

Im zweiten Teil der Freitagssitzung waren die Referate der modernen Indieforschung gewidmet. So sprach Heike Liebau (Berlin) über die Sichtweise und Einschätzung des Kastensystems durch protestantische Missionare im 18. und 19. Jahrhundert. Sehr interessant war auch der Vortrag von Hans Harder (Halle), der über die literarischen und politischen Aktivitäten (und deren Auswirkungen) des Brahmabandhab Upādhyāy, eines "frühen *svadeśī*-Revolutionärs" aus dem ausgehenden 19. Jahrhundert, referierte.

Aus Anlaß der Tagung wurde eine kleine, aber sorgfältig von den Mitarbeitern der Universitätsbibliothek Leipzig vorbereiteten Ausstellung mit dem Titel "Die Gründung der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft und Leipzig" in der Zweigstelle der Universitätsbibliothek gezeigt, in der sehr interessantes wissenschaftsgeschichtliches Material präsentiert wurde. Ferner wurde eine Exkursion nach Halle durchgeführt, deren Ziel das neue Gebäude der Bibliothek der DMG war. Nach dem offiziellen Ende des XXVI. DOT fand am Freitag eine allgemeine Versammlung der DMG statt.

Insgesamt regte der XXVI. DOT zu fruchtbarem wissenschaftlichem Austausch an, wie aus dem Engagement und Interesse während und auch außerhalb der Sitzungen deutlich wurde. So ist der XXVI. DOT trotz der gelegentlichen organisatorischen Mängel als voller Erfolg zu werten.

Ute Hüsken

Wilhelm Geiger and the Study of Sri Lanka

Colombo (Sri Lanka), 21.7.-23.7.1995

A hundred years ago the German Indologist Wilhelm Geiger visited Sri Lanka for the first time. This anniversary was taken as an occasion for holding a symposium on "Wilhelm Geiger and the Study of Sri Lanka". The purpose of this conference was to reevaluate Geiger's contributions to research on Sri Lanka and to ascertain if and how such research has developed since his time (1856-1943). Twelve speakers were invited to discuss these topics, four from Germany and eight from Sri Lanka. The participants, fifty-seven in all, included members of the Buddhist sangha and the Christian clergy.

The symposium was organised by the German Cultural Institute (Goethe Institute), Colombo, in association with the Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies, the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology and the Royal Asiatic Society, all in Colombo. It took place in Committee Room "C" of the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall in Colombo.

The symposium was divided into three sessions with four lectures each. After the welcome address by Ulrich Everding (Director of the Goethe Institute, Colombo), and two brief introductions by the Hon. Lakshman Jayakody (Minister of Cultural Affairs) and Prof. Dr. Heinz Bechert (University of Göttingen) the first session ("Studies in Buddhism") started with a contribution by Dr. Asanga Tilakaratne (Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies, Colombo), who attempted to explain how the authentication of the texts which constitute the body of the Theravāda canon took place ("Authentication of the Scripture: A Study in the Theravāda Hermeneutics"). This was followed by the contribution of Prof. Y. Karunadasa (Postgraduate Institute of Pali and Buddhist Studies, Colombo), who offered a new interpretation of the term Vibhajjavāda ("Theravāda as Vibhajjavāda: A Correct Identification for Wrong Reasons?"). In the afternoon this session was continued with a contribution on "Ceremonial Boundaries in the Buddhist Monastic Tradition in Sri Lanka" by Dr. Petra Kieffer-Pülz (University of Göttingen), in which she compared the concept of *sīmā* as represented in the Sinhalese chronicles with that in the Vinaya literature. The session was concluded with a stirring address by the Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi on "Ven. Nyanaponika Maḥāthera: A German Emissary of the Dhamma in Sri Lanka". Bhikkhu Bodhi first gave a brief life sketch of this eminent monk-scholar and then dealt with various dominant strands in Nyanaponika's vision of Dhamma. During this session the film *Meditation* by Paul Zils was presented.

The second session ("Aspects of Research into the History and Culture of Sri Lanka"), was opened by Prof. Dr. Hermann Kulke (University of Kiel) who pointed out that Geiger, in analysing the chronicles, did not question the motivating forces for the beginning of the country's historical writing. According to Kulke one main cause was the rivalry between the Mahāvihāra and the Abhayagirivihāra ("Wilhelm Geiger's Studies on the Chronicles of Sri Lanka in the Light of Recent Research"). A survey of the development of research on architectural history in Sri Lanka from the early 19th century up to the present was given by Prof. Senake Bandaranayake (Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology, Colombo), who aimed at showing how Geiger's work contributed to and influenced the study of architectural history ("Wilhelm Geiger's Research on the Pali Chronicles

and the Study of Sri Lanka's Architectural History"). In the afternoon Prof. Chandra Wickramagamage spoke about the "History of Bali and its Iconography in Sri Lanka", showing the development of the Bali ritual in Sri Lanka. The session was concluded with an enlightening contribution by Prof. E. Walter Marasinghe (University of Sri Jayawardenapura) on "The Śilpaśāstra Literature in Sri Lanka with Special Reference to *Mañjuśrībhāṣītavāstuvīdyāśāstra*". The speaker demonstrated that several types of monasteries described in the *Mañjuśrībhāṣītavāstuvīdyāśāstra* are exemplified by monasteries that have actually been excavated in Sri Lanka. In the light of this new evidence, features formerly interpreted as irregularities are proved to be in accordance with the theoretical science.

