

# The Journal of the Siam Society

## **Patrons of the Siam Society**

### Patron

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej

### Vice-Patrons

Her Majesty Queen Sirikit

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn

### Vice-Patron & Honorary President

Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn

### Honorary Vice-Presidents

Her Majesty Ashi Kesang Choeden Wangchuck,  
The Royal Grandmother of Bhutan

His Imperial Highness Prince Akishino of Japan

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark

## **Council of the Siam Society, 2008 - 2010**

### President

Mr Athueck Asvanund

### Vice-President

Mrs Bilaibhan Sampatisiri

### Leader, Natural History Section

Dr Weerachai Nanakorn

### Honorary Secretary

Mr Barent Springsted

### Honorary Treasurer

Mr Suraya Supanwanich

### Honorary Librarian

Ms Anne Sutherland

### Honorary Editor, JSS

Dr Chris Baker

### Honorary Editor, NHB

Dr William Schaedla

### Members of Council

Mrs Eileen Deeley

Ms Raksaswan Chrongchitpracharon

Dr Nirun Jivasantikarn

Mr Peter Laverick

Mrs Beatrix Latham

Mr James D Lehman

H.E. Mr Juan Manuel Lopez Nadal

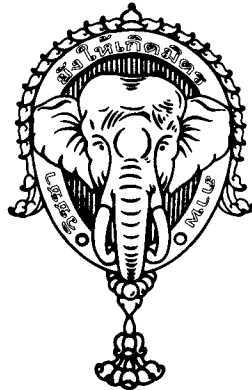
Mr Paul Russell

The Journal  
of the  
Siam Society

Volume 97  
2009

As this volume was in press, in May 2009,  
the Society received the information that  
Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn  
had graciously accepted to become  
Honorary President of the Society,  
in addition to being a Vice-Patron.

The President, Council, and Society members  
wish to express their gratitude to  
Her Royal Highness  
for honouring the Society in this way.



## Editorial Board

Tej Bunnag	advisor
Chris Baker	advisor and honorary editor
Michael Smithies	editor
Kanitha Kasina-Ubol	coordinator
Euayporn Kerdchouay	production assistant

© The Siam Society 2009

ISSN 0857-7099

Cover: A tinted lithograph by Delaporte, showing the Lao weights in use in the market in Luang Prabang, in François Garnier, *Voyage d'exploration en Indo-Chine effectué pendant les années 1688, 1867, et 1868*. Paris, Hachette, 1873, vol. 2

---

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the Siam Society.

The *Journal of the Siam Society* is a forum for original research and analysis. Opinions expressed in the *Journal* are those of the authors. They do not represent the views or policies of the Siam Society.

Printed by Amarin Printing and Publishing Public Company Limited  
65/16 Chaiyapruk Road, Taling Chan; Bangkok 10170, Thailand.  
Tel. (662) 422-9000 Fax (662) 433-2742, 434-1385  
e-mail: [info@amarin.co.th](mailto:info@amarin.co.th)  
<http://www.amarin.com>

# The Journal of the Siam Society

Volume 97

2009

---

## Contents

### Articles

Chris BAKER and PASUK Phongpaichit  
The career of *Khun Chang Khun Phaen* 1

Edward VAN ROY  
Under duress: Lao war captives in Bangkok in the nineteenth century 43

Joachim GABEL  
Lao weights and the Luang symbol 69

Elizabeth MOORE  
Place and space in early Burma: a new look at 'Pyu culture' 101

Jean-Noël JUTTET  
Phnom-Penh, April 1975: a personal souvenir 129

### Notes

Hiram WOODWARD  
Observations on Wat Si Chum 153

Carol STRATTON  
Sop-Li, a late fifteenth century bronze workshop in Lan Na 161

### From the archives

Memoirs of PIERRE POIVRE: The Thai Port of Mergui in 1745  
Edited and translated by Kennon Breazeale 177

HSH Prince SITHIPORN Kridakara, 'Memorandum on Opium in Siam' (1921),  
introduction by Dr Tej Bunnag 201

