

Publishing Circumstances

All articles in *Publishing Circumstances*, some in more detail, are available on-line at "Trends in Books and Reading" (<http://www2.accu.or.jp/02/02-02/02.html>) of APPREB Internet Website (<http://www.accu.or.jp/appreb>).

Australia

The Impact of the Goods and Services Tax

In the financial year (2000/01) following the controversial introduction of the Goods and Services Tax, which imposed a tax on books for the first time, unit sales of books in Australia dropped by 19%, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Export sales fell too, by about the same percentage. The number of new titles published, just over half of which were educational books, showed a 13% decline. Publishers' profits were reduced by the massive margin of 40%—the worst affected being small and medium-sized publishers. The country's twenty largest publishers, nearly two-thirds of which are based in New South Wales, and nearly one-third in Victoria, generated 76% of the publishing industry turnover and were responsible for 72% of the books sold, yet they made 100% of total profits—none of the remaining publishers (more than 200 of them) made any profit at all.

Nearly 5,000 people, almost two-thirds of them women, work in publishing in Australia. Despite the alarming sales figures, the salaries of those working in the industry rose during 2000/01.

Cambodia

National Policy for Non-Formal Education (NFE)

To get good results of NFE in Cambodia, the royal government of Cambodia has developed a national NFE policy. This policy was signed by the Prime Minister on August 2002. It has 6 pages, in which the royal government defines the strategic policy as follows:

-Create opportunities for all people to have access to life long learning.

-Promote literacy and continuing education by creating a link to provide credit, jobs and vocational skills to make a happy livelihood possible.

-Provide regularly the information on vocational, scientific, and technical knowledge to all people.

The royal government pays attention to all people who have no access to formal education, especially women and girls living in rural, remote, mountainous, poverty-stricken, and integrated areas.

The national policy has encouraged the concerned ministries and institutions,

organizations, and local authorities to take part actively in supporting, implementing, and disseminating NFE.

The royal government regards NFE as part of the official education system, the same as formal education. The National Committee of Education for All has to promote the action plan; create partnership with the royal government agencies, national and international organizations, donors and private sectors; and develop relationships between formal and non-formal education programmes at all levels.

National and International Literacy Day

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MoEYS) annually celebrates National and International Literacy Day on 8 September. In 2002, the MoEYS celebrated Literacy Day at the Wat Phnom resort. This ceremony was attended by the deputy prime minister, ministers, the secretariat of state, the vice-governor of Phnom Penh municipality, all-level local authorities, directors of NGOs and international organizations, officials, students, literacy learners and people, in total 2,000 persons.

Before celebrating this ceremony, an examination on literacy: "Stop HIV/AIDS" was prepared for literates from all the provinces in Cambodia and from various organizations, in order to choose the best learners to receive awards on National and International Literacy Day.

After finishing the ceremony, there was a procession from Wat Phnom resort to the Independence Monument.

Through this ceremony, everyone in Cambodia would clearly understand NFE.

China

The New Regulations of Copyright

The new "Enforcement Regulations of Copyright" was made according to the new copyright law laid down by the 24th session of the Ninth National People's Congress Standing Committee. After amendment, the enforcement regulations were reduced from 56 articles to 38. The amendment is to enhance its operation and fulfil the promise by the Chinese government during the negotiations of the WTO (World Trade Organization) entrance.

After amendment, the Enforcement Regulations is of vital importance to every person's benefit and the open-door policy to the outside world of China. The Regulations were put into effect from the 15 September 2002.

Xinhua Bookstore to Carry Out Reform of Joint-Stock System

Recently, General Administration of News and Publication produced "Opinions on Reforms of Joint-Stock Xinhua Bookstores" in order to instruct Xinhua Bookstores to draw lessons from reforming experience from other national enterprises and establish a modern system of enterprises. "Opinions" put forward a general demand which suggests three steps.

First, China Distributing Group, experimental units including Jiansu Group, Guangdong Group, Sichuan Group, Shanghai Group and Groups of Distributing of other provinces constitute the first joint-stock units under reform.

Second, Xinhua Bookstores which did not meet the standard of limited-liability company, (capital 10,000,000 RMB and 5 initiators) should deepen its internal reform and gradually turning to a limited company and establish a modern system of enterprises. They ought to reform the joint-stock system after they have developed and conditions are favourable.

Third, Xinhua Bookstore under joint-stock reform should observe "Contract Law" and documents concerning management structure of corporations made by relative departments of the State Council and improve their management while they must operate normatively.

"Opinions" put forward some problems, to which attention should be paid during the reform of joint-stock system: to prevent loss of national capital, they should take practical measures; they should establish a management structure of normative corporations and enhance the leadership.

India

Book Fair at Jaipur

A national book fair organised by Rajasthan's (one of the northern Indian States) largest newspaper group, Rajasthan Patrika, in the first week of December 2002 at Jaipur (Capital of the State of Rajasthan) proved to be a runaway success. It exceeded all expectations as people in thousands came every day not only to see the fair but to buy books. What impressed the people was the fact that there were rich literary dishes for all—from the toddler trying to inch his way to the erudite scholar and even the housewife, who found books that could whet her appetite for knowledge. What added a touch of uniqueness was the congregation of writers and intellectuals like poet Baldev Bansi, Mridula Garg, and Rajendra Awathi, who all gave their own special touch of literary finesse which



Jaipur Book Fair, Rajasthan (India)



"Scarlet Red Hood", winning novel of Khatulistiwa Award (Indonesia)



10th International Quran Exhibition poster (Iran)

really helped to inculcate in the mind of the large variegated cavalcade of new book lovers a new interest in the magic of print.

