



Asian Studies Notes

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASIAN STUDIES PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO

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亞細亞學研究

September 11 and Area Study

Thomas W. Burkman, Director of Asian Studies

The September 20 issue of the *Far Eastern Economic Review* carries these words: "Why America's Nightmare is Asia's too." Indeed, as the Financial District of New York City is in some respects part of a global economy, so the terrorist attack on September 11 was a global event. Fuji Bank occupied the 79th through 82nd floors of the South Tower, and twelve Japanese employees are among that company's missing. Nineteen other Japanese firms rented space in the World Trade Center. Two Japanese died aboard hijacked airplanes. Two PRC citizens

were killed when their plane smashed into the Pentagon. Twenty-seven citizens of the Republic of Korea are listed as missing in New York. No major nation was spared. Among the missing are citizens of Taiwan, Indonesia, Thailand, Pakistan, and Turkey. Our hearts fly the flags of persons of many cultures, religions, and nations who met with cruel fate on September 11.

What is the response most likely to diminish the threat of terrorism? Pacifists and militarists alike have been thrown into consternation by confrontation with an enemy that cannot be identified with a nation-state or an alliance, and comes from within our borders as well as without. Patience and prudence are required. Thankfully, American rhetoric - from the White House on down - is now moderate compared to the shrill tones of the first days. Students from China and India have told me they are impressed at how calm and civil is the behavior of the American people in the face of this offence. "In my country we would have had instant riots and deaths," said one. Defense of the homeland against clearly identified external and internal assailants is a legitimate right of the state. Revenge, however, is not. The spirit of revenge leads nations and their people to engage in overkill, to strike willy-nilly at anyone who looks like the enemy or shares the enemy's ethnicity and beliefs.

The people of the United States have shown their capacity to do just that. In the wake of the assassination of President William McKinley by Leon Czolgosz in Buffalo in September, 1901, Poles in several American cities were attacked indiscriminately. More glaring is the internment and plundering of Americans of Japanese ancestry in 1942, in the aftermath of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7. This epoch, in which 70,000 American citizens were deprived of their rights, was justified even by the US Supreme Court as a wartime necessity. No act of sabotage by
See **SEPTEMBER 11** p. 2

September 11- A View from Japan

I'm sure that many UB students and faculty are still shaken. Recently it seems as if US retaliation will occur any second, so I can only hope the decisions made are clear and well-considered. Tactics should require more tact than anything else.

For the first two days after the crashes, Japanese TV replayed the explosion and destruction of the towers every ten minutes. Commentators merely discussed the events and recycled street interviews from US networks. The only Japanese interviews I saw were by Japanese reporters speaking with Japanese living in New York and New Jersey.

I believe over twenty Japanese died directly from the tragedy. Two channels on TV this morning were still covering the aftermath, and had actual Japanese reporters conducting interviews in Pakistan with Pakistanis. Other reporters are still describing the damage in NYC. I think this
See **JAPAN** p. 6

Foisy to Receive 2001 Ryan Prize

André Foisy

University at Buffalo

Major: Anthropology/American studies

Winner of the Marleigh Grayer Ryan (Undergraduate) Student Prize 2001, for excellent student papers on Asia Entry.

Title: "Free Aceh Movement: A Nosological Problem"- Explains why Aceh seeks independence from Indonesia.

Why did you choose Indonesia for your paper?

F: I want to study culture and I think Southeast Asia is very interesting because it is different from America in many ways. Indonesia is the fourth largest country in the world and people in the West don't know much about it.

How did you write the paper?

F: I found out about Mobile and Exxon and how they were using Indonesian government money to basically kill Acehnese who were in the way of the progress of the oil interests. That really got me interested because there are a host of human rights abuses going on. I talked to an Acehnese who was studying at UB. I did research and tried to find out the things scholars study in the region.

Any support from UB?

F: My advisor, Professor Robert Denton, helped me. He studied in Malaysia. Professor Charles Frake was also helpful. He did his research in Southeast Asia.

