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Studies Group



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Juliane Schober, after taking care of the *Bulletin* for four years and making it into an extremely successful and informative publication, has decided to step down. I have accepted the challenge of continuing the *Bulletin* and will do my best to produce interesting and informative issues. The format has been changed starting with this issue.

Bulletin of the Burma Studies Group is the only newsletter in the US that reports regularly on scholarly activities in the field of Burma studies. Our mission is to facilitate communication among Burma scholars, and to provide opportunities to keep one another informed concerning recent, on-going, past and future activities. Readers will continue to find lists of recent activities of the Burma Studies Group, the titles of new books and articles, dates of seminars and colloquia, new appointments, guest lectureships, research notes, recently completed doctoral dissertations and abstracts, etc., etc. Communication in any written format on these topics is eagerly awaited by the Burma Studies audience as well as this editor. The *Bulletin* can flourish only if its readers and other concerned individuals share their information about any and all academic matters related to Burma so that I can expeditiously publish them in the *Bulletin*.

May Kyi Win

STOLEN BUDDHA
Naazish Yar Khan

Burma, 1988. Student uprisings and unrest dominate the political arena. While thousands take to the streets to demand democracy, a small group of thieves are grateful for the anarchy; it provides the perfect cover.

Just as they had calculated, a spurt of newspaper reports of stolen Burmese antiques and national treasures goes more or less unnoticed. A standing stone image of Buddha, almost 1,000 years old, is easily stolen from a cave temple. It is soon sold to a dealer in Thailand, then to Richard Diran, a dealer in California.

New York, 1991. After a mysterious lapse of more than two years, the statue has found its way to Sotheby's auction house. The 11th Century sculpture, a mere 22 inches tall, is put up for sale. But before it can pass hands yet again, Sotheby's inexplicably withdraws the statue from the auction block.

The sculpture has been impounded by the FBI, which has been tipped off that the piece had been stolen from a temple at Pagan, the 11th to 13th Century capital of Burma. The Justice Department then begins the daunting, time-consuming process of proving the allegation in court.

DeKalb, IL, May 1995. A fishing net is draped jauntily across a white paneled window at Northern Illinois University. Bright spring sunshine streams in. A bookshelf, groaning under the weight of art catalogs and encyclopedias, lines one wall.

A hand-painted 19th Century Burmese shield and a gong belonging to a Burmese ethnic group called Karen adorn the other. Adding to the ambiance is a faded mauve oriental carpet. Rather unconventional for a university Professor's office, but then Richard Cooler, professor and director of the Center for Burma Studies at NIU, isn't your everyday teacher.

Ash-brown bearded and suave, if a little heavy set, Cooler, a South Carolina native who has taught at NIU for 25 years, seems to fit almost naturally into the role of Sean Connery's James Bond. Unlike those fictional tales of international espionage, however, Cooler's work as novice detective in this stolen Buddha mystery is for real.

"When I first saw the photograph of a standing image of the Buddha, with hands making a gesture called Dharma Chakra Mudra, i.e. Turning the Wheel of the Law, in the 1991 Sotheby's catalog, I realized that it was quite genuine and probably stolen," Cooler says.

"The image itself was an important one since it depicts the Buddha sharing his enlightenment with mankind for the very first time. Further, it is only in Burma, during the entire worldwide development of Buddhist art, that the Buddha is shown standing, instead of seated, while gesturing with both hands in front of his chest. Only eight such images are known to exist, making it quite a rare piece indeed."

Considering that Cooler had seen an identical piece in Pagan in 1974, when he was visiting Burma in a U.S. State Department exchange program, he knows the statue in the catalog could well be the same one. Assuming he can do little to prove his suspicions, however, he doesn't pursue the matter.

DeKalb, August 1994. Three years after seeing the photo in the Sotheby's catalog, Cooler receives a call. It's from the U.S. attorney's office in New York. "Through sources involved in art litigation and art history, we found out that Professor Richard Cooler's expertise would help us with the case and we approached him for help," says New York FBI's spokesman Marvin Smilon. Three years into their probe, investigators have failed to gather enough evidence to warrant a criminal case for theft.