Poonam Mehra, a housewife of Jaipur, was so impressed that she could not help but say, "I purchased story books for my kids and a cookery book for myself". It was beyond her expectation that a book fair could be arranged on such a grand scale. Sudhanshu Saini, an engineering student, said that there was everything one could ask for – books from cookery to astrology, vastu engineering and that perennial delight of readers, salacious fiction. Many publishers got the opportunity to display their books for the first time, thanks to the fair. An enterprising Hindi language publisher had on display novel laureate Amartya Sen's magnum opus. People also benefited intellectually from interacting in get-togethers, seminars etc. during the course of the fair. There were lively discussions in sync with today's world of glitz and glamour, and the organisers had arranged fashion shows, where luscious models ensured that with one eye on them, another on a book, the unwary onlookers would surely go home with a book.

Indonesia

Winner of Khatulistiwa Award 2001–2002

On 25 October 2002, in Jakarta, the winner of Khatulistiwa Award 2001–2002 was announced. Having gone through three stages of fair and democratic selection, involving altogether 35 literary evaluators, Remy Sylado, with his novel, *Kerudung Merah Kermizi* (Scarlet Red Hood), published by Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia (KPG), was proclaimed as the winner of this most prestigious literary award in Indonesia, entitling him to prize of Rp 50 million. In the last stage of the selection, Sylado defeated four other competitors, namely Ayu Utami with her novel, *Larung* (Float), Joko Pinurbo with his anthology of poems, *Pacar Kecilku* (My Little Girl Friend), Suparta Brata with his novel, *Saksi Mata* (Eye Witness), and Yanusa Nugraha with his collection of short stories, *Segulung Cerita Tua* (A Bundle of Old Stories). The Khatulistiwa Literary Award aims not only at supporting Indonesian writers by granting a large sum of money, but also at elevating Indonesian literature so that

it can stand together hand-in-hand with other contemporary literature all over the world.

Best Book Prizes Awarded by Yayasan Buku Utama

In November 2002, Yayasan Buku Utama awarded prizes for the best books published in 2000 and 2001. The winners of the award for titles published in 2000 were as follows: *Lurik: garis-garis bertuah* (Lurik: the magic lines) by Nian S. Djoemena, published by Djambatan; *Namaku Teweraut: sebuah roman antropologi dari rimba-rimba Asmat Papua*, (My Name is Teweraut: an anthropological romance from the Asmat forests in Papua) by Ani Sekarningsih, published by Yayasan Obor Indonesia; and *Kasuari dan Dara Mahkota* (The Cassowary and the Male Pigeon), a picture book written by Zaza Gambir, published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama. Among books published in 2001 the winners were the following titles: *Hal-hal yang tak terpikirkan tentang isu-isu keperempuanan dalam Islam* (Unthinkable Things about Feminist Issues in Islam), authored by Syafic Hasyim, published by Mizan; *Dari Batavia sampai ke Jakarta 1616-1999: peristiwa sejarah dari kebudayaan Betawi* (From Batavia to Jakarta 1616-1999: historical events from Betawi culture), an anthology of poems by Jeffri J. Alkatiri, published by Indonesia Tera; *Kadal Sawah* (Rice Field Lizards), a book for children by Adjis, published by PT Balai Pustaka; and *Sejarah Tuhan*, a work of translation by Zaimul Am from Karen Armstrong's *A History of God*, published by Mizan.

Iran

10th International Quran Exhibition

With the participation of 25 countries from across the world, the 10th International Quran Exhibition opened on 10 November 2002.

Various countries, including Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Pakistan, India, France, Italy, Russia, Turkey and Bosnia have participated in the exhibition. Several programmes such as competitions, screening of religious films, and seminars were also scheduled on the sideline of the exhibition.

More than 200 of the most precious art

works in the country were displayed. The Art Deputy for the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance said, "All works on display are from fields such as traditional and Islamic arts. In one of the sections, works by calligraphy masters and veteran artists are also being displayed."

Three art workshops for traditional arts, plasterwork—decoration with mirror, and velvet weaving are also open during the event. The traditional art workshop directly deals with Quranic learning.

Interest in Textbooks

According to *Tehran Times* dated 1 October 2002, more than 88% of the population are interested in textbooks and other books in general, while 12% do not read books at all.

The report said that about 73.7% of Iranians prefer to read only textbooks. Other popular subjects are novels, short stories and poems. Books on literature, history, psychology, art, social studies, politics and religion are also among the favorites. Qazvin (a central province) has the most book readers while Shiraz (a province in the south) has the fewest, the report concluded.

Japan

Publishing and Reading News in 2002

According to the publishing magazine *Shuppan News* third issue in December 2002, the top 10 news items in publishing and reading were as follows:

- 1) The initial print-run of *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (Japanese version) was an unheard-of 2.3 million copies. Thanks to the so-called "Hari-Pota phenomenon", the publishing industry has enjoyed increase of the total amount of sales momentarily.
- 2) Some organisations of authors or copyright holders argued on purchase of multiple copies of bestsellers by public libraries, with those who are concerned with libraries.
- 3) *Koe ni dashite yomitai Nihongo* (Japanese Texts Worth Reading Aloud) by Saito Takashi sold more than 1.4 million copies, and similar books have been published one after another. Books on Japanese language continued to boom.
- 4) A book on how to live well in old age,



Japanese version of "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" (Japan)



Children's Book Fair in the Gobi (Mongolia)



Saya Wun Tin Shwe Literary Award presented to Ohn Pe (right) (Myanmar)

- written by a 90-year-old doctor who is still active sold well, and many books to cheer up the aged were published.
- 5) Many books on the abductees who recently returned to Japan from North Korea were published, and magazines vigorously pursued this matter.
 - 6) The total number of schools which practise "Reading for 10 minutes in the morning" has exceeded 10,000. Several reading promotion movements which deem it important for children to become fond of reading in their early childhood have also been active.
 - 7) Periodicals which focus on one theme such as temples, flowers, streets, etc., and will be something like an encyclopedia of that topic when put together, continued to be launched and were popular, aiming for new readership.
 - 8) Active debate against some bills to control the activities of the media in order to protect personal information has sprung up in many fields of the publishing world.
 - 9) Nihon Shuppan Infra Centre was established to provide the publishing industry with an improved infrastructure of information which includes building a system to deliver books to readers quickly and reliably.
 - 10) The Kansai-kan, a new branch of the National Diet Library, a new facility serving as a "digital library" was opened. Together with the International Library of Children's Literature, the Diet Library provides new services for users.