How did you feel when you learned that you got the prize?

F: Great! I figured I was the only one who turned in a paper! I was in Thailand and I got an email from the selection committee. I am trying to go to grad school at Cornell, which is very hard to enter. So every scholarship and every prize will help.

You went to Thailand and Burma last summer. Your general impression of Asia?

F: People were very nice over there. Nobody in America really gives you that
See **FOISY** p. 4

SEPTEMBER 11 (cont. from p.1)

by a Japanese American was ever proven, and the United States Congress decades later issued a formal apology and token reparation. This historical shame makes patriotic comparisons of September 11 to December 7 dangerous. Are Americans capable of ethnic retaliation again? Individual cases of graffiti, verbal abuse, roughing, and a murder in New Mexico have been reported. Asians and Asian Americans who know their history are wary. Fortunately, President Bush and President Greiner have spoken out early and loud against guilt by association. Let us hope that America as a nation is wiser and more tolerant 59 years after Pearl Harbor. Like never before, the shame of Japanese American camps must be taught in every school curriculum. It is not just the defining story of Asian Americanness: it is a defining story of the excesses that our govern-

ment and people are capable of.

To think and act prudently and intelligently in the aftermath of September 11, one must know something about the culture of the terrorists and the history of their resentments. What beliefs, commitments, and issues move them? Why do they take offense at American policy, wealth, armed power, and lifestyles? What is their idea of peace, and what measures are they willing to take to secure it? It is a fact that UB has little Middle East studies or South Asia studies to speak of. The Asian Studies program focuses on East Asia with some attention to Southeast Asia - where Islam is a major religion. Students can take Arabic through the World Languages Institute, and World Civilization includes Islamic civilization. But in general, the little that UB graduates know about the worlds of the eastern Mediterranean, the Persian Gulf, and the Indian Ocean was not taught to them at UB. The College of Arts and

Sciences must give serious consideration to filling this gap in UB's curricular options.

September 11 and responses to it underscore the value of foreign area studies at the University at Buffalo, a world-class university whose international enrollment grew to 11 percent this fall. The administration has admirably supported Asian Studies, and has promised to do so in Asian American studies. Asian Studies is not just about Asia. It is about learning to function effectively, non-offensively, and charitably in the multi-cultured world of North American and beyond. It is about understanding why people of other traditions act as they do. And it is about formulating sensitive and effective responses. Compared to a citizen whose cultural education has been monochromatic, university graduates with area studies exposure should be better equipped to cope with terrorism and to create a civil world.

UB Center publishes handbooks for treatment of Asians with disabilities

Unbeknownst to many in the UB community, a center in the Department of Occupational Therapy is hard at work addressing the special circumstances of Asian individuals in the United States who need rehabilitation after injury or medical treatment. The Department's Center for International Rehabilitation Research Information and Exchange (CIRRIE) is publishing a series of booklets addressing the cultural context of specific Asian groups resident in the United States and providing guidelines for culture-sensitive rehabilitation procedures.

The first two booklets came off the presses this year: Priya E. Pinto and Napur Sahu, *Working with Persons with Disabilities: An Indian Perspective* and Gloria Zhang Liu, *Chinese Culture and Disability: Information for US Service Providers*. The volumes on Korea and the Philippines are expected before the end of this year, and subsequent volumes will deal with Vietnam and several non-Asian cultures. The series editor is John H. Stone, Professor of Occupational Therapy and Director of CIRRIE. The project is supported by a grant from the National Institute on

Disability and Rehabilitation Research of the US Department of Education.

Each booklet deals with culture-specific issues of immigration history; cultural-based concepts of disability; rehabilitation practices in the country of origin; communication between service providers and consumers; personality; the roles of family, community, and religion; gender issues; taboos; and diet. The writers are awake to cultural diversity among peoples with roots in the same foreign country. The booklets are primarily concerned with first-generation immigrants, but note that cultural factors can influence rehabilitation in subsequent generations. The authors inform service providers that a high level of Western education and integration into American community and professional life do not erase the powerful role that culture plays in issues of body and health.