Cooler's search, fortunately turns up more than one photograph of the standing Buddha image in its original niche. These pictures had been taken by other researchers considerably before 1988, and it had been published in scholarly literature on Burmese art. An 1891 report also indicated that the statue had been broken during a earthquake. This left a signature crack that is clearly visible in all the photos. "Also patches of white pigment on the head, forearm and upper right arm of the statue further added to the evidence," says Cooler.

New York, November 1994. with Cooler's photographic evidence in hand, the federal government could now proceed with the case, but now as a civil action. Unlike a criminal proceeding, investigators would need to prove only that the item had been stolen, not who stole it.

"These cases rest exclusively on being able to establish unequivocally that an item belongs to you," says Cooler. "This fact must be documented through photographs of the item showing its original location or through testimonies that this item was yours in the past and hasn't been traded or sold....Very small details on the surface are important to (establishing) the identity of a

piece."

The court will be responsible for the statue until the two claimants-the country of Myanmar, as Burma is now called, and dealer Diran-have presented their cases to a judge and the case is resolved.

Though encouraged by the mounting evidence, the professor isn't taking any chances. He is convinced now that both images are one and the same, but isn't yet sure he can convince the court. He decides to get a firsthand look at the statue, which is being kept at Sotheby's.

"The image was far more beautiful than I ever expected," he says. Gazing at the statue, the professor senses that the pieces of the puzzle are quickly falling into place. Just as the catalog had depicted, only the upper two-thirds of the statue is there. Other commonalities become obvious as well. "There were patches of red pigment that matched, although some had fallen away. Also the number of pearls in the lateral strand on the statue were identical and were visible in all the earlier pictures. The statue at hand had exactly the same characteristics as the early photographs of the image."

But a cakewalk, this case is not. Since it is now being tried as an interpleader case-in which the U.S. government, as holder of the statue, asks the court to determine whether it belongs to Myanmar or the dealer-Cooler will have to step out of the picture.

Cooler, however, has other plans. Having come this far, he isn't about to bow out now. He will be able to stay on only if he receives permission from the Myanmar ambassador in Washington to let him pursue the case on behalf of Myanmar.

Chicago, December 1994. In search of an attorney with expertise in Burmese art,

Cooler contacts Jack Daulton, a former graduate student of his who is now with the Chicago law firm of Davidson, Goldstein, Mandell and Menkes. Daulton, besides being well versed in Burmese art history, specializes in art litigation and is an art collector.

"Given my academic, personal and professional background, this case dovetailed with my own interests perfectly," says Daulton, whose firm took on the case pro bono.

"It was also a question of ethics. This is a sacred object that has been stolen. Everything about the sculpture makes it irreplaceable. Its beauty, its distinctiveness; everything comes together to make it a masterpiece, a national treasure."

He and Cooler get the green light from the Myanmar ambassador.

Myanmar, December 1994. Determined to present as ironclad a case as possible, Cooler returns to Myanmar to see if he can locate the lower third of the statue and match the break. The Myanmar government in the meantime has taken the precaution of replacing original artworks in its temples with fine replicas. The originals have been placed in museums or in storage for safekeeping.

The professor is delighted to find the lower third of the statue in a storehouse and take photos to document his discovery. He also brings back stone samples from the base of the image to match them with samples from the statue in New York.

New York, January 1995. A consent judgment in U.S. District Court rules in favor of Myanmar, and Diran relinquishes ownership of the image to the Burmese people.

Daulton and Steve Mandell, a colleague at Davidson, Goldstein, take custody of the statue from the FBI. "We also met with the Burmese ambassador to the United Nations, and he shook our hands thanking us on behalf of Burma," Daulton says.

Not to be overly sentimental, but that personally was such an emotional moment for me. I've worked on several cases, but none have touched me as deeply as this one did."

After placing the image in a custom-made wooden case, with a plastic foam lining to keep it securely in place, an art transportation company helps bring the statue to Chicago. Cooler is there to receive it.

DeKalb, May 1995. In appreciation of Cooler's donation of time and expertise, the Myanmar government has agreed to display the image for a year, starting this fall, in the Burma Gallery of NIU's Art Museum, before taking it home.

