



# *l'Agenda de l'EFEO*

Lettre d'information mensuelle de l'École française d'Extrême-Orient  
Monthly Newsletter of the French School of Asian Studies

**February 2010**

## **Editorial**

The third annual General Meeting of the members and associate members of the *European Consortium for Asian Field Study* (ECAAF) was held on Saturday, January 9, in Hamburg, hosted by the Asien Afrika Institut of the University of Hamburg. Previous annual General Meetings had been held in Pondicherry (hosted by the EFEO Center) in 2009 and London (hosted by the British Academy) in 2008. The General Meeting, presided over by Franciscus Verellen, ratified the proposal of the Steering Committee, which had met on January 8, to leave the contributions from members to the general budget for 2010-2011 unchanged from those for the year 2009-2010. Among other matters taken up during the General Meeting was the launch on 1 January 2010 of the project on Integrating and Developing European Asian Studies (IDEAS), financed by the Seventh Framework Program FP7 (PCRD7) (cf. our Editorial in the January 2010 *Newsletter*). The General Meeting also approved the request from the prestigious Waseda University (Tokyo) to become an associate member of the ECAAF Consortium, which now has thirteen associate members (located outside the European Union) alongside thirty two members located in ten nations within the European Union ([www.ecafconsortium.com](http://www.ecafconsortium.com)). It was decided that the next semi-annual meeting of the Steering Committee would take place in Prague, in July 2010, at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic. The annual General Meeting will be called during January of 2011 and will be hosted by the Istituto Italiano per l'Africa e l'Oriente (IsIAO) in Rome.

**We take this opportunity to wish all readers of  
the *Newsletter* a prosperous and happy  
new lunar year of the Tiger.**

## **In Memoriam**

It is with deep sorrow that we report the sudden demise of Pandit T. S. Gangadharan (also known as Saminatha-Gangadharan), who has worked as a Tamil Pandit in Pondicherry over much of the last three decades, first at the French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP, from 1982 to 1997, and then at the EFEO, from 2003 until his death on 30th December 2009. He devoted much of his time to assisting his elder brother, the late lamented T. V. Gopal Iyer, in his many research and editing projects, right through to their final proof-corrections. Born in 1929, he followed the Vidvan course in Tamil (1946–1951) and, after becoming a teacher, took his BA and MA. He was appointed as a research assistant at the French Institute of Pondicherry in the place of V. M. Subramania Ayyar (1905-1981), where he first worked with his brother on completing the latter scholar's English translation of an important collection of Tamil

devotional poetry, the 11th Tirumurai. During recent years he participated enthusiastically in all the annual month-long Classical Tamil Seminars held at the Pondicherry EFEO Center, relishing these opportunities to impart his knowledge to scholars and students. Until his last breath, he was working on the translation into English of his brother's encyclopedia of the Tamil grammatical tradition (Tamil Ilakkiya Perakarati), published in Tamil in 18 volumes by the EFEO and the Tamil Mann Pathippakam. His death is an irrevocable loss not only to the EFEO but also to the Tamil tradition itself: another star of the Tamil constellation winks out. We hereby record our gratitude for the great services rendered by Prof. T. S. Gangadharan and we extend our whole hearted sympathy to his bereaved family and friends.

Dominic Goodall

## Paris

### Colloquia, Visits, and Meetings

On February 11, Franciscus Verellen, Director of the EFEO and Edwin C. and Elisabeth A. Whitehead Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, will talk at the *After Hours Conversations* of the IAS on "Fateful Liabilities: the Ritual Agenda of Early Daoism."

On February 16, Franciscus Verellen will give a talk as part of the *Spring 2010 East Asian Studies Seminar*, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton: "The tenth-century kingdom of Shu 蜀: Cultural innovation and the politics of secession."

On February 26, Franciscus Verellen will then take part in the *Chinese Religions Seminar* at Harvard University with a presentation on "The emergence of local centers of power and religious renewal under the Five Dynasties: The case of Shu 蜀 (Chengdu) and Jiaozhi 交趾 (Hanoi)."

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On Monday, February 22, at the Calouste Gulbenkian Cultural Center, François Lachaud, director of studies, will take part in the 2010 interdisciplinary seminar organized by the Calouste Gulbenkian Cultural Center, the EFEO, and the EPHE on *Les Portugais et le monde asiatique: religions, culture et politiques XVI<sup>e</sup>-XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle* [The Portuguese and the Asiatic world: religions, cultures, and politics from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> centuries]. He will speak on the topic "La modernité et ses critiques: du Japon à l'Europe (1875-1935) [Modernity and its critics: from Japan to Europe (1875-1935)]."

On February 12 François Lachaud will give a lecture on "La religion dans le Japon médiéval [Religion in medieval Japan]" (9 a.m. to noon) at the Paris-Diderot University, at the invitation of Charlotte von Verschuer (EPHE).

