, the Government established the Thailand International Development Cooperation Agency (TICA) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to facilitate and manage Thailand’s foreign aid. However, as a nascent donor country, Thailand has little experience in this field. Foreign aid should serve its agreed upon purpose and benefit both the donor and recipient countries with the least negative

impact possible. Thailand needs to make further efforts to develop its own policies and procedures for foreign aid in order to guarantee such results.

Foreign Aid and Implications for Thai Foreign Policy is supported by the Thailand Research Fund. It is an umbrella research project that incorporates three research studies on best practices of Japan, Australia and Canada in aid provision.

Thailand and Myanmar: Permanent Enemies Turned Friends? in Friends and Profits: Building Neighborly Relations, Asian Review 2007, Vol.20, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University. pp 63-84

Researcher: Ms. Pornpimol Trichot

Historically, Thailand has viewed Burma/Myanmar as the “national enemy.” Until the end of the Cold War, the main stakeholders of Thai foreign policy towards Burma were the security agencies which viewed Burma in this light. Yet on the ground, the long stretch of border between Thailand and Burma developed a vibrant economy. Thai policy towards Burma was reoriented in the late 1980s in response to the Burmese Government’s new openness to developing friendlier relations with Thailand. For the Burmese Government, this rapprochement was a strategy for dealing with political threats, to spur economic growth and to solidify relations with ASEAN. For Thailand, business-oriented politicians came into power and soon became important stakeholders in developing foreign policy towards Burma. Under the policies initiated in the Chatichai era, and upheld by every government since, Burma has developed into a valuable export market for Thai goods, a lucrative location for Thai foreign investment and a plentiful source of the energy and natural resources needed for Thai economic development.

Thailand in Neighboring Countries’ Perceptions: Understanding and Knowledge

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This study of the perceptions and understanding of Thailand by neighboring countries focuses on the countries of the Union of Myanmar, Lao PDR, the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the Federation of Malaysia. It is a study of how these countries perceive and understand Thailand as a country, as a society and as a people.

Though cohesively designated as “perceptions and understanding” of those specific nations, these perceptive evaluations of Thailand have multivariate implications covering various levels of the relationships of these nations with Thailand – from “international” to community and people-to-people levels. Moreover, these perceptions and understandings are also highly dynamic; the more they cover the different levels of relations with Thailand, the greater is their complexity. In the contemporary context, we can generally say that the perceptions and understanding of these countries become more complex when their interactions with Thailand expand from the inter-state relations that once represented different political ideologies and rules to accommodate the people-to-people sector through the media and economic, social, cultural, and technological channels and mechanisms. The latter domain of relations between Thailand and the neighboring countries has developed prodigiously since the end of the Cold War in 1991. Thailand in the perceptions and understanding of its neighboring countries can thus be a “villain,” who is intent upon taking advantage of these countries, or a “big power,” that is always prepared to invade weaker neighbors. On the other hand, Thailand can also be perceived as a good neighbor who is ready to offer help to its neighbors who are in trouble. These multivariate perceptions and understandings are partly legacies of modes of thought that have been shaped by past bitterness and that have been inherited by later generations. Such bitterness is understandably closely associated with past experiences of wars leading to forced migration of large numbers of people, loss of wealth and destruction of the cities of vanquished nations. These experiences thus have become part of the socialization of the people in these countries through state mechanisms created by both colonial states and post-independence states in order to support the conduct of their relations with Thailand.

It is thus not surprising that different groups in even the same nations might maintain different perceptions and understandings of Thailand. The wider the range of interactions involved in the relationships with Thailand is, the more varied these perceptions and understandings become. The perceptions and understandings of who the “Thai” are and how they are become more complex depending on who the Thai are that are involved in such relationships – state officials, capitalists, ordinary people, monks or other religious persons. In addition, the neighboring countries surrounding Thailand have each developed their own specific perceptions and understanding of our country. The Cambodians, Lao, Burmese, Vietnamese, and Malaysians each have different memories and understandings about the Thai. The only thing that they have in common is that they primarily look at Thailand based upon their own national situation. For instance, those countries who are weaker than Thailand would look at the country as an invader or predator whose motives are always suspicious. The research

findings have come to the conclusion that the perceptions and understanding that our neighbors are maintaining about us are deeply rooted in the historical past and have become wounds that are difficult to heal. At the same time, the expansion of the scope of the relationships after the end of the Cold War has been favorable to the development of new perceptions and understandings and has helped to change some of the old deep-rooted outlooks. This expanded relationship, which has developed through trade, investment, development assistance, cultural media and new technologies, could give rise to new and more constructive perceptions and understandings. In addition, maintaining fair and non-exploitative policies towards Thailand's neighboring countries, including the humane treatment of displaced peoples from those countries is also beneficial in this regard. Such a policy orientation would serve as a form of people-to-people cultural diplomacy in order to encourage better perceptions and understandings of Thailand among these countries and peoples. In the post-Cold War era, old-style authoritarian efforts by the state to monopolize people's perceptions and understandings through socializing mechanisms are no longer effective or desirable approaches. The increasingly borderless world provides a space for Thailand, both as a country and a people, to have a role in constructing new perceptions and understandings of itself by its neighbors. However, this depends very much on Thailand's awareness of this opportunity and the country's determination to take advantage of it.

The Research Project for Development Strategies in Educational Collaboration with Neighboring Countries

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This research analyzes and evaluates the success of currently implemented strategies for educational collaboration between Thailand and its neighboring countries, namely the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The study was undertaken in order to develop a revised approach which can be applied effectively to each country. The research was divided into two parts: the first part was the collection of data from secondary sources while the latter part was the collection of

primary data from the field by each researcher. The data was collected both in Thailand and in neighboring countries from key informants, foreign students and relevant government officials. In addition, there were also several seminars and lectures held to gather additional information and to discuss the consequences of the current collaboration strategy and the normative approach to educational collaboration in the future.

The results from a SWOT analysis conducted on the national economic and social plans, foreign policies and educational policies of each country were developed into strategies for educational collaboration with the countries. The main strategy approaches indicated by the research were the following:

- 1) To elevate policies on educational collaboration to the level of national policy as a mechanism for building sustainable relationship between Thailand and its neighboring countries
- 2) To improve the quality of educational collaboration at primary level and ensure that vocational and college level education are in line with the development direction of each country
- 3) To build a unified movement of educational collaboration with neighboring countries in which every sector of society are able to participate and are working together towards coherent goals
- 4) To enhance the level of trust and understanding between Thailand and its neighbors

Towards each neighbor country, the strategy approach can be summarized as follows:

Cambodia: 1) To promote educational collaboration as a mechanism for building better relations and cultural understanding

- 2) To promote educational collaboration as a key element of human resource and skills development in order to alleviate poverty
- 3) To promote educational reform

Lao PDR: 1) To promote educational collaboration for human resource development

- 2) To promote higher quality of teachers and staff working in the educational field at all levels ranging from basic, specific, vocational, formal and non-formal education
- 3) To promote collaboration in order to improve and upgrade the standards of tertiary education

Myanmar: 1) To develop a formal MOU on educational collaboration with the Myanmar Government

- 2) To promote collaboration between the Ministries of Education and the Ministries of Science of Thailand and Myanmar
- 3) To promote development in vocational, non-formal and distance learning in Myanmar
- 4) To promote the exchange of Burmese and Thai students in order to broaden the level of understanding of each country's culture and society.

- Vietnam:**
- 1) To promote collaboration in the curriculum development of educational institutes and in the fields of development and research with equal contributions between collaborators and with a special focus on social science, natural science and technology
 - 2) To promote joint strategic planning for human resource development at vocational and college level in Thailand and Vietnam
 - 3) To promote the establishment of collaborative networks at vocational and college level between Thai and Vietnamese educational institutions based upon equal partnership

Thailand and Malaysia Relations (2004-2006)

Researcher: Chpa Chittpratoom

Over the course of the last five decades, Thailand and Malaysia have been developing stronger international relations. However, as result of armed robberies that occurred, the Malaysian media have depicted the Southern provinces of Thailand as as an area of ongoing and severe crisis. This research studied the factors that have interfered with the relations between the two countries and what can be done to improve them.

The study found that the factors that have damaged the relationship are caused by Thailand's administrative policies towards the Southern provinces. In addition, the violence cannot be reduced while Malaysia's opposition party continues to support the actions. These incidents have caused a breakdown in Thailand-Malaysian relations and probably have had a negative impact on the image of Thailand in the international community.

The actions that can be taken to improve the relations between the countries are a renewed commitment to bilateral negotiations as well as an enhanced role for ASEAN, as a regional level mechanism to support a healthier Thailand-Malaysia relationship.

◆ Research Theme: Political Security ◆

The Political Conflict in Thailand from the View of the Asian Media: Case Studies of China, Myanmar, Vietnam and Cambodia

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This three-month research project, “The Political Conflict in Thailand from the View of the Asian Media: Case Studies of China, Myanmar, Vietnam and Cambodia,” was funded by Chulalongkorn University as an attempt to study the perspective of neighboring countries’ media outlets concerning the current political conflict in Thailand. The objective of the research was to spread awareness in Thai society of how domestic conflict is viewed by neighboring countries as reflected through media.

The research was based upon an in-depth analysis of the content reported in the news about the political conflict in Thailand. However, the project focused not only on the factual contents of the news but also deconstructed the narratives of the selected media outlets in order to examine how the ways in which the news reported on Thai politics serves the interests and supports the identity of each particular media channel. Political instability is a complex phenomenon which cannot be explained comprehensively from the perspective of Thailand alone. It should also be examined and understood through the lens of neighboring countries’ media. It should be acknowledged that to a certain degree, the viewpoint of both domestic and international media is biased towards particular understandings of events and that these understandings often serve the interests of their host country.

The study of **Myanmar’s** official media, the New Light of Myanmar, finds that the situation in Thailand since the September 19th Coup d’état has been reported in a very mild manner and without focusing the reader’s attention on the issue. The movements of anti-government groups has been banned from reports since the protests began as popular protest is considered a highly sensitive topic within the politics of Myanmar. Contrastingly, the Irrawaddy Mizzima and the DVB, two major anti-government media sources, have been closely following and reporting on the situation within Thai politics. The news was presented in varied formats ranging from factual reports, analytical columns, photos and sarcastic cartoons. Most of the news on Thai politics was linked to the political situation in Myanmar in order to compare the two different political systems as well as to point out the flaws of the military regime in Myanmar.

In the case of **China**, the study indicated that political conflict in Thailand was presented in two patterns. The first pattern provided a very informative report where facts and other basic information are available and which avoided analyzing sensitive

issues. This practice obviously complies with the state's "non-interference" policy on its foreign affairs. The second pattern was a more analytical style and with more straightforward criticisms of democracy, which has been long standing point of view for the Chinese. In this regard, the crisis in Thailand was considered within the ideological framework of a failure of a democratic system.

In **Vietnam**, the study focused mainly on the analytical perspective of the selected media as well as their means of presenting the news and the amount of space given to the political crisis news in Thailand. Due to the tight monitoring and control of news by the Vietnamese Government, the perspective of the Vietnamese media closely reflect that of the Government. Studying the media in Vietnam provides a direct channel for understanding the position and views of the Government towards the political situation in Thailand.

The study of the **Cambodian media** revealed that the political conflict in Thailand has been claimed to be the cause of some economic and cultural losses to the country. The media has criticized the Thai protestors for stirring up nationalist sentiment against Cambodia's listing of the Preah Vihear temple as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Secondly, the blockage of Thailand's Suvarnabhumi airport was criticized due to the resulting loss of revenues for the Cambodian tourist industry. During that time, the number of tourists to Angkor Wat declined sharply because of the role of Suvarnabhumi airport as a major transit point for travel to Cambodia. A final criticism of the protests in Thailand was made of their interference during Thailand's hosting of the ASEAN Summit in Pattaya. Thailand was accused by the media of prohibiting the essential discussions of member countries on the global financial crisis.