Mongolia

Children's Book Fair in the Great Gobi

The children of the Gobi have written their letters to the travelling library and presented their request to have this very library to come to where they reside. Despite the heavy snow fall in Mongolia, the library had no other choice than to pave its way to the locations to answer the genuine request to children. So, the travelling library dependent on the winter conditions, had to overcome many difficulties and complications on its way, but could reach the Gobi and has organized there a festival of children's books.

During its travel through many soums (countries) of Dornogobi and Gobi-Sumber aimags, the travelling library managed to arrange and hold such many undertakings and measures as children's book readings, exhibitions, fairs, meetings of children's book writers, questions and answers contests on children's books, and competitions of children's poetry.

This children's book festivity was not only directed to the children alone, but also involved their parents through such training and seminar activities on the topic: "A good book facilitates the work of upbringing a child". The parents of the children in the Gobi areas have been expressing their gratitude and thanks to the travelling library for they have acquired a proper knowledge and understanding of what kinds of books there are to be selected and give in the children to read.

Thus the children of the Gobi country, who are constantly in bad need of good books, have expressed their delight having a rare chance to read the best masterpieces and books of the world written for children, starting from the great story-teller Andersen, saying the despite the cold outside they have really found internal warmth through the tasty reading of these wonderful books.

Myanmar

National Literary Awards for 2001

The National Literary Award Selection Committee of the Ministry of Information on 12 November 2002 announced the winners of the National Literary Awards for 2001.

The winners are Hsaung Win Lat in novel, Myohta Marahto in the collected short stories, Myinmu Maung Naing Moe in the collected poems, Pyinmana Maung Ni thin in children's literature, Ko Zaw Htay in youth literature, etc.

In recognition of the outstanding efforts to create Myanmar Literature for life, the Committee has chosen U Hla Kyaing, writer, age 82, as Life-long National Literary Award winner.

Saya Wun Tin Shwe Literary Awards

The ceremony to present prizes to the winners of the first Saya Wun Tin Shwe Literary Awards was held at the Myanmar Information and Communication Technology (MICT) Park in Yangon on 6 November 2002. The ceremony was attended by Chairman of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association (MWJA) and Central Executive Committee members, as well as winners and invited guests. The belles lettres award was presented to Pakokku O Ohn Pe and the general knowledge award to U Thein Khine.

The Saya Wun Tin Shwe Literary Awards were established to present literary awards under the patronage of the MWJA by the family members of the writer Sayawun Tin Shwe who had a strong attachment to literary tasks and performed literary services before his demise in 2001. Non-fiction books published in 2002 were invited to apply for the award to the committee.

Nepal

Education Programme

His Majesty's Government of Nepal has declared a 29-point education programme in the wake of nation-wide recurrent strikes called by the student wing of banned Maoists who have launched an armed struggle to overthrow the regime during the last six years. Most of the contents try to accommodate the demands put forth by the extremists to introduce pro-poor and equitable reforms in the education system.

The programme made public by the Education Ministry of HMG on 6 December 2002, promises free education to bring private schools into the ambit of the law, to make Sanskrit education optional, and the issuance of permanent permits to regular teachers guaranteeing the practice of their profession. The measures annul most of the decisions made by the former government elected by the people.

Starting from next academic session, the compulsory teaching of Sanskrit in schools has been made optional. It assures free education up to secondary level in government-aided community



Barbara Murison
(New Zealand)

schools for women, untouchable caste peoples and other "backward" tribes. Similarly, women, disabled and untouchable caste and poor students will be entitled to receive free education at all vocational trainings offered by the Council of Technical and Vocational Training (CTEVT).

The government will classify the private schools by prescribing specific standards and fix the fee structures as well. The directive requires the private schools to contribute a sum of 1.5% of their total income to the Rural Education Development Fund and provide five scholarships to the poor and "backward" class students.

The government has also promised to resolve the issue of legalizing the appointment of 14,000 teachers by next April. The government hopes to turn the educational institutions as "havens of peace free from political influence," stated the new Minister of Education Devi Prasad Ojha at a press conference on 6 December 2002.

New Zealand

2002 Betty Gilderdale Award for Service to Children's Literature

Barbara Murison of Wellington is the winner of the 2002 Betty Gilderdale Award. This award is given annually by the Children's Literature Foundation of New Zealand (CLFNZ) to recognise outstanding service to children's literature.

Recognised nationally as a powerful advocate for children's literature, Barbara Murison has worked as a librarian and bookseller. She has also been an Adviser to Schools, and has been President of the Wellington Children's Book Association. She is the publisher of 'Around the Bookshops', a professional development review of children's and young adult books for teachers and librarians, and also runs an assessment service to guide new writing projects for younger readers. She was a judge of the 2001 New Zealand Post Book Awards.

"Her influence on children's publishing and maintaining high standards has been very significant over a long period of time," said CLFNZ chairman, Wayne Mills of Auckland.

The Betty Gilderdale Award is named in honour of New Zealander Betty Gilderdale who is known internationally as an authority on New Zealand children's books. Previous winners include Auckland publishing consultant Graham Beattie and writers Dorothy Butler and Elsie Locke.

The Children's Literature Foundation of NZ Inc (less formally known as 'Sto-

rylines') is a national networking group for individuals, organisations and agencies in New Zealand concerned with children's literature and literacy. Its aim is to promote awareness of the value of books and reading for children and support the development of New Zealand children's literature (<http://www.cfnz.org.nz>, email: childlitnz@internet.org.nz).

Pakistan

Promotion of Books by Pakistani Writers through Purchase of Multiple Copies

The National Book Foundation (NBF) is successfully running highly innovative book promotional schemes, which are for the benefit of authors, publishers, booksellers, illustrators and the general public.

