

The 5th European Colloquium on Malay and Indonesia in Portugal

From March 25-29, 1985, the 5th European Colloquium on Malay and Indonesian Studies was held in Sintra, Portugal. This colloquium, like its predecessors in Paris (1977), London (1978), Naples (1981) and Leiden (1983), was dominated by philological studies. But - as could already be noticed at the Leiden meeting - there is a tendency to also invite participants from other fields of study. There were about 40 participants from ten European countries, when the sessions were opened in the presence of the Portuguese Minister of Cultural Affairs in the beautifully situated chalet Biester in Sintra (near Lisbon) on March 25.

The following papers were read in the consecutive sessions:

25.3., afternoon: Opening ceremony

L. Santa Maria (Naples): Portuguese influence on the Malay lexicon

T. Svensson (Gothenburg): Agrarian developments in Java since 1830

M.B. Hooker (University of Kent, Canterbury): Oriental Law texts: Undang-2 Melaka and Malay Law

C. Pelras (Paris): Malay and Bugis

B. Dahm (Passau): Cultural regions of Sumatra

J. Arez (Lisbon): The preservation of the cultural heritage of Timor

26.3., morning:

G. Marrison (Emmaus): The literature of Lombok

J. Noorduyn (Leiden): The manuscripts of the Makassarese chronicle of Goa and Tallog

W. Marschall (Bern): Re-reading Nias texts

Muhd. H. Saleh (University of Malaysia): The oral qualities and techniques in the Sejarah Melayu

T. Iskandar (Leiden): Muhammad Kelanah: A 19th century collector and copyist of manuscripts

26.3. afternoon:

S. Robson (Leiden): Prapanca, the man

R. Jones (formerly SOAS, London): Crescent and Eagle watermarks in Malay manuscripts

A. Teeuw (Leiden): Jan Smeets and Si Djamin and Si Djohan

W. Kraus (Passau): The Naqshbandiyya brotherhood in Indonesia

Mrs. Faizah Soenoto (Naples): Indonesian heroic poetry

27.3., morning:

H. Steinhauer (Leiden): Malay in East Indonesia: the case of Larantuka (Flores)

C. Grijns (Leiden): Does Standard Indonesian exist?

28.3., morning:

H. Jacobs S.J. (Rome): The Portuguese presence at Makassar in the 17th century

M. Boneff (Paris): Cities of Java in the 19th century. Java as recorded by Purwa Lelana

L. Thomas (Lisbon): The evolution of the city of Dili (Central Timor)

D. Lombard (Paris): A description of Semarang in 1812

C. Guillot: Banten in the 17th century

28.3., afternoon:

R. Rodriguez (Valladolid): Andres de Urdaneta and his project in New Guinea

A. de Matos and L. Thomaz (Lisbon): Traditional structures in Timor and the Portuguese administration

J. Duarte (Lisbon): Indigenous movements in East Timor

R. X de Meneses (Amadora, Portugal): The labour organization in East Timor

29.3.: Closing session:

H. Jacobs S.J. (Rome): The achievements of the Portuguese in the Archipelago

Around the conference was also a very well arranged social programme. There was an exhibition of Timorese Art in the Chalet Biester (ikat weaving, basket ware and weaponry), and, on the evening of March 28, a performance of Timorese dancing and music by a Timorese group, sponsored by the cultural Center for Refugees from Timor in Portugal. Furthermore, there were luncheons in the countryside and visits to castles and historical sites such as Vila Vicosa (with the palace of the Braganca Family who ruled Portugal from 1640 to 1910) and to the medieval town of Evora, where the final session of the colloquium was held in the local university.

Dr. Luis Filipe Reis Thomaz, Professor of History at the University of Lisbon, was responsible for the organization of the conference and he, together with his staff, deserved the warm gratitude of the participants of the 5th European Colloquium on Malay and Indonesian Studies for memorable days in Portugal. At the closing ceremony in the University of Evora it was announced, that the next colloquium would take place in June 1987 in Germany, and that it would be arranged by the Department of Southeast Asia Studies at the University of Passau. As a preliminary general theme of the forthcoming conference was mentioned: The Daerah in Past and Presence.

Bernhard Dahm, Passau