"A Different Coup d'Etat ?" *Journal of Contemporary Asia* Vol. 38, No.1, February 2008, pp.124-142

Researcher: Ukrist Pathmanand

The 2006 coup d'etat was far more than a simple case of military seizure of power. Rather, the September 19th coup was intimately connected with the monarchy in many respects. The military legitimized the coup by making use of the royalist discourse and its renewed vitality as a result of the anti-Thaksin movement and the massive celebrations of the king's 60th year on the throne. Having succeeded in the overthrow of Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, the coup makers thought they could secure the throne by ensuring loyal succession to the position of Army Commander-in-Chief in the medium term. To enhance military influence, the 'royal military' are also revitalizing a Cold War relic, the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC). In line with this trend of political regression, it appears that the military want to return Thailand to the years of 'semi-democracy,' when the military and bureaucracy had significant power over elected politicians.

Political Leadership, Parties and Citizens in the Personalization of Leadership.

London and New York : Routledge 2010, 292 p.

Research Team: Jean Blondel and Jean-Louis Thiebaul with Katarzyna Czernicka, TAKASHI Inoguchi, Ukrist Pathmanand and Fulvio Venturino

This book explores, both theoretically and empirically, the increasingly important role played by the personalization of leadership. Acknowledging the part played by social cleavages, it focuses on the personal relationships and psychological dimensions of the relations between citizens and political leaders. It begins by examining the changes which have taken place in the relationship among citizens, the parties which they support and the leaders of these parties in the European context.

The authors then assess how far the phenomena of 'personalized leadership' differs from country to country, and the forms which these differences take. The book includes comparative case studies on Britain and Northern Ireland, France, Italy, Poland, Japan and Thailand. Within the case studies, eleven prominent leaders are analyzed as examples epitomizing personalized political leadership: Thatcher, Blair, Mitterand, Chirac, Le Pen, Berlusconi, Bossi, Walesa, Lepper, Koizumi and Thaksin.

“Religious issues in Political Conflicts under the Thaksin Government Regime” in *Religion and Democracy in Thailand* eds. By Imtiyaz Yusuf and Canan Atilgan. Korad Adenauer Stitung 2008 pp. 80-103

Researcher: Ukrist Pathmanand

During the Thaksin government era (2001-2006), religious issues were no longer used as a tool for the establishment of an authoritarian state or for legitimizing political leaders. Nevertheless, religious concerns did exist in the political conflicts and encounters during the period in another dimension. Religious justifications were used in order to generate opposition to the Thaksin government at the national level as well as within the popular movement against Thaksin.

◆ Research Theme: Human Security and People on the Move ◆

A Survey of Stateless and Marginal People in Kanchanaburi Province (in Thai)

Researcher: Kanokphan U-sha

The Institute of Asian Studies at Chulalongkorn University, in cooperation with the Kanchanaburi Provincial Government and the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, have conducted a research project titled “A Survey of Stateless and Marginal People in Kanchanaburi Province.” The objective of this project was to survey the stateless and marginal people in the border towns of Kanchanaburi Province. The area studied for the project was the location of various natural channels for the flow of people between Thailand and Myanmar. Due to the difficulty of transportation and the overall remoteness of the area, it was found that some stateless and marginal people live in conditions of hardship. The results of the survey were systematically arranged into a database of stateless and marginal people.

◆ Research Theme: Economic and Social Development ◆

An In-depth Study on the Economic Potential of the Areas of Thailand along the Border of Tanintharyi Division and the Andaman Coast Line of Myanmar

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 Anuk Pitaktanin

This research project, entitled “An In-depth Study on the Economic Potential of the Areas of Thailand along the Border of Tanintharyi Division and the Andaman Coastal Line of Myanmar,” was conducted by the Institute of Asian Studies at Chulalongkorn University. There were two main objectives for the study. First, to analyze the situation and the factors that contribute to or impede trade and investment in the study areas. The areas chosen were the eight provinces along the western border of Thailand: Mae Hong Son, Tak, Kanchanaburi, Phetchaburi, Prachuap khiri khan, Chumphon and Ranong. These were chosen due to their proximity and connections to Kayah State, Kayin State and Tanintharyi Division of Myanmar. The second objective of the study was to investigate opportunities in these areas which can be promoted in order to increase trade and investment volume by Thai investors in Myanmar.

The research work was conducted using two approaches; the first is documentary research and second is field study. For the field study, in-depth interviews conducted with key informants were the main research method, coupled with focus group discussions and meetings with stake-holders in the study areas. The key informants were businessmen with trade and investment dealings in Myanmar as well as government officers whose work related to trade and investment in the areas. The same approach was repeated within Myanmar in Yangon, Dawei, Myeik and Kaw Thaung in Tanintharyi Division. The team also discussed economic matters with Thai Government officers based in Yangon.

The finding of this research was that Myanmar has great economic potential due to its abundant natural resources which have yet to be utilized, especially in Tanintharyi Division along the Andaman coast line. The areas also hold great business opportunities in agriculture, fisheries, mining, oil and gas and tourism. Due to this great natural resource wealth, the Myanmar government plans to promote this area to be a hub for fishing, alternative energy and commercial marine businesses. These opportunities welcome Thai investment since the areas of the two countries are well connected and both the Thai and Myanmar people living in these areas are already familiar with each other. Additionally, Tanintharyi is also a huge potential market for Thai products.

However, despite these great opportunities, both Thailand and Myanmar have not been able to fully take advantage of the situation. While Thailand's 'go west' policy is not clearly defined, Myanmar also shows hesitation to fully open up to Thai trade and investment. Thus, the infrastructure necessary to connect the two potential markets is not fully developed. This research recommends that the Thai government extend the infrastructures and community connections between Myanmar and Thailand as well as to further encourage Thai investment in Myanmar.

“The Relationship between the State and the Private Sector in Industrial Policy (1960-present)” in *Emerging Asia’s Growth Practices: Recent Experiences of China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand* eds by Suthiphand Chirathivat and Hg Chee Yuen. The SASAKAWA Peace Foundation and Chula Global Network, 2009 pp. 380-408

Researcher: Ukrist Pathmanand

Encouraged by the positive response to an earlier study on the subject, a second study was undertaken to extend the comparative analysis to include China and the ASEAN-4 (Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand). It was found that while the state continued to play a pivotal role in promoting economic growth in the early stages of industrialization, this role has been considerably weakened by its concern over the economic strength of Chinese ethnic minorities and the priority given to affirmative action.

Particularly among the ASEAN-4 countries, the approach to management of their plural societies has had a distinct impact on economic performance. The situation is further complicated by the involvement of the military, political changes and the enduring system of patronage that breeds corruption and rent seeking activities. Overall, non-economic factors have carried more weight than in Japan and the four Asian NIES and have delayed efforts towards establishing appropriate economic policies.

◆ Research Theme : Others ◆

The Study of Security and Development Dimensions in the Deep South: Root Causes and Feasible Solutions

Researcher: Supaphan Tangtrongpaioj

The problems along the southern border of Thailand have been chronic for more than 70 years, beginning with the division of the administrative area known as *Monthon* into provinces subject to the authority of the Thai Government. Pattani, Yala and Narathivas provinces were established on the former territory of the so-called Pattani State and were completely incorporated into the Thai Kingdom at the time. These southern provinces have regularly challenged the administration of the Thai Government. Officers posted to stations there are normally those who have had conflicts with their superiors and are ordered to be there as a form of punishment. These officers are in charge of maintaining order and defusing any challenge to state authority primarily through the use of force. During periods when the Government has become keen on addressing the problems, efforts have been made to support economic and educational development. Nonetheless, incidents of violence continue to occur periodically due to the fighting between state authorities and the various militant armed insurgent groups.

This paper aims to provide a historical background of the southern border area, to analyze the conflict and its root causes and to develop feasible solutions. The policy recommendations from the study are:

- 1) Reestablish an organization which can be responsible for political/development projects similar to the Southern Border Provinces Administrative Centre in the time of General Prem Tinsulanonda;
- 2) Promote forms of economic development which are suitable for a predominantly Muslim society and to the area's resources;
- 3) Support educational development which is sensitive to the Muslim way of life;
- 4) Conduct training courses for policy makers and practitioners that provide a background and situation analysis on the conflict in the southern border area.

Reform of Chinese Language Training in Thailand

Research Team: Prof. Khein Theeravit, Ph.D.
Ronnaphol Masuntisuk
Orasa Rattana-Amornpirom
And CSC Researcher Team

As a result of globalization, the learning of a second or foreign language other than one's own native tongue has become increasingly necessary and is regarded as a key to success both educationally and professionally.

In recent years, learning Chinese has become as important as learning the English language. As a result of the rapid economic development of China, the country has risen to a level of economic importance similar to that of America and Europe. With several hundred million people speaking Chinese today, learning Chinese has become more interesting than English as a second language for many students.

The objective of this research was to produce a set of textbooks entitled "Chinese Language Textbooks and Teaching-Aids" for all levels of education in Thailand (primary, secondary, vocational, and tertiary). These textbooks were produced as a continuation of the "Chinese Language Teaching in Thailand" project.

The content of this set of textbooks emphasizes the general knowledge about Thailand, China and the rest of world from other Chinese language textbooks, mainly focusing on grammatical learning. The knowledge ranges from, for example, history, economics, politics, society, culture, science, technology, environment, prime attractions and important figures. The whole range of knowledge has been arranged to appropriately suit the different ages of students. In addition, the contents include lessons on morality and ethics in order to support the social development of learners.

Based upon an assessment of the relevant issues and concerns that was conducted during the Chinese Language Teaching in Thailand Project in 2008, the Chinese Studies Center has developed an additional project entitled "Reform of Chinese Language Teaching in Thailand." With the support of Bangkok Bank Public Company Limited, the goal of the project is contribute to the reform of Chinese studies programs at all levels of education in Thailand. The main project outputs will be to design curriculum and Chinese language textbooks that improve upon the existing teaching materials and improve Chinese language teaching in Thailand. Ultimately, it is hoped that these efforts will contribute to the sustainable development of Thailand through improved Sino-Thai relations.

Environmental Management in Malaysia

Researcher: Chpa Chittpratoom

The objective of this research is to learn how Malaysia has addressed its environmental management concerns. In the evolving perspective of the international community, while economic indicators are still used to assess a nation's development performance, responsible environment management is increasingly seen as an indicator of the nation's accountability to global society.

The research results revealed the following:

1. The existing environmental problems in Malaysia are rooted in its geographical changes. This phenomenon resulted in new forms of pollution that impacted the quality of water, air and the livelihoods of people.
2. Malaysia has established an environmental management system that covers three levels.
 - At the global level, Malaysia has signed treaties to observe and conform to global environmental regulations.
 - At the regional level, the member states of ASEAN have agreed to a resolution to address concerns about the marine ecosystem and increasing air pollution. However, this resolution has not yet been fully implemented. In practice, additional enforcement mechanisms are still needed.
 - At the national level, the country's constitution enforces the Government's authority over land management. However, the central government and the local government have different oversight responsibilities and their cooperation is key to achieving effective policy in this regard. The fact that Malaysia allows the participation of NGOs in policy implementation as well as its use of education to support sustainable development has made Malaysia internationally respected in environmental management practices.

PUBLICATION PROGRAM

The publication program of the Institute of Asian Studies is officially called the “Publication Fund Program” because donors initially wanted to promote the publication of academic works in the field of Asian Studies. Since its inception in 1986, the program has been financed using endowment funds and has continued to produce academic publications on a non-profit basis.