One of its schemes is the promotion of books written by Pakistani writers through purchase of multiple copies. The aim of the project is to encourage the authors and publishers by purchasing a multiple number of copies of the published books printed in a particular year.

Under this scheme, entries are invited from authors/publishers through national dailies. The entries are scrutinized by the in-house committee. The selected titles are then sent to the subject experts for evaluation and for final approval. The approved titles are then purchased from the authors/publishers. Each year 200 copies of 30 new titles in various disciplines at an average cost are purchased. These purchased copies are then distributed to national public libraries and are also donated to Pakistani Missions Abroad.

The scheme is highly beneficial to the masses. Through it, the NBF is trying to develop supplementary reading material and promote the reading habit.

Papua New Guinea

Bible in Local Vula'a Language

The Bible is being translated into the local Vula'a language, which is spoken in the Hood Point Area of Central Province. The translation is to be completed by 2005.

The translation was initiated by the General Secretary of the PNG Bible Society, Pastor Walo Aluralai, in 1991.

The project is locally funded and translated by local writers, checkers, coordinators and managers. The Project Chairman, Isu Aluvula, said 58,000 people, or about 40% of the population of the Central Province, will benefit.

Books Boost Study Needs

A Royal Australian Air force Hercules aircraft flew into Port Moresby to deliver 40,000 books collected by the children and staff of Spring gully Primary School in Sendigo, Melbourne, Australia. The Principal of Port Moresby International School told the Spring Gully Community about the desperate need for books when he returned to Bendigo, his hometown.

The School's Interact Club, a junior branch of Rotary, surveyed the schools' need for books and desks in rural areas near Port Moresby.

Philippines

Efficient Implementation of The National Book Development Board's (NBDB) Programmes and Projects

The NBDB resolved to continue establishing and strengthening relationship with partners and stakeholders for the efficient implementation of the agency's programs and projects.

Meetings are conducted with the private publishers and printers to share NBDB's directions and to identify collaborative undertakings with the private sector.

One of the major activities being conducted this last quarter in 2002 is entitled, "Booklatan sa Bayan: Unang Hirit Capiz Province." Capiz has been tapped to lead the NBDB's programme as it has the lowest literacy in the entire Western Visayas Region, with only one small bookstore, non-existence of provincial library, and existence of five obsolete municipal libraries.

The project aims to:

- a. Promote Filipino authorship and other creative activities in book development;
- b. Foster development of skills in book publishing;
- c. Promote the use of new technologies and indigenous materials;
- d. Establish an efficient distribution system for books in the country;
- e. Promote reading habits and push for implementation of laws on an effective nationwide system and reading centers.

The Integrated Book Development Programme of the NBDB for *Booklatan sa Bayan: Unang Hirit-Capiz* is divided into four phases, such as creative story writing, technical/vocational training programme, bookfairs, etc.

Institutional partners are the Senate of the Philippines, House of Representatives, Department of Education, Land Bank of the Philippines, Jollibee, GMA 7 and some selected schools.



Pongpol Adireksarn, Minister of Education, writing his list of favourite books on the communique of the campaign "Year of Reading and Learning Promotion" (Thailand)

Rep. of Korea

Youth's Reading Movement

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Korea has announced concrete plans for the "Youth's Reading Movement" on the occasion of the Korean Book Day (24 September) and the Month of Culture (October)". Youth is the period of life when one is most sensitive and most creative, and books one reads in this period could have decisive influence on his or her future. The Ministry of Culture and Tourism is about to give away book coupons to first graders of the middle school from mid-November to May next year with the aim of giving them a chance to read good books and to get familiar with them so that they will fall into a life-long habit of reading. 327,226 students from all over the republic, except Seoul, and six metropolitan cities, out of total 620,000 first graders of middle school in the whole nation will be given book coupons worth 5,000 won each (about US\$4.0). Each student who has received the coupon will be able to buy a book from among 196 book titles selected by the "Youth's Reading Movement Committee" consisting of figures from the art and cultural circles, the academic circles and organizations for youth.

Thailand

The Campaign "Year of Reading and Learning Promotion"

The Ministry of Education, Thailand has launched the national reading campaign with the theme of "Year of Reading and Learning Promotion" in order to celebrate HRH Princess Maha Chaki Sirindhorn's fourth-cycle birthday on 2 April 2003. In addition, it is the first year that the new curriculum, the Basic Education Curriculum B.E. 2544 (A.D. 2001) was used by all schools throughout the country.

The campaign aims at stimulating students, teachers, education administrators, parents and the public to be conscious of the importance of reading and learning as well as the development of teaching and learning quality.

Programmes focus on the integration of reading and learning promotion in 5 subject groups (namely, social studies,

religion and culture; Thai language; English; mathematics; and science) in schools, educational districts and at national level. 25 November 2002, the National Primary Day, was the beginning of programmes which can be treated as the announcement of the basic education management's intention.

Programmes comprised of reading and learning strategies, project works, reading promotion activities such as speech, essay writing and storytelling contests, reading camp, and reading corners, language skill contests as well as exhibitions, seminars, symposiums, and discussions, will be continually implemented throughout the year 2003.

Uzbekistan

Traditional Exhibition

The traditional exhibition, dedicated to the Independence Day of Uzbekistan, took place in the Center of Modern Art of Uzbekistan's Arts Academy. It was organized in the frame of the programmer, foreseeing organization of the annual thematic exhibitions on the eve of the national holiday, dedicated to the culture and art of one of the regions of the country. The art retrospective of the very south region of the Republic, Surkhandarya, the valley of legends, is shown in the exhibition of the present opening day. These are the archaeological subjects from the collection of the art institute, which were found during the excavations of the Site's of ancient settlements, Airtama, Dalverzin-tepe, Khalchayana, Kampir-tepe, Budracha and others that give people a vivid information about the ancient and medieval art of this mysterious country.

