

*Notes*

- (1) cf. Bernhard Dahm: Die Südostasienwissenschaft in den USA, in Westeuropa und in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland. Göttingen 1975, pp.58 ff.
- (2) Compiled by the Documentation Centre for Modern Indonesia, KITLV. Dordrecht and Providence: Foris Publications 1975, pp.33 ff.

Bernhard Dahm, Passau

## 2. The State of Indonesian and Malay Studies in the German Democratic Republic

The Department for Southeast Asian Studies at the Humboldt University of Berlin, Sektion Asienwissenschaften, is the leading centre for Indonesian and Malay studies in the GDR. There are, of course, other scholars outside Berlin, notably at the universities of Jena and Leipzig who are engaged mainly in philology and linguistics. In order to give some names should be mentioned above all Erich-Dieter Krause, the author of a textbook of the Bahasa Indonesia and a new dictionary Indonesisch-Deutsch (1985) which replaced the older ones published by Kahlo and Simon-Bärwinkel, then Renate Eisengarten and Harry Spitzbardt (Indonesian linguistics), and Hans Herrfurth (modern Javanese).

For practical reasons the Department is divided between different branches, the most important of which are Indochinese and Indonesian studies. Instruction is possible for all countries and national languages of the region with the exception of Thai (but including Lao). The academic staff for Indonesian and Malay studies consists of eight members, at present, with the addition of native speakers and two research assistants who graduated from that institution. The specialization relates to language and literature (Kurt Huber, Elke Voß, Elke Wehden), history (Ulrich Gneupel, Hans Dieter Kubitscheck, Ingrid Wessel), and economics (Helmut Fessen, Bambang Roseno). The study at the Department occupy five years, as a rule, for full-time students. Besides part-time students from other departments in a somewhat greater number there are only small groups of students, enrolled every two years or so, beginning in 1967 for the first time. The curriculum prescribes not only studies in Indonesian and Southeast Asian subjects and modern European languages but also a specialization in general linguistics (in case of interpreters), history or economics, respectively.

The development of Indonesian studies in the GDR was stimulated by several factors as, for instance, the tradition of good and friendly relationships between Germany and Indonesia in the field of culture and sciences. The beginnings go back to the old Berlin "Seminar für Orientalische Sprachen" (SOS, Seminar for Oriental Languages), founded in

1887, and the work of Adolf Bastian (1826-1905), the great German traveller in the Indies. Bastian was a member of the Academy of Sciences, the founder and director of the famous Berlin Ethnographical Museum as well as the first one who got a chair for Southeast Asian studies in Germany at the University of Berlin. In our days we keep in mind these traditions and the work of outstanding personalities. This year, for instance, we celebrated by way of a colloquium the anniversary of Jose Rizal's well-known book "Noli me tangere" which was published in Berlin for the first time 100 years ago, exactly. There were also the anniversaries of Wilhelm von Humboldt (1767-1835) - remember his work dealing with the Kawi language - and, in 1984, Franz Wilhelm Junghuhn (1809-1864) who was born in Mansfeld (now GDR), then 175 years ago. He was not only the "Humboldt of Java" but also the founder of the Batak sciences by having written the first monograph on Batak subjects.

Another point worth to be mentioned for the development of Indonesian studies in the GDR can be seen in the political situation after World War II, the collapse of colonialism, the independence of Indonesia, and the rising national liberation movement accompanied by the real perspective of relations becoming ever better in the field of sciences too - up to the sharp break in continuity after 1965. There were growing demands on the part of our state authorities for qualified people in the public services responsible for the more and more developing international connections of the GDR. And last but not least should be mentioned the work of some promoters in the field of Indonesian and Malay studies, beginning with the 50ies, first of all Gerhard Kahlo, furthermore Gertrud Pättsch and Kurt Huber who was for many years the head of the Department and its Indonesian branch.

This coincidence of various aspects went together with the general reforms of the university education system in the GDR which came into being by the end of the 60ies and at the beginning of the 70ies. The study of oriental sciences, up to that time carried out largely on traditional lines, and the predomination of separate and often isolated institutes in the previous administrative university structures have been abolished and replaced by more effective ones, accompanied by new curricula. This necessary emphasis of modern subjects in research and teaching was influenced, however, in the negative by the shortcomings of working conditions in general and especially because of the lack of scientific relations to the countries we are studying about. Generally speaking there are no possibilities to do any field work, and the access to source materials is very difficult. Another point of criticism is the fact that so-called classical and philological studies were almost completely neglected.

Nevertheless, future plans pay attention to the traditional research work as well as practical necessities of teaching, particularly in the field of history and language training (textbooks, reading matters, anthologies

of Indonesian literature, and so on). Research is applied to recent history and current affairs, modern language and literature. New editions of "Hang Tuah" and "Sejarah Melayu" in the old Overbeck translation have been already done (as in case of the first mentioned by Kurt Huber) or are in preparation. Another project of interest will be carried out by E.U. Kratz, SOAS London, and H.D. Kubitscheck in co-operation. They are going to analyse and comment on the old German travel books of the 17th and 18th centuries as a source of historical writing. These some 40 old prints and unpublished papers are to be edited as an anthology of its most important parts. Other work-studies of future planning are provided for the field of relations between colonial Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, and the Philippines on the one hand and the former "Deutsches Reich" on the other, based on archive materials in the Central State Archive of the GDR and published contemporary accounts.

Hans Dieter Kubitscheck, Berlin (DDR)

### 3. Notes on Developments in Maritime Southeast Asian Studies in the United Kingdom, 1985/7

The past two years have seen several important developments in the field of Maritime Southeast Asian Studies in the United Kingdom, studies which cover Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei and the Philippines. The most far-reaching of these has been the reaction of the British University Grants Committee (UGC) to the Parker Report which investigated the current state of language teaching in British universities and tertiary institutions relating to Africa and Asia. This report, entitled *Planning for the Future*, found a truly deplorable situation with many key languages no longer being properly catered for in terms of teaching and research, a situation which boded ill for the future needs of British government and commerce in several vital areas. The very severe cut-backs in government funding for the universities over the past decade was mainly to blame for this state of affairs, and the UGC moved swiftly in the early part of 1987 to repair some of the damage caused by university retrenchments. Some 40 new posts were created in Asian and African languages, of which three are likely to be earmarked for Southeast Asia: namely, a chair of Modern Southeast Asian Studies at Hull University, and two Southeast Asian language posts at SOAS, an institution which received nearly half the new posts released by the UGC.<sup>(1)</sup> Unfortunately, no Southeast Asian language (even Indonesian, which the British Foreign Office has long deemed a high priority area), was ranked higher than Grade B in the Parker Report. However, the three Southeast Asian posts which have been made available could result in important new developments at both Hull and SOAS.

The Hull chair, which is likely to be within the field of either political science or economics or development studies, and which will probab-