Publications of the Institute of Asian Studies can be classified into two main categories: periodic and special publications. Periodic publications include the *Asian Review* (a quarterly reference journal published in Thai of about 100 pages in length), the *Asia Yearbook* (an annual reference book with special academic articles in Thai of about 350 pages), and an English version of the *Asian Review* (an annual reference journal of about 150-200 pages). In addition, the Institute of Asian Studies produces special publications using manuscripts of qualified research papers, academic articles and semi-academic articles. Irregular publications vary in length, with a minimum of approximately 50 pages.

Since the mid-1980s, excluding its periodicals, the Institute of Asian Studies has published over 150 publications, with more than 100 Thai language works, more than 50 in English and 2 in Chinese. Publications of the Institute of Asian Studies have often been reviewed and acclaimed by the media and newspapers. Some of them have been reissued due to demand. These publications have often been cited in various academic works both in Thai and foreign languages. Some of IAS’ publications have even become reference materials for state and private agencies and several have received awards both from both sectors.

For more than a decade, the publication program has been committed to providing academic services to society as well as to academics both inside and outside the field of Asian Studies. The program has also proved that it can continue to remain financially secure while operating on a non-profit basis. While maintaining fiscal stability is an important achievement, the publication program has at the same time placed a significant emphasis on maintaining its academic standards and principles. Preserving these strong foundations, as well as the program’s academic creativity in both format and content, will remain a key mission of the Institute of Asian Studies in the coming years.

IAS Publications

1. FREE THAI : THE NEW HISTORY OF THE SERI THAI MOVEMENT

Author: Sorasak Ngamcachonkulkid

An Admirer Comment



I may be like most Thai people, whose knowledge about the Seri (Free) Thai Movement is at best limited. We know about, and certainly greatly appreciate, the movement's anti-Japanese activities that significantly contributed to Thailand's eventual success in avoiding being on the losing end at the end of World War II. However, our knowledge, and indeed interest, often hardly go beyond this. In particular, as the author has rightly pointed out, little attention even among scholars has been given to the movement's association with Thai politics.

Admittedly therefore, I read this research monograph as a part of the uninitiated rather than as an expert. My first impression was that given the author's continued interest in the Seri Thai Movement since his time as a student at Thammasat University, he must have certainly done his homework on this subject. Having read the research work twice, first as an unedited manuscript and later in a finished book form ready to go to press, I am even more convinced that this is a truly in-depth study of the Seri Thai Movement. The book's title, "The New History of the Seri Thai Movement," gives some indications of its role as a new and in-depth enquiry into the subject. Of course, as history is multifaceted and always amenable to new interpretations, a "new history" of some subject or period of time might actually be a "revisionist" version of that subject or period. As an uninitiated reader, I lack the vantage point from which I can make a more definitive determination about whether this research monograph is a new in-depth study or simply a revisionist project. However, I will stick with my original impression—that this work is a truly in-depth and original research work.

The author regards his work as a "prosopography" or the collective biography of the 600 leading members of the four elite groups in Thai politics during the period between 1932 and the post-World War II era. However, in recounting the stories and

activities of all these groups, he seems to me to have offered a fascinating analysis of what I would like to call the “political classes” in Thailand at that time. Reading this research work, I am also amazed by the intriguing resemblance between some episodes of politics in the post-war period and those of our own times. History does not actually repeat itself but studying it does often point to striking similarities between the past and present, and perhaps even the future. That is why the study of history is always relevant to our understanding of the present. Theera Nuchpiam, PhD

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2. JOURNAL OF ASIAN REVIEW 2009 Vol. 22

Guest Editor: Montira Rato



This issue of Asian Review is the outcome of the international conference on Shan Studies organized by the Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, with financial assistance from the Euro-Burma office. It was held at Chulalongkorn University during October 15th-17th of 2009. The conference included academic panels, performing arts and exhibitions. It was the first international conference to serve as a forum for specialists, academics, students and others who are interested in Shan Studies to present their research work

on various aspects of Shan society. A second goal of hosting the conference was to provide a meeting ground for participants to create and strengthen collaborations for their studies and research of Shan society.

Selected papers presented at the conference are collected in this volume and additional articles will be included in the proceeding volume. This issue of *Asian Review* is comprised of five articles. It begins with Nicola Tannenbaum's article which explains how the terms “Thai Yai,” “Shan,” and “Tai Long”, though referring to the same group of people, are used in practice. In addition, the article discusses how the interaction with the British Colonial State, the Burmese State and the Thai State have shaped the Shan political identity. Next in the Review, Sao Noan Oo explores the Sao Hpa administration in Shan State and the role of Sao Hpa through different periods of time. This is followed by Jotika Khur-Yearn's and Kate Crosby's study of how the lik-luong manuscripts have been preserved and continued in Northern Thailand. Then Paphatsaun Thianpanya presents an article describing the

situation of Shan book printing in Thailand and the issue ends with an article by Jiraporn Achariyaprasit, which looks at the role of the Shan Royal ladies in the household and political sphere, depicted through three life narratives. These works present Shan society from different disciplinary perspectives and through different research methodologies as a result of the diversity of the contributors' backgrounds. It includes Western, Thai and Shan authors, both well-established and from a new generation of researchers, each of whom presents the past and present Shan in different ways.

Hence, it is another issue which displays *Asian Review*'s commitment to understand and appreciate the rich ethnic diversity of the Asian region. More specifically, this issue endeavors to build up the awareness and knowledge of the history of the Shan through politics, art, language, literature, and religion. It is hoped that this issue of *Asian Review* will help to build interest in further study of the Shan people.

3. JOURNAL OF ASIAN REVIEW 2010 Vol. 23

Guest Editor: Montira Rato



Asian Review 2010 explores social, political and cultural development in Asia through linguistic and literary texts. Authors with diverse backgrounds in historical, cultural and linguistic analysis for East Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia discuss the relationship between socio-political context, class and gender in their region of expertise. The collection of essays for this volume is intended to bring together research on historical changes and social values during formative and dynamic moments of change in Asia from the traditional period to the present time.

This volume starts with Patchanee Tangyuenyong's analysis of 87 poems from the Tang dynasty, which is regarded as "the golden age of Chinese poetry." In his paper, Tangyuenyong proposes that Tang poetry played a vital role in the nation-building and ideological makeup of Chinese society. These poems can be perceived as a discourse responding to the state's effort to maintain power, construct a national ideology and reaffirm Confucianism and Han culture.

Another aspect of Chinese society is shown in Usama Mahapasuthanon's study of novels written by female writers and published during the post-Mao period.

The author pays a great deal of attention to the changing attitudes towards marriage and sexuality which are closely connected with social changes in Chinese society during the period.

The journal also examines the issue of gender in Japanese society through the lens of theater. In his study of *Noh* plays, Winai Jamornsuriya proposes that Zeami, Japan's most famous playwright, reveals his concern about the plight of women who had to endure unfulfilled love and unequal status in 14th century Japanese society. The article discusses the female characters portrayed in *Noh* plays, who are not passive but take an active role in searching for their husbands or boyfriends.

Gender inequality, especially in the political sphere, is the main focus of Orathai Piayura's examination of Thai political culture and sexuality through media and literary works. The author argues that the depiction of women as successful politicians is merely a fantasy of women. She asserts that these political novels are comparable to erotic novels by female authors because both reveal a fantasy world created by women. Likewise, Siriporn Sriwarakan's study of Indian children's literature reveals that sexual discrimination remains a big concern in Indian society. Thus, children's literature serves as a government tool to help to solve this problem by raising awareness and eliminating bias against women at an early age.

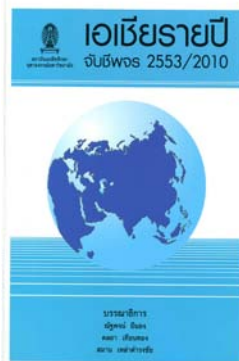
The next paper, by Kimloan Vu-Hill, presents social changes in Vietnamese society during the early 20th century through the analysis of Khái Hưng's novels. This era is seen as a transitional period in Vietnam in developing from a traditional to a modern society. With the increasing influence of Western culture, traditional values and Confucianism were being challenged. Khái Hưng's novels provide a vivid picture of the conflict between the old and the new in Vietnamese society, mainly through depiction of the struggles of women.

The last paper in this volume deals with Thai students' usage of the Chinese second person pronouns, "*nī*" and "*nin*." In this study, Seubpong Changboonchu discusses the importance of a person's native language and culture in learning a foreign language.

It is hoped that this issue of the *Asian Review* will help to strengthen knowledge of Asian linguistic and literary traditions.

4. ASIA ANNUAL REPORT 2010/2553 (IN THAI)

Editor: Nuttapot Yuengyong, Dolaya Thainthong, Samarn Laodumrangchai



This report synthesizes the major regional issues in Asia in 2009, including economic, political and international relations related current issues and future concerns, through the collected research articles in this volume. One of the major trends identified to be currently taking place in Asia is the changes and adaptation that have resulted from the previous year's political and economic events. While some countries have recently completed transitions of power within their political systems, others have just started the process this year.

Power struggles and other political conflicts in some countries have affected regional and global stability and peace. Meanwhile, domestic conflicts have remained and are ongoing in some countries. Many Asian countries are still adjusting to the impacts of these events with each individual country responding to the specific problems and issues at different levels according to their own experience and domestic contexts. The collection of articles within this volume are therefore divided into two main parts reflecting this Asian regional trend in 2009: the consequences of political diversity in the context of democracy and the adaptations for survival.

Transitions of power have been taking place in many Asian countries since 2008 in terms of regime changes of leaders and governments. The transitions at both local and national levels have been regarded as democratic since they occurred through electoral processes. However, while the transitions in many countries proceeded smoothly, others have been facing power struggles which later developed into violence and resulted in losses of life and economic hardships. These events show that politics can sometimes lead to domestic conflicts and oppression and that these events also have international implications that can cause deteriorating relationships between countries as was the case in Japan, China, South Korea, India, Pakistan, Iran, Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia. Importantly, these forms of disharmony and division have their roots in each society's domestic affairs.

Asia is a region with great diversity in terms of geography, political economy, society and culture. These diverse characteristics themselves are part of the driving force pushing forward growth and development of the region. However, inequality within societies remains severe in many less-developed countries as well as in developed countries in the region such as Singapore. In order to develop Asia

equally and sustainably, both regional and global cooperation are important facilitators, particularly in addressing the results of the economic crisis. Nonetheless, different levels of adaptative and protectionary measures are needed according to each country's unique context and characteristics.

Although Asia has been able to weather the financial crisis without undue negative economic effects, analysts have expressed more concern about political instability in many countries of the region which may impact the overall growth rate of the region. The global economy in 2010 depends very much on healthy U.S.-China relations and determining an appropriate period of time for applying economic stimulus plans in each country. Investors need to pay close attention to political issues as well as economic measures in their evaluations. It appears that the fate of Asia's economy is currently highly dependent upon unpredictable political situations at the national level which could in turn have a great impact on the world as a whole.

5. JOURNAL OF ASIAN REVIEW Vol. 31 No. 1 (JANUARY-JUNE 2010) (IN THAI)

Editor: Thanyathip Sripana



The idea of linking the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) emerged in the 1990s. A number of transportation routes were soon developed throughout the Sub-region and have been gradually improved. However, there have also been some negative impacts observed as a result of the greater linkages such as smuggling of goods, animals and drugs. Human trafficking for purposes of both labor and sexual exploitation and the cross-border transmission of diseases have also increased as an effect of the improved connectivity.

The current main transportation routes in the GMS include A3E, which passes through the North-South Economic Corridor, R9, which passes through the South-North Economic Corridor, and the route passing through the Southern Economic Corridor which starts at Aranyaprathet and passes through Phnom Penh, Ho Chi Minh City and Vung Tau.