Now that it's over, Cooler says it was worth all the time and effort to recover the statue. "I continue to be impressed with it," he says. "The image has a beautiful calm, a profound tranquility about it." (This article was first published in the *Chicago Tribune*, May 28, 1995).

MINUTES OF THE BURMA STUDIES GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

The business meeting of the Burma Studies Groups was held on Friday, April 7, 1995, 9:00 - 11:00 pm during the AAS meetings at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

The membership reelected Professor F. K. Lehman as President of the Burma

Studies Group. Due to other commitments, Juliane Schober was unable to stand for election as Secretary Treasurer and Editor of the BSG Bulletin. In the absence of nominations, a committee was formed, consisting of F. K. Lehman, Juliane Schober, and Leedom Lefferts and charged with identifying someone willing and suited to take on this position. (We are happy to report that since the time of our business meeting, May Kyi Win of NIU has graciously agreed to serve in this capacity. Welcome to the BSG editorship! We are fortunate to have such an energetic, knowledgeable and reliable person take on this position in the Burma Studies Group.)

Lehman reported that the Burma volume at NIU is proceeding towards publication soon now that a new editor, Edwin Zehner, has joined the Center at NIU. Concerning SEAC, he reported that the council is preparing an electronic directory of all country specialists in the U.S. and elsewhere. Lehman agreed to coordinate this project on behalf of the AAS and requested that all pertinent listings be submitted to him. The combined Southeast Asia and Burma Specialists listings will be made available through a World Wide Web SEAC Home Page. Also, at the SEAC meeting, the new editor for JAS encouraged in particular submissions on Southeast Asia.

Arlene Neher, who is also a member of SEAC, mentioned that the Benda Prize needs to enhance its endowment so that the amount of the annual award may be preserved for all future recipients. She encouraged members to earmark any contributions to the AAS endowment for the Benda Prize. Also, the selection process of newly published monographs considered for the Benda Prize will now be broadened as publishers are invited to submit their new titles.

The BSG president encouraged all members to begin planning for the next Burma Studies Colloquium in the fall of 1996. A Program committee for the Colloquium was appointed, consisting of Maureen Aung-Thwin and Richard Cooler with a third member to be appointed.

Richard Cooler reported that he was successful, with the pro bono council of Jack Daulton, to retrieve a national Burmese treasure offered for sale at an international art dealers' auction and have it returned to Burma after displaying the image at NIU, hopefully during next year's colloquium which will also be NIU's centennial year. He suggested a panel for the colloquium dealing with international theft of Burmese art work.

Hugh MacDougall commented on the need to increase subscriptions for the Burma Press Summary which he graciously compiles on behalf of the readership and which is distributed through the University of Illinois. Leedom Lefferts suggested that the Burma press Summary be made available on disk to facilitate computer search; he suggested NIU as a possible repository for this.

Maureen Aung-Thwin mentioned the availability now of information about Burma on World Wide Web and also through listserv on Burmanet. She further reported that she is in charge of organizing a conference in May on minority groups in Burma. The purpose of this New York conference is to begin a process of collecting and archiving oral histories particularly from senior representatives. Burma Night was organized in Washington, D.C. following the AAS on April 9, featuring Burmese food, crafts and dances.

Carol Compton reported that SEASSI at Wisconsin has received a high number of applications for Burmese language study:

14 applicants for first year, 4 for second year, and one for third year.

Leedom lefferts invited everyone to come and attend the Thai/ Laos/ Cambodia Council's meeting the following evening. The meeting was adjourned by 9 pm. Minutes were taken by Juliane Schober.

Burma Studies Foundation:

The trustees of the Burma Studies Foundation met in conjunction with the AAS on Friday, April 7, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Edison Room, Terrace Level, of the convention hotel.

INTERNET SOURCES ON BURMA

In response to several enquiries about the computerized retrieval of information about Burma, I offer the following:

INFORMATION ABOUT BURMA VIA THE WEB AND GOPHER:

Information about Burma is available via the WorldWideWeb at the new URL is:

FreeBurmaWWW

<http://sunsite.unc.edu/freeburma/freeburma.html>.