The target audiences for the CIRRIE booklets are providers of services to persons with disabilities. It includes physical therapists, speech/language therapists, rehabilitation counselors, special education personnel, rehab doctors and nurses, mental health specialists, and community-based service providers. The booklets can be downloaded at no cost from the DIRRIE website (www.cirrie.buffalo.edu). Printed copies can be ordered at \$10 from UB's Center for Assistive Technology.

While the initial target audience is rehab workers in the US, Professor Stone reports interest in the subject matter in other countries with large immigrant populations such as Australia, Canada, and Western European countries. CIRRIE will hold an international conference on this topic in Washington DC in May. CIRRIE will be collaborating with the University of Hawaii on a project on rehabilitation services for Asians and Pacific Islanders with disabilities.

Through this series of publications, CIRRIE is addressing in a professional

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COMING (BACK)



75 people attended the Annual Asian Studies Picnic on September 16 at the Burkman's home in Grand Island.

Asian Studies Advisory Council 2001-2002

Burkman, Tom	Asian Studies Program
Burrows, Tom	Center for the Arts
Charles, D'Aniello	Lockwood Library
DesForges, Roger	History (Chair of the Council)
Engel, David**	Law
Feng, Ming	Modern Languages & Literature
French, Rebecca*	Law
Gao, Minglu	Art History
Hauser, Reine	College of Art and Sciences
Hong, Junhao	Communication
Long, Margherita*	Comparative Literature
Pangsapa, Piya*	Women's Studies
Park, Jungsoo*	Economics
Poon, Jessie	Geography
Rutenber, Timothy	International Education
Shimojo, Mitsuaki	Linguistics
Stinger, Charles*	College of Art & Sciences, Dean
Thomas, John*	Management
Tomita, Machiko	Occupational Therapy
Yu, Jiyuan	Philosophy

* new member

** spring 2002 only

UPCOMING SPEAKERS/PERFORMERS

► **Jin Hi Kim**, *komungo* virtuoso, will conduct master classes during a residence in the Department of Music October 9-11. She will give a public concert of Korean music on Thursday evening, October 11, at 8:00 in Baird Recital Hall. She is remember for her outstanding renditions on the *komungo*, a six-stringed zither, in Buffalo a year ago. Her performance on October 11 will also feature one of her creation, the electric *komungo*.

► Asia at Noon on October 12 (12:00-1:00, Park 280) will feature **Andrew X. Pham**, a Vietnamese-American writer and author of *Catfish and Mandala: A Two-Wheeled Voyage Through the Landscape and Memory of Vietnam*. Pham will also give a lecture and reading on October 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Screening Room (112) of CFA.

► The Poetry Reading by **Myung Mi Kim** was cancelled on September 12 and is rescheduled for November 2, 12 noon in 120 Capen. Professor Kim, of San Francisco State University, is an important voice in contemporary American poetry. Her work reflects her experience of childhood in Korea and her life as a Korean American. She is hosted by the UB Department of English.

► Professor **David. M. Engel** of the Law School will speak at Asia at Noon on November 2 (12:00-1:00, Park 280). His topic is "Injury Narratives: Law and Social Change in Thai-

land. Engel's commitment to Thai studies developed during his experience in the Peace Corps there and continued in the master's program in Southeast Asian Studies at the University of Michigan. In addition to his law teaching, Prof. Engel has served the university as Director of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy and chair of the Asian Studies Advisory Council. This event is co-sponsored by the Baldy Center.

FAST FACT

Asian Studies Courses on UBl earns

This fall, two of Asian Studies courses, *Culture and Arts of East Asia* (Instructor: Thomas Burkman) and *Asian Politics* (Instructor: Biungjin Han), are put on ublearns.buffalo.edu. The students' feedbacks are positive.