This volume of Asian Review explores routes, trade and tourism as well as border trade between Thailand and its neighboring countries. The article, "Kunming-Bangkok Expressway: An Alternative Link for Inner Thailand-China," attempts to

analyze the economic implications of the road for Thailand. The author found that the road is not an alternative transportation link for the sub-region but also has helped to support economic growth, and trade in particular, in the GMS.

The article, “Water Tourism on the North-South Economic Corridor,” discusses the waterways along this corridor which are important but less well-known tourist destinations. One of the routes is to take the Mekong river, which links Phnom Penh with Southern Vietnam and leads to a number of interesting attractions. The Mekong river is also utilized for shipping, especially for larger-sized and heavy products. The other waterway runs through Siem Reap and Pratabong, and possesses scenes of tremendous natural beauty.

As these routes can help to connect Thailand to the region through additional channels, the author sees them as an opportunity which can bring in tourists from Southern Vietnam, Phnom Penh, Pratabong and others to Thailand.

The other two articles were written based upon the author’s field studies in 2009 and 2010 and are titled: “Border Trade along the Banks of the Mekong River in the Northeast” and “Border Trade: Trade Relations between Thailand and Cambodia.” The articles present a picture of border trade between Thailand-Laos and Thailand-Cambodia through discussions of the background of the border areas, the types of border demarcation, the logistics of the flows of goods, the importance of border trade and the problems associated with border trade.

In addition, this volume also includes an article on “The Lao War Captives during the Rattanakosin Period of the 19th Century,” which depicts the history of Lao captives in Thailand during the 19th century as well as the history of the places along both sides of the Chao Praya River where they were detained.

This volume is hoped to offer knowledge and information regarding trade and tourist routes in the GMS through the primary source data gathered by each author.

6. JOURNAL OF ASIAN REVIEW VOL. 31 NO. 2 (JULY-DECEMBER 2010) (IN THAI)

Editor: Saravut Aree



The simple term “Muslim” has wide-ranging meaning. However, in general terms, it has two widely accepted connotations. Culturally, it refers to those who believe in the teachings of Islam globally. The Muslim community is not restricted within the borders of any particular state but instead includes a diversity of nationalities around the world.

The second meaning of the word “Muslim” is geographically and historically defined. The Muslim World therefore means a political and geographical unit in

which the religion of Islam holds significant influence or is an important element of that particular unit. The Muslim World covers a vast scope of territory, including not only Arab countries but also stretching from Morocco in the Northwestern part of Africa to as far south as the archipelagoes of Indonesia. The Muslim World is thus spread over three continents which are strategically important in terms of economic and political interests.

During the late 20th century, the Muslim World faced significant challenges both in terms of domestic and international politics. The concern that the growing strength of the modern nation-state would undermine the transnational identity of Islamic Ummah was intensified. In search of Islamic unity under the ideology of Pan-Islamism, many Islamic organizations were initiated.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia’s attempt to balance power with Gamal Abdel Nasser revived the unity of Islam after the Muslim World had lost its former center of power with the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. Pan-Islamism was on the rise again when the Arabs were defeated by the Israelis in the Six-Day War in 1967, which led to the eventual establishment of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) in 1972.

The OIC was in operation for nearly two decades (1972-1991) amidst the conflict of the Cold War. In the late 1980’s, the OIC faced significant changes with the collapse of the Soviet Union and the resulting dissolution of the bipolar world order. This was replaced by a unipolar world system dominated by the U.S. led industrialized countries. While European countries were gradually unifying into the European Union, the economic powers of Asia were also on the rise. At the same

time, many newly-emerging countries were being established while others were being broken up. These changes led to the emergence of several new and critical issues for the world such as democratization, human rights, international terrorism and increased interaction between societies.

Having failed to adapt to the new global environment, some international organizations, such as the Warsaw Pact, were forced to dissolve. In order to survive, the OIC initiated organizational adjustments to deal with the new challenges such as consideration of setting up multilateral cooperation for security concerns, strengthening dispute settlement mechanisms and reforming its general secretariat. Thus, the restructuring of Islamic organizations in the 21st century is an important issue for the world's attention.

7. JOURNAL OF ASIAN REVIEW 2011 Vol. 24

Guest Editor: Supang Chantavanich



Human trafficking from Thailand to Japan has been a well-known phenomenon for more than two decades. There have been studies addressing the issue conducted by academics from both Japan and Thailand as well as other countries. However, the rapidly changing dynamics of trafficking between the two countries makes the situation difficult to assess. There have been major changes in the profiles of trafficked persons, the process of irregular migration and means of transportation, the constitution of trafficking networks and operations, the forms of exploitation

that trafficked persons suffer and finally in the consequences of trafficking for both sending and receiving areas. Based on discussions with researchers, academics and NGO staff members from both countries during 2008-2010, this volume was initiated in order to document these newly emerging dynamics in human trafficking between Thailand and Japan.

The first two chapters of the journal look at aspects of Japan's immigration policy that relate to human trafficking.

In chapter 1, Akashi describes the changes in Japanese immigration policy against the background of its diminishing and rapidly ageing population and in particular examines the feasibility of the "Plan for Inviting 10 Million Immigrants" policy that was proposed by the Liberal Democratic Party. In chapter 2, Saito analyzes the policies related to trafficking in persons in Japan. In chapter 3,

Kuwajiima describes the system of migration between Thailand and Japan. This study, based upon in-depth interviews conducted with Thai returnees from Japan, sheds light on four important contexts for human trafficking—social, economic, political and international relations between countries. In chapter 4, Ruenkaew describes the various forms of female migration from Thailand to Japan based on fieldwork conducted in Japan during 2001 and 2008. In chapter 5, Kijiwachakul discusses access to HIV/AIDS treatment for migrant workers in Kaganawa and Nagano prefectures in Japan based upon observation of Thai migrants seeking treatment in Japan. In chapter 6, Angsuthanasombat addresses migration to Japan through interviews with overstaying Thai migrants. The study also touches upon the issue of family members of Thai migrants who are left behind in Thailand and upon the family crises experienced by many returnees. In chapter 7, Kato focuses on Thai returnees with children through seven case studies in northern Thailand. The study contributes to the understanding of how socioeconomic factors influence the reintegration of female Thai returnees into their communities of origin. In the last chapter, Ruenkaew collects the findings of each respective author in order to synthesize policy recommendations.

Overall, these essays analyze the causal factors for human trafficking, the nature of exploitation, the nexus between labor migration and human trafficking and the roles of the nation-state and its judicial system in both prevention and suppression of criminal acts, protection of the victims and their reintegration. In so doing, they raise certain key issues about human trafficking such as identifying the line where migration turns into trafficking, the factors that influence human trafficking and the definition of exploitation. These issues also raise some interesting questions: Are Thai migrants in Japan illegal immigrants or trafficked persons? What level of exploitation determines their migration status? And whether the factors that drive Thai (illegal) migrants to Japan are mostly structural or proximity?

These questions are partially answered within the conceptual framework presented in this initial volume. However, there remains room for further discussion and new paradigms that address these concerns.

8. Taking a Sip of Tea under the Cherry: Witnessing the New Angle of the Rising Sun

Editor: Saikaew Tipakorn



Relations between Japan and Thailand have long flourished since the two established official diplomatic ties in 1887 under the reign of King Chulalongkorn. This year marks the 124th anniversary of the relationship between the two countries. Greater understanding of Japan by Thai people has been cultivated through the media. Furthermore, there have been a vast amount of Japanese and Thai exchange visits each year. However, there remain some aspects of Japanese culture that are not yet well understood by Thai people. If left unchecked, this lack of understanding can lead to mistaken perceptions of the country. In addition, as a developed country, Japanese knowledge and experience can provide valuable lessons for Thailand to adapt to its own context.

Today, a large number of publications on Japan, such as Japanese guide books and other books about the country translated from Japanese, are widely available. However, these sources often only superficially depict the culture of Japan for entertainment purposes rather than in order to provide a more profound understanding of the country. In response, the Japan Studies Program has produced this publication about Japan, for distribution to all educational institutes throughout the country, with accurate and up-to-date knowledge and information. Within this book, important issues concerning Japan, primarily related to foreign affairs, are presented for a better understanding of their rationale. This book is therefore unique in terms of both objectives and contents. It is targeted mainly for educational institutes at the secondary and tertiary levels in order to assist with broadly spreading knowledge about Japan in Thailand.

The successful publication of this book owes much to the contributions of the many academics and experts who worked diligently to bring this project to fruition. The Japan Foundation also played a vital role in providing financial support for this publication. Finally, the production of this book was also made possible through the cooperation and efforts of the publications team of the Institute of Asian Studies at Chulalongkorn University.

SEMINARS, LECTURES, AND WORKSHOPS

Date	Description
January 14	Seminar on “Migration Management: The US Experience and Implications for Managing Labor Migration in Thailand.” Co-organized by the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM) and The US Embassy. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
February 8	Seminar on “Activities and Cooperation Framework in ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community to Public Sector.” Co-organized by the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Held at the Social Research Institute conference room, 4 th floor of Visit Prajuabmaob Building, Chulalongkorn University.
February 10	Seminar on “Role and Strategy of Thai Foreign Affairs Policy towards Neighboring Countries.” Co-organized by the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) and the Institute of Security and International Studies, Faculty of Political Science. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
February 19	Seminar on “Cross-Border Economic Relations in the Greater Mekong Sub-region: Impacts and Implications.” Co-organized by the Mekong Studies Center and The Sasakawa Peace Foundation. Held at conference room 210, Maha Chulalongkorn Building, Chulalongkorn University.
February 24	Special lecture on “Iran’s Influence in the Middle East After the War in Iraq.” Co-organized by the Muslim Studies Center and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Held at conference room

Date	Description
March 8	601, Mahitaladhibesra Building, Chulalongkorn University. Seminar on “The Arrangement of Refugees and Not Pushing Back in Policy and Practice.” Organized by the Asian Research Center for Migration. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
March 26	Seminar on “Thai Investment in Foreign Countries: Crisis, Opportunities, and Possibilities for Thai Investors.” Co-organized by the Mekong Studies Center, the Office of Foreign Cooperation and Investment and the Office of the Board of Investment. Held at the Miracle Grand conference room, 4 th floor of Miracle Grand Hotel, Bangkok.
March 26	Training on “Japanese Studies.” Co-organized by the Institute of Asian Studies, the Faculty of Education of Chulalongkorn University, the Japanese Information Office of Thailand and The Embassy of Japan. Held at the Pailin Hotel, Pitsanulok Province.
March 31-April 2	Regional Seminar on “Human Trafficking in Mainland Southeast Asia: From Prevention to Adapted Re-integration of Trafficked Persons.” Co-organized by the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM), the Chula Global Network, the French Embassy and the Research Institute on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC). Held at conference room 105, Maha Chulalongkorn Building, Chulalongkorn University.
April 1	Seminar on “Sharing the Mekong River.” Co-organized by the Mekong Studies Center and the TERRA Foundation (Towards Ecological Recovery and Regional Alliance). Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
April 29	Seminar on “Opportunities for Investment in Myanmar.” Co-organized by the Mekong Studies Center and the Office of the Board of Investment. Held at the Khumsae River Kwae Resort, Kanchanaburi Province.
May 3	Seminar on “Thai Political Crisis: Problems and Solutions.” Co-organized by the Institute of Asian Studies and the Social