[including back issues of the BurmaNet News as .txt files]

BurmaWeb:

<http://www.uio.no/tormodl>

Burma fonts:=20

<http://www.cs.bham.ac.uk/~lka/burmese-fonts/moe.html>

Ethnologue Database (Myanmar):=20

<http://www.ala.doc.ic.ac.uk/~rap/Ethnologue/eth.cgi/Myanmar=20>

TO ACCESS INFORMATION ABOUT BURMA VIA GOPHER:

gopher.csf.colorado.edu.

Look under the International Political Economy section, then select Geographic_Archive, then Asia, then Burma.=20

BOOK REVIEWS

Fraser-Lu, Sylvia. *Burmese Crafts, Past and Present*. Oxford University Press, 200 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016. 1994. ISBN 0-19-588608-9. \$135.00.

Janice Leoshko

University of Texas at Austin

It is hard to imagine that anyone seriously interested in the culture of Southeast Asia, let alone those focused on Burma, would not like to own this volume. Alas, its cost may well prevent this happening, and sadly, will likely dissuade purchase among the generally interested for whom such broadly conceived publications on Burma are so rare. The author, who has written much already in separate studies about various aspects of the artistic traditions of Burma, has accomplished an admirable feat by weaving into one volume an encyclopedic vision of the history and character of these traditions. One of the strengths of this work is indeed the multifaceted nature of this vision, something heretofore quite lacking for Burmese art. The volume also

underscores the importance of thinking beyond distinctions between the present and the past, even though such perspective also tends to collapse a sense of change that is surely also part of such long-lived traditions. But the author's focus is not upon such details, presenting more broadly the richness of Burmese art.

After an introduction which briefly sketches religious and historical features of Burma and one chapter devoted to the artistic aspects of Burmese temples and pagodas, works created in different materials-- wood and ivory, metal, precious metal and jewelry, ceramics, lacquers, textiles and palm and bamboo-- are surveyed in separate chapters.

The discussions generally reflect a healthy awareness of the issues of production, presenting information about the techniques employed by those who fashioned them as well as illustrating artisans engaged in some aspect of production, a useful perspective since too often issues of agency, in terms of both the person and the process, are not addressed at all. The inclusion of contemporary practices is also a contribution towards correcting the bias generally given to earlier periods of artistic activity. It is time certainly to move the appreciation of Burmese artistic traditions beyond the Pagan period and its architectural achievements so well known through the publication of Gordon Luce's three-volume work, *Old Burma-Early Pagan* and it is also time to move beyond discussing Burmese art in terms of its debt and reliance upon other, especially Indian, traditions. While art historians may still enjoy the exercise of tracing influences, books such as this reveal the limited scope of such questions. It is thus nice that the much heralded earlier achievements are here presented

with later and even contemporary developments, presenting a picture that is far more than one simply concerned with discrete objects.

Indeed, an interesting interaction occurs through the mix of historical and contemporary photographs, line drawings as well as views of actual works which form the copious illustrations of this volume, making it a work that offers much to those simply browsing as well as to those with more specific goals. The almost four hundred images and lengthy text are supplemented by an extensive bibliography, a useful glossary and appendix of Burmese chronology. While Sylvia Fraser-Lu's statement that all art traditionally had the same purpose of furnishing religious and court life with objects of consummate beauty and providing people with well crafted everyday objects is a too simplified view of the roles to which art has been put, the collapse of firm distinctions between works which may be found in the West in fine arts museums and those devoted to anthropological material is most welcomed.

An important premise indeed of this volume is the recognition that the Burmese don't hold the same distinctions as in the West between the so-called fine arts and decorative or applied arts, so that metal works, wood carvings, and lacquer are not necessarily secondary to architecture, painting and sculpture. While one may wish that there was greater coverage of the interreaction between these various artistic traditions, *Burmese Crafts, Past and Present* nonetheless constitutes an impressive contribution.

Sargent, Inge. *Twilight over Burma: My Life as a Shan Princess*. Honolulu, HI: University of Hawaii Press, 1994. ISBN 0824816234

(hb), \$24.95; 0824816285 (pb), \$14.95.

