

EDITORIAL: THE MELAKA PAPERS, VOLUME 5

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The 16th Congress of IPPA was co-organised with the Department of Museums and Antiquities (Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism, Malaysia), the Malaysian Archaeologists Association (Ikatan Ahli Arkeologi Malaysia) and the Melaka Museum Corporation. It was held in the Century Mahkota Hotel, Melaka, from 1st to 7th July 1998. Funding to support the attendance of delegates from developing countries was received from the Malaysian Ministry of Culture Arts and Tourism, the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the Asian Cultural Council, the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, the Japan Foundation (Kuala Lumpur) and Unesco (Asia Pacific Region). The within-Malaysia organisation was headed by IPPA Vice-President Adi Taha, assisted by his many colleagues in the above-mentioned co-organising Malaysian institutions.

Approximately 225 papers were presented at the conference, in 24 separate sessions, running concurrently three at a time in separate lecture rooms. The speakers represented 35 countries.

The major session titles, with their original convenors, have already been listed in previous issues of BIPPA and will not be repeated here. 3 sessions are published in this issue, number 5 in the Melaka series. These are:

Foragers and Farmers in the Japanese Islands (chaired by Mark Hudson),

The Emergence of the Early Historic States of Southeast Asia (chaired by Ian Glover), and

Pleistocene Archaeology in East Asia (chaired by Susan Keates)

The next two issues of BIPPA, numbers 22 and 23, will contain the remaining papers from the Melaka Congress. They will be published in 2002, prior to the Taiwan conference.

THE 17TH CONGRESS OF IPPA, ACADEMIA SINICA, TAIPEI, TAIWAN

The next Congress of IPPA will be held in TAIPEI, Taiwan, from 9 to 15 September 2002. Cooperating institutions will be the Institute of History and Philology at Academia Sinica, the Program for Southeast Asian Area Studies at Academia Sinica, the Department of Anthropology at National Taiwan University, the National Museum of Prehistory at Taitung, and the National Museum of Natural Sciences at Taichung. The schedule will allow 6 full days for papers, together with a mid-conference lo-

cal fieldtrip. A post-conference trip of 3 days to eastern and southeastern Taiwan will also be organised.

Accommodation and conference sessions will be in the Centre for Academic Activities on the Academia Sinica campus in Nankang, eastern Taipei. Accommodation costs are not yet finalised, but we hope to make them attractive. Costs of registration and tours will also be announced later. Intending delegates should be members of IPPA. Information on how to join IPPA is available in our website (and note that the URL has changed recently): <http://arts.anu.edu.au/arcworld/ippa/ippa.htm>

The sessions under preparation for this conference, with convenors in brackets, are as follows:

1. *Current Issues in the Pleistocene Peopling of Continental Asia* (Nicolas Rolland and Susan Keates)
2. *Settling the Islands: Human Settlement of the Indo-Pacific and Australasian Islands in the Pleistocene* (Susan Keates, Nicolas Rolland and Harry Widianto)
3. *The Human Use of Caves in the Indo-Pacific Region* (Graeme Barker, David Gilbertson and John Krigebaum)
4. *The Movius Line: Major Issues and Current Perspectives* (Nicolas Rolland)
5. *Human Response to Holocene Climate Fluctuations in South Asia and China* (Vasant Shinde)
6. *Implications of Climate Change and Human Landscape Modification for the Prehistory of Pacific Islands* (Julie Endicott-Taomia)
7. *Pre-Lapita in the Bismarcks and Papua New Guinea* (Matthew Leavesley)
8. *Austronesian Origins: Neolithic Interaction Spheres in Southeast China and Taiwan* (Barry Rolett)
9. *Current Research in Taiwan Archaeology* (Tsang Cheng-hwa and Lien Chao-mei)
10. *Trade in Austronesian Taiwan* (Bien Chiang)
11. *New Perspectives on Ryukyu Archaeology* (Richard Pearson and Hiroto Takamiya)
12. *Current Research in Chinese Archaeology* (Li Liu and Jing Zhichun)
13. *Cultural and Biological Adaptations During the "Missing Millennia": A Synthesis of Archaeological, Palaeoenvironmental and Osteological Data from 5000 to 2000 BC in Mainland Southeast Asia* (Joyce C. White and Michael F. Dega)
14. *Terra incognita? The Maturing of Archaeology in Thailand* (Chris King and Chureekamol Onsuwan)

15. *Thai Ceramic Studies – Current Research* (Judy Voelker)
16. *Archaeology in Cambodia* (Dougald O'Reilly)
17. *Archaeology in Vietnam* (Li Thi Lien and Judith Cameron)
18. *Archaeology in Myanmar* (John Miksic)
19. *Archaeology in Indonesia and the Philippines: The Later Phases* (Kyle Latinis)
20. *Archaeology in Southeast Asia: The Next Generation* (Lisa Kealhofer and Peter Grave)
21. *Origins, Development and Deployment of Indo-Pacific Maritime Technology* (Atholl Anderson)
22. *The Bay of Bengal Interaction Sphere from Prehistory to History: A New Framework for the Study of Indo-Southeast Asian Contacts* (Sunil Gupta and Ian Glover)
23. *Progress in Defining and Dating Early Human Impact in the Indo-Pacific Region* (John Flenley)
24. *Restoration and Reconstruction of Prehistoric Sites in East Polynesia: Problematics or Possibilities?* (Paul Wallin and Helene Martinsson-Wallin)
25. *Recent Archaeological Investigations in American Samoa* (Mike Carson)
26. *Micronesian Archaeology and Prehistory* (William S. Ayres)
27. *Making and Meaning of Pottery in the Indo-Pacific Region* (Leedom Lefferts)
28. *Culture Contact and Social Identity* (Ian Lilley)
29. *Cultural Resource Management in Southeast Asia* (Ho Chuan-kun and David Blundell)
30. *Archaeolinguistics in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Region* (Peter Bellwood)
31. *Genetic Analyses of Ancient and Modern Formosans* (Hsu Mu-tzu)
32. *Biological Anthropology in the Asia-Pacific Region* (Mark Oxenham and Chris King)

Details of speakers and titles already within the program are available in the IPPA website. As usual, this congress looks like being larger than any of our previous ones, a sign of the high level of activity within the disciplines covered by IPPA. The next task of the organisers is to raise funding and we are working on this now. And finally, please submit abstracts to IPPA by 30 June 2002.

OTHER NEWS

IPPA regrets to announce the recent passing away of Rhys Jones, a long-term member of IPPA and a major contributor to the prehistory of Australia and adjacent regions. The following notes on Rhys' life and career were provided by Peter Hiscock.

Rhys Maengwyn Jones was born at Bangor in north Wales on 26th February 1941 and grew up in Blaenau Ffestiniog exploring Medieval castles and megalithic monuments. Speaking Welsh as his first language, Rhys proved adept at languages, history, chemistry and physics in his schooling near Cardiff during the early 1950s. At the age of sixteen, an essay he wrote on the excavation of a Bronze Age mound in Wales won him a scholarship, and eventually Rhys enrolled in and obtained a degree in archaeology at Cambridge University. In 1963 he took up a position at the University of Sydney, where he completed his PhD. He was appointed to the Department of Prehistory (now Archaeology and Natural History) in the Research School of Pacific (now Pacific and Asian) Studies in ANU in 1969 and remained there until his recent retirement this year.

Rhys is perhaps best known for his remarkably subtle and powerful work in Tasmania, begun as his PhD research. He undertook research in many other regions, including western New South Wales (Mungo) and Arnhem Land. In recent years he vigorously pursued the accurate dating of human colonisation of Australia. His publications number in the hundreds, many of which were influential in driving the research goals of Australian archaeology. Rhys was always dynamic and enthusiastic, and his debate lively and insightful. His energy and love of research, together with his sense of fun, influenced many of us who had the pleasure to know him. Rhys leaves a void in Australian archaeology and will be greatly missed.

Rhys was present at our 1991 meeting in Yogyakarta and many will remember him from there.

As this bulletin goes to press, we might all wish to reflect on the value of cross-cultural understanding in the modern world of conflict and suspicion. Hopefully, IPPA can play some small role in this endeavour and we hope to see as many members as possible in Taipei next year.