Date	Description
May 10-12	Research Institute. Held at the Social Research Institute conference room, Chulalongkorn University. Seminar and Exhibition on “Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Institute of Asian Studies.” Organized by the Institute of Asian Studies. Held at the ground floor and the 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
June 2	Seminar on “Investment Opportunities in Laos.” Co-organized by the Mekong Studies Center and the Office of the Board of Investment at Wiang Inn Hotel, Chiang Rai Province.
June 9	Seminar on “Solutions for Thai Society after the Crisis on the 19th of May.” Organized by the Asian Watch Group. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
June 14	Seminar on “The Muslim World and Modern Conditions: The Direction of Muslim Studies in Thailand.” Organized by the Muslim Studies Center. Held at the conference room of the Faculty of Political Science’s Alumni, Chulalongkorn University.
June 14	Seminar on “Commemorating the 35th Anniversary of Sino-Thai Relations.” Co-organized by the Chinese Studies Center and the Thailand Research Fund. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
June 15	Seminar on “Investment Opportunities in Vietnam.” Co-organized by the Mekong Studies Center and the Office of the Board of Investment. Held at the Ploy Palace Hotel, Mukdaharn Province.
June 21	Seminar on “Guangxi: Gateway to ASEAN’s Economy.” Co-organized by the China Watch Project and the Thailand Research Fund. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4 th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
June 24	Seminar on “Mongol in Thailand: Policies and Management by the Thai Government (1975-2009).” Co-organized by the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM) and the

Date	Description
August 10	<p>Department of Border Affairs of the Royal Thai Armed Forces. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.</p> <p>Seminar on “The Study of the Impacts and Benefits of NEDA Assistance Projects (R3 and R48).” Co-organized by the Mekong Studies Center and NEDA. Held at The Novotel Hotel, Siam Square, Bangkok.</p>
September 17	<p>Experts group meeting on “Environment, Disaster and Migration.” Co-organized by the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM), START, and the Chula Global Network. Held at Wa Kor 2 room, 14th floor Chamchuri Square Building, Chulalongkorn University.</p>
September 29- October 2	<p>Seminar, exhibition, and cultural performances on “Muslims in Thailand: Constructive Roles of Muslims in Thai Society.” Co-organized by the Muslim Studies Center, the Halal Science Center of Chulalongkorn University, the Office of the National Research Council of Thailand, the Department of Provincial Administration, the Ministry of Interior, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Thailand Research Fund, and the James H.W. Thompson Foundation. Held at the Main Auditorium of Chulalongkorn University.</p>
December 1	<p>Seminar on “Thailand, ASEAN, Asia: Stepping Stones to Public Sector Relations.” Organized by the Institute of Asian Studies. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.</p>
December 17	<p>Seminar on “Commemorating the Day of International Migrants: Lessons Learned in Thailand.” Co-organized by the Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM) and the Fund Office for Health Promotion. Held at Chumpot - Pantip conference room, 4th floor of Prajadhipok - Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.</p>

IAS PROGRAMS/CENTERS

◆ Mekong Studies Center

Background

The Mekong Studies Center was established within the Institute of Asian Studies at Chulalongkorn University with a grant from the *Ratchadapisek Sompoch* fund in 2002 in order to conduct research on the countries of the Mekong sub-region and to disseminate the acquired knowledge to the general public. It was begun as a research unit of IAS and was established as a Center of Excellence in December of 2009.

The work of the Mekong Studies Center is founded upon professional expertise established through IAS' considerable research on the countries of the Mekong sub-region which began in 1967. Since that time, IAS has given priority to research projects focusing on the relations between Thailand and the other nations of the Mekong sub-region in the areas of economic, social and international relations issues. Examples of the Institute's research output include: a study on minority groups along the Thai-Burmese border and their impact on Thai-Burmese economic relations; a study on the possibilities and obstacles to Japanese and newly industrialized countries' investment in Vietnam; a study on foreign economic relations between nations in Indochina and ASEAN during the 1990s; a study on the realities and impacts of the Economic Quadrangle Cooperation; a study on the Thai-Vietnamese relationship in Vietnam's post-economic reform era; and a study on the co-operation between Thailand, Laos, Burma, China, Cambodia and Vietnam in solving narcotics-related issues.

In addition to its research activity, the Center has also placed an emphasis on conducting other academic activities such as regularly organizing meetings and seminars on issues related to the nations of the Mekong sub-region.

Based on its strategic focus and its previous research experience on the topic, the current IAS board of directors found it appropriate to establish a study center focusing on the geographic region of the Mekong river delta in order to collect, analyze and disseminate knowledge and information regarding both the countries of the Mekong river delta and the relationship between Thailand and these countries. As a result, on August 1, 2001, the Institute organized an academic conference entitled "Studying the Mekong River Delta," and issued directive 12/2544 on July 9, 2001 which established a board of directors for the Mekong River Delta Study project. This served as the impetus for requesting institutional support to develop the project into a specialized Mekong Studies Center.

At present, the economic, political and security importance of the Mekong is becoming increasingly significant, and is closely linked to Thailand's national interests. This importance will likely continue to intensify in the future. However, up-to-date research on recent situational changes in the Mekong sub-region is still lacking. Recognizing this, it is the goal of the Institute of Asian Studies to generate a body of knowledge that can be used to develop the research center as a specialized research facility on the Mekong sub-region. In so doing, IAS will be able to create and manage research studies that will support the university's links to both the countries and sub-region of the Mekong river delta.

Objectives

The primary objectives of the Mekong Studies Center are:

- 1) To develop an academic center dedicated to studying issues related to the Mekong sub-region in order to increase the levels of knowledge and study of the subject
- 2) To serve as an information and advisory resource that promotes understanding of Mekong studies among government officials, private sector personnel and civil society
- 3) To contribute to the development of a cooperative academic network at both the national and Mekong sub-regional level

In 2010, the Studies Center processed the academic activities as follows:

- ***Research Projects:***

- Completed Research***

1. **“Cross Border Economic Relations in the Great Mekong Sub-region: Impacts and Implications (3rd year)”**

Researchers: Dr. Theera Nuchpiam
 Pornpimol Trichot
 Other team members from Myanmar, Laos, Vietnam and China (Yunnan)

2. **“Study of the Impacts and Benefits Created by NEDA Assistance Projects: the Chiang Rai-Kunming Road Improvement Project (R3) and the Koh Kong-Sre Ambel Road Improvement Project (R48)”**

Researchers: Pornpimol Trichot
 Ukrist Pathamanand
 Watcharin Yongsiri
 Adisorn Semyam

3. **“The Situation of Vietnamese Labourers in Malaysia”****Researcher:** Dr. Thanyathip Sripana***On-going Research Projects:***1. **“Perceptions and Understanding of Neighboring Country Stakeholders on Thailand”****Researchers:** Assit Prof. Dr. Montira Rato
Dr. Theera Nuchpam
Pornpimol Trichot
Adisorn Semyam
Ukrist Pathmanand
Assit. Prof. Wirat Niyomtham (Naresuan University)
Dr. Klairung Amratisha
(Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University)2. **“Development of Ethanol and Biodiesel by Thailand and Cambodia as an Alternative Energy Source for the region”****Researchers:** Watcharin Yongsiri
Nattapon Tantrakulsab3. **“The Role of the Royal Thai Army in Dealing with the Security of the Economic Environment: A Case Study of the Thailand-Myanmar Border”****Researchers:** Pornpimol Trichot
Nattapon Tantrakulsab***Completed Consulting Projects:***Project consultation on **“Supporting Thailand’s Investment in Neighboring Countries (1st year)”****Specialists:** Pornpimol Trichot
Ukrist Pathmanand
Assit. Prof. Dr. Montira Rato
Adisorn Semyam***On-going Consulting Projects:***Project consultation on **“Supporting Thailand’s Investment in Neighboring Countries (2nd year)”****Specialists:** Pornpimol Trichot
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nualnoi Trirat
Assit. Prof. Dr. Montira Rato
Ukrist Pathmanand

- *Articles Published in Journals:*

1. **“Personalisation of Party Leadership: Thaksin, Party and Thailand”**
Author: Ukrist Pathmanand, **Personalised leadership, Parties and Citizens in Contemporary World** eds by Jean-Louis Thiebault and Jean Blondel (London: Routledge 2010)
2. **“Human Insecurity: A Reconsideration of Thai Women in Japan”**
Author: Ukrist Pathmanand, Ritsumeikan University Journal (December 2009)

- *Papers Presented at Academic Conferences:*

1. **“The Current Political Crisis in Thailand”**
 International Seminar on “Thailand Update” at Asian House, Copenhagen, May 18th-19th, 2010. Organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark and the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.
Contributor: Ukrist Pathmanand
2. **“Mama-san, Boss and Thai Sex Workers in Japan”**
 API Fellowship at the Graduate Policy Studies Institute, Tokyo, March 18th-19th, 2010.
Contributor: Ukrist Pathmanand
3. **“Malaysia: A Destination for Vietnamese Workers”**
 International Seminar on Cultural Diversity in the Mekong Sub-region: Sharing Experiences from Japan and Mekong Countries. Hosted and organized by Ubon Rajathani University, Kyoto University and the Thailand Research Fund.
Contributor: Dr.Thanyathip Sripana
4. **“Vietnam’s Labour Exports”**
 The School of Arts and Social Sciences at Monash University, Sunway Campus, March 9th, 2010.
Contributor: Dr.Thanyathip Sripana
5. **“Labour Migration from Vietnam to other Asian Countries: Sharing Research Findings and NGO Experiences”**
 Workshop session on International perspectives and actions, March 15th-16th, 2010 at Hanoi, Vietnam. Hosted and organized by the Institute for Social Development Studies (ISDS) and Funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Kyoto University and The University of Western Ontario.
Contributor: Dr.Thanyathip Sripana

- **Academic Conferences Organized:**

1. Seminar on “**Cross-border Economic Relations in the Greater Mekong Subregion: Impacts and Implications.**” Supported by the SASAKAWA Peace Foundation. Held on February 19th, 2010 at Room 210, Mahachulalongkorn Building, Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University.
2. Seminar on “**Thai Investment Opportunities in Neighbouring Countries (Myanmar, Lao PDR and Vietnam).**” Co-organized with the Thailand Board of Investment. Held on March 26th, 2010 at the Miracle Grand Hotel.
3. Seminar on “**Sharing the Mekong River.**” Supported by the TERRA Foundation (Towards Ecological Recovery and Regional Alliance). Held on April 1st, 2010 at the Prajadhipok-Rambhai Barni Building, 4th floor, Chulalongkorn University.
4. Seminar on “**Thai Investment Opportunities in Myanmar.**” Co-organized with the Thailand Board of Investment. Held on April 29th, 2010 at Comsaed River Kwai Resort, Kanchanaburi.
5. Seminar on “**Chinese Influence on the Greater Mekong Basin Transformation.**” Held on May 12th, 2010 at the Prajadhipok-Rambhai Barni Building, 4th floor, Chulalongkorn University.
6. Seminar on “**Thai Investment Opportunities in Lao PDR.**” Co-organized with the Thailand Board of Investment. Held on June 2nd, 2010 at Wiang Inn Hotel, Chiang Rai.
7. Seminar on “**Thai Investment Opportunities in Vietnam.**” Co-organized with the Thailand Board of Investment. Held on June 25th, 2010 at the Ploy Palace Hotel, Mukdahan.