Paul Sarno
New York City

In the early 1950's, a young Burmese student at the Colorado School of Mines courted an Austrian who was studying foreign languages there. The couple became engaged toward the end of their college life and married soon thereafter. It was only when the ship carrying them to Burma reached Rangoon and they were greeted by an impressive welcoming party that the groom told the bride that he was Sao Kya Seng, the Shan Prince (Saophalong) of Hsipaw, a principality about 170 miles northeast of Mandalay on the railroad line to Lashio.

Once she recovered from her astonishment, she settled down to a life as his Mahadevi, learned Shan and Burmese, and joined him enthusiastically in the improvement of his people. His remarkable achievements from 1954 through 1961 included the introduction of progressive agricultural measures, delivery of princely lands to those who worked them and some manufacturing improvements, particularly modern salt-mining techniques. The Mahadevi encouraged modern pre- and post-natal care designed to reduce substantially the high infant mortality rate. Along the way, she also bore him two daughters. In accordance with his non-sexist ideals, he hoped that the eldest of them would become his successor although his ultimate desire was that democracy be introduced to his people.

This idyllic lifestyle ended abruptly with the 1962 coup. He was imprisoned in the military camp near Taunggyi. After apparently resisting attempts by Sein Lwin

to obtain his written promise of cooperation with the Revolutionary Council, he was murdered by the army. Before that, he had managed to smuggle out two letters (reproduced in the book) which, together with eyewitness accounts, confirm his detention. Thereafter, the Tatmadaw's Eastern Command denied that he had been taken into custody. Ne Win later instructed his foreign minister to repeat the denial; this time to the Austrian foreign minister. This lack of acknowledgment was later contradicted by Ne Win who assured his personal Viennese psychiatrist that the Saophalong was being held in custody and she would receive mail from him shortly.

The awaited communication never materialized and after a two year search for him and additional attempts to obtain his release, the Mahadevi decided to leave Burma with her two young daughters. Complications arose because the children were considered Burmese citizens. However, she was able to add their names to her Austrian passport and, with the help of at least one female friend close to the Revolutionary Council, flee Burma.

The book is striking for the amount of terror which the Revolutionary Council was able to instill even in someone who is a citizen of a Western country. After her husband's arrest, she was constantly under surveillance by the MIS; her visitors and mail were closely monitored and her travel restricted. To the last minute, it was unclear that she would receive an exit permit.

The book is an impressive account of life in the Shan hills in the 1950's as well as a truly beautiful love story. The only jarring note is that it is told in the third person. There is also a Foreword by Bertil Lintner which provides a historical perspective on the Shans. Its 216 pages

make quick reading and partially fill a lacunae in the knowledge of all but the most informed student of minority life in Burma. Black and white photographs taken by the Mahadivi add appreciably to the text.

NEWS FROM U.S.

PROMOTION

Burmese language assistant professor Saw Tun of the Northern Illinois University received tenure and was promoted to associate professor in May 1995. This is the only tenured position in the U.S. for teaching Burmese Language and Literature. It was created with financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation in fall, 1989.

ELDERHOSTEL PROGRAMS AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Northern Illinois University hosted Elderhostel programs on May 14-20, 1995. The topics covered included: *The Hidden History of Burma*, by Dr. Michael Aung-Thwin; *The Arts and Religion of Burma*, by Dr. Richard Cooler; *Politics and Economics in Burma and Thailand*, by Dr. Clark Neher and *Theravada Meditation in Burma*, by May Kyi Win.

Twenty individuals from all over the nation participated in this program.

NEWS ABROAD

TRADE FAIR IN BURMA

The British Embassy in Rangoon recently

organized a 'British week Rangoon' (27 Feb - 3 March 1995), coinciding with the Myanmar Trade Fair. The British presentation included briefings on trade and investment opportunities in Burma, seminars for British business representatives, their agents and partners. There were also workshops, exhibitions, and film and book displays. Most of the events were held at the British Ambassador's residence. The November 1994 issue of APAG's *Asia Pacific Link* contained a cautionary note from the British Ambassador to Burma, Mr Hartland-Swann: 'The European Community operates a strict embargo on arms sales to Burma, and ATP and ECGD cover are not available. So long as there is no noticeable improvement in Burma's human rights record and the SLORC still refuses to introduce democratic reforms, there is unlikely to be an improvement in EU/Burmese relations nor a change in the position of foreign aid. Burma is therefore a difficult country to do business with. The country has very limited foreign exchange reserves. Credit remains scarce and I would advise against any company accepting an unbacked letter of credit. Barter or countertrading has been a traditional method of business in Burma with rice and timber two of the main products traded. Although countertrading is being phased out, companies should be aware that they may have to accept some unusual trading practices.'