Top five sending countries to UB

Top five sending countries to UB during 2000-2001 are all from Asia. They are: China (522), India (465), South Korea (396), Taiwan (231), and Japan (198).

CORRECTION

Under KUDOS of September's Asian Studies Notes, we cited Jessie Poon as Assistant Professor at the Department of Geography. In actuality she was promoted to Associate Professor in September 2000. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Asia-Related Student Associations at UB

Asian American Student Union

Chinese Student Association

Chinese Graduate Student Association (Taiwan)

Chinese Graduate Student and Scholar Association

Filipino American Student Association

Indian Student Association

Indian Graduate Student Association

Japanese International Society

Korean Student Association

Korean Graduate Student Association

Korean Folk Art Club

Malaysian Student Association

Permiias (Indonesian) Student Association

Taiwanese Student Association

Thai International

Vietnamese Student Association

Alpha Kappa Delta Phi

Kappa Phi Lambda

Lambda Phi Epsilon

Pi Delta Psi

Sigma Psi Zeta

Contact information:

www.wings.buffalo.edu/asian/clubs

FOISY (cont. from page 1)

really nice feeling. Food was great; people there know how to eat better than Americans. Different ways of thinking about the world and religion. I felt my mind opening up. Difficulties? Not really. I wanted to practice my Thai, but people wanted to practice English on me.

You'll present your paper at the New York Conference on Asian Studies at Cornell. What do you expect from it?

F: I hope to meet some scholars there from anthropology and Asian studies departments. And of course I'll look in on the Anthropology Department at Cornell - let them know my face.

Have you heard of any Indonesian response after the September 11 tragedy?

F: The US government just gave President Megawati about \$130 million to use for the military and the police in Indonesia. That's kind of scary because the military and the police there run themselves without any restraints. They'll perpetrate human rights abuses, like what happens in Aceh.

What will you study in the future?

F: I want to learn about Southeast Asia - how things run there. I speak Thai a little bit and actually the country of my greatest interest is Burma. Burma is the most interesting country I've ever visited. But it's not very easy for people to go there because of the dictatorship and because of a lack of research support. I may end up studying in Thailand or Indonesia, or Malaysia. I would like to become an academic, or work for a NGO.

Any tip for winning a competition?

F: No passive voice! Uhhh, and work hard. My writing now is much better than before thanks to the paper.

Good luck, André!

CONFERENCES/ SEMINARS/ MEETINGS

■ **NYCAS 2001:** The annual meeting of the New York Conference on Asian Studies will take place at Cornell University October 25-27. For information and registration, go to www.einaudi.cornell.edu/eastAsia/events/NYCASWebAnnounce.html. UB persons needing transportation may contact the Asian Studies program.

■ **International Conference on Terrorism: Maintaining International Peace and Security in the 21st Century** (November 15-16, 2001): We invite papers and panel proposals from academicians and interested persons on the topic of terrorism: various theories as well as explanations of regional, national, and global perspectives of terrorism and its impact on international peace and security in the 21st century. Please forward proposals to: Professor Nazir A. Mughal (former Vice Chancellor, University of SIND, Pakistan), Department of History, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA 16444/ (814)732-3160, fax: (814)732-2118, E-mail: mughal@edinboro.edu. Deadline: October 12, 2001.

■ **Black and Asians: Encounters through Time and Space-An International Conference** (April 12-14, 2002): The *African American Studies Program* at Boston University invites proposals for individual papers and complete panels on all aspects of the global encounter of peoples of Asian and peoples of African descent from antiquity to the present. We seek to convene an interdisciplinary international assembly of scholars interested in exploring how the peoples of Africa and Asia and their Diaspora have interacted with each other and impacted the development of the modern world. We welcome proposals on all aspects of this historic encounter including presentations that explore the social and cultural construction of collective identities such as *Asian, Black, Japanese, and Indian* as well as those that examine the nature of interethnic, interracial, intercultural, and international exchanges among blacks and Asians. Requirements: a 250 word abstract and a current CV. To Ronald K. Richardson, Director, African American Studies, Boston University, 138 Mountfort Street, Brookline, MA. 02446. Deadline: October 15, 2001.