Viet Nam

Transitional Period of Publishing Scene

In December 2002, two important seminars were held in Hanoi concerning copyright and translated books, aiming to put publishing in Vietnam into order, as well as to create a chance for Vietnamese writers and translators to meet and discuss with international colleagues these issues which concern them.

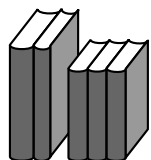
There are 44 Publishing Houses in Vietnam, and all are working mainly according to the market economy rule. In

2002, some figures regarding books were reported, for example the Women's Publishing House published 300 titles, Labour Publishing House, 180, National University of Hanoi, 415, the Literature Publishing House, 468, etc. But no one could know the total numbers of circulation and how many times a book was reprinted. Royalties are paid differently: from 10–14% of the price printed in the cover of the book, and to make sure that the publisher could make a profit, the circulation is 1,000 copies. Authors were hardly ever informed if their books were in the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th edition, since no one cares to pay them for these editions. And nobody publishes books only under their own name: all are involved in translating books or literary novels.

Also during 2002, few new novels were acclaimed or popular with readers. They were easily and quickly forgotten, and not only that, they haven't been mentioned in any reviews either. Most of the literary books and novels which were sold and read are collections of works written by the late famous writers from the past ten centuries, or mostly from the last century, such as collections of the writers Nguyen Tuan, or Nguyen Minh Chau. Besides, translated books are published by all the publishing houses in the country, i.e. 40% of the books published in the Literature Publishing House were translated books, and nearly the most of the other 60% were re-edited books. Unofficial reprints and sold for 50% of the sale price without legal punitive action result in a big loss for the publishers.

Some publishers have started thinking about electronic books, and are becoming involved in the world market with its international laws, such as the Kim Dong Publishing House. The two seminars spurred writers, publishers and translators to start a proper way of producing and controlling the market as well. Some bilateral contracts were signed between Vietnam and China, Vietnam and South Korea, Vietnam and Sweden, etc... The relationship between Vietnam and the United States is being continued with some bilateral publications, but very few have been published by the big publishers so far.

However, it will take time during this transitional period for the Vietnamese publishers to put everything on the right track, together with globalisation in general.



Outstanding New Books

Australia

Good Grub: Food for Healthy People and a Healthy Planet

Good Grub looks at the impact of food consumption and production on the health of humans and the environment. It describes the evolution of human nutrition, and examines issues such as food inequities, the current epidemic of obesity and diabetes, GM (genetically modified) foods and the impact of industrial agriculture on the sustainability of land and water systems. The book's message is that a sustainable, more equitable and healthier future depends on major changes in agricultural practices and in consumption habits.

Good Grub: Food for Healthy People and a Healthy Planet edited by Brian Furnass, Nature and Society Forum (GPO Box 11, Canberra, ACT), 255 pages, A\$20.00 (approx. US\$12), ISBN: 0-9585674-2-5

China

Criticism of Ten Famous Chinese Economists

This is composed by ten doctors of Nankai University, who call in question some of the academic views of ten famous Chinese economists: Wu Jinglian, Li Yining, Xiao Zhuoji, Lin Yifu, Zhang Weiyang, Fan Gang, Wen Tiejun, etc., with trenchant comment and argument and original personal idea.

Readers who are interested in a solution to Chinese economic problems, economic controversy, trends of economic policy, and the future of economic development, shouldn't miss this opportunity.

Zhong Guo Shi Wei Zhu Ming Jing Ji Xue Jia Pi Pang, Academia Press (Shanghai Publishing Bldg., 81 Qingzhou S. Rd., Shanghai), 2002, 322 pages, RMB20.00 (approx. US\$2.40), ISBN: 7-80668-322-4/F

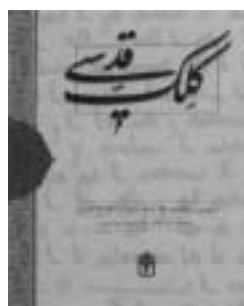
Indonesia

The New Horizon on the Javanese Civilization

With an introduction by Prof. Dr. Edi Sedyawati, this title is worthy to be paid close attention to by anyone who has interest in the history and cultural history of Indonesia. With scholarly assiduity and thoroughness of an archeologist, Supratigno Rahadjo, a lecturer at the archeology department in the Faculty of Cultural Sciences of the University of Indonesia, has joined thousand pieces of data, including trivialities about various aspects of daily life in the Ancient



Good Grub: Food for Healthy People and a Healthy Planet (Australia)



The Sacred Pen (Iran)



Technique of Interviewing (Japan)

Javanese Epoch, which other researchers may not be willing to touch. He remains to be an archeologist—neither an historian nor an anthropologist—who tries to reconstruct the cultural changes, firstly, from the viewpoint of the material culture. Its result is a form of a mosaic full of colours, assembling diverse data of seven centuries concerning the Ancient Javanese civilization.

Peradaban Jawa, Dinamika Pranata Politik, Agama, dan Ekonomi Jawa Kuna (Javanese Civilization, the Dynamics of the Political, Religious, and Economical Institutions in Ancient Java) by Supratigno Rahardjo, Komunitas Bambu (Jl. Arus No.10, Srengseng Sawah, Jakarta Selatan 12640, e-mail: komunitasbambu@columnist.com), in cooperation with Yayasan Adikarya IKAPI and The Ford Foundation, 2002, 160 x 240 mm, 616 pages

Iran

The Sacred Pen

This book has been written by different calligraphers in different Islamic shapes and styles, from the first time when the writers of the revelation began to write it with the permission of the Holy Prophet, according to his recitation, on palm leaves, stone tablets, leather, wood, and camel or sheep's shoulder bones, until this era when styles like Kufi, Thulth, Naskh, Muhaqqaq, Rayhan, Ruq'ee, and Ghubar underwent a great change and were perfecter according to certain rules.

The calligraphy of the Holy Quran was the reason for many local styles to be founded, like the *babari* style in India. Although this calligraphy can be considered the only reason for the existence of many Islamic geographical regions, however, the writing of the verses in many kinds of calligraphy provide their own features and characteristics in the development of the Holy Quran's calligraphy.

The Sacred Pen compiled by Kamal Haj Sayyed Javadi, Mehrab-e-Gharam, 2000, 189 pages, 250 x 345 mm, ISBN: 964-323-033-3

Japan

Technique of Interviewing

It is said that the contents and value of an interview are estimated by the way interview was conducted. In other words,

there may be an answer in a question.

The author of this book is highly appreciated to deepen and widen many interviews he did with new types of writers by his original method to develop the contents.

This is the book to discuss interview techniques with concrete examples taken from his experience. It consists of 3 chapters; how to prepare before an interview, how to actually conduct, summarize and write an interview, and how to enjoy reading an interview article. It is just an A-Z book in which people find all for an interview.

Interview-Jutsu by Nagae Akira, Kodansha Ltd. (2-12-21, Otowa, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo), 2002, 250 pages, 700 yen (approx. US\$5.80), ISBN: 4-06-149627-1

Mongolia

Stone Statues of the Mongols

This book is the first specialized work on the research of distinctive groups of stone statues, mainly spreading throughout the eastern regions of Mongolia. 69 unique stone statues have served as the base of the investigation.

Analysis of the attributes and iconography of these sculptures as well as the results of excavations of the mounds on which the statues were erected points to a construction date corresponding to the Mongolian empire of the 13th–14th centuries. In addition to being a solid work of archaeological research, the present work has made an important contribution to the fields of Mongolian ethnography, cultural anthropology and art history, by providing renewed identification of Mongol's accessories and decorative items in that period. These findings give us the opportunity to identify a new independent group among the stone statues of Eurasia.

Stone Statues of the Mongols (13th–14th century) by Dovdoin Bayar, Institute of Archaeology of the Academy of Sciences (Ulaanbaatar), 2002, 145 x 205 mm, 256 pages, US\$8.00, ISBN: 99929-5-629-1

Myanmar

The Wild Rose

This is a collection of short stories written by an educationist who is officially



Stone Statues of the Mongols (Mongolia)



Pro-poor Governance Assessment Nepal (Nepal)



A Sort of Conscience: The Wakefields (New Zealand)



The Soul of Song (Pakistan)



Adventures of Carançal, the Tiny Hero (Philippines)

involved with literacy and culture in the domain of national education. The author, who carries the pen name of Maung Han Win (Htantabin), is no other than the Chairman of the Myanmar Education Research Bureau, in the Ministry of Education. His short stories reflect the social setting of the different layers of Myanmar society of which his bureau is meeting the educational and intellectual needs in the sphere of non-formal education. His story creations based on his field experiences are studded with human touch episodes. He portrayed youths as wild roses.

The Wild Rose by Maung Han Win, 120 x 175 mm, 160 pages, Kyats400

Nepal

Pro-poor Governance Assessment Nepal

This publication of a research study in Nepali language tries to give a new orientation to economic and social development strategies in Nepal in the context of institutional failures to deliver the goods to the people as expected. It is the Nepali version of the English text *Pro-poor Governance Assessment Nepal* by Enabling State Programme Nepal (ESP), which gives a comprehensive understanding of the governance situation in Nepal with particular reference to poverty alleviation strategies. The ESP is an organization set up under the British Department of International Development (DFID) in Nepal and aims at supporting the efforts of the government, the private sector and civil society organizations to improve the condition of the poor people of Nepal.

The Report is categorized into 7 Chapters, namely, the Political System, Private Sector Development, Pro-poor Policies and Resources, Provision of Basic Services, Access to Justice and Personal Security, National Security and Conflict Prevention and Honest and Accountable Government. Assisted by profuse use of tables, charts and illustrations, the Report has sought to probe into all the principal sectors of public governance in order to pin-point anomalies and inconsistencies that have led to dismal performance of the past governments in Nepal.

Nepalma Garibmukhi Shasan: Ek Mulyankan (Pro-Poor Governance Assessment Nepal)

edited by Stephen J. Keeling, Enabling State Programme (ESP), 2002, 256 pages

New Zealand

A Sort of Conscience: The Wakefields

Edward Gibbon Wakefield, his brothers and other members of the family played a key though controversial role in the early British settlement of New Zealand, South Australia and Canada. Colonial politics from the 1830s to the 1850s in particular were undeniably influenced by this remarkable family, which was also responsible for the early colonial settlement of Wellington, Nelson and Canterbury.

This comprehensive multiple biography pulls together letters and historical documents to examine the role of the Wakefields in colonial development and self-government across the old Commonwealth. It follows the brothers' careers and also details the role of the Wakefield women. There are extended notes, and a lengthy bibliography for the scholar.

Philip Temple's extensive research spreads over more than one hundred years, from 1791 to 1879. It uncovers lies and stupidity, courage and vision, recklessness and ignorance as well as passion and compassion; tolerance and intolerance, success and tragedy.

Temple is an award-winning New Zealand author who has held the Burns Fellowship in Dunedin, the National Library Fellowship in Wellington, as well as the Katherine Mansfield Fellowship in Menton, France. He is a recognised expert in New Zealand colonial history.

A Sort of Conscience: The Wakefields by Philip Temple, Auckland University Press, University of Auckland (Private Bag 92019 Auckland), 245 x 170 mm, 584 pages, NZ\$60.00 (approx. US\$30.00), ISBN: 1-86940-276-6

Pacific Islands

Plants of Kiribati and Their Uses

This full-colour book describes the plants of Kiribati, an atoll nation astride the equator. Its clear pictures make the plants easily identifiable. Written in Kiribati and English, this book is a resource for botanists, students, and visitors to the islands. It could easily be used as a text in secondary school. Other atoll countries might use it as a model.

Itubaang: Plants of Kiribati and Their Uses by Erimeto Barako and Bwenawa Io, edited by Suzanne Jenkins and Michael Phillips, the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific (PO Box 43, Bairiki, Tarawa), 147 x 210 mm, 76 pages

Pakistan

The Soul of Song—Gulnar Begum

This book is an attempt to highlight the services rendered by the Pushtu music queen, Gulnar Begum.