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From February 8 to 11 Olivier de Bernon will be visiting Peking. There he will have an audience with the King Father Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia, along with Clothilde Roullier, Document Archivist of the EFEO, in order to present to him the volume *Les archives de Norodom Sihanouk, roi du Cambodge, données à l'École française d'Extrême-Orient et déposées aux Archives Nationales*

(1970-2007) [The archives of Norodom Sihanouk, King of Cambodia, given to the French School of Asian Studies and deposited in the National Archives (1970-1007)], with a preface by Nicolas Sarkozy, President of the Republic, Paris, Somogy Éditions d'Art, EFEO, Archives Nationales, 135 pp. + 48 plates.  
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On February 5 Michela Bussotti will take part in the seminar on *Livre, édition et lecture en système colonial (XVIII<sup>e</sup> –XX<sup>e</sup> siècles)* [The book, publishing, and reading in a colonial setting (18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries)]” organized by Jean-Yves Mollier at the University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (UVSQ). She will discuss “Les éditions xylographiques et lithographiques en Chine autour de 1900: un carrefour d’influences [Xylographic and lithographic publication in China around 1900: a crossroads of influences].”

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<http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/europe.shtml>

Frédéric Girard has been invited to a seminar at Hanazono University (Kyoto) on the reading from manuscripts of the works of Kogetsu, a Zen monk of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. On February 7 he will give a reading, with commentary, of five poems (at the Daitokuji temple, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.). Then he will take part in the seminar on *Japon moderne et contact avec les cultures étrangères* [Modern Japan and contact with foreign cultures] with a talk on “Discussions philosophiques entre Émile Guimet et les religieux intellectuels japonais [Discussions between Émile Guimet and Japanese intellectual religious figures]” (Kyoto University, February 8, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.). On February 12, He will give a lecture on “Repenser le moyen-âge religieux – autour de Dogen, Myoe, Honen et le Koyasan [Rethinking the religious middle ages – Dogen, Myoe, Honen, and Mount Koya]” (at Taisho University, Tokyo, February 12, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.)

On February 15 Frédéric Girard will take part in the seminar of Professor Okuda Isao (Professor Emeritus at the Seishin joshi University [Tokyo] and visiting profess at Columbia University) dedicated to reading manuscripts by Myoe concerning dreams. Frédéric Girard will take part in the work being done by Professor Okuda’s team on the “Compilation et commentaire du Journal des rêves de Myôe et recherches analytiques sous l’angle des doctrines ésotériques [Compilation and commentary on the Dream Journal of Myôe and analytical research from the angle of esoteric teachings].”

On February 18 he will speak on “Le rêve de Myoe, le rêve de Dogen [Myoe’s dream, Dogen’s dream]” (at the Kenchoji temple at Kamakura, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.)

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<http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/asie.shtml>

## Personnel

Alain Thote, director of studies at the EPHE and specialist in ancient Chinese civilization, will be a visiting professor at the EFEO from 1 February 2010 to 31 January 2011. He will be attached to the EFEO Center in Peking during that period.

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<http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/personnel.shtml>

## Library

On February 19 Antony Boussemart will be in London to take part in the conference on *Minakata Kumagusu and London* to be held at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). He will give a talk on “Dogi (Toki) Horyu and Shingon Buddhism.”

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<http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/europe.shtml>

## Publications

Lü Pengzhi, “Tianshi dao zhijiao zhai kao, xiapian (A study of the Zhijiao fast of Celestial Master Taoism, Part Two),” in *Bulletin of the Institute of History and Philosophy*, Academia Sinica 80.4 (2009), pp. 507-553.

Peter Skilling, “An impossible task? The classical “edition” and Thai Pali literature.” in *Thai International Journal for Buddhist Studies (TIJBS)*, Volume I 2553 (2009) (The International PhD Programme in Buddhist Studies, Mahidol University), pp. 33-43.

Peter Skilling, “Keynote Speech: Remarks on Philology and Buddhist Studies with special reference to German philology and manuscript studies” in Pornsan Watangura and Heinrich Detering (eds.), *On the Reception of Buddhism in German Philosophy and Literature: An Intercultural Dialogue*, Bangkok: Centre for European Studies at Chulalongkorn University (2009), pp. 1-7.

<http://www.efeo.fr/en/publications/travaux.shtml>

## EFEO Paris Seminar

The next EFEO-Paris seminar will be held on Thursday, February 11 (12:30 to 2 p.m.). Ines G. Zupanov, CNRS (Center for Indian and Southeast Asian Studies) will speak on the topic “Bioprospection et mission catholique en Asie portugaise aux XVI<sup>e</sup>-XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècles [Bioprospecting and Catholic missionary work in Portuguese Asia in the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries]” at the Maison de l’Asie (2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room, 22 avenue du Président Wilson, 75116 Paris).

<http://www.efeo.fr/index.shtml>

## Iéna Lectures (EFEO – Guimet Museum)

Thursday, February 4 (12:15 to 1:30 p.m.), “D’un statut l’autre: du Japon à l’Europe, destins multiples de l’estampe ukiyo-e [From one status to another: from Japan to Europe, the divided fates of ukiyo-e prints],” a lecture by Hélène Bayou (Musée Guimet) in the auditorium of the Guimet Museum (Place d’Iéna).