■ **Best chance to learn Chinese and visit Taiwan!** *King car Education Foundation* is planning an *English summer camp* in 2002. 10 American students majoring in Chinese or interested in Taiwanese culture needed to join the staff. What to do: English teaching (30 hours a week). Where: Taiwan. When: Summer 2002 (9 weeks). Free airplane tickets, one day off a week, city tour, last week travel to Taiwan or Shanghai, China). Contact: Carissa Cheng (carissa@kingcar.com.tw).

■ UB's College of Arts and Sciences has established a new category of "**Dissertation Fellowships**", beginning Spring 2002 (which consists of 35 fellowships for this academic year, \$4000 each, and non-renewable). It is intended for students in a crucial or final stage of the dissertation process. Application requirements: a summary of the dissertation project with a clear indication of how much has been completed and how much remains to be completed - a statement of how the funds would be used if the candidate wants funds for a particular purpose (equipment, travel, or the like); a letter from the dissertation director assessing the quality of the project and the student's progress to date towards the degree. Send to Jim Bono, Director of Graduate Studies, 546 Park, North Campus. Deadline: Wednesday, October 3.

■ **Contemplative Practice Fellowships:** Approximately ten fellowships are offered to support individual or collaborative research leading to the development of courses and teaching materials that integrate an awareness of contemplative practice. The fellowships are available to regular, full-time faculty members at academic institutions in the United States and are meant to provide support for developing curricula during a summer or non-teaching, sabbatical semester. The fellowship stipend of up to \$20,000 may be used for salary support and/or research expenses. There are no citizenship requirements and prior experience with contemplative practice is not required. Deadline: November 1, 2001.

More information: American Council of Learned Societies, Office of Fellowships and Grants, 228 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017-3398, 212-697-1505/ Fax: 212-949-8058. Web: <http://www.acls.org/conguide.htm>.

■ The **JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching)** Program: Sponsored by the Japanese government, the JET program invites over 1,300 American college graduates to share their language and culture with Japanese elementary and high school students. One year positions are available in schools and government offices throughout Japan. There are two different positions for the JET program: Assistant Language Teacher (ALT), who are engaged in language instruction primarily in junior and senior high schools, and Coordinator for International Relations (CIR), who are placed in offices of local governments or related organizations to assist in projects related to international activities. Requirements: US citizenship at the time of application (in order to apply from the US) and a Bachelor's degree by June, 2002. While the CIR position requires advanced proficiency in Japanese, Japanese language is NOT required for the Assistant Language Teacher position. **More information:** www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/jet. USA applicants only: www.embjapan.org/jet. The application deadline is December 5, 2001 for positions beginning in July, 2002.

■ The **Global Security and Cooperation Program** of the **Social Science Research Council:** 4 new funding opportunities for research and training on the underlying causes and conditions of conflict and insecurity. No citizenship or nationality requirements.

→ **Research Fellowship for Professionals Working in International Affairs:** Maximum award: \$38,000/year. Deadline: December 3, 2001.

→ **Postdoctoral Fellowships on Global Security and Cooperation:** Maximum award: \$38,000/year. Deadline: December 3, 2001.

→ **Dissertation Fellowships on Global Security and Cooperation:** Maximum award: \$19,000. Deadline: December 3, 2002.

→ **Grants for Research Collaboration in Conflict Zones:** Maximum award: \$12,000. Deadline: February 1, 2002.

More information: Global Security and Cooperation Program, Social Science Research Council, 810 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019 USA 212.377.2700 | 2727 fax. Email: gsc@ssrc.org. Web: www.ssrc.org.