Gulnar Begum was an illiterate lady and belonged to a religious family of Bannu. However her tremendous talent and innovative singing established her on the horizon of music and made her the idol of millions of people. Gulnar Begum, the pride of NWFP (North West Frontier Province of Pakistan), who is also considered the pride of Pushtu civilization and culture, is credited with singing many golden and melodious songs for Pushtu films and earned great respect and honour for twenty years. Sayyal has given a complete sketch of facts regarding her by interviewing certain personalities who were associated with her in the field of music.

Sayyal gives a complete life history of Gulnar Begum in his book. Her real name was Sheena and Gulnar Begum was her professional name. She was born in 1942 in the Mohmand tribe of Khwzakhela at Peshawar but spent her whole life in Bannu. Her father's name was Gul Muhammad. She was married to Ubaid Ullah Jan.

She was also a famous singer and a stage dancer at one time. Establishing her name in folk singing, she represented the folk dynasty in the history of Pushtu music. During her life and even after her death, many singers tried their best to adopt her style but nobody was able to reach her level of excellence.

Gulnar Begum proved herself as a legend in all spheres of Pushtu music, including classical music as well as ghazal singing. She sang ghazals exceptionally well and sang many popular ghazals of famous Pushtu poets.

Da Sandery Rooh by Ghazi Sayyal, Pushtu Adabi Tolana Bannu, 2000, 584 x 914 mm, 232 pages, US\$1.66



The Amazing Beauty of the Korean Garden (Rep. of Korea)



Technical Terms in Sinhala (Sri Lanka)



Probability (Thailand)



Literature on Soldiers (Viet Nam)

Philippines

Adventures of Carancal, the Tiny Hero

Carancal can finish a pot of rice, a cauldron of viand, a whole watermelon, and would sometimes even have three bunches of bananas for dessert. But surprisingly, it seems he never gets full and remains as tall as the span of a hand! Watch out for Carancal's amazing adventures in this exciting series.

Adventures of Carancal, the Tiny Hero by Rene O. Villanueva, illustrated by Kora Dandan-Albano, Lampara Publishing House, Inc. (83 Sgt. E. Rivera St., San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City, 1115, phone: (63) 2 367-6237, fax: (63) 2 367-6237, e-mail: lampara@yahoo.com), 2002, 203 x 229 mm, 32 pages, US\$1.15, ISBN: 971-518-012-4

Rep. of Korea

The Amazing Beauty of the Korean Garden

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism announces every year the "Books recommended by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism". This year, 101 book titles were selected from among 2,529 nominated titles. The selecting committee members chose excellent books which are cultural and future-oriented and could contribute to the development of the publishing and reading culture. This book is one of the 101 selected titles.

While the Chinese garden is characterized by its scale and the Japanese garden by its delicacy, the Korean garden might look shabby and clumsy. However, the author of this book is strongly against this opinion. He maintains that the Korean traditional garden is not merely an art object but also a living place expressing human desire and its mental world by symbolism. In his book, the author examines the philosophy which was taken into consideration when gardens were about to be created in Korea and explains features and beauty of 20 traditional Korean gardens of his selection with various pictures. People can understand the old Korean mind of becoming one with nature through it.

Hanguk eui jeongwon (The Amazing Beauty of the Korean Garden) by Heo Gyun, Dan World, 2002, 167 x 210 mm, 300 pages, 18,000 won (approx. US\$15), ISBN: 89-7766-033-5

Sri Lanka

Technical Terms in Sinhala

Aelian de Silva presently practices as a Chartered Consulting Engineer. The use of Sinhala in technology is his special interest. Research in that field has enabled him to evolve a system by which technical terms could be effectively expressed in Sinhala, whose process is comprehensively described in this book. He holds a B. Science Engineering Degree from the University of London and later became a Fellow of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, London and Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Sri Lanka.

It is evident from both the rich and highly instructive commentary and the actual Sinhala equivalents for English words that it requires a mastery over the subject matter (engineering), a profound knowledge of the language (Sinhala) and a thorough understanding of the culture of the people to construct Sinhala words which adequately express ideas, are flexible in their versatility and elegant in their use.

Curiously, terms coined by Aelian de Silva in this book are closer to the English form than are the Sanskrit forms e.g., 'osale' for oscillate, 'govunurai' for govern, 'innatiya' for inertia and 'inan-avai' for instruct. There are two instructions; the first being that in coining words one must go to the verbs relating to those concepts. When one thinks of computers, one must begin with 'compute' for it is from verb roots that in Sinhala (unlike in English) one derives many other parts of speech, adding letters at the beginning or at the end. The book illustrates how to use the verb 'compute' (pirigani), to get 'computer' (piriganinaya), 'computerisation' (priganavuma) and so forth. This immediately gets rid of the gross 'eka' and 'karanava' so vulgarly common among the uninstructed.

Technical Terms in Sinhala by Aelian de Silva, Modern Book Company (198, High Level Road, Nugegoda), 2002, 346 pages, LKR 450.00, ISBN: 955-558-083-9

Thailand

Probability

The Southeast Asia (S.E.A.) Write Award is one of the premier and longest estab-

lished literary awards in Southeast Asia.

In 2002, the Thai S.E.A. Write Award focused on short stories, and the award was given to a short story collection *Khvam Na Ja Pen* (Probability) written by Prabda Yoon. This book is chosen from 59 entries and illustrates everyday life in entertaining stories about missing buttons, death, the media's tendency to exaggerate, traffic jams, and absurdity in advertising. In fact, those stories are satires of Thai society but written with a sense of humour. It is also distinctive in its innovative techniques and ideas as well as exhibiting wordplay which reflects the wealth of the country's cultural roots. This book is a bestseller, going through its 11th reprint before receiving the Award.

