

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1962

The Annual General Meeting of the Siam Society terminating the year 1962 was held as usual at the Society's Home, 131 Asoka Road (Lane 21), Bangkok, Bangkok on Thursday, 15th March 1962 at 8.15 P.M. with H.H. Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh, President, in the Chair. The Meeting was attended by nearly 100 members and guests including the following members of the Council:

H.H. Prince Prem Purachatra, Senior Vice-President,

H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul, Vice-President and Honorary Secretary,

Mr. Pracha Guna-Kasem, Honorary Assistant Secretary,

Mr. V.F. Hemmingsen, Honorary Treasurer,

Mr. J.J. Boeles, Director of Research Centre and Honorary Librarian,

Lt. General Phya Salwidhan Nidhes, Leader of Natural History Section,

H.E. Monsieur Ebbe Munck, Honorary Editor of the Natural History Bulletin,

H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul, Chairman of the Exchange Committee,

H.S.H. Prince Piyarangsit Rangsit,

Mom Rajawongse Sumonajati Swasdikul,

The Meeting unanimously re-elected the Council en bloc with H.H. Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh, as President. Dr. Eigil Nielsen, palaeontologist and lecturer of the University of Copenhagen, then gave a lecture on the subject of "Prehistorical Excavations at Kwae Noi, Kanchanaburi" which was accompanied by a showing of slides.

The Council upon taking office re-elected the following standing committees to carry on the activities of the Society:

1) Finance Committee :

The Senior Vice-President (H.H. Prince Prem Purachatra), Chairman,
The Honorary Secretary,
The Honorary Treasurer.

2) Editorial Committee :

The Honorary Editor of the Journal (Mr. Kenneth J. MacCormac), Chairman,
H.H. Prince Dhaninivat, Kromamun Bidyalabh,
H.E. Monsieur Ebbe Munck, Honorary Editor of the
Natural History Bulletin.

3) Natural History Committee :

Lt. General Phya Salwidhan Nidhes, Chairman,
H.E. Monsieur Ebbe Munck,
Mr. Ariyant Manjikul,
H.S.H. Prince Piyarangsit Rangsit.

4) Exchange Committee :

H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul, Chairman,
Phya Anuman Rajadhon,
H.H. Prince Sukhuma Paribatra,
Mr. J.J. Boeles.

5) Travel Section Committee :

Mr. Sanya Dharmasakti, Chairman,
H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul,
H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul,
Mom Rajawongse Sumonajati Swasdikul.

6) Research Committee :

H.H. Prince Prem Purachatra, Chairman,
Mr. Kenneth J. MacCormac,
Mr. V.F. Hemmingsen,
H.S.H. Prince Ajavadis Diskul,
H.E. Monsieur Ebbe Munck,
The Director of the Siam Society Research Centre.

The duties of the Honorary Editor of the Journal and those of the Honorary Editor of the Natural History Bulletin were entrusted, as in the previous year, to Mr. Kenneth J. MacCormac and H.E. Monsieur Ebbe Munck respectively. Mr. James H.W. Thompson was appointed inspector of the Society Home's garden and lawn where several young trees have been planted.

The Council held 11 business meetings during the year, all at the Society's Home.

The Society's membership up to the end of 1962 was as follows:

Royal Patron and Vice-Patrons	4
Honorary Members	2
Free Members	5
Corresponding Members	16
Life Members	159
Ordinary Members	<u>698</u>
Total:	<u>884</u>

as compared with 716 at the close of 1961. The number of subscribers to the Society's Journal and Natural History Bulletin totals 20.

The popularity of the Society is reflected in the increasing number of applications of membership received monthly.

The financial condition of the Society remains sound under the capable handling of our Honorary Treasurer, Mr. V.F. Hemmingsen. The receipts during the year total Baht 140,604.24 whilst the total expenditure amounts to Baht 97,391.77, showing a net gain of Bath 43,212.47.

The Society must record with grateful thanks and appreciation the receipt of the following publications:

- 200 copies of Miscellaneous Works of His late Royal Highness Prince Damrong, presented by the Minister of Education.
- 50 copies of G. Coedès: Recueil des Inscriptions du Siam, Part II (second edition), presented by H.S.H. Prince Piyarangsit Rangsit.

50 copies of "6 Soi Kasemsan II" (second edition), presented by Mr. James H.W. Thompson.

Moreover through the joint courtesy of the author, USOM, USIS-Bangkok and USIS-Manila it became possible to issue as Monograph I:

Gordon Young; The Hill Tribes of Northern Thailand. The proceeds from the sale of these publications go to the Society's funds.

The Society also wishes to thank the Asia Foundation for the generous grant of Baht 10,000.00 for publishing the History of Buddhist Monuments.

