

Profile of an Institute: The Research Institute  
of Southeast Asian History at the Zhongshan Daxue  
(Sun Yat-sen University) in Guangzhou/Guangdong

Deputy-director: Prof. He Zhao-fa (also director of the department of sociology)  
 Deputy-director: Mr. Huang Zhong-yan  
 Research-fellow: Mr. Xu Zaho-lin (specialist on Cambodian history)

Originally research on SEA at the Zhongshan Daxue was organized in the history faculty; only 1976/77 became the institute an independent unit. But the members of the staff continue to teach in the history department - each term about four to five members teach two to ten hours in classes of ten to thirty students.

The institute has about 20 full members and five associate research fellows working in four departments:

- (a) The department of continental/peninsular SEA (ban-dao guo-jia cu)
- (b) The department of insular SEA (hai-dao guo-jia cu)
- (c) The department on overseas Chinese (hua-qiao cu)
- (d) The department working on classical literature (zheng-li qu-ji cu)

In the department on overseas Chinese there are six members, the other departments have about an equal number of research fellows who publish in the following journals:

- (1) The journal of graduate studies of Zhongshan Daxue (Yan-jiu-sheng xue-kan)
- (2) The journal of Zhongshan Daxue (Zhongshan Daxue xue-bao) and in a series of monographs called
- (3/4) Collection of historical studies on SEA (Dong-nan-ya li-shi lun-cong). Two volumes have been published in 1979.

The members of the institute are also engaged in writing contributions to the great encyclopaedia 'Zhong-guo da bai-ke quan-shu', the first Chinese encyclopaedia after the translation of the Russian equivalent.

The members of the staff have gone through the five year university education and have then completed a graduate course of three years writing a thesis and passing

about ten oral examinations. The institute has so far only the right to confer the degree of Bachelor of Arts (xue-shi) and Master of Arts (shùo-shi). Ph.D. degrees cannot be obtained in the institute (bo-shi). Doctorate studies would take four more years but so far this possibility is not open to research fellows of the institute.

In general everybody is able to use two foreign languages in research. I met members having studied English, Japanese, French, Khmer and Thai.

Individual research interests are coordinated within the departments and the institute and in ad-hoc meetings in nation-wide conferences on SEA-studies.

The library of the institute has about three thousand Chinese titles and about the same number of titles in foreign languages. It subscribed to the most important foreign periodicals in SEA history. From the cultural revolution (1966) onward only a few monographs have been bought from abroad.

The next objective of the institute is to publish for each country of SEA a collection of material gathered in classical Chinese literature, in the official annals as well as in the unofficial collections. The volume on the Philippines was published in 1980:

(5) Collection of materials of Chinese classics on the Philippines (Zhong-guo gu-ji you guan Fei-lü-bing zi-liao hui-bian), Beijing 1980.

The volume on Cambodia is scheduled for summer 1983. Further volumes are planned in Burma, Thailand and Malaysia. Other publications of the institute are:

(6) A reference guide to overseas Chinese-problems, Guangzhou 1982

(7) Outline of Burmese history (Mian-dian jian-shi), (?)

(8) History of the Philippines (Fei-lü-bing shi-gao), Beijing 1976/77 (?)

(9) Records of interviews with overseas Chinese doing 'pig labour' ('Zhu-zai' hua-gong fang xiang lu), Guangzhou 1979

(10) Collection of material of Zheng He (Ming-dynasty) going to the Western Ocean (Zheng He xia xi-yang zi-liao hui bian) publication of the Ji-nan Da-xue in Guangzhou, 1980 (vol. I). The library of the institute mimeographed an 'Index of articles on SEA in English magazines' or

(11) Ying-wen qi-kan/Dong-nan-ya lun-wen-suo

## Research centers on SEA in China

- A. Dong-nan-ya li-shi yan-jiu suo, Guangzhou (see above)
- B. The SEA-Research Institute at Ji-nan University in Guangzhou (Dong-nan-ya yan-jiu suo). This traditionally overseas Chinese institute concentrating on economics publishes the journal 'Research material on SEA' or (12) Dong-nan-ya yan-jiu zi-liao, again since 1978
- C. The Southeast Asian Research Institute in Kunming, Yunnan (Dong-nan-ya yan-jiu suo); director Prof. Zhou Qi-yü, specialist on Thailand. This institute is particularly strong in Thailand and Burma.
- D. The Research Institute on Indochina in Nanning, Guangxi (Yin-du-zhi-na yan-jiu suo); director: Prof. Zhao He-nan of the Academy of Social Sciences (She-hui ke-xue yuan).
- E. The Indochina-Research-Department of the History Faculty of Zhengzhou-University in Henan (Zhengzhou Da-xue li-shi-xi yin-du-zhi-na yan-jiu-shi. Prof. Chen Xian-si, specialist on Cambodia.
- F. The SEA-Research Institute at the Xia-men University in Fujian (Xia-men Da-xue nan-yang yan-jiu-suo) emphasizing particularly Indonesia and Malaysia.
- G. The Department of Oriental languages at the Peking University (Dong-fang yü-yan-xi); Prof. Cheng Yü-long on Burma and Cambodia.

## First step of cooperation

Concerning bibliographical problems I have been particularly glad to know that Prof. Xu is willing to collect all titles published in China (in Chinese language, in the transcription Hanyü pinyin and with the English translation of the titles) so that we may be able to edit together volume two of the Kampuchea-Bibliography covering the period 1954 to 1982 with a special chapter of Chinese publications estimated at about three hundred titles; these will be covering all historical periods according to the structure in volume one with a slight change (Zhenla/Angkor). Volume two will be published at the end of 1983 or in the beginning of 1984.

Walter Aschmoneit, Osnabrück