## Reviews

- Peter Skilling, ed., *Past Lives of the Buddha: Wat Si Chum – Art, Architecture, and Inscriptions*  
 Bangkok, River Books, 2008  
 Reviewer Hiram **Woodward** 221
- Dawn Rooney, *Ancient Sukhothai, Thailand's cultural heritage*  
 Bangkok, River Books, 2008  
 Reviewer Carol **Stratton** 226
- Damrong Rajanubhab, H.R.H. Prince, *A Biography of King Naresuan the Great*  
 Translated and edited by Kennon Breazeale  
 Bangkok, Toyota Foundation, 2008  
 Reviewer Michael **Charney** 231
- Leonor de Seabra, *The Embassy of Pero Vaz de Siqueira to Siam (1684–1686)*  
 Macau, University of Macau, 2005  
 Reviewer Kennon **Breazeale** 234
- Direk Jayanama, ed. Jane Keyes, *Thailand and World War II*  
 Chiang Mai, Silkworm, 2008  
 Reviewer Chris **Baker** 238
- Anders Poulsen, *Childbirth and tradition in northeast Thailand; forty years of cultural development and change*  
 Copenhagen, NIAS Press, 2007  
 Reviewer Lisa **Vandemark** 240
- Michael Montesano and Patrick Jory, eds, *Thai South and Malay North: Ethnic interactions on a plural peninsula*  
 Singapore, NUS Press, 2008  
 Reviewer **Thak** Chaloeontiarana 243
- Martin Stuart-Fox, *Naga Cities of the Mekong: A guide to the temples, legends and history of Laos*  
 Singapore, Media Masters, 2006  
 Reviewer Milton **Osborne** 247

- Vatthana Pholsena, *Post-War Laos: The Politics of Culture, History and Identity*  
 Institute of South-East Asian Studies, Singapore, 2006  
 Reviewer **Mayoury** Ngaosrivathana 249
- Sao Sanda, *The Moon Princess, Memories of the Shan States*  
 Bangkok, River Books, 2008  
 Reviewer Susan **Conway** 251
- Penny Edwards, *Cambodge, the cultivation of a Nation 1860–1945*  
 Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2008  
 Reviewer John **Tully** 254
- Anne Ruth Hansen, *How to behave: Buddhism and modernity in colonial Cambodia 1860–1930*  
 Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2008  
 Reviewer Ian **Harris** 257
- Milton Osborne, *Phnom Penh, a cultural and literary history*  
 Oxford, Signal Books, 2008  
 Reviewer David **Chandler** 260
- Pratapaditya Pal, ed., *Buddhist Art: Form and Meaning*  
 Mumbai, Marg Publications, 2007  
 Reviewer Donald M. **Stadtner** 263
- Olga Dror, *Cult, Culture, and Authority: Princess Liễu Hạnh in Vietnamese History*  
 Chiang Mai, Silkworm Books, 2008  
 Reviewer George **Dutton** 266
- Philip Taylor, *Cham Muslims of the Mekong Delta: place and mobility in the cosmopolitan periphery*  
 Copenhagen/Singapore, NIAS/NUS Press, 2007  
 Reviewer **Amnuayvit** Thitibordin 270
- G. L. Balk, F. van Dijk, D. J. Kortlang, F. S. Gaastra, H. E. Niemeijer, and P. Koenders, *The Archives of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) and the Local Institutions in Batavia (Jakarta)*  
 Leiden, Brill, 2007  
 Reviewer **Bhawan** Ruangsilp 273

Greg Bankoff and Sandra Swart, et al, <i>Breeds of Empire: the 'invention' of the horse in Southeast Asia and Southern Africa 1500–1950</i> Copenhagen, NIAS Press, 2007 Reviewer Duncan <b>Stearn</b>	276
Lee Hock Guan and Leo Suryadinata, eds, <i>Language, Nation and Development in Southeast Asia</i> Singapore, ISEAS, 2007 Reviewer <b>Titima</b> Suthiwan	279
Christopher Duncan, ed, <i>Civilizing the margins: Southeast Asian Government policies for the development of minorities</i> Singapore, NUS Press, 2008 Reviewer Nicola <b>Tannenbaum</b>	284
Howard M. Federspiel, <i>Sultans, Shamans, and Saints: Islam and Muslims in Southeast Asia</i> Chiang Mai, Silkworm, 2008 Reviewer Patrick <b>Jory</b>	287
<b>Books received for review</b>	291
<b>Obituaries</b>	
Mom Kobkaew Abhakara na Ayudhya 1908–2008	293
M. L. Manich Jumsai 1908–2009	294
Prok Amranand 1925–2008	296
Heng Thung 1934–2009	297
Anthony Farrington 1939–2008	299
Michael Wright 1940–2009	301
Roxanna M. Brown 1946–2008	302
Smitthi Siribhadra 1949–2008	305
Domnern Garden 1928–2009	308
<b>In-house note</b>	
Khun Euayporn's semi-retirement	310



**New publication**

<i>As Mother Told Me</i>	312
HRH Princess Galyani Vadhana	
Krom Luang Naradhiwas Rajanagarinda	

<b>Notes about contributors</b>	313
---------------------------------	-----

<b>Notes for contributors</b>	317
-------------------------------	-----

