

1st ANNOUNCEMENT

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTION

**FOR A THEMATIC WORKSHOP
“Sexuality and Family Relationships”
(French or English)**

Phnom Penh
Cambodia *Mid-December 2005*

The OBSERVATORY on HUMAN TRADE in SOUTHEAST ASIA (www.seaobservatory.org)
The RESEARCH UNIT of AFESIP INTERNATIONAL (www.afesip.org)

in partnership with
The RESEARCH INSTITUTE on CONTEMPORARY SOUTHEAST ASIA
(IRASEC, Bangkok, www.irasec.com)

with the cooperation of
Le Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale (Collège de France,
Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique),
The Spanish Foundation ANESVAD (www.anesvad.org)
The French Cultural Centre of Phnom Penh (CCF)

organize a
**THEMATIC WORKSHOP
“Sexuality and Family Relationships in Southeast Asia”**

in mid-December 2005 in Phnom Penh

In order to organize and to launch a collective research on seven topics, for a two years term

The expected result will be a collective book, in English or in French, for each topic

Any interested specialist is thus invited to participate to any of the seven topics:

Topic 1

SEXUALITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Interdisciplinary approach (Ethnology, Sociology, Psychology, etc.)

Scientific Adviser: Dr. Jean Baffie, Sociologist, IRSEA Director (Institut de Recherche sur le Sud-Est Asiatique, CNRS & Université de Provence)

Topic 2

THE POWER OF THE FATHER IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Interdisciplinary approach (Ethnology, Sociology, Psychology, etc.)

Research Director: Dr. Alain Testart, Ethnologist, Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale (Collège de France, CNRS, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales)

Topic 3

THE RELATIONSHIP TO HIS/HER OWN BODY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Interdisciplinary approach (Ethnology, Sociology, Psychology, etc.)

Scientific Adviser: Dr. Didier Bertrand, Intercultural Psychologist (AFESIP Laos)

Topic 4

INCEST IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Interdisciplinary approach (Ethnology, Sociology, Psychology, etc.)

Scientific Adviser: Dr. Gilles Beullier, MD, Paediatrician, *Groupe hospitalier* Gabriel Martin, St-Paul de la Réunion)

Topic 5

THE MOTHER-CHILD RELATIONSHIP IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Interdisciplinary approach (Ethnology, Sociology, Psychology, etc.)

Scientific Adviser: Paedo-Psychiatrist, contact in the process.

Topic 6

VERNACULAR TERMS TO EXPRESS PROSTITUTION AND SEX IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Interdisciplinary approach (Ethnology, Sociology, Psychology, etc.)

Scientific Adviser: Linguist, contact in the process.

Topic 7

THE PRIVATE DEBT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Interdisciplinary approach (Ethnology, Sociology, Psychology, etc.)

Scientific Adviser to be confirmed: Alexandre Dormeier Freire, Sociologist,

Regional Academic Coordinator Asia, DFD, Institut Universitaire d'Etudes du Développement (IUED),

Graduate Institute of Development Studies (GIDS), University of Geneva, Switzerland)

Contact

OBSERVATORY ON HUMAN TRADE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

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Observatory on Human Trade in Southeast Asia
Research Unit of AFESIP International

Under the general management of Pierre Legros
Under the scientific management of Pierre Le Roux

RESEARCH PROGRAM 2005-2007

A region

Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Vietnam, Chinese Diaspora in Southeast Asia, and to a certain extent their geographic markets, Burma, Indonesia and China.

Populations: the majorities, the ethnic minorities, as well as the Chinese Diaspora, in urban and rural locations.

Starting from a reality...

The dimension of human trade in Southeast Asia.

In time: historical fact that develops and becomes more complex.

In location: common fact to all countries in Southeast Asia.

...of an observation

The data presently available is insufficient, erroneous, and/or rarely interpreted and used in a comparative perspective to the whole of the region.

...that calls for a new approach

An approach upstream from the "women trade" for an exploitation of a sexual character is thus essential to understand the appearance of these actors, "victims" and "traffickers". The whole is considered as the consequence of a whole of conjectural elements (poverty, prostitution, social de-structure, etc.) but also and mostly, cultural, material and psychological.

...and new methods

It is thus a matter of identifying the keys that take to an objective and fair understanding of the phenomenon: the relationship with the body, the sexuality, the housing conditions, the social and family relationships, the economical relationships, the legal framework, the designation terms, the health, etc.

- Multidisciplinary and scientific approach
- Call for specialist competencies, scientific references.
- Development of a network of researchers
- Constructive synthesis of the field data

LAUNCHING OF SEVEN COLLECTIVE RESEARCH TOPICS
(within the frame of a workshop organized in Phnom Penh in December 2005)

- 1) **Sexuality in Southeast Asia** (scientific adviser: Jean Baffie, Sociologist, CNRS)
- 3) **The power of the father in SEA** (in cooperation with the Laboratory of Social Anthropology; research managed by Dr. Alain Testart, Ethnologist, CNRS)
- 3) **The relationship with his body in SEA** (scientific adviser: Dr. Didier Bertrand, Intercultural Psychologist, AFESIP).
- 4) **Incest in SEA** (scientific adviser: Dr. Gilles Beullier, Paediatrician, Medical Doctor at the Hospital Centre G. Martin, St Paul de la Réunion).
- 5) **The mother-child relationship in SEA** (scientific adviser: Paedo-Psychiatrