**Bhutanese Tales of the Yeti**

ISBN 978-974-8496-87-0
WL Order Code 21 947
US$21.00

Bangkok 1997, 165 pp., 23 pp. illus., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Choden, Kunzang; *Bhutanese Tales of the Yeti*

A collection of twenty-two stories set in four different regions of Bhutan. Belief in the yeti is ubiquitous in the kingdoms of the Himalayas, where beliefs and attitudes related to it go beyond scientific judgment and analysis. The Bhutanese consider the yeti, or the migoi, to be an essential part of the backdrop of their existence. Believed to possess supernatural powers enabling it to become invisible at will, the yeti often manifests itself in a tangible form and then suddenly vanishes, leaving behind nothing but an unexpected void. Folklore about the abominable snowman has existed for centuries; however, with the far-reaching impact of the media, the perpetuation of this oral tradition is threatened. This collection of stories is an attempt to document a vital tradition before it is wiped out entirely.

**Folktales of Bhutan**

WL Order Code 21 668
US$18.00

Bangkok 1994, 219 pp., 37 pp. illus. text, 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Choden, Kunzang; *Folktales of Bhutan*

This first attempt of a Bhutanese to record in English the oral tradition of this kingdom has resulted in this collection of thirty-eight folktales and legends. The rugged and awesome terrain of Bhutan, which cherished a self-imposed isolation for centuries, and the people’s closeness to nature, together with their philosophy of karmic life cycles, an unquestioning belief in unseen spirits, ghosts and demons, and the creative genius of the storytellers has culminated in a remarkable repository of tales and legends, passed on and developed through generations.

**Burmese Palace Tales**

ISBN 978-974-8496-94-8
WL Order Code 21 937
US$18.00

Bangkok 1997, repr. from 1900; 139 pp., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Fielding-Hall, Harold; *Burmese Palace Tales*
Originally published in 1900 as *Palace Tales*, this book is an attempt to rescue from oblivion one phase of life in the Mandalay Palace in the times of the Burmese kings. The Burmese king and queen were sent into exile in India by the British occupation force in 1886, and memories of the old days under their rule started to fade. These stories are all founded upon tales told to the author. They are not history, nor are they intended to apply to any one king or queen. They are illustrations of the lighter side of life at the Mandalay court, of the amusements and trivialities of the palace. They represent the brighter moments in the record of a semi-civilized court whose more serious history consisted of plot and intrigue, violence and murder. But there was laughter in the palace as well as sorrow, sunshine as well as tears.

ISBN 978-974-7534-31-3
WL Order Code 22 165
US$16.00
Bangkok 2000, repr. from 1899; 153 pp., 13 pp. illus., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Fleeson, Katherine Neville;
*Laos Folklore of Northern Siam*

This book was originally published in 1899 when the northern and northeastern parts of present-day Thailand were still called Laos. This changed when Prince Damrong created the Thai nation state as well as a Thai identity. Hence, the French were only able to lay claim to the territory on the left bank of the Mekong. These folktales were part of the oral cultural tradition before the author, a missionary, undertook to preserve this cultural heritage, by recording many aspects of rural life in northern Siam.

WL Order Code 22 308
US$18.00
Bangkok 2002, 177 pp., 8 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Lewis, Paul W. & Bai Bibo;
*51 Hani Stories*

The first comprehensive overview of oral literature of the Hani ethnic group of China in English translation. Some 1.3 million Hani people live in Yunnan Province, in the extreme southwest of China. They speak a language which is in the Lolo-Burmese subgroup of the Tibeto-Burman family of languages. Roughly 10 percent of these Hani call themselves Akha and speak a related dialect, but they are considered as Hani by the People’s Republic of China. The stories here are taken from the Doinia (Luchun) dialect of Hani, as spoken in the Luchun and Honghe areas. The Hani people love to tell stories. These are told for purposes of entertainment, encouragement, and enlightenment.

WL Order Code 22 309
US$18.00
Bangkok 2002, 170 pp., 8 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Lewis, Paul W. & Bai Bibo;
*Hani Cultural Themes*

The culture of the 1.3 million Hani people living in the mountains of southern Yunnan Province in China is brought to light through the sharing of stories, proverbs, customs, and rituals that open windows of insight into the daily lives of these colorful people. Often called “mountain sculptors” because of the magnificent rice terraces they have created over the centuries, the Hani people are here described at a much deeper level than usual.

ISBN 978-974-480-017-6
WL Order Code 22 306
US$18.00
Bangkok 2002, 172 pp., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Lewis, Paul W.;
*Akha Oral Literature*

Presents the first comprehensive overview of oral literature of the Akha ethnic group of Southeast Asia in English translation. Included in this overview are stories and legends, the epic story of two brothers, the epic poem of creation, proverbs and an Akha lullaby. The Akha people, who live in China, Burma, Laos and Thailand, have a unique oral literature which has been handed down through time. The author started reducing the Akha oral literature to a written system in the 1950s and invested fifty years of research in recording the Akha oral tradition. This book presents an English translation of samples from this literature testifying to a rich storehouse of wisdom, fun and humor accumulated over the centuries by this unique ethnic group.
This work presents the first comprehensive overview of oral literature of the Lahu ethnic group in English. Today there are approx. 600,000 Lahu living in four nations: Yunnan (China), eastern Burma, northern Laos and northern Thailand. Their language is in the Yi (Lolo) branch of the Tibeto-Burman family of languages. The 49 Lahu stories presented in this book are translated from the 1939 Lahu Reader—Lahu Ka Pui Ka Lao, long out of print. These stories were collected and written down by the Reverend Ai Pun (Saya Ai Pun), himself a masterful storyteller, who was also very concerned about the production of good Lahu literature. His inspiration, dedication and wonderful sense of humor shine forth in this book.

This collection presents 27 folktales, fables and legends told by Burmese to their children. The magic of legends, the wisdom contained in ancient tales and the humor of fables captivate young and old alike. Besides providing good entertainment these stories reveal a lot about the daily life of the people who told them, about their inner-most beliefs and the eternal values of a people. What could be a better way to the heart of a culture than its ancient tales? We invite you to follow the path of the Burmese people.

This book presents stories of adventurous humans, bloodsucking demons, and righteous gods. The tales introduce readers to strange rituals, mysterious visitations, and magic incantations. They offer explanations for many animal traits, for natural disasters, and for the origin of various Thai proverbs. Based on an ancient oral tradition the tales deal with such archetypal themes as the helpful talking animal, paradise lost and regained, and the struggle between good and evil. Among more than fifty illustrations are depictions of a peculiar tiger-eating monster, a scheming water demon, and two lovely princesses with elephant noses. Also portrayed are the Fairy of Good Fortune; Phra Phrom, a Thai deity with four faces; and even the Buddha on his visits to Earth.

We carry a large section on Plants, Animals, Natural Healing and Ecology with special sections on Birds, Herpetology, Aquatic life, plant pests etc. See our web page whitelotusbooks.com.
and the resulting food customs and habits. This informative but also deeply personal book includes simple and easy to follow recipes of some typical dishes. It invites readers to try out the unique taste of Bhutanese foods. Color and black and white photographs bring the narratives to life with vivid depictions of Bhutanese food and society.

WL Order Code N 3553
US$32.00
Bangkok 2010, 200 pp., fully illus. in col., 190 x 245 mm, pbk.

Culloty, Dorothy & Kees Sprengers; Food from Northern Laos: The Boat Landing Cookbook

The little known cultures and cuisine of northern Laos are reflected in the recipes of its local ethnic groups and Luang Namtha Province’s premiere ecotourism lodge. Eighty-eight dishes from Lao, Khmu, Tai Dam, Tai Yuan, Tai Lue and Akha are presented in clear, simple recipes. The stunning photography of food preparation in village homes and at the Boat Landing Guest House and Restaurant ties the dishes to their indigenous setting. This unique cookbook includes: an illustrated glossary of ingredients and substitutions; a description of Lao preparation and cooking techniques; an explanation of traditional cooking equipment; a bibliography, including web links; and a comprehensive index in English, Lao transcription and Lao script.

ISBN 978-974-753-423-8
WL Order Code 22 223
US$23.00
Bangkok 2001, 290 pp., 16 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Nguyên Xuân Hiên; Glutinous-Rice-Eating Tradition in Vietnam and Elsewhere

This study presents, on a multi-disciplinary basis, the fabulous role of glutinous rice in day-to-day life as well as festivals and religious ceremonies. The author sums up his four decades of research and crosschecks with documents and eyewitnesses both past and present, and with polls, surveys, and interviews conducted recently. All these are supported by sayings, proverbs, lullabies, folksongs, and folktales from throughout Vietnam and, to some extent, in various neighboring countries where local people share with the Vietnamese their traditional ways of preparing multiple specialties, types of gruel, soups, porridges, cakes in endless kinds of shapes and colors, all with glutinous rice as the key ingredient. The Vietnamese bánh giầy is closely linked to the Japanese mochi, the Chinese nian gao, and the budbud in Mindanao (the Philippines), as well as the Indonesian lepper, the Vietnamese bánh tét, and the Thai khao tom khon. Moreover, the way to drink ruou cân in the Central Highlands (Vietnam) does not differ from the manner of the pangasi feast in Palawan (the Philippines). Diversity fades before unity, and a primary unifying factor in Southeast Asia is glutinous rice. Modernization and globalization in the new millennium cannot challenge the throne of this sacred food because only through offerings of glutinous rice can one communicate with gods and the Buddha.

Minorities

WL Order Code 22 560
US$22.00
Bangkok 2008, 196 pp., 48 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Goodman, Jim; Meet the Akhas

A comprehensive introduction to the Akha hill tribes of northern Thailand and their way of life, including a language section to enable you to talk to your hosts.

ISBN 978-974-480-032-9
WL Order Code 22 346
US$36.00
Bangkok 2003, 205 pp., 48 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Schliesinger, Joachim; Ethnic Groups of Laos, Vol. 1: Introduction and Overview

This contains reports of early French encounters with ethnic groups as well as more recent studies by professional anthropologists and linguists. The development of national classifications of ethnic groups by the Lao government is presented up to the latest census of 1995. All major ethnic groups are listed according to their languages. Finally, a short introduction to the history of the region as well as an
Overview of the environment, the agricultural economy, customs and practices of the diverse ethnic composition is outlined. Traditions and customs are portrayed by 169 color illustrations.

This volume outlines the 41 Mon-Khmer-speaking groups of Laos who belong to the Austro-Asiatic language family. The author describes the history, costumes and crafts, design of houses and villages, agricultural economy, society and religious practices of each individual group. The text is supported by 195 color illustrations.

This volume represents each of the 39 Tai-speaking as well as the two Miao-Yao-speaking and the single Austronesian-speaking groups in Laos. History, costumes and crafts, design of houses and villages, agricultural economy, society and religious practices of each individual group are described and 210 color illustrations are included.

This volume deals with each of the 10 Tibeto-Burman speaking as well as one Sinitic-speaking group. The text is accompanied by 127 color pictures and an ample bibliography is included.

This volume describes 38 non-Tai peoples residing in Thailand—the well known mountain dwelling hill tribes (Akha, Hmong, Htin, Khamu, Lahu, Lawa, Lisu, Mien, Pwo Karen, Sgaw Karen); lesser known northern peoples (Bisu, Blang, Haw, Kachin, Kayah, Kayaw, Kha Hor, Lamet, Mlabri, Mpi, Padong, Palaung, Pa-O, Parauk, Samtao) and northeastern and central lowlands (Bru, Cham, Chaobon, Chong, Gong, Kaleung, Kui, Mon, Seak, Sol Thavung). Lastly, there are the Semang and Sea Gypsies of southern Thailand and the Andaman Sea. These various ethnic groups are here classified by their language family and a description given of each one’s history, costume and crafts, houses and villages, agriculture and economy, society, ceremonies, myths and beliefs. All the groups are portrayed by 177 color illustrations taken by the author; an extensive bibliography for further reading is added.

This volume describes the diversity of lifestyles and cultures of the mountain peoples. Practically untouched by commercial development and modern attitudes, most of the tribespeople sustain their traditions. Their natural surroundings are occupied by spirits and genies. Village and house construction, agricultural activities, weddings, child births, sickness, death, and many more everyday situations are influenced by spiritual beliefs. This first volume introduces
the ethnography and classification of the hill tribe groups in Vietnam and presents a general overview of habitation, social structure, government policy, education, health care, swidden farming, opium cultivation, religion and traditional customs. 254

ISBN 978-974-8434-11-7
WL Order Code 22 002
US$33.00
Bangkok 1998, 216 pp., 72 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Schliesinger, Joachim; Hill Tribes of Vietnam, Vol. 2: Profiles of Existing Hill Tribe Groups
The book deals with the tribal customs and habits of all 50 mountain peoples living in Vietnam. This volume describes the history, costumes and crafts, design of houses and villages, agricultural activities and the economy, society and religious practices of each individual group. The variety of their traditions is shown in 229 illustrations.

ISBN 978-974-7534-47-4
WL Order Code 22 198
US$36.00
Bangkok 2001, 264 pp., 56 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Schliesinger, Joachim; Tai Groups of Thailand. Volume 1: Introduction and Overview
This first volume describes events in Thailand before the arrival of the Tai, and their history afterwards. It informs about the origin of the Tai race and shows the development of the ethnic Tai people in the context of the various Tai groups, their kingdoms, states and principalities in Asia in general, and in Thailand in particular. It also contains an extensive bibliography and 163 color illustrations.

ISBN 978-974-7534-48-1
WL Order Code 22 199
US$36.00
Bangkok 2001, 253 pp., 40 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Schliesinger, Joachim; Tai Groups of Thailand. Volume 2: Profile of the Existing Groups
This book sketches each of the 30 Tai-speaking groups residing in Thailand: the Thai people of central Thailand, the numerous Lao Isan people of northeastern Thailand, the well-known Lao, Lue, Yuan and Tai Yai of northern Thailand; it also describes the lesser known and smaller groups (Kaleung, Khorat Tai, Lao Ga, Lao Krang, Lao Lom or Tai Dan, Lao Ngaew, Lao Song, Lao Ti, Lao Wieng, Phuan, Phu Tai, Seak, Southern Thai, Tai Bueng, Tai Dam, Tai Gapong, Tai Khoen, Tai Mao, Tai Wang, Tai Ya, Tai Yong, Tai Yor, Tak Bai Thai, Yoy) that are scattered throughout Thailand. The groups are presented with their domestic history, costumes and crafts, design of houses and villages, activities in agriculture and economy, society and religion. The text is supported by 115 color illustrations.

Fiction - Novels

No ISBN
WL Order Code N 4086
US$17.00
London 2012, 143 pp., 130 x 200 mm, pbk

Umar, Mohammed; The Adventures of Jamil
The Pearl Islands are no stranger to catastrophe. When Jamil was a boy growing up on the Tatasi Peninsula, the twin tragedies – an earthquake and volcanic eruption – cut Tatasi off from the mainland, turning it into an island. Immediately afterward, a sea monster emerged and terrorized the trapped inhabitants. Jamil and his friends each dream of being the one to slay the monster, and freeing the islanders from their fear and uncertainty. But Jamil also dreams of finding the lost half of Tatasi’s Golden Key, said to safeguard the island from future natural disasters. The Adventures of Jamil tells the tale of this young man’s journey to fulfill his two dreams. Inventing a brilliant plan, he succeeds in defeating the sea monster. But the second dream proves much harder to attain. Nothing is straightforward, and years go by without success. Jamil’s quest for the other half of the key is full of twists and turns that leave him questioning his ultimate goal. Along the way, Jamil survives a shipwreck, crosses the desert, and fights chimeras before finally returning the key to his homeland.

We carry a selection of military topics, mostly antiquarian titles from wars in Vietnam. Also books on armor in historic times from other areas.
Novels in English by northern Nigerian writers are few, so the arrival of a new one is an exciting literary event. This dramatic story of the efforts of the heroine and her friends to bring about change in the social conditions of women in Nigeria addresses pressing political issues which rarely appear in fiction—the legal status of Muslim women, the limitations imposed on them by traditional and religious conventions, the restrictions on their economic activities, the effects of a corrupt patriarchal system on the society at large and women in particular, the humiliations visited on women as a result of unquestioned male power in personal relationships—from a women’s point of view. Ingeniously conceived and deftly written, this is a story about the emancipation of women in Nigeria from within. Not simply a social document, it engages the reader’s sympathy through its portrayal of the attractive and believable women after whom it is titled: Amina.

Other Topics

This book presents the complete history of the iconic monument of Aceh, Sumatra, a crucial symbol of Acehnese identity. We follow the Great Mosque (Masjid Beit ur-Rahmar) from its first incarnation four centuries ago during Aceh’s Golden Age, to the local response to colonialism in the 19th century, and the political struggles of recent decades. Aceh became a prominent center for Islamic learning and literature in the 16th century. A new and unique style of Islamic architecture arose during Aceh’s Golden Age, under the rule of Sultan Iskandar Muda. In the 19th century, colonial influence resulted in a Christian style, replacing the older tradition. However, over time, this was transformed by the Acehnese into a beautiful hypostyle mosque. In August 2005, Aceh signed a peace agreement ending the long and violent struggle for independence from Indonesia. Now Aceh is flourishing again, as in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Bouwsema-Raap’s reconstruction of the history of the mosque’s different phases takes us from Aceh’s position as the most powerful and wealthy state in the region and an international center of trade and Islamic learning, via the Dutch colonial period with its territorial aggression and curious cultural policies, through the first half-century of independent Indonesia, with the long-overdue return of decision-making power over the mosque to the Acehnese themselves.

The book is based on the author’s firsthand experience working for one of Bangkok’s largest gem trading companies. It documents the ruby trade in Burma, Thailand, and Vietnam. Called ma naw na ya in Burmese—“wish-fulfilling stones”—rubies are believed to grant their wearer’s wishes. Both the trader’s modern-day mysteries and age-old traditions are covered in this insider view.

This is the revised and expanded version of the successful 1998 book The Legend of Siamese Cats. While retaining the former volume’s core attraction of translations of the famous Thai Cat Book Poems from medieval times, this new book delves more deeply into Thai cats as they have progressed from then until the present day. Each major Thai breed—Siamese, Korat, Burmese and more—is covered extensively, including detailed genetic studies, their present status in Thailand and their history in the West. Special chapters have also been added on the cats’ relations with Thai royalty and the Buddhist priesthood, and various myths about these venerable institutions are confirmed or disproved. A new chapter on the wide application of Thai
cat bloodlines to develop western breeds well illustrates how Thailand is indeed a cat superpower. Finally, a new appendix reproduces the 1924 “Siamese Cat Register”.

**ISBN 978-974-7534-89-4**
WL Order Code 22 244
US$30.00
Bangkok 2001, 299 pp., 64 pp. illus. in col., 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Cohen, Erik; **The Chinese Vegetarian Festival in Phuket: Religion, Ethnicity and Tourism on a Southern Thai Island**

This vegetarian festival is the most popular and complex religious event in southern Thailand. In this richly illustrated work, Erik Cohen presents a detailed ethnography of the festival based on extended fieldwork conducted in the course of the 1990s. The focus of Cohen’s analysis is the interrelationship between the dynamics of the festival, Chinese ethnicity in contemporary Thailand and the development of tourism on the island of Phuket. The study shows that, though the festival expanded considerably in recent times and became increasingly spectacular, its fundamental structure manifests a surprising degree of continuity, even as its meaning increasingly changes from a devotional ritual to a public spectacle. Surprisingly, however, the growing popularity of the festival is due less to foreign tourism on the island, and more to a growing less of the festival for the Thai and foreign Chinese believers and visitors, in quest of an “authentic” Chinese festival which cannot be seen anymore even in contemporary China.

**ISBN 978-974-7534-11-5**
WL Order Code 22 232
US$27.00
Bangkok 2001, 231 pp., 10 pp. illus. in col., 4 maps, 150 x 210 mm, pbk.

Hägerdal, Hans; **Hindu Rulers, Muslim Subjects. Lombok and Bali in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries**

This research volume discusses a fascinating historical episode, the establishment of Balinese Hindu rule over the predominantly Muslim population of Lombok, concentrating on the years 1700-1748. Source materials are re-examined and further interesting information is provided as to what happened at the time, seen in a regional context, including ethnic and religious relationships as well as the cultural basis for legitimacy of leadership. The broader aspect of how a Hindu minority was able to rule a Muslim majority is of special interest, also in respect to its outcome. Deteriorating ethnic relationships in one part of the island led to a rebellion in 1891, thus paving the way for Dutch colonial conquest in 1894; the disruption caused by the arrival of the Dutch East Indies Company in the area in the late 1600s helped set the stage for the events here described. Another example of Hindu rulers governing a mainly Muslim population can be found in Kashmir.

**ISBN 978-974-480-103-6**
WL Order Code 22 518
US$42.00
Bangkok 2007, 132 pp., illus., 40 pp. illus. in col., 210 x 295 mm, pbk.

Reichart, Peter A. & Pathawee Khonkhunthian; **The Spirit Houses of Thailand**

This book provides a comprehensive overview of this custom, describing the different types of spirit houses in Thailand. It devotes one chapter to the worship of the Lord of the Land and what to offer him to keep him satisfied and in a good mood. The ceremony for installation of a spirit house is described, as well as what to do when one has to dispose of a spirit house. The Erawan shrine in Bangkok and the city pillars of some Thai cities are described, as well as spirit houses in neighboring countries. The book is richly illustrated with both black-and-white and color photographs showing the different styles of spirit houses around the country. The interested reader will get important background information and thus will understand the significance of the spirit house in present-day Thailand in much more detail.

**ISBN 978-974-88761-9-1**
WL Order Code 21 548
US$12.00
Bangkok 1992, 172 pp., 130 x 195 mm, pbk.

Walker, Dave & Richard S. Ehrlich; **Hello My Big Big Honey!**

Love letters to Bangkok Bar Girls and their revealing interviews. Collected and with introduction by D. Walker and R. S. Ehrlich. Prologue by Dr. Yos Santasombat. Glossary. Epilogue by Mrs. Pisamai Tantrakul. (French, German and Italian versions are also available.)
The Measured Art: A Proportional analysis of Early Khmer Sculpture

This book offers an innovative approach to interpreting early Khmer sculpture, presenting a proportional analysis in which measurements are taken directly from the images. In the absence of historical evidence about artistic practices in early Cambodia, this provides us with a new understanding of how the early Khmer sculptor calculated and manipulated the composition of his imagery. It further makes it possible to establish the first objective database for comparing the measurements of one form or image with another. The imagery, thereby, becomes actively involved in revealing its own historical narrative by clearly articulating in numerical terms how early Khmer sculpture changed over time. Although early Khmer sculpture is aesthetically unique, its proportional systems rely heavily on ancient Indian texts concerning iconometry, or proper proportions. Early Khmer sculpture does not deviate from these proportional systems over a period of nearly 200 years. Such evidence differs somewhat from the widely held opinion that the populations of Southeast Asia selectively adopted and then adapted Indian cultural traditions. Of special interest to scholars, curators, collectors, and dealers is the practical application of proportional analysis in dating and authenticating early Khmer sculpture.

Ethnic Groups of Cambodia, Introduction and Overview

This first of a comprehensive three-volume work provides a detailed account of the ethnic groups of Cambodia. All three volumes are lavishly illustrated in color and contain relevant references. The present volume looks first at the effect of historic events in Southeast Asia on ethnic distribution in Cambodia today. It then presents an overview of these ethnic groups and their linguistic classifications, cultures and traditions and geographic locations. The book also provides detailed population statistics from French colonial times to the latest Population Census of 2008. The text is supported by 91 color illustrations.

Ethnic Groups of Cambodia, Profile of Austro-Asiatic-Speaking Peoples

This second volume of a comprehensive three-volume work provides individual sketches of each of the 23 Mon-Khmer-speaking groups. The discussion includes historical backgrounds and descriptions of costumes, crafts, house and village designs, agriculture and economy, society, and religion. There are fascinating glimpses of remote and rarely seen ethnic groups and descriptions of rapidly disappearing traditions. Ninety-seven color illustrations provide portraits of these groups.

Ethnic Groups of Cambodia, Profile of Austro-Thai and Sinitic Speaking People

This third and final volume of a comprehensive three-volume work presents each of the three Austronesian- and ten Tai-speaking groups as well as the Chinese people of Cambodia. For each group, there is an outline history and descriptions...
of costumes, crafts, housing, agriculture, society, economy, and beliefs. The daily life of these people is revealed in 97 color illustrations. Further, the volume provides a comprehensive bibliography on ethnic matters that is relevant to all three volumes.

Laos

ISBN 978-974-480-182-1
WL Order Code 22 665
US$29.50
Bangkok 2012, 559 pp., 1 pp. illus., 1 fold map, 150 x 210 mm, pbk

Raquez, A.; Around Laos in 1900. A Photographer’s Adventures

This extensive report presents information on the daily life and livelihood of various groups of people in Laos. First published in 1902 as a travelogue around Upper, Central and Lower Laos, this book also includes an assessment by a Frenchman critical of development work already undertaken by the French colonial administration. Raquez was traveling with the chief administrator of a recently unified Laos and thus he was close enough to power to obtain information no other writer of the time managed to obtain. Contemporary personalities, colonial administrators and scholars pass before Raquez’s sharp eyes as do Laotian and Siamese personalities of the time. Besides presenting a number of straightforward pro-French political considerations on the Indochinese colony and its neighbor, Siam, the book also provides a multitude of facts about its natural setting, economic products, food, history, geography, legal system, customs and religions and about the life and struggles of various highland tribes.

ISBN 978-974-480-175-3
WL Order Code 22 659
US$22.50
Bangkok 2011, first English trans. of 1924; 192 pp., 23 pp. illus., 145 x 210 mm. pbk

Roux, Henri; The Akha and Phu Noi Minorities of Laos in the 1920s

This first English translation presents a wealth of data and a number of unique period photographs collected by a French military administrator of the area around Phongsaly, then the Fifth Military territory in northern Laos. It is fair to say that this is one of the rare views of the original condition of these tribal populations as the observations date from the early 1920s when very few Europeans had been in this area. The text systematically reviews all that there was to know about these people: origins, physical characteristics, dwellings, customs and sorcery, ceremonies and feasts, ownership and economics, social relations, legends, even the dream world and the significance of omens are discussed. The measurement, time and writing systems and a number of typical texts have also been included. Together with rare period photographs, not found elsewhere, this book also provides an ethnographic treasure trove for people interested in authentic textiles and the material cultures of these two groups.

ISBN 978-974-480-176-0
WL Order Code 22 650
US$23.25
Bangkok 2011, first English trans. of 1930; 144 pp., 72 pp. illus., 1 map, 150 x 210 mm, pbk

Renaud, Jean; Laos in the 1920s. The Gods, Monks and Mountains of Laos

This book presents data and a number of unique photographs in a near-pamphlet published in 1930 to attract investors and tourists to the fledgling French colony of Laos. The book also includes an assessment of development work done there by staunch colonialist Pierre Deloncle, and challenges for the future. In particular, early mining successes are discussed as an example of successful private initiative. The book is based on the travels of novelist Jean Renaud, in the company of Albert Sarraut, another scholar of Laos and Indochina; and also on published sources available at the time. Special attention is given to various proposed access roads to link Laos with the rest of Indochina and to access the wealth of the Plain of Jars. Besides a number of polemical arguments in favor of maintaining the colony, there are some salient facts about its natural setting, history, geography, and various highland tribes. The great importance and significance of religious superstitions and customary ceremonies are also discussed.

ARTS OF ASIA

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It is said that the contemporary Cambodian silk industry is centuries old and can be traced back to the 12th century courts of Angkor. The hand-woven ceremonial dress, the *sampot hol*, is even considered a national costume and provides the war-striken Cambodians great pride. However, little is known about how the ikat-weaving industry is economically organized, how many silk weavers produce ikat woven ceremonial dresses, where the silk yarn comes from, and who the main customers are. The ethnic identity of the silk weavers and traders is also something of a mystery. Although Khmer and Cham involvement in the Cambodian ikat-weaving industry has been documented, the ethnic Chinese dominance of both the production and trade of silks has been neglected so far. Making use of French colonial archives the author fills this gap and describes under what conditions Cantonese silk weavers and traders arrived in Cambodia at the end of the 19th century. Based on ethnographic fieldwork in Cambodia he also describes under what economic, political, and cultural conditions the once humble rural silk industry grew into a global network. This network is not in the hands of the ethnic Khmer, but is dominated by Sino-Khmer (Chinese Cambodians), descendents of the 19th century Cantonese immigrants.

Material Cultures of Southeast Asia No. 15

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Bangkok 2011, 111 pp., 21 pp. illus. 16 pp. in col., 1 map, 210 x 295 mm, pbk.

Horst, John Ter; Ikat Weaving and Ethnic Chinese Influences in Cambodia Studies in the Material Cultures of Southeast Asia No. 15

The book is an important study of the silk industry in Thailand. It provides a brief history of the industry and examines the role of the Thai government, private companies, and non-government organizations in promoting the industry. The authors study six villages that are integrated into the industry in different ways in regard to the significance of different aspects of sericulture, silk weaving, the selling of silk products, and especially in their use of different species of silk worms. There are 149 color plates that provide detailed illustrations of the silk industry in northeastern Thailand.

Village-based Silk Production in Transition, Northeast Thailand

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<td>WL Order Code 22 656</td>
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<td>US$39.50</td>
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Bangkok 2012, 175 pp., 73 pp. illus in col., 210 x 295 mm, pbk.

Patcharin Lapanun, Barbara Earth, Nit Tassniyom, Benjawan Narasaj, Patcharin Ruchuwararak & Southanome Keola; Village-Based Silk Production in Northeast Thailand Studies in the Material Cultures of Southeast Asia No. 16

The book is an important study of the silk industry in Thailand.

Textiles

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Bangkok 2012, 175 pp., 67 pp., illus. in col., 210 x 295 mm, pbk.

Michael C. Howard; Textiles Traditions in Contemporary Southeast Asia Studies in the Material Cultures of Southeast Asia No. 17 Series Editor : Michael C. Howard

Textile Traditions in Contemporary Southeast Asia includes eight chapters that examine different aspects of the cultural role of textiles in Southeast Asia today. The topics include the relationship between textiles and art with case studies of Tai peoples and Indonesian peoples, the revival of natural dyeing among the Palaung of northern Thailand, the influence of Christian missionaries in northern Thailand, the use of woven banners by Buddhists in northern Thailand and Laos, the secularization of lotus-stem weaving in Burma, the changing nature of textile production among the Phutai of Laos, and the use of mortuary blankets among the Kalinga of the Philippines. The chapters are accompanied by over 149 color plates.
This first English translation presents two travelogues of Belgian travelers around the turn of the twentieth century. First there is part of a world tour by Georges ‘Puck’ Chaudoir that covers an overland journey through the Nagaland Hills in present-day India, Burma and Siam to Bangkok in Thailand. Chaudoir was a former military man and in his world outlook and observations a tourist avant-la-lettre. He organized his own caravans, and struggled through areas mostly untraveled by Europeans in 1897. His photographs include both purchased professional work and his own action shots. In the second part, this book presents the vacation recollections of Émile Jottrand and his wife. Jottrand was at work in Siam as a legal adviser. On vacation in October 1900 he traveled to Saigon, Mytho, Phnom Penh and a few backwaters of the budding French Indochina colony. His main purpose was to visit Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom in the Siamese territory of Siem Reap and Battambang. Small sampans and ox carts could then only reach it. He reported from these small towns, which Siam would later see returned to Cambodia, and discussed French intrigues on the Siamese border. Nothing escaped his sharp observations and his liberal opinions clash violently with the idea of a colony as a workable vehicle for development. In Angkor Wat, then only visited by a hundred people or so each year, his descriptions and photographs of a temple complex in rubble and in the grips of vegetation, as well as the looting going on there, offer original insights.

Thai Popular Music is an analysis of luk krung, luk thung, phleng phuea chiwit, and Thai pop, forms of music played for both rural and urban audiences in Thailand. Luk thung is used also as a political tool, as rural Thais become more politically aware. Music plays an extremely important role in Thai society. This study gives a comprehensive overview of the development of Thai popular music since the 1930s and an in-depth look at the principal different musical styles. It also provides an analysis of popular music as a mirror of different social groups in Thai society. Translations and interpretations of a selection of seventy-seven representative songs are given. An annotated index of artists can serve as a basic dictionary, and an accompanying Youtube channel features performances of all the music discussed in the book. Further volumes on other aspects of Thai popular culture will follow.

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As a result of the emergence of the Angkorian Empire from the 9th to 13th centuries, there were many ancient agglomerate areas established over the huge territory under the influence of Angkor imperial power. The Kol and Phnom Rung areas have been identified as crucial ancient agglomerate areas along the royal road from Yashodharapura (the Angkor center) to the provincial town of Vimayapura (Phimai in today’s northeastern Thailand). Using new techniques in mapping, Samnag Kim has analyzed these two areas and drawn some interesting comparisons, showing that these two ancient sites were noticeably developed as crowded and large agglomerate areas influenced by a similar program of urbanization from the Angkor court.

Recently a long-lost account of the siege and sack of Ayutthaya in 1767 was rediscovered in Yangon. This book presents the first translation of this important document. The author of the document, Letwe Nawrahta, was a long-serving minister at the Burmese royal court and a prolific poet. His account, probably written immediately after the events, is in the form of a mawgun, a panegyric in verse. It has details on the Burmese armies and commanders, the routes marched, strategies for overcoming Ayutthaya’s defenses, and the distribution of spoils and rewards. Soe Thuzar Myint discusses this rare document in the context of Burmese literary traditions and the politics of Southeast Asia in the eighteenth century. She also provides a full account of Letwe Nawrahta’s life and works, and presents other poems on the Siam-Burma conflict. This book is a major contribution to the history of Southeast Asia in the eighteenth century.

The Mons were one of the first inhabitants of Southeast Asia but have become a “forgotten” people in the age of nation-states. This book is a selection of essays from the first-ever conference on Mon Studies, held in Bangkok. The essays by Mon and international scholars range from reinterpretations of archaeology through the transmission of literary texts to questions of identity and politics in the present day. This landmark volume is a major addition to the literature on Southeast Asia.

This book lists and illustrates 235 horticultural varieties and species of mainly Thai origin, many of them never described before. The plumeria of frangipani is a magnificent flowering tropical tree, unrivalled for its exquisite colors and fragrances. Written for the beginner as well as for the specialist, the book provides practical information on growing, flowering, and propagation (air layering, cuttings, grafting, and seeds) along with comprehensive botanical data, including Thai names. Also included is useful information on diseases and pest control. This book is intended to serve as
a guide to the identification of plumerias, with an emphasis on Thai varieties, while also being informative about other varieties in the United States and elsewhere.

ISBN 978-974-480-192-0
WL Order Code 22 007 (new)
US$18.50

Bangkok 2012, 361 pp., 145 x 210 mm, pbk.

Redmond, Mont; Wondering into Thai Culture

Wondering into Thai Culture explores many facets of the debate about culture, which can never be fairly resolved on Western terms alone. It examines many cultural issues from a Thai point of view. Newcomers and tourists will encounter nuggets of information and insight that may help make their stay in Thailand more interesting and enjoyable. Those who have lived here a few years already may profit from explanations of Thai behavior and attitudes that continue to baffle them. Long-term residents of the kingdom will find plenty of subject matter intended to provoke their laughter, tears, sneers, or even vehement agreement. People who have never come to Thailand, and possibly never will, might still want to know how it feels to have a wholly different outlook on life. And Thais too should read this book, if only as a first step on the path of self-knowledge that they, and all of us, must climb. A timeless work, first published as articles in The Nation newspaper and then printed as book and reprinted several times.

ISBN 978-974-480-189-0
WL Order Code 22 670
US$25.00

Bangkok 2012,

Schliesinger, Joachim; Elephants in Thailand Vol.3; White Elephants in Thailand and Neighboring Countries,

The book defines the “white elephant”, recounts the myths about white elephants in ancient Indian lore (the Jatakas) and their transmission to Southeast Asia, presents reports of early Western travelers on the white elephants stables in Siam and Burma, and finally gives an account of the royal white elephants in contemporary Thailand. The text is complemented by 110 illustrations.

WL Order Code 22 669
US$52.00

Bangkok 2012, 423 pp., illus. 17 pp. maps, 210 x 295 mm, pbk.

Doling, Tim; The Railways and Tramways of Việt Nam

The Railways and Tramways of Việt Nam is the result of two years of research and is the first in-depth English language history of Việt Nam’s rail and tram networks, from their inception to the present day. Drawing on both French and Vietnamese archival materials—many only recently made available to foreign researchers—and incorporating over 350 images and maps.
both in black-and-white and in colour, the book provides a unique insight into the development of rail transportation in French Indochina and the crucial role played by the railways during the First and Second Indochina Wars. Brining the story up to date, it also examines the development of the national railway network since reunification in 1975 and the Vietnamese government’s ambitious plans to transform the railway landscape by creating a modern and competitive main-line and urban rail network.

With its fascinating subject matter, *The Railways and Tramways of Việt Nam* will be of interest not only to railway enthusiasts, researchers and historians, but also to the average visitor to this captivating country. It will also be an essential tool for the “platform-end” rail fan, with appendices containing locomotive technical data, running numbers and depot allocations, a complete station/km listing for all operational Vietnamese railway lines and a directory of key contacts in the Vietnamese railway sector, including diesel depots and stabling points.

**ISBN 978-974-480-174-6**
**WL Order Code 22 658**
**US$**
**Bangkok 2012**

Ichiro, Kakizaki; *Rails of the Kingdom*

The History of Thai Railways is an outline of railway history in Thailand intended for general readers, summarizing the author’s previous research in transport in Thailand. It aims to present a general history of Thai railways from the latter half of the nineteenth century to the present, focusing on changes in railway policy and the transformation of railway transport in Thailand. Many maps, charts, and tables are offered as references, together with about 100 photographs. This book covers not only the development of an interregional rail network under the Royal Railway Department and its successor, State Railways of Thailand, but also the history of urban railways in Bangkok, including the elevated railway, the subway, and the airport access railway. The present situation and future prospects are also examined. Since a survey of relations between the railway and other means of transport, especially road transport, is crucial for understanding the history of railways, highway development in Thailand is also described. The book presents Thai railway history within the context of transportation in general in Thailand.

A comparison of Thai railways with neighboring countries’ railways in terms of network development, the transformation of transport, and modernization is also offered. The history of railway construction in each country in Southeast Asia is briefly described, as well as recent plans for building an international railway network in Southeast Asia and southern China. Through such comparisons, this book presents a brief history of railways throughout Southeast Asia.

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Colin Robert Mackay
*A History of Phuket and the Surrounding Region* is the first book to comprehensively examine the little-known history of the Phuket region. It incorporates over 1000 direct contemporary writings and quotes from commentators and visitors over the last 2,000 years. The book is divided into 38 chapters and is illustrated with over 100 maps, pictures and some previously unpublished photographs from a private Phuket collection. This fascinating story is written in a simple, entertaining style which will leave the reader with a much clearer understanding of why Phuket and its people are the way they are today.

This history summarizes the arrival of the first peoples to the region, its vital role in ancient east west maritime trade. There is a detailed account of the destruction and battles of the Burmese invasions of Phuket in 1785 and 1809. The boom in tin mining and the massed Chinese immigration it attracted. In the 20th century it recounts the rapid development of Phuket Town, the Japanese invasion and the local battles in WWII. Finally it examines Phuket’s post-war transformation into the global, almost jet-set, island it is today.

Koompong Noobangjong
*The Aesthetics of Power: Architecture, Identity, and Modernity from Siam to Thailand*

Diethard Ande
*Lao Postcards by A. Raquez*
A survey of the 166 postcards Raquez published at the turn of the 20th century.

Paul Chambers, Editor
*Knights of the Realm: Thailand’s Military and Police, Then and Now*
1. Khaki Veto Power: The Organization of Thailand’s Armed Forces, Napisa Waitoolkiat & Paul Chambers
2. A Short History of Military Influence in Thailand, Paul Chambers
3. A Brief History of the Thai Police, Eric Haanstad
4. A History of Police Reform in Thailand, Arisa Ratanapisri
5. Thailand’s Security Sector and the Southern Insurgency, Srisompob Jitpiromsri

Nong Quoc Binh and Michael C. Howard, Editors
*Cultural Revival and the Peoples of Ta Van Commune, Sa Pa, Northern Vietnam*

The chapters also discuss efforts to revive and sustain these traditions. Several of the chapters describe local festivals, musical instruments, and songs. Attention is also paid to the history of tourism in the area and to efforts to link cultural revival to economic development through tourism. The text is accompanied by 49 color photographs.

Dietrich Mahlo
*Early Coins of Myanmar (Burma)*
First to the Eleventh Century: Pyu, Mon and Arakan