<http://www.efeo.fr/ConfIéna/index.html>

## Courses at the Maison de l’Asie

Pierre Lachaier’s seminar on *Études Gujarati* [Gujarati Studies], Friday, February 5 (EFEO): Yves Porter (Lecturer in the History of Art at the University of Provence and specialist in Islamic art) will speak on “L’architecture de l’Inde musulmane, Le cas du sultanat du Gujerat [Architecture in Muslim India: the sultanate of Gujerat]” (6:00 to 8:00 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room).

<http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/cours.shtml> et [http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/cours\\_ma.shtml](http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/cours_ma.shtml)

## Maison de l’Asie

February 25 session of the seminar on “Échanges maritimes entre les mondes iranien et indien depuis l’émergence des Achéménides à celle de l’Islam

[Maritime exchanges between the Iranian and Indian worlds from the emergence of the Achaemenids to that of Islam].” Organized by Bérénice Bellina (CNRS-UMR 7528 Iranian and Indian Worlds), noon to 1:00 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> floor meeting room. Talk by Christian Grataloup (Professor at the Paris VII-Denis Diderot) on “L’Orient du Système Ancien Monde [The Orient of the ancient world system].”

[http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/cours\\_ma.shtml](http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/cours_ma.shtml)

## **Life in the Centers**

### **Pondicherry**

Dr. Eva Wilden (EFEO, on leave at the University of Hamburg) will be visiting the Pondicherry Center for a period of one month, beginning on February 7.

Dr Alex Watson (Oxford University) has returned to Pondicherry on an EFEO scholarship to continue and complete the edition and translation of the Paramoksanirasakarikavrtti, a tenth-century Sanskrit treatise on rival views of liberation, in collaboration with Dr. S. L. P. Anjaneya Sarma and Dominic Goodall.

Dr. Timothy Lubin of Washington and Lee University will be joining the Shaiva reading group in the first week of February.

Luther Obrock, a doctoral student at the University of California at Berkeley, and Michael Gollner, Concordia University, Montreal, have come to pursue their studies at the Pondicherry Center, partly by taking part in the Shaiva reading group.

Anne Davrinche, student at the École du Louvre, will visit the Pondicherry Center during February in order to complete an inventory of the art objects belonging to the EFEO, which she started in 2009.

Raphaëlle Mauger, trainee on the EFEO digital archives of Pondicherry (SITA), will return to the Pondicherry Center for an internship, from February to June, 2010.

Dr. Fabrizia Baldissera (Florence University) and Dr. Whitney Cox (SOAS) will come to the Pondicherry Center in February and take part in the Shaiva reading group.

During February and March, Charlotte Schmid will be visiting the Pondicherry Center to work on the epigraphic and iconographic collections at three Chola temples.

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### **Bangkok**

From February 24 to March 4 the research team working on the manuscript collection at the EFEO Center in Bangkok (Wissitthisak Sattapan, Phongsathorn Buakhampan, Praysai Yamla-or, and François Lagirarde) will be visiting the northern province of Chiang Rai. They will be working in the libraries of four Chiang Sen monasteries and two Mae Chan monasteries in which there are well preserved collections that are said to contain several dozen copies of traditional chronicles. These will be digitized so that they may eventually be entered into

the general database now being planned for the EFEO website.

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From February 5 to 23 Peter Skilling will be visiting northern India (Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra). With his colleague Chedha Tingsanchali (Silpakorn University), he will visit Buddhist sites from the age of Asoka and their museums

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### **Phnom Penh**

From February 15 to March 15, as part of his research on the great religious sites of ancient Cambodia, Éric Bourdonneau, in partnership with the APSARA authority, will make a second study visit to the Prasat Thom complex at Koh Ker. This year his work will consist of taking cores samples on the hill called Phno Damrei Sâ (the tomb of the white elephant), immediately to the west of Prasat Thom, with a view to completing the data gathered during his 2009 excavations.

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### **Siem Reap**

As part of the second phase on his research program *From Yasodharapura to Angkor Thom*, working on the chronology of the great changes in the Khmer capital, Angkor Thom, Jacques Gaucher (EFEO/French Archaeological Mission at Angkor Thom) is starting a new season of excavations. He will focus once again on the Royal Palace, but this time in its relationship to its urban setting, in particular its enclosure within the earthen ramparts of a monumental citadel.

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### **Hong Kong**

On Thursday, February 25, at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Zhang Guangbao, Director of Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Studies, will give a lecture entitled “The development of the genealogical poem of the movement of Quanzhen of the Ming (1368-1644): an epigraphic study” The lecture is being organized jointly by the Center for Research in Taoist Culture at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the EFEO Center in Hong Kong.

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<http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/asie.shtml#hk>

### **Tokyo**

The seminar on Buddhism at the EFEO Center will be held on Wednesday, February 3 and 17: Reading of Genshin's *Ōjō yōshū* 23 and 24 (lecture hall, Toyo bunko, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.).

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<http://www.efeo.fr/en/actualites/asie.shtml#tokyo>

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