The final session ("Studies on the Pali and Sinhala Languages") started with a lecture by Prof. Dr. Oskar von Hinüber (University of Freiburg) on the development of research in the field of Middle Indic since Geiger's time ("Pāli: How do we see it eighty years after Geiger's Grammar?"). Von Hinüber illustrated new methods of research on early Middle Indic and, taking the forms *dhoreya/dhorayha*, gave an impressive demonstration of the conclusions that can be drawn from specific word forms for the development of a language. Prof. Dr. Heinz Bechert (University of Göttingen) surveyed the literature on the Sinhalese language which has appeared since Geiger's Sinhala grammar and his other studies on that topic, and pointed out various aspects of the Sinhala language which still deserve closer investigation ("Wilhelm Geiger and the Study of the Sinhala Language"). In the afternoon Prof. P.B. Sannasgala gave a lively presentation of lexicographical work, drawing on his long experience as a lexicographer with the *Sinhala-Sinhala Dictionary* ("Services Rendered by Professor Wilhelm Geiger for the Etymological Sinhala Dictionary"). The last contribution, by Prof. W.S. Karunatilake (University of Kelanya) on the "'Umlaut' in Sinhala – a Re-examination", a highly technical paper, was read by his pupil the Ven. Sutadhara Thero, since the author was unable to attend.

In connection with the symposium, a book-launching ceremony in the German Cultural Institute was held, featuring the new edition of the biography of Wilhelm Geiger (*Wilhelm Geiger. His Life and Works*) by Heinz Bechert, prepared by the Goethe Institute for this occasion "to commemorate the centenary of Geiger's studies of Sri Lanka". This is a revised edition of the one published in 1976, there having been added a bibliography of Wilhelm Geiger's works and a reprint of his article "A Short History of Ceylon" (1926). The ceremony was inaugurated with a speech by Prof. K.M. de Silva (University of Sri Lanka).

The outstanding preparation and organisation by the director of the German Cultural Institute (Colombo), Ulrich Everding, and his co-wor-

kers, especially Mrs. Q. Elias, formed the basis for a smooth-running conference. Papers with the contributions of all participants were distributed in advance. The generous time schedule gave room for vivid and full discussions, and added to the success of the symposium. The contributions are to be published by the German Cultural Institute in the near future.

Petra Kieffer-Pülz

International Conference on Bajau/Sama Community

Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, 24.-28. Juni 1995

Im Juni dieses Jahres veranstaltete die Persatuan Seni Budaya Bajau/Bajau Arts & Cultural Association (Sabah) in Zusammenarbeit mit Yayasan Sabah/Centre for Borneo Studies die zweite Konferenz über Seenomaden in Südostasien, die von etwa 100 Wissenschaftlern, Vertretern regionaler und überregionaler Regierungsinstanzen und Nicht-Regierungsorganisationen Malaysias sowie Repräsentanten der Bajau-Bevölkerung Sabahs besucht wurde. In diesem Kreis stellten Ethnologen, Soziologen, Politologen, Linguisten, Historiker, Archäologen, Biologen, Pädagogen und Museologen aus 10 Ländern (Malaysia: 14, Philippinen: 7, Australien: 3, Indonesien: 2, USA: 2, Myanmar: 1, Taiwan: 1, England: 1, Frankreich: 1, Deutschland: 1) ihre neueren Arbeiten im Rahmen von neun Sitzungen zur Diskussion.

Die erste Sektion ("Socio-political dimension") begann mit einem Vortrag von Clifford Sather (USA) über die Sama Dilaut-Bajau von Semporna, Sabah/Malaysia, die trotz Seßhaftwerdung und Beitritt zum Islam bis heute eine ethnisch, sozial und politisch differenzierte Gemeinschaft in der zentralisierten Gesellschaft von Semporna geblieben sind, in der Religionszugehörigkeit immer noch auch mit säkularer Autorität und einem bestimmten politischen Status verbunden ist. Zainal Kling (Malaysia) stellte einen Bajau-Poeten Sabahs/Malaysia vor, der noch im traditionellen Genre des *syair* schreibt, dabei sozial und kulturell ihm für seine Gemeinschaft wichtig erscheinende Ereignisse aufgreift und als moralische Instanz auf diese einwirkt. H. M. Dahlan und Gusni Saat (Malaysia) erörterten in einem Vergleich von Bajau-Gemeinschaften der Küsten Sabahs, ihrem Hinterland und Kota Kinabalus/Malaysia die strukturellen und kulturellen Hemmnisse, aufgrund derer nicht alle Bajau den ökonomischen und kulturellen Wandel von Fischernomaden zu an Land lebenden Fischern, Bauern oder urbanen Siedlern durchlaufen haben.