CONFERENCE IN THAILAND

A Conference on *Myanmar (Burma) toward the 21st Century: Dynamics of Continuity and Change*, sponsored by the Asia Foundation and Thailand's Chulalongkorn University was held in Chinag Rai, Thailand

from June 1-3, 1995.

NEW THRONE IN BRITISH MUSEUM

A new Burmese gilded throne has been installed beneath the large 18th century Burmese Buddha image dominating the entrance to the British Museum's Hotung Gallery of Oriental Art. Burmese monk U Rewatadhamma chanted a special sutta at its consecration. The ceremony which took place on 10 May was opened by the Director of the BM in the presence of the Burmese ambassador U Hla Maung; four distinguished visitors from Mandalay - U Maung Maung Tin (scholar of literature, history, antiquities, culture), U Win Maung (artist and woodcarver currently overseeing the reconstruction of the Mandalay Palace), U Seint Myint (artist and specialist in *kalaga*, the traditional appliqué hangings) and U Thaug Shwe, Director of the Archaeological Survey, Burmese specialist from SOAS, members of the council of the Britain Burma Society and friends of Burma.

U Win Maung gave a talk at the BM Lecture Theatre on the same day about the thrones of the Mandalay Royal Palace and in particular about the new gilded throne recently bought by the BM. On 12 May U Sein Myint displayed some of his *kalagas* and gave a brief talk on it at SOAS.

COLLOQUIUM IN FRANCE

Myanmar: de Pagan à Rangoon Vues et perspectives des recherches
May 20, 1994.

François Robinne (IRSEA), an anthropologist working on Myanmar (Burma), organized a colloquium on research concerning this country. Most of

the French researchers working on Myanmar were present. The papers to be published include: Dr Denise Bernot (*Du birman au français: problèmes lexicographiques*); Dr B. Brac de la Perrière (*La bufflesse de Pegu: incorporation de rituel dans le culte des 37 naq*); Dr M.H. Cardinaud (*La psychologie féminine dans les contes*); Dr Jacques Ivanoff (*Birmans et Mokens*); Dr Philippe Le Failler (*La Birmanie et ses voisins: quel équilibre?*); Dr Pierre Pichard (*La conservation des monuments de Pagan*); Dr Catherine Raymond (*Etat des recherches archéologiques*); Dr François Robinne (*Gouts, savoirs et identité*); Dr Janice Stadgart (*Archéologie des Pyu*); Daw Yin Yin Myint (*Les Chinois de Birmanie*).

THE BRITAIN-BURMA SOCIETY NEWS

Contributed by Anna J. Allott

The Britain-Burma Society regularly sponsors public lectures, slide shows and meetings about Burma. It also publishes a newsletter from which the following schedule of presentation, reports, book news and request have been taken:

Travel in Myanmar Naing-Ngan, a talk with slides by Nicholas Greenwood. June 14, 1995.

Recent Developments in Burma's Ethnic Minority Borderlands: The Time for Peace? by Martin Smith. May 4, 1995.

BOOK NEWS:

Kipling's Barrack-Room Ballads. Centenary edition. Bailey Distributed Ltd. Learoyd Rd., Mountfield Rd. Ind. Estate, New Romney, Kent TN28 8XU. Tel: 01-79-736-6905.

Hardback £17.00, paperback 9.50.

This centenary edition has been prepared, with an entertaining and scholarly introduction, by BBS member John Whitehead. For the modern reader some explanation of their allusions and their military context is necessary if the poems are to be appreciated in their full glory. The editor, who himself served in the Indian Army in Burma, has provided this in full measure in more than 40 pages of notes.

Traveller's Literary Companion to Southeast Asia, ed. by Alastair Dingwall. In Print Publishing, 9 Beaufort Terrace, Brighton, BN2 2SU. Tel:01-27-368-2836. Paperback 13.95.

