

EDITORIAL

Peter Bellwood and Doreen Bowdery

This volume, like its predecessor (*BIPPA 23*), contains papers from the 17th Congress of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association. This was hosted by the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, in Nankang, Taipei, Taiwan, from 9 to 15 September 2002. Cooperating institutions within Taiwan involved in the organisation of the conference were the Department of Anthropology at National Taiwan University, the National Museum of Prehistory at Taitung, the Program for Asian and Pacific Research at Academia Sinica, and the National Museum of Natural Science at Taichung.

The following institutions provided financial sponsorship for the IPPA Taiwan Congress:

In Taiwan:

Academia Sinica

Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica
Council for Cultural Affairs, the Executive Yuan, R.O.C
National Science Council, the Executive Yuan, R.O.C
Council of Indigenous Peoples, the Executive Yuan, R.O.C
Asian-Pacific Area Research Program, Academia Sinica
The Himalaya Foundation.

Elsewhere:

The Australian National University, Canberra
The Wenner-Gren Foundation, New York
The Asian Cultural Council, New York
Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association, Canberra.

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For further details, including the conference program and all abstracts, see the IPPA website at:

<http://arts.anu.edu.au/arcworld/ippa/ippa.htm> or
<http://www.prehistory.org/ippa>.

ANNOUNCEMENT: 18TH CONGRESS, MANILA,
MARCH 20-26, 2006

The 18th Congress of IPPA will be held from March 20-26, 2006, on the campus of the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City in Metro Manila. The meeting will be hosted by the Archaeological Studies Program at the

University of the Philippines, and by the Archaeology Division, National Museum of the Philippines.

Plans are afoot to organise Post Congress tours to El Nido and Tabon (Palawan), Cagayan Valley and Banaue Rice Terraces (northern Luzon). Mid-Congress trips will be arranged to the National Museum and Intramuros in Manila, and to visit excavations in Novaliches or Batangas.

Accommodation will be organised on the campus, in three establishments: the University Hotel, NISMED Hostel, and International House.

As with previous IPPA congresses, the program will be developed from suggestions by intending delegates for session themes. If you wish to chair a session, please contact potential speakers and send a list of names, paper titles, and the session title, to the IPPA secretariat (ippa@anu.edu.au) before December 31, 2004. Please also send emails for speakers, plus a short c.v. for any speakers for whom IPPA might need to apply for funding.

During 2005 we will be applying to foundations for travel funds, but as always these funds will be used mainly for speakers from developing countries. Those with access to funds from their own institutions are requested to seek them first before approaching the IPPA Secretariat.

We look forward to seeing you all again in Manila in 2006.

THIS ISSUE, AND FUTURE ISSUES

This issue contains 19 papers from the Taipei conference, grouped under 5 themes. Our next issue (*BIPPA 25*) will contain, *inter alia*, papers on Heritage Management and on archaeology in Viet Nam and Siberia, hopefully to be published as soon as possible in 2005.

The *IPPA Bulletin* editors are also very willing to accept papers on IPPA themes that do not emanate directly from IPPA meetings. Our issues since 1991 – Yogyakarta, Chiang Mai, Melaka – have obviously tended to be focused on conference proceedings. But now that *BIPPA* has refereed status we can consider other papers that meet our author guidelines, and we hope that IPPA members will consider submitting additional material suitable for publication.

SURIN POOKAJORN

1950-2004

Surin Pookajorn, a distinguished and prominent Thai prehistorian, died peacefully at Thonburi hospital in Bangkok, Thailand, in the evening of July 13, 2004, at the age of 54. He leaves behind his wife and a son, and the Thai archaeological community has lost one of its greatest researchers. Surin was actively involved in developing Thailand and Southeast Asian archaeology until the very end of his life.

Surin was born on October 31, 1950 in Bangkok. His early education was in Nakorn Sawan province, Central Thailand. In 1971, he entered Silpakorn University and majored in Archaeology. He received his BA from Silpakorn in 1974, his MSc in anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania, and his PhD from the University of Tübingen in 1987. In 2001, he received the Sood Seangvichieng Award from Mahidol University as an outstanding scientist.

Not many people know that Surin began his profession as an underwater archaeologist between 1974 and 1975 in the Division of Archaeology, Royal Thai Fine Arts Department. Later, in 1976, he started teaching in the Department of Archaeology at Silpakorn, where he remained as a professor of archaeology until his death. While working at Silpakorn, he developed many courses and graduate programs in Prehistoric Archaeology both at MA and PhD levels. He was a devoted teacher and researcher. He always encouraged and supported his students, as well as his colleagues, to obtain opportunities to train and study abroad (e.g., Dr Sawang Lertrit). Internationally, during the past decade, he put a lot of effort into establishing a Southeast

Asian University network, including Silpakorn University, the University of the Philippines, Gadjah Mada University, and Universiti Sains Malaysia, in order that Southeast Asian archaeologists would be able to share regional resources in both personnel and facilities.

Surin's contributions to the profession included Hoabinhian Research in Ban Kao, Kanchanaburi, and in Krabi, Trang and Satun provinces in southern Thailand. His interest in the 'Hoabinhian' developed while working with Chester Gorman at Spirit Cave. Surin had over twenty years experience in the development and administration of multi-disciplinary projects focused on Paleolithic archaeology and ethnoarchaeology. In addition, he directed many excavations for the Silpakorn field school, as well as his own projects. In recent years, he conducted collaborative research projects with colleagues from Taiwan, the Philippines and Malaysia.

What we remember best about Surin, as a person, was his strong personality, firm conviction, hardworking nature and outspokenness. He always had a clear notion concerning what he wanted to do. He was also a very generous person, easy going, gracious in hospitality, and a good story teller with a sense of humour. Thailand and Southeast Asian archaeology have lost a very serious and thought-provoking researcher.

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