Lectures Given and Seminars Attended

Date	Activities
2010/03/05	An English language lecture on “ Migration in the Mekong Sub-region. ” Presented on March 5 th , 2010 at the PPSPS MA program at the Faculty of Social Science and Humanities (FSSK), Universiti Kebangsaan, Malaysia.
2010/06/01	A Thai language lecture on “ Cambodia and Thailand: Relationship and Conflicts. ” Presented on June 1 st , 2010 at an academic seminar of the National Defence Studies Institute, Royal Thai Armed Forces.
2010/06/07	A Thai language lecture on “ Thailand’s Role in the Asia-Pacific and Beyond. ” Presented on June 7 th , 2010 at the Strategic Studies Center, Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters.
2010/06/24	An English language lecture on “ Labour Exports from Vietnam to Malaysia. ” Presented on June 24 th , 2010 at the Global COE for Reconstruction of the Intimate and Public Spheres in 21 st Century Asia at the Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University.
2010/07/16	An English language lecture on “ Labour Exports from Vietnam to Malaysia. ” Presented on July 16 th , 2010 at Bilik Mesyuarat Pusat, 6 th PPSPS, Faculty of Social Science and Humanities (FSSK), Universiti Kebangsaan, Malaysia.
2010/08/09	An English language discussion as part of a special lecture on “ Rethinking Human Security in Southeast Asia. ” Held on August 9 th , 2010 by Assoc.Prof. Dr.Zarina Othman at the Anakeprasong Building II, Thammasat University.
2010/10/14-15	An English language seminar on “ Understanding Civil-Military Relations in Thailand. ” Held on October 14 th -15 th , 2010 as part of the international seminar “Addressing the Structural-Agency Divide in the Study of Civil-Military Relations in Democratization” at the Institute of Political Science, Heidelberg University.
2010/10/16	An English language conference on “ Coup, Confrontation and Assassination: How Thailand’s Democratization is working. ” Held on October 16 th , 2010 at the international conference for “Asian Democratization and Politico-Economic Sustainable Development in the 21 st Century: Democratic Governance” hosted by the Department of Political Science at National Cheng Kung University.

Date	Activities
2010/12/17-18	An English language seminar on “ Bangkok as Political Conflict Space. ” Held on December 17 th -18 th , 2010 as part of an international seminar on “Local Political and Social Cleavages in Transforming Asia” at the Center of Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University.

- *The Academic Prizes:*

The research project “*An In-depth Study on the Economic Potential of the Areas of Thailand along the Border of Tanintharyi Division and the Andaman Coast Line of Myanmar*,” conducted by a research team led by Pornpimol Trichot, was awarded the annual prize of the Ratchadaphiseksomphot Endowment Fund on March 23rd, 2010.

◆ Chinese Studies Center

Background

The study and dissemination of knowledge about China was started at the Faculty of Political Science of Chulalongkorn University in correlation to the trend of increasing Asian studies programs worldwide which resulted from the changes in the political regime in China, the Korean War and the Indo-China War. In 1967, the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) was informally founded by the Faculty of Political Science at Chulalongkorn University. Since that time, IAS has conducted numerous research projects on issues related to China and disseminated the results to the general public. After official Thai-Chinese diplomatic relations were established and IAS was formally founded on May 10, 1985, the activities at the Institute relating to Chinese Studies began increasing. A highlight of the 20th anniversary celebration of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the People's Republic of China was the founding of the Chinese Studies Center (CSC) at Chulalongkorn University. Professor Amphol Phanchet was appointed as the first Director of CSC and the Center quickly became an important focal point for research on China at IAS.

The main objectives of CSC are:

- 1) To develop CSC into a Center of Excellence for Chinese Studies and to become the Center for knowledge on China within Thailand as well as to conduct research on critical aspects of Thai-Chinese relations.
- 2) To encourage understanding between Thais and Chinese through the academic activities program, conducting research, supporting human resource development, teaching graduate students in Chinese Studies and offering training courses, conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures and study tours.
- 3) To produce a wide range of publications, translations and interpretations of academic materials, including the usage of audio-visual equipment to disseminate knowledge and information on Chinese economic, political, social, artistic, cultural, scientific and technological subjects of interest.

- 4) To provide evidence and expertise to the government sector in order to support the formulation of foreign policy towards China on economic, social and political issues.
- 5) To coordinate and formulate cooperative networks, including links with institutions within the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macau and other countries.
- 6) To serve as a public source for information on China through establishing a database to store and distribute information, operated by the Computer Technology Center.

The CSC is governed by three key bodies; each entity and its role are outlined below:

- The CSC's advisors consist of distinguished personalities, well-known scholars and philanthropists who share the ideals and objectives of the Center. Their responsibilities are to provide advice, assistance and financial support to the CSC.
- The Policy Board is chaired by the Director of the Institute of Asian Studies and the CSC Director serves as the Board's secretary. The Policy Board is comprised of highly qualified individuals and representatives from the public and private sectors whose expertise and activities are relevant to the Board's functions. These members help to formulate policies, approve work plans, and establish the annual budget for the Center.
- The Executive Committee is headed by the CSC Director. Its members consist of heads of various programs as well as accomplished executives who are well qualified to implement the policies and work plans approved by the Policy Board.

In 2010, in addition to carrying out research projects, the Center enlarged its activities as follows:

- 1) Organize quarterly panel discussions for invited participants on issues related to current events in China;
- 2) Organize seminars, workshops and conferences concerning Chinese affairs or the relations between Thailand and China for the general public;
- 3) Establish a website to provide information and up-to-date news related to China as a database for interested persons;
- 4) Publish the “Chinese Studies Center Newsletter” quarterly in Thai and to circulate the newsletter to interested individuals and organizations; and
- 5) Publish the Center’s research papers and other special publications with academic objectives when appropriate.

Research Projects

- **Completed research**
 - 1) **“Chinese Herbs”**
Researcher: Chao Pongpichit
 - 2) **“Our Boundaries - Our ASEAN Neighbors : Boundaries of China – Mongolia”**
Researcher: CSC Researcher Team
 - 3) **“Development of Manpower and Research Strategies to Serve Chinalization Trends: The Compilation and Synthesis of Research Works”**
Researcher: CSC Researcher Team
- **Various research projects are currently in process. Most of them are expected to finish in 2011. These are as follows:**
 - 1) **“Taiwan: Potential, Stability and Opportunities for Reunification”**
Researcher: Samarn Laodamrongchai

- 2) **“Thai-Chinese Relations: Consequential Factors on Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the People’s Republic of China in 1975”**
Researcher: Dr.Siriphet Trisnavadee
- 3) **“China and its Role for Cooperation in East Asia”**
Researcher: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sompop Manarungsan

Talks/Seminars

Date	Activities
2010/05/23	An academic seminar on “ASEAN-China Free Trade Agreement: Advantages and Disadvantages for Thailand.” Held on the occasion of the 25 th anniversary of the establishment of the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) at the Chumpot-Pantip Conference room, 4 th floor, Prajadhipok-Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
2010/06/10	An academic seminar on “The 35th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Kingdom of Thailand and the People’s Republic of China.” Held at the Chumpot-Pantip Conference room, 4 th floor, Prajadhipok-Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
2010/06/21	An academic seminar on “Guangxi: Gateway to the ASEAN Economy.” Held at the Chumpot-Pantip Conference room, 4 th floor, Prajadhipok-Rambhai Barni Building, Chulalongkorn University.

Publications

Date	Activities
2010	Chinese Studies Center Newsletter (in Thai); 4 volumes, 500 copies per volume.

◆ Asian Research Center for Migration

Background

The Asian Research Center for Migration (ARCM) is a unit of the Institute of Asian Studies at Chulalongkorn University. Established as the Indochinese Refugee Information Center in 1987 and reconstituted as ARCM in 1995, the Center was recognized as a Chulalongkorn University Center of Excellence in 2007. ARCM activities include: conducting research on migration topics related to development, health and forced migration; setting up a resource information center on migration-related issues; strengthening links with other academic institutions, civil society organization, governmental and non-governmental organizations; and disseminating data and information based on its research. ARCM provides information on migration to the general public in the form of published research, statistical data and policy recommendations concerning cross-border migration, with a focus on the Southeast Asian region. ARCM also offers its expertise and services to individuals and organizations through lectures, seminars, trainings and consultancies. ARCM's core team comprises not only members of the academic community of Chulalongkorn University but also a multi-disciplinary group of committed researchers, including both Thai and international experts, with backgrounds in a diverse range of academic fields relevant to migration. ARCM is a member of a variety of academic networks including the Asia Pacific Migration Research Network, the Global Development Network, the International Association of Forced Migration and others.

The Asian Research Center for Migration can be contacted at the following address:

Asian Research Center for Migration
Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University
3rd floor, Prachadhipok Rampai Barni Bldg.
Phyathai Road, Pathumwan
Bangkok 10330
THAILAND

Tel : (66)2-218-7415, (66)2-218-7419, (66)2-218-7462
Fax: (66)2-218-7419, (66)2-255-8854

Activities:

- Seminar on International Migrants Day:

This seminar was held on December 17th, 2010 at the Prajadhipok Rambhi Barni Building, 4th Floor, Chulalongkorn University. The objective was to present the situation of migrant workers in Thailand and Thai migrant workers in foreign countries through the combined expertise of Thai scholars, government officers and NGO staff members.

Research Projects:

- **The Process and Prospects for Resettlement of Displaced Persons on the Thai-Myanmar Border**

This project was funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in order to assess the role resettlement plays as a durable solution in Thailand and to determine how the resettlement program can be improved to become a more effective solution for displaced persons in the border shelters. In order to assess these issues, a course of qualitative and quantitative research was conducted in Thailand and the United States to study the motivations and constraints for displaced persons to participate in the program as well as the program's impacts and implications for program participants, the remaining shelter populations and new displacement flows into the shelters.

- **Current Engagement and Policies Implemented by the Royal Thai Government and their Impact on Displaced Persons**

This project was funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in order to analyze the current policies of the Royal Thai Government (RTG) towards displaced persons in order to provide empirical evidence of its impacts and implications for stakeholder groups which will lay the groundwork for the formulation of sustainable policy solutions for the border camps.

- **Rapid Assessment: The impacts of the Global Economic Downturn on Workers in Thailand**

This project was funded by the World Bank with the objective of providing updated information on the poverty and social impacts of the recent global economic crisis on Thailand. The Assessment focuses on the impact of the crisis on the

informal sector (urban poor), the unemployed, migrant workers, the rural poor and workers in the formal industrial sector.

New Publications:

- “Understanding the Recruitment Industry in Thailand”
- “Migrant Workers from Cambodia and Laos”

◆ Muslim Studies Center

Background

The Muslim Studies Center was established to encourage academic research and greater public understanding of Muslim society and culture both domestically in Thailand and internationally. It is an inter-disciplinary research unit which was founded in 2005 as a center within the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) at Chulalongkorn University. The Muslim Studies Center was set up in response to the need to understand the rapidly changing situation for Muslims in Asia and the World.

At present, Muslim studies have become increasingly the focus of public and academic attention, although much of the discussion has centered narrowly on contemporary issues of security and terrorism due to the events of 9/11. The variability and flexibility of Muslim practices and perspectives have not been featured in this discourse, leaving the public largely unaware of the complexities, achievements and challenges of the Muslim World. The Center is working to redress this imbalance by broadening the scope of study and dialogue to introduce more comparison and complexity into the study of Muslim affairs in the Middle East, South Asia, East Asia and the Malay world. By focusing attention on Muslim (rather than Islamic) studies, the Center encourages a shift in analysis from the notion of a single unitary religious grouping defined by Islam to a more complex view of Muslims as agents in the construction of their own experience and history.

Today, the Muslim Studies Center is moving into the future with a vision that the center become a source of Muslim knowledge and information for both the national and international communities. This accomplishment will be fulfilled through the team work and diligence of the Center's highly qualified researchers who are expert on the various dimensions and aspects of the Muslim World.

Objectives

The Muslim Studies Center aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. To promote academic excellence in the field of Muslim Studies.
2. To promote a better understanding of Thailand and the Muslim World.
3. To be a source of reference and consultation on Muslim affairs for the government, private sector and civil society in Thailand.
4. To develop a network of academic cooperation related to Muslim studies both nationally and internationally.