■ The Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) announces **Fellowships for Advanced Multi-Country Research (2002-2003)**. There are eight awards of up to \$6,000 each, with up to an additional \$3,000 for travel. The program is open to US doctoral candidates and scholars who have already earned their PhD in fields in the humanities, social sciences, or allied natural sciences and wish to conduct research of regional significance. Fellowships require scholars to conduct research in more than one country, at least one of which hosts a participating American overseas research center. CAORC member centers to which fellows may affiliate include the American Research Institute in Turkey; the American Institute of Iranian Studies; the American Institute for Yemeni Studies; the American Institute of Indian Studies; the American Institute of Pakistan Studies; the American Institute of Bangladesh Studies; the American Institute for Sri Lankan Studies. Deadline: December 31, 2001.

More information: The Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), Multi-Country Program, Smithsonian Institution, NHB Room CE-123, MRC 178, 10th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20560-0178. Email: caorc@caorc.si.edu. Web: www.caorc.org/pages/Cpages/usiapp.htm.

■ **Korea Research Foundation (KRF)** offers support in the following categories: 1. Visiting Lectureship Program for Korean Studies, 2. Research Grant for Korean Studies, 3. Conference/Workshop/Seminar Grant for Korean Studies, 4. Journal Publication Subsidy Program. Deadline: October 31, 2001.

Online Application: Visit the KRF's homepage (www.krf.or.kr/koreanstudies) anytime between October 8 and 19, 2001, to fill out the application form (Form #4/HWP, MS_WORD). **Application by mail:** An original copy of completed application form (Form #4/HWP, MS_WORD), all the required additional documents, and one 3.5" diskette which contains a completed application form on Hangul or MS Word file.

More information: International Affairs Section, Korea Research Foundation, 304 Youmgok-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul 137-170, Korea, TEL: (822) 3460-5605 FAX: (822) 3460-5578. E-mail: korstudy@hero.krf.or.kr. Web: www.krf.or.kr/koreanstudies.

Asian Studies Calendar

October

- Oct. 11, Thu. 7:30 p.m. *Lecture and Reading. Andrew X. Pham*, Vietnamese-American author of *Catfish and Mandala*. CFA, Screening Room.
- Oct. 11, Thu. 8 p.m. *Jin Hi Kim*, Komungo Performance. Baird Recital Hall.
- Oct. 12, Fri. 12:00. *Asia at Noon. Andrew X. Pham*, Vietnamese-American author of *Catfish and Mandala*. Park 280.
- Oct. 25-27, *NYCAS 2001 "Knowing Asia."* Cornell University.

November

- Nov. 2, Fri. 12:00. *Asia at Noon. David M. Engel*, "Injury Narratives: Law and Social Change in Thailand." Park 280. Cosponsored by the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy.
- Nov. 16, Fri. 12:00. *Asia at Noon. Mark Selden* (Binghamton Univ.), "Nanjing Massacre." Park 280.
- Nov. 30, Fri. 12:00. *Asia at Noon. Paul Zarembka*, "Reflections on Marxism in China." Park 280.

JAPAN (cont. from p.1)

tragedy has effected Japan, but perhaps not as intensely as the European and North American nations. One positive sign is that Prime Minister Koizumi is quick to donate millions of dollars to the US "to combat terrorism," and a lot of people see this as a step up from the 11th hour aid provided during the Gulf War. But on the other hand, some argue that Japan isn't donating enough, or that Japan should do more than just throw currency at the problem. There is talk here of making the Constitution "more clear" in regards to Self-Defense Forces mobilization and weapons usage. We can only guess if any concrete changes are actually in store.

MORE NEWS

Chinese Student Association activities

CSA will hold general meetings on Tuesdays October 2 and 30, both at 10 p.m. in Fillmore 170. The Association will be sponsoring a Talent Show on November 17. Tryouts will be on October 8 and 10. For information: Publicity Coordinator Jin Huan (Ted) Chen: jinchen@acsu.buffalo.edu.



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