Prabda Yoon was born in 1973 in Bangkok, and went to study in the USA when he was 14 years old. He received the Bachelor of Fine Arts from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Art and Sciences, New York City in 1997. Since 1999, he has been working as a writer for several leading Thai language magazines. His creative works are comprised of short story collections, essays, film criticism, and a film script.

Khvam Na Ja Pen by Prabda Yoon, Sudsubda Publishing House, 2001 (16th edition), 115 x 185 mm, 201 pages, 125 Baht (approx. US\$ 3.0), ISBN: 974-7754-09-6

Viet Nam

Literature on Soldiers

In this collection of essays about Vietnamese veteran-writers and their writings on Vietnamese soldiers during the past two resistances (anti-French colonialism 1945-1954 and the American-Vietnam war 1964-1975), Ngo Thao, as a veteran-writer himself, a journalist and an art critic, gives the readers a reliable, firm, loyal and objective understanding of the literary aspect of this important period in Vietnam's history. The writers' portraits and the typical excerpts were skillfully selected with insight, helping the author to win a National Prize for Literary Critics in 2002 given by the Vietnam Association of Writers.

Van hoc ve nguoi linh by Ngo Thao, Vietnamese People's Army Publishing House, 145 x 205 mm, 380 pages, VND34,500 (approx. US\$2.30)

GATHERINGS

Date	Title	Country (City) Organisers	Content
2002 Oct. 28 –Nov. 6	10th Book Week	Iran	During the week entitled “Book, Industry, and Labour”, the opening of the Reserve Bank of Cultural Products and Books (RBCPB), exhibitions of books, cultural/industrial competitions, promoting book reading in factories, and other programmes were held throughout the country.
Nov. 23 –24	College Textbook Writing Seminar Workshop	Philippines National Book Development Board (NBDB)	NBDB sponsored the college textbook writing seminar-workshop at the Angeles University Foundation, Angeles City. The participants were selected to be partners in propagating and cultivating NBDB’s visions that Filipino authorship is both a lucrative and rewarding venture.
Nov.	Writing Workshop	Marshall Islands (Majuro)	In this workshop organized by the Institute of Pacific Studies of the University of the South Pacific and the University of the South Pacific Centre in Marshall Islands, Marshall Islander writers will contribute their chapters to a book on Marshallese life (culture, development, government, history) to be published in 2003.
Dec. 6	National Literary Awards	Myanmar (Yangon)	National Literary Awards together with a lifelong achievement award for literature were presented at a ceremony held at the National Theatre and attended by senior state officials.
2003 Jan. 10	Report Submission	Nepal Ministry of Information and Communication (MOIC)	The three-man task force formed by the Government of Nepal to study the condition of electronic media submitted its recommendations to the Information and Communication Minister at a ceremony held at MOIC secretariat. The Report focuses on licensing of air waves, ownership and investment in the broadcast media sector.
Jan. 25 –Mar. 29	Training Course on Editing of Translation Work	Thailand (Bangkok) Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University	The purpose of this course is to provide participants with the knowledge of translation theory and principle, editing technique, editors’ responsibilities and necessary laws. It is a 50-hour training course held every Sunday during the term. Contact: Department of Western Languages, Faculty of Arts, phone: (66) 2282-1816
Feb.24	37th Japan Book Design Concours	Japan (Tokyo) Japan Book Publishers Association and others	This concours is held to promote improvements in publishing, design, printing and binding, and also stimulates readers’ appreciation of the bookmaking art. The best and most attractively designed books in 12 categories are to be selected. Winning works will be exhibited at Tokyo International Book Fair 2003.
Mar. 8	Poems on the Vine 2003	New Zealand Poetry Wairarapa	This event in which leading New Zealand poets participate is to be held at the Gladstone Vineyard Café near Carterton. Contact: Laura Heard, e-mail: lheard@clear.net.nz
Mar. 27 –Apr. 7	Bangkok International Book Fair	Thailand (Bangkok) Publishers and Booksellers Association of Thailand (PUBAT)	During the fair, international forums on themes including “reading promotion” and “copyright” are to be held. Contact: PUBAT, e-mail: pubat@inet.co.th, http://www.bangkokibf.com/
Apr.	Asia International Book Fair (AIBF) and International Library Expo (ILE)	Singapore	AIBF/ILE is to provide Asian book and library professionals with the opportunities to network with business contacts at international level, conduct rights business, obtain the latest products and services, and view the latest technologies. Contact: http://www.aibf.com.sg
Apr. 22 –24	Book Conference 2003	Australia (Cairns)	This conference will address a range of critically important themes relating to the future of the book, as well as its past and the state of the book industry, books and reading today. Themes: An Enduring Information Architecture, New Technologies of the Book, Transforming the Book Business, and Changing the Work of the Writer. Contact: http://book-conference.com
Apr. 24 –27	Tokyo International Book Fair (TIBF) 2003	Japan (Tokyo) Japan Book Publishers Association and others	TIBF is the gateway to the world’s second largest publishing market, Japan. 6 specialized fairs are concurrently held with TIBF 2003, such as Children’s Book Fair, Editorial Production Fair, Digital Publishing Fair, etc. TIBF 2002 welcomed 541 exhibitors from 28 countries and attracted 42,565 visitors. Contact: http://web.reedexpo.co.jp/tibf/english
Aug. 21 –22	2003 APPA Annual General Assembly	India (New Delhi)	2003 Asian Pacific Publishers Association (APPA) Annual General Assembly and APPA Publishing forum will be hosted by Federation of Indian Publishers (FIP).
Sep.	Colombo International Book Fair	Sri Lanka (Colombo)	The 2003 Colombo International Book Fair will be held in connection with the literary month, September, when many book exhibitions and fairs are held every year.
Oct.	International Congress	Iran	International Congress of “Seda-ye Pa-ye Ab” (Foot Step of Water) will be held to commemorate the 75th birth anniversary of contemporary poet and painter, Sohrab Sepehri. Contact: e-mail: info@sohrab-sepehri.org , http://www.sohrab-sepehri.org