During the year under review the Society issued 5 more publications, namely JSS Volume L, Part 1 and Part 2, one issue of the Natural History Bulletin Volume 20, Part 2, the Orchids of Thailand, Part III, and florae Siamensis Enumeratio Vol. III, pt. 3.

The Society must tender its grateful thanks to the Ford Foundation for having made a further 3 year grant for the support of the Society's Research Centre, amounting to US\$ 43,000.00. With this grant-in-aid the Research Centre will expand its research work in new fields and Mr. J.J. Boeles has been re-appointed director of the Research Centre for another 3 years from 1st October 1962.

Meetings and excursions arranged by the Society during the year were as follows:

Ordinary General Meetings:

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| On May 15th, 1962 | Mr. Theo Meier, well-known painter and resident of Bali for many years, lectured on "Art in Bali" with coloured slides and the playing of recorded Balinese music. |
| On May 28th, 1962 | Professor Dr. W.R. Geddes lectured on the Hill Tribes of Northern Thailand, followed by a showing of films. |
| On July 2nd, 1962 | His Excellency Monsieur Anatoly N. Nikolayev, Ambassador Extraordinary |

and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics lectured on "The Russo-Siamese Relations up to 1910."

H.S.H. Prince Subhadradis Diskul, Member of the Council of the Siam Society and Curator of the National Museum gave a series of six lectures on "Oriental Art" on the following dates :

- On July 11th, 1962 A survey of the Indian Art:
1. The Art of Harappa, Mohenjo Daro, Pre-Indian Art
 2. Mauryan Art of Asoka Period
 3. Gandhara Art
 4. Mathura and Amaravati Art
- On July 25th, 1962 Continuing with:
1. Gupta Art
 2. Post Gupta Art
 3. Northern Indian Art
 4. Pala-Sena Art
 5. Dravidian Art
- On August 15th, 1962 Singhalese Art and Javanese Art:
1. The Art of Anuradhapura
 2. The Art of Polonaruwa
 3. Central Javanese Art
 4. Eastern Javanese Art
- On August 29th, 1962 Khmer Art (from 7th to 13th Century A.D.)
- On September 12th, 1962 Arts in Thailand:
1. Early Indian influences (Amaravati)
 2. The Art of Dvaravati
 3. Early Hindu Images
 4. Srivichai Art
 5. Lopburi Art

- On September 26th, 1962 Continuing with Arts in Thailand
1. Chiengsaen Art
 2. Sukhothai Art
 3. Uthong Art
 4. Ayudhya Art
 5. Bangkok Period Art
- On July 19th, 1962 Dr. Boonsong Lekhakul M.D. lectured on "Preservation of Wild Life in South Eastern Africa", followed by a showing of films.
- On October 17th, 1962 Mr. Afzal Iqbal of the Embassy of Pakistan lectured on "The Origin and Development of Islam Culture in the first Century of Islam".
- On October 25th, 1962 Miss Elizabeth Lyons, Art Consultant attached to The Department of Fine Arts lectured on "Chinese Art", illustrated by coloured slides.
- On November 2nd, 1962 Mr. Kraisri Nimmanhaeminda and Mr. Julian Hartland-Swann Jointly gave lectures on "The Spirits of the Yellow Leaves", which was the result of the Siam Society Research Centre Expedition to meet the Khonpa in Changwat Nan, North Thailand.
- On November 13th, 1962 Seven reels of coloured films on Hill Tribes were shown by the courtesy of the USIS., Bangkok.
- On December 28th, 1962 Dr. Li Fang-Kuei Ph. D., Member of Academia Sinica, lectured on "Some Problems in Thai Linguistics."
- On January 21st, 1963 Shrimati Kamaladevi Chattopadhaya, Chairman of All India Handicrafts Board lectured on "Indian Arts and Culture".

On February 13th, 1963 Dr. Thil. Kosol Sindhvananda M.A. (Cantab.) Acting Chief of News Research Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, lectured on "Orient and Occident".

Travel Section's Excursions :

- On March 24th, 1962 Excursion by planes to Chiangmai.
- On August 26th, 1962 Excursion by motorbuses to the Mon Settlement at Paklat, Amphur Phra Pradeng, Changvad Samudprakarn.
- On September 23rd, 1962 Visit to the Exhibition of the Arts of Thailand at the American Alumni Association Centre in Rajdamri Road, Bangkok.
- On January 20th, 1963 Excursion by motorbuses to Pongtuk and Phra Taen Dongrang in Changvad Kanchanaburi.
- On February 10th, 1963 Excursion by motorbuses to Lopburi and Phra Buddha Bat.

The Council sincerely hopes that all activities of the Society as carried out during the year under review will meet with member's approval.