This guide book has chapters on Indonesia, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Burma by SOAS academics, and on other Asian countries and Hong Kong by local academics. This is a book for dipping into, with extracts from novels and travel books about the area, and translations from original literary works; it is packed full of unexpected information about well-known places and people.

Greenwood, Nicholas. *Burma Then and Now*. Bradt Publications, 41 Nortoft Road, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks SL9 0LA. Tel/fax 01-49-487-3478. Hardback £18.95.

Greenwood, Nicholas. *Guide to Burma*. 2nd fully revised and updated ed. Bradt Publications, 41 Nortoft Road, Chalfont St. Peter, Bucks SL9 0LA. Tel/fax 01-49-487-3478. Paperback £12.95.

This revised version of the *Guide to Burma* has three features which make it far more valuable than an ordinary tourist handbook.

It is enriched by numerous excerpts from the travel writings of earlier 19th and 20th century visitors to the country who were captivated and intrigued by its charm and beauty. The excerpts are taken from the author's own very large collection of books and photographs on Burma. Secondly, a chapter contributed by a young Burman on Burmese life and culture gives an unexpectedly frank picture of certain aspects of today's society. And thirdly the introductory section on history and politics recounts in detail the recent political upheavals and brings into sharp focus the problems that face the country's military government.

Two Greenwood's content of the books are the same and were published in two formats.

REQUEST FOR HELP: Lindsey Merrison is making a documentary film of her family history; this has involved her in taking her mother and sister back to Burma to meet the Burmese side of her family, who have stayed on in Burma and taken Burmese names. She is looking for any amateur ciné-film (8mm) taken in Burma before the war and up to the 60s to illustrate family life in Burma, especially Anglo-Burmese. Please contact Patricia Herbert, OIOC, 197 Blackfriars Road, SE1 8NG. Tel: 0171 412 7655

PROSPECT BURMA SCHOLARSHIP

Students of Burmese origin are invited to apply for a one-year (possibly renewable) scholarship. Preference will be given to those already embarked on a course of study relevant to the future development of Burma. The grant commencing Oct., 95 will cover course fees, books and other material and a living allowance adequate

for the country of study. Send brief information about present subject of study, date of birth, current marital and nationality status, knowledge of English and future plans. Shortlisted applicants will be provided with fuller information about the selection method and terms of the award, and asked to complete an application form. Contact Prospect Burma, 143 Rivermead Court, London SW6 3SE, UK. Tel: 44 (171) 371-0887, Fax: 371-0547.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY: BOOKS AND ARTICLES
ON BURMA**

Compiled by May Kyi Win

This bibliography is an attempt to bring together all current articles and books on Burma in English and other European languages. The first installment of this bibliography appeared in *Bulletin of Burma Studies Group* no. 48, August 15, 1992, the second in no. 49, January 1993, the third in no. 50, Summer 1993 and so on. This is the seventh installment in the series. Future installments will be numbered consecutively.

The following procedure is being used to compile this bibliography. Articles on Burma are downloaded onto a disk from the CD-ROM Humanities and Social Sciences indices, which are updated monthly. Then, articles from journals published in Southeast Asian countries which are not included in the above databases are added to the bibliography. Monograph lists are taken from the NIU Southeast Asia Collection development (acquisition) files. The arrangement of entries is alphabetical by author (usually last name) or title (in absence of an author). Burmese and Thai names are

alphabetized in direct written order. For example, the Burmese names "Mya Than" and "Aung San Suu Kyi" would be listed under "Mya" and "Aung," respectively; the Thai name, "Sulak Sivaraksa" under "Sulak."

If you have any questions concerning the bibliography, please contact me at the Southeast Asia Collection, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115. Tel: (815) 753-1809 or through e-mail: c60mkwl@corn.cso.niu.edu

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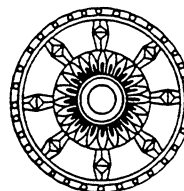
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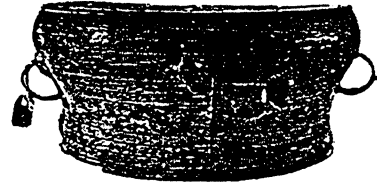
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