Activities

1. Carrying out research on different aspects of Muslim Studies
2. Organizing talks, seminars, lectures, and debates on issues related to Muslim Studies
3. Publishing books, pamphlets and journals on Muslim Studies issues
4. Developing a network of academic cooperation on Muslim studies.
5. Establishing a resource library with collections of books and periodicals on Muslim studies.

Research projects in 2010:

“Learning about the Culture of the Middle East: Understanding the Arab Way”

Researcher: *Dr.Srawut Aree*

The main objective of this study, “Learning about the Culture of the Middle East: Understanding the Arab Way,” is to assist Thai people, especially those who have the opportunity to interact with Arabs, to understand modern Arab culture. This includes looking at the thought patterns, social relations, etiquette, religion and way of life of urban Arabs in the 21st century. The Modern-day urban Arabs of the 21st century whom Thais are likely to interact with are mostly middle class rather than exotic Bedouins who have a very different way of life. The data for this research project come from many sources including secondary sources, the researcher’s own personal experiences in the Arab World and interviews with resource persons working in this particular field.

The findings of this study were that Arabs have a high regard for their traditions. Some common features shared by many Arabs are the importance of family, class structure, religious and political behavior, patterns of living, standards of social morality, changes caused by the modern world and the impact of economic development on people’s lives. Most Arabs share some common basic beliefs and values that cross national and class boundaries. Many of these social attitudes have remained constant and unchanged due to conservative cultural elements. Arab society demands conformity from its members. Most importantly, Arab’s beliefs are very much influenced by the religion of Islam.

“Policy and Action Guidelines of the Organization of Islamic Conference on Muslim Minority Issues”

Researcher: *Dr. Srawut Aree*

The main objective of this research, entitled “Policy and Action Guidelines of the Organization of Islamic Conference on Muslim Minority Issues,” was to conduct a comparative study of the role and policy of the Organization of Islamic Conference relating to the Muslim minority issues in the Philippines, India and Bulgaria. The framework of this study was to compare the nature of the plight of Muslim minorities in these three countries and to compare the action guidelines issued by the Organization of Islamic Conference towards Muslim minorities within each. The study was completed using documentary research, as well as qualitative methods through in-depth interviews.

The study found that OIC policy on the issue of Muslim minorities rests on two main pillars. The first of these is that the OIC shows its concern on the issue of Muslim minorities issue through respect for international laws and human rights agreements. The second policy foundation is that the OIC always defers to the sovereignty of individual nation states when advocating on the issue of minorities, stating that these are internal affairs matters of the nations concerned. This indicates that OIC’s concern over minority issues is devoid of political agenda while at the same time based on internationally recognized humanitarian principles. Thus the OIC is uses diplomatic means, in accordance with international norms and religious principles, in an attempt to solve the problems faced by Muslim minorities.

In all of the case studies conducted, it was found that every case in which the OIC has been involved arose from clear human rights violations against Muslim minorities by states, both in terms of physical violations and violations of religious and cultural freedoms. However, the result of interaction between the OIC and the states in relation to the issues faced by Muslim minorities can be either cooperation or conflict, depending on the methods being used by the states to resolve the problems.

“Seeking Cooperation with Central Asian Countries to Strengthen Thailand’s Energy Security for the Future”

Researcher: *Dollaya Tiantong*

The main purpose of this research project are 1) To study the world energy situation, Thailand’s energy situation and policy and strategy options for strengthening energy security; 2) To identify and analyze the factors that impede cooperation between Thailand and Central Asian countries on energy security and 3)

To propose strategies for Thailand's development of energy cooperation with Central Asian countries moving forward.

The research found that fluctuation in the world's oil prices during the 1970's and 2000's significantly affected Thailand since it depends heavily on oil imported from outside sources. Consequently, the Government of Thailand had to formulate and implement energy policies based upon procuring energy from countries in other regions and promote the use of natural gas as a new alternative energy source. It is clear that Central Asia is another region of interest for Thailand's future energy needs because of its energy generating capacity. The focal countries of this interest in Central Asia are Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, all of which are rich in natural gas. The energy industries among these focal point countries still have considerable room for growth grow up and their energy resources may become more available soon. However, development of energy cooperation between Thailand and these countries still face obstacles such as the instability of domestic politics within the countries, the relatively long distance between the region and Thailand and the lack of well-established relations between Thailand and the countries of the region. In order to develop energy cooperation agreements between Thailand and the countries of Central Asia in the future, Thailand's government will have to push forward a proactive strategy with regard to international energy policy at both bilateral and multilateral levels.

Lectures and Seminars

Date	Activities
February 24	Special lecture on " <i>Iran's Influence in the Middle East After the War in Iraq.</i> " Held at Room 601, Mahitaladhibet Building, Chulalongkorn University.
June 14	Seminar on " <i>The Muslim World and Modernity: The Direction of 'Muslim Studies' in Thailand.</i> " Held at the Faculty of Political Science Alumni Conference Room, 2nd floor, Political Science Alumni Building, Chulalongkorn University.
September 29 th -October 2 nd	International conference on " <i>Muslims in Thailand: Constructive Roles in Thai Society.</i> " Held at the Main Auditorium, Chulalongkorn University.

◆ Japanese Studies Program

Interest in Japan and Japan's development are important topics for both policy and research in Thailand. During the past two decades, Japan has been an important case study for successful economic development. It has had an important continuing role in the development of the Asian region in trade, investment, and foreign aid. Despite its importance to the region however, Japan has still not yet recovered from the serious economic problems that resulted when its economic bubble burst in the early 1990's. The problems that exist within Japan have reached the point where solving them will require a variety of major and unavoidable structural reforms.



One effect of the recent Asian economic crisis, particularly for Thailand and Southeast Asia, has been to revitalize Japanese studies once again. In the past, the study of Japan took place in the context of regional or area studies. However, Japan's economic development and its rise to become one of the world's great economic powers has necessitated reform of the previous approaches taken to Japanese studies. For example, Japan studies now also take place within the framework of comparative research or in the context of research on long-term development processes.

The activities of the Institute of Asian Studies include educating people, conducting research and organizing academic events. This includes promoting coordination both within the university's research environment and between research institutions elsewhere. These coordination efforts involve researchers on Japanese issues both in Thailand and throughout the Asian region in order to promote greater harmony and understanding between the various parties involved.

Currently, the Japan Studies Program has the resources necessary to improve its coordination efforts, research activities, training, and publications concerning Japan. A variety of parties will participate in this effort: the Institute of Asian Studies, other academic departments at Chulalongkorn University, research centers at other

universities, the private sector and government organizations. The activities of the Japanese Studies Program are intended to enhance deeper understanding among the people of Thailand, Japan and the Asian region through research, workshops, seminars and publications. During the past five years, the Japanese Studies Program has conducted the following activities:

- **Workshop on Japanese Studies for School Teachers 2009**

Due to the increasingly important economic and international roles of Japan, and its close relationship with Thailand, there is a corresponding need to deepen mutual understanding between the two countries. With that objective in mind, the Japanese Studies Program of the Institute of Asian Studies at Chulalongkorn University, in collaboration with the Japan Information Service and the Ministry of Education, held an annual workshop on Japanese Studies in different provinces throughout Thailand. Participants were secondary school teachers from surrounding areas.

- **Publications**

1. 120th year of the Thailand – Japan Diplomatic Relationship
2. Towards 21st Century Japanese Society (2009)

- **Recent Research**

1. Significant Issues in Japanese Foreign Policy during the Post Cold War Era
2. Institutions and Aid Provision Processes: A Case Study of JICA and the Japanese Foreign Aid Provision Process during the Post Cold War Era



◆ Audio-Visual Aids Center

The Audio-Visual Aids Center was founded in 1982 in order to produce teaching-aid materials as a supplement to Social Studies curriculums as well as to enhance the knowledge and teaching on Asian countries and Thailand for secondary and high school students. Its main objectives are as follows:

1. To provide resources to teachers at all levels as well as to the entire educational system
2. To mobilize experts in all fields to pass on their knowledge to teachers, students and the general public in the form of teaching-aid materials
3. To serve as a link between Chulalongkorn University and other provincial educational institutions through the exchange of teaching-aid materials
4. To consistently improve teaching-aid materials in order to stay up-to-date with newly emerging technologies that can enhance the effectiveness of knowledge transfer and student learning



To date, the Center has produced nearly 60 slide sets with audio descriptions and 25 videotapes shot and edited by the Center, with subject matter such as the history and geography of Thailand.

In addition, the Center has recently expanded its production by developing Computer-Assisted Instruction (CIA) CD-ROMs as an alternative platform for the various pedagogical needs of educational institutions. Currently, there are 19 CD-Slides and 28 Video CDs produced by the Center.

The majority of these teaching aids cover social science subjects, with a focus on Asian and Thai studies. These include Asian country profiles, Asian current events, environmental issues, science and technology, Thai history, world religions and hill tribe documentaries. Materials on the following Asian countries have been produced: Brunei, China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The Center has now expanded its services to include video production and editing as well as digitizing work for several educational institutions both in and outside of Chulalongkorn University. The Center aspires to expand its services to foreign communities when resources and accumulated expertise deem this possible. The Center believes that high-quality audio-visual aids can help promote mutual understanding among people of different national origins.



◆ Asian Public Intellectuals (API) Fellowship Program

Background and Outline of the Program

The API Fellowships Program is designed to stimulate the creation of a new pool of public intellectuals in the region at a time when Asia faces all manners of challenges that transcend national boundaries. It aims to promote mutual learning among Asian public intellectuals and to contribute to the growth of public spaces in which effective responses to regional needs can be generated. The API Fellowships Program will enable public intellectuals (academics, mass media professionals, artists, NGO activists and others with moral authority who are working to shape public opinion and influence policy in their societies) in Asia to pursue intellectual, cultural and professional projects in another Asian country according to one of the following pre-determined themes:

1. Changing identities and their social, historical, and cultural contexts
2. Reflections on the human condition and the search for social justice
3. Globalization: structure, processes, and alternatives

Further details of the API Fellowships Program (e.g. eligibility, allowance, obligation, etc.) can be found at the website: <http://www.api-fellowships.org/>

Initiated and fully funded by the Nippon Foundation, the API Fellowships Program was launched in July 2000, as collaboration of five academic institutions in the region. These include the Institute of Asian Studies (Chulalongkorn University), the Center for Southeast Asian Studies (Kyoto University), the School of Social Sciences (Ateneo de Manila University), the Institute of Malaysian and International Studies (Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia) and the Center for Social and Cultural Studies (Indonesian Institute of Science). Since its founding, IAS has served as one of the five partner institutions of the program, responsible for local administration and coordination of both outgoing and incoming Fellows.

Since 2005, IAS has also functioned as the Coordinating Institution (CI) for the API Fellowships Program. In this role, the API Office at IAS acts as the regional secretariat for the Program, organizing and facilitating regional-level activities. Recent activities of the Program include the following:

Special API Fellowships for CLV (Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam)

In order to enhance further collaboration in the region, the Program has decided to expand its scope of activities in the three CLV countries. The Program will invite public intellectuals from these three countries to conduct fellowships in five participating countries of Asia.

API Regional Committee/Regional Project

As the API Fellowships Program is now entering its 2nd phase, building and activating the API Community (which consists of the recipients of the API Fellowships or API Senior Fellowships and all persons involved in the management and screening of the API Fellowships Program) is crucial. For this purpose, the API Community has selected ten fellows to constitute the Regional Committee (RC) as their representatives, with the goal of promoting activities which are deemed critical for the region, cross-disciplinary in nature, trans-border in scope and multi-level in approach (recognizing the inter-linkage of locality, nation, and region). The RC aims to develop a greater regional consciousness by promoting relationships between cultures, societies and traditions by initiating or endorsing collaborative activities and by confronting public issues with perspicacity, integrity and commitment.

