KONFERENZEN, KURSE, PROGRAMME UND INFORMATIONEN

The German Association for Asian Studies

On the occasion of its regular biannual meeting, on April 25, 1981 at Königstein near Frankfurt, the former German Association for East- and Southeast Asian Studies changed its name to German Association for Asian Studies (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Asienkunde, or DGA). An overwhelming majority of the members, participating in the meeting, approved of the proposal of the outgoing Board of Directors to include also the region of South Asia in the future work of the Association. Accordingly, the newly elected Board of Directors (composition see inside-cover, titlepage) nominated at its first session, in addition to the already existing Advisory Councils for China, Japan and Korea, and for Southeast Asia also one for South Asia. The Advisory Councils (composition see ibidem) advise the Board of Directors on scholarly matters. Their members, most of them specialists of a particular region, are expected to use their contacts with individuals and academic institutions in Asia to promote closer cooperation with German scholars and to suggest and prepare workshops and international conferences about topics of scholarly interest.

The German Association for Asian Studies was founded in 1967 as German Association for East Asian Studies, and, in 1977, extended into the German Association for East- und Southeast Asian Studies. Its major objectives are, next to the encouragement of studies and exchange of ideas, to provide those, who have to deal with Asia, with a sound basis of knowledge and information for a better understanding of the peoples of Asia. It is a non-profit organization; its membership is open to all who are interested to support its aims and is not restricted to German nationals. The annual membership-fees (there are no other sources of regular financial support) are currently DM 60.- or equivalent and DM 30.- for students. The members - presently about 700 - receive the Quarterly ASIEN (which replaces the former "Mitteilungen der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Asienkunde") free of charge.

Scholarly Program at the Königstein Meeting 1981

The meeting of the German Association for Asian Studies was, like in former years, accompanied by a scholarly program. In particular the younger members of the association had been invited, to present a paper on their current research. 21 of them made use of the opportunity to discuss their theses or preliminary findings at four panels - one on China, one on Japan and Korea, and two on Southeast Asia. The following papers were read and discussed at Königstein on April 26, 1981:

Panel I: China

Dr. Mechthild Leutner (Berlin),

Historiography Between Politics and Science. Some Problems of Chinese Marxist Historiography since 1949

- Eckard Garms (Hamburg), Reconstruction and Reforms: Two Pillars of the Modernization of Chinese Economy
- Heinz Riedlinger (Bochum), The Development of Language Reform in the People's Republic of China from 1978-1980
- Dr. Jürgen Henze (Bochum), Tendencies and Perspectives of the Chinese Policy on Education and Science in Contemporary China

Panel II: Japan and Korea

- Dr. Reinhard Drifte (Genf), Peace-Research in Japan
- Reinhard Neumann (Hamburg), Constitutional Change in Japan with Special Reference to Article 9 (Renouncing War) in the Constitution of 1946
- Angelika Ernst (München), Japanese Employment Policy
- Dr. Manfred Pohl (Hamburg), The New Power in South Korea: Political and Economic Perspectives of the Chon Doo-Hwang Government
- Dr. habil. Eckart Dege (Kiel), Socio-economic Changes in Rural Areas in South Korea

Panel III: Social Change in Southeast Asia

- Peter Schier (Hamburg), The Roots of the Conflict Between Democratic Kampuchea and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam
- Dr. Liem Yu-Siu (Köln), The Chinese Minority and Development in Indonesia
- Dr. Günther Dress (München), Socio-economic Consequences of Tourism in Bali and Indonesia
- Klaus Brehm (Kassel), Intra-regional Mobility in Southern Central Java
- Paul Nunheim (Heidelberg), Adat and Modern Elites in Central Flores (Sikka), Indonesia

Panel IV: Agrarian Development in Southeast Asia

- Wolfgang Clauß and Jörg Hartmann (Bielefeld), Agrarian Development in Indonesia with Examples from Northsumatra and Java
- Andreas Spaeth and Robert Riethmüller (Gießen), Preliminary Results of Field-Research on Spontaneous Settlements in Southeastern Thailand
- Dr. Phornchai Sripraphai (Saarbrücken)*, The Thai Village as Action Field: A Study of the Collective Territories of Two Youth Groups

Volker Kasch (Hamburg), Agrarian Sector and State in Malaysia

Reinald Döbel (Gießen), Technical and Social Change in an Irrigation-Project (Muda-Project in Westmalaysia).

The paper marked by an * was read in English all others in German language. A tentative translation of the topics has been given to facilitate eventual contact for those who work on a similar topic. Further information (for instance addresses of authors) will be given upon request by the office of the DGA, Rothenbaumchaussee 32, 2000 Hamburg 13.

Prof.Dr. Bernhard Dahm, Kiel

International Conference on Northsumatra in Hamburg

The Institute for Indonesian and Southsea Languages, University of Hamburg, is preparing an International Conference on the Societies and Cultures of Northsumatra, scheduled to take place in Hamburg from November 25-27, 1981. A grant from the Volkswagen Foundation facilitated the invitation of about 40 experts on Northsumatra from all over the world. There will be scholars from Australia, from Indonesia, from the United States, from the Netherlands and from the Federal Republic of Germany participating in the conference which is organized in cooperation with the German Association for Asian Studies. About 25 papers will be read on problems of ethnology, history, social sciences, religions, language, literature and musicology.

The preparations suffered a severe setback in June 1981 by the sudden and untimely death of the newly appointed director of the Institute for Indonesian Languages, Professor Dr. Lode F. Brakel. His assistants and students, however, decided to continue with the preparations. In connection with the conference, there will be a reception of the participants by the President of the University of Hamburg, and, for the Indonesian guests, there will be a sight-seeing tour through Germany after the conference, provided for by the German government.

Prof.Dr. Bernhard Dahm, Kiel

Chinesisch- und Japanisch-Intensivkurse 1982

Nachdem Ende September das diesjährige Intensivkursprogramm erfolgreich abgeschlossen wurde, plant die Deutsche Gesellschaft für Asienkunde e.V. auch im Jahre 1982 – dem 11. Jahr des Bestehens dieser Kurse – , Interessenten die Möglichkeit zu geben, in mehrwöchigen Intensivkursen Chinesisch und Japanisch in Sprache und Schrift zu erlernen. In Zusammenarbeit mit den Seminaren für Sprache und Kultur Chinas bzw. Japans