

ANGELIKA SIEVERS: *Der Tourismus in Sri Lanka (Ceylon). Ein sozialgeographischer Beitrag zum Tourismusphänomen in tropischen Entwicklungsländern, insbesondere in Südasien. (Erdkundliches Wissen, Heft 62).* Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1983. X, 138 pages, DM 36.-

That tourism is a rather mixed blessing for Third World countries has been realized by now. Gone are the days when ambitious development-planners thought that investment in the tourist sector would bring easy and quick returns, and trigger off benevolent processes in forward- and backward-linked sectors. The asymmetric relationships between First and Third World Countries simply do not function that way. For a first world citizen even leisure-time is a scarce good and has to be used effectively. The results of this in-built rationality of first world entrepreneurship are to be felt whenever and wherever it materializes itself. That is why "tourist promotion zones" look so similar to a tea-estate or a rubber-factory. Though the raw-materials are different, the interests that structured and brought them "in line" are always the same: "homo faber" is back in his "iron cage" even during those few weeks when he wants to be "off from it all".

Angelika Sievers' book is a well-documented study of these processes and their related phenomena in Sri Lanka: tourist ghettos, outside-oriented catering services (grape-juice in Hikkaduwa and passion-fruit-mix in Freiburg) and alienation of the local personnel (but under foreign management, please!). Her surveys of the various tourist zones that have been masterplanned during the last two decades, their infrastructure and growth until the late seventies, the many tables and detailed maps are a good example of the craftsmanship of the social geographer. One would wish that a cultural anthropologist might feel challenged to continue where she had to end.

Detlef Kantowsky

"SOUTHEAST ASIAN PERSPECTIVES". Bhubaneshvar: The Association for Friendship and Cultural Cooperation with Indonesia, Utkal University. Annual Subscription: US \$ 20.-; Institutions: US\$ 30.-. (Obtainable from: The Editor, SEAP, 16, Satyanagar, Bhubaneshvar - 751007, India).

The Association for Friendship and Cultural Cooperation with Indonesia, Utkal University of Bhubaneshvar, India, has brought out the first number of a new journal "Southeast Asian Perspectives". It is to appear biannually. The editors of the journal are Prof. Dr. L. K. Mahapatra and K. K. Mishra. The first number is devoted to topics relating to the understanding of Indian culture. A brief

historical essay by Sarkar "Some Anomalies and Points of Confusion in Present-Day Researches on Southeast Asia" is followed by an article by Ravindra K. Jain (Prof. of Social Anthropology, Jawaharlal Nehru University) on "Caste, Estate and Class: The Dynamics of Social Stratification among Indian Malaysians". The essay is a summary of various works on the subject without the addition of any new data from research by the author. The following two essays on Bali are probably of greater interest since both the authors utilize their knowledge of Hinduism to interpret observations made in Bali from an Indian viewpoint. The articles concerned are "Hinduism in Bali" by I.G.P. Phalgunadi and "Bali-Aga and Bali-Mula: Indigenous Cultures in Bali" by L.K. Mahapatra. A book review and a news section round off this first issue, 74 pages in all.

This new periodical doubtless addresses itself mainly to Indian readers. It is thus an expression of the increasing interest of Indian scholars in South-east Asia, the tendency being to draw attention to the originality of Southeast Asian culture and society.

Hans-Dieter Evers

ROGER KELLER: *Agrarpolitik im unabhängigen Malaya, 1957-1982. Erfolge und Probleme einer kapitalistischen Entwicklungsstrategie.* (Beiträge zur Kolonial- und Überseegegeschichte, Vol. 30). Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner Verlag, 1984. XIV, 375 pages; 66 tabs.; 2 graphs; 9 maps; 8 illustrations. DM 58.-

This dissertation (Zürich, 1984) has remarkable qualities in more than one respect. Its highly topical theme, its clear arrangement and easy linkage of complicated facts, its scrupulous description of Malaysia's agro-political practices make this book worth reading. In addition, the abstinence from fashionable theories may be felt as a blessing.

The author strongly doubts that "colonialism" with its export-oriented agricultural production can be blamed for having seriously affected Peninsular Malaysia's (formerly Malaya's) food situation then and now. This view is absolutely correct. Thus, the approach of analysing the historical background as well as the recent political "strategies", their measures and counter-effects, has a solid foundation as do the author's efforts to elucidate the interior and exterior conditions of the agricultural economy. Besides this, an account is given of the activities of the public and private agents involved, and of the performance of farmers and other agricultural producers operating in a rapidly changing context.

Within this framework the analysis mainly concentrates on rubber, oil-palm, coconut and padi, by far the most important pillars of Peninsular Malaysia's agricultural potential. The basic facts, political and social, are