As the first collaborative project of the API Community, the API Regional Project was launched in November 2008 under the theme of “Community-Based Initiatives for Human Ecological Balance” at five sites in five countries over the course of three years: Biwako Lake (Japan), Batanes (Philippines), Khiriwong (Thailand), Yogyakarta (Indonesia), and Tasik Chini (Malaysia). The Biwako site activities were carried out in September of 2009.

API-Salzburg Global Seminar Collaboration

The Salzburg Global Seminar was founded on the ideal that open discussion among individuals helps build the bridges of communication and cooperation for the global community. While its programs are run out of facilities in Salzburg, Austria, the Salzburg Seminar itself—renamed the “Salzburg Global Seminar” on July 1, 2007—is located in the United States. The Seminar has its headquarters in Washington, DC as well as an administrative office in Middlebury, Vermont and a field office in Vienna, Austria. The Salzburg Global Seminar was begun in 1947 by three graduate students at Harvard University as a means of bringing together young Europeans and Americans from countries recently at war to engage in intellectual dialogue. In the 60 years since its establishment, the Salzburg Global Seminar has evolved and expanded both the breadth of countries from which its participants (Fellows) come, as well as the issues that serve as the focus of its programs.

In an effort to flow with the tide of globalization, the Salzburg Global Seminar decided to reach out beyond Europe and the U.S., to Asia, the Middles East and Africa. As a result, the API Fellowships Program was identified as a pool of quality intellectuals in Asia and a plan to establish a partnership was developed. Since 2008, under the partnership scheme established, selected API Fellows have been participating in the Seminar. This collaboration provides the opportunity for API Fellows to expand their intellectual capacities by being exposed to world class intellectual leaders and for API Fellows to share the voices and perspectives of Asia with the other Seminar participants. API has been sending maximum of 10 participants per year.

API Fellows Year 2008-2009 from All Membership Countries

(Affiliation information as of 2008)

Name	Affiliation/Position	Visiting Countries	Project Title
<i>Fellows from Indonesia</i>			
Nur Indrawaty Lipoeto	Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine, Andalas University	Philippines Malaysia	The Relationship of Coconut Consumption Pattern and Nutrition Transition in Southeast Asia
Yonariza	Executive Secretary and Research Associate, Andalas University	Thailand	Effect of Logging Ban in Natural Forest on Timber Tree Domestication in Thailand
Andi Faisal Bakti	Professor and Researcher, Faculty of Dakwa and Communication, State Islamic University	Japan Philippines	Islamic Religious Learning Groups and Civil Society: How do Muslims Contribute to Civil Society in Tokyo (Japan) and Marawi (the Philippines)?
Suribidari	Researcher, Research Center for Regional Resources, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI)	Malaysia	Coping with Crises: Survival Strategies of Terengganu and Kelantan Family Weaving Business, 1930s-2000s
Semiarto Aji Purwanto	Lecturer, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Indonesia	Philippines	Urban Agriculture in Developing Country: The Experience of the Philippines' Urban Agriculture Programs
Ekoningtyas Margu Wardani	Researcher, Center for Asia and Pacific Studies, Gadjah Mada University	Philippines	Food for Ethnic Minority: Maintaining of Food Security for Ifugao Community in Northern Luzon Island, Philippines

Name	Affiliation/Position	Visiting Countries	Project Title
<i>Fellows from Japan</i>			
Hiroko Aihara	Journalist, <i>The Fukushima Minyu Shimbun</i>	Philippines	The Role of the Media and Its Influence in the Field of Organ Transplantation and Globalization of Information: Research on Actual Real-Life Situation in the Republic of the Philippines
Shigeaki Iwai	Independent Artist	Thailand Indonesia Philippines	Family as between Ordinary and Extraordinary: A Video Work Production Based on Workshops with Local Residents at Three Asian Countries
Tsukasa Iga	Doctoral Course Student, Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies, Kobe University	Indonesia Malaysia	The Role of the Media on the Political Regime in Malaysia and Indonesia
Tomonari Nishikawa	Artist and Curator	Thailand Malaysia	Establishing a Network of Experimental Cinema between Malaysia, Thailand and Japan
Saori Watanabe	Ph.D. Student, Faculty of Foreign Studies, Sophia University	Thailand	The Role of Community Network in Refugee Problem in the Age of Globalization: A Case Study of Community Networks of Burmese Refugees and Migrants in Thailand

Name	Affiliation/Position	Visiting Countries	Project Title
<i>Fellows from Malaysia</i>			
Tan Sooi Beng	Professor, School of Arts, Universiti Sains Malaysia	Thailand Japan Philippines Indonesia	Community Theatre for Social Change: A Documentation of its Development, Approaches, Methods and Achievements
Toh Kin Woon	State Minister, State Government of Penang, Malaysia	Philippines Japan	The Distribution of Political Rights in the Legislature and its Impact on Social Justice
Lim Teck Ghee	Professional Fellow, University College of Sedaya International	Indonesia Philippines Japan Thailand	Managing Poverty Better-Learning from Winners and Losers
Shanthi Thambiah	Lecturer, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Malaya	Japan	Fertility Decline and Transformation of Intimacy in Malaysia and Japan: A Comparative Study
Mohd. Zariat Bin Abdul Rani	Lecturer, Universiti Putra Malaysia	Indonesia	Using Literary Works as Teaching Material for Sex Education in Indonesia
Jennifer Theresa Rubis	Programme and Research Officer, Global Knowledge Partnership Secretariat	Philippines	Exploring Indigenous Voices in the Creative Arts
<i>Fellows from Philippines</i>			
Jonas Baes	Chairman, College of Music, University of the Philippines	Malaysia Japan	Asian Composers in the Milieu of High Modernity: Japan and Malaysia
Cristina P. Lim	Director, Professor and Researcher, Ateneo de Naga University	Japan Malaysia Thailand	Women in the Fishery Sector in Asia

Name	Affiliation/Position	Visiting Countries	Project Title
Rufa Cagoco-Guam	Associate Professor II, Graduate School; Director, Center for Peace and Development Studies, Mindanao State University	Japan Thailand Malaysia	Human Security and Gender Policies and Their Impact on National Consciousness and Peace Building: A Comparative Analysis of Japan, Thailand and Malaysia
Jose Atanacio Lubaton Estuar	Operations Manager, F.R. Estuar and Associates Development and Mangement Co., Inc. (FREA, Inc.); President and CEO, Eastern Twinstars Foundation (ETSF)	Malaysia Thailand	Innovations in Financial Services Delivery for Excluded Populations and Frontier Areas: A Comparative Study of Policies, Methodology and Lessons in Thailand and Malaysia
<i>Fellows from Thailand</i>			
Pichet Maolanond	Researcher and Chairman, Thai Judicialization & Social Health Institute	Japan Philippines Indonesia Malaysia	Judicialization in Asia: Resolving Political & Social Justice Issues through National Human Rights Institutions and the Judiciaries
Ukrist Pathmanand	Senior Researcher, Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University	Indonesia Japan	Nontraditional Security and Multilateralism in Thailand, Indonesia and Japan: Reshaping the Contours of Regional Security Architecture?
Narumol Thammapruksa	Artist; Guest Lecturer, Dept. of Theatre for Communication, Faculty of Mass Communication, Chiang Mai University	Japan Indonesia	Artists and Their Roles in Creating Living City

Name	Affiliation/Position	Visiting Countries	Project Title
Phutti Phong Aroonpheng	Independent Filmmaker and Video Artist	Japan	Freezing Frame: Reflection on Generational Capture of Urban Images
Yuwadee Silapakit	Freelance/Volunteer Counselor for Thai Women Living in Japan	Japan Philippines	Rights on Stateless Children Born to Asian Women Living Illegally in Japan
Karnt Thassanaphak	Freelance Writer and Artist	Philippines Malaysia	The Art of “Campaign Media”: The Art of Presentation of “Alternative Media” in the world of “Mainstream Media”

API Public Events Year 2009 (October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009)

Date	Venue	Events/Activities
November 24-30, 2008	Yogyakarta Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - API Program Coordinators' Meeting - API Regional Committee (RC) Meeting - API Regional Project Council of Working Groups Meeting - API International Selection Committee - API Executive Committee Meeting - API Regional Project Lunching Ceremony - API Regional Workshop for Fellows Year 2007-2008
February 2009		- Notification to selected Fellows Year 2008-2009
February 22-23, 2009	Manila Philippines	- Orientation and Philippines Country Workshop
February 24-26, 2009	Jakarta Indonesia	- Orientation and Indonesia Country Workshop
February 27 – March 1, 2009	Kyoto Japan	- Orientation and Japan Country Workshop
March 20-21, 2009	Bangkok Thailand	- Orientation and Thailand Country Workshop
March 28-29, 2009	KL Malaysia	- Orientation and Malaysia Country Workshop
April 13-14, 2009	Osaka Japan	- Ad-hoc Committee Meeting of the 8 th API Regional Workshop for Fellows Year 2008-2009

May 22-26, 2009	Bangi Malaysia	- API Regional Committee/Council of Workshop Groups Meeting
July 27-29, 2009	Bangkok Thailand	- Program Coordinators' Meeting
August 15-16, 2009	Manila Philippines	- API Regional Project Documentary Content Development Workshop
September 2009	Japan	- API Regional Project Biwako Site Visit

◆ Thai World Affairs Center (Thai World)

The Thai World Affairs Center (Thai World) is located at the Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, 7th Floor, Prajadhipok-Rambhai Barni Building, Phyathai Road, Bangkok 10330, Thailand, Tel: 662-251-5199, 662-218-7463-64, Fax: 662-255-1124, E-mail: info@thaiworld.org Website: <http://www.thaiworld.org>



The International Understanding Program (IUP) was the forerunner of the present Thai World Affairs Center (Thai World). It was officially established on October 1, 1986, and carried out its objectives under that banner until the end of 2003. The change of the name at this time was due to the changing world situation. The advancement of new information technology has enabled the organization to operate more efficiently and has resulted in adjustments to the organization's structure, activities and name. However, the present Thai World organization remains an independent agency attached to the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) at Chulalongkorn University.

Since its establishment, IUP (now Thai World) engaged in a variety of activities relevant to its objectives. In the first 8 years, it organized lectures and seminar series aimed at promoting international understanding. These included “*Meet the Ambassador*” forums which provided opportunities for foreign ambassadors in Thailand to meet with the public in an informal setting. Second, it gave awards to a number of eminent Thais who had an outstanding record for promoting international understanding. Third, in two consecutive years (1996-1997) it administered nation-wide competitions, with the cooperation of a number of newspapers and television programs, to select 7 promising young students and teachers as its “people ambassadors” to Japan and China. In this role, the chosen representatives interacted with their counterparts during 8 day visits to partner countries. Fourth, the program has produced papers or information sheets to be supplied to interested individuals, institutions of higher learning, government agencies and other selected organizations. Finally, from the beginning of 1997 to the end of 2003, Thai World produced a monthly periodical entitled the “Thailand Monitor” for world-wide distribution.

The original format of the Thailand Monitor was a collection of articles on Thailand published in by the English mass media in Thailand. It differed from the current Thailand Monitor, which is available on the Thai World website, in that the former's copyright belonged to the original publishers and IUP was allowed to reproduce and distribute articles by mail only. The copyright of the current version of the Thailand Monitor belongs to solely to Thai World, and the stories contained therein are written and edited by the Thai World team of experts. However, the objective

remains the same: to promote better understanding of Thailand among foreigners. It should be noted that Thai World is currently sharing its website with a Thai version of World Society, dedicated to promoting better understanding of the world among the Thai people. You are cordially invited to visit the Thai World website (www.thaiworld.org) as well as to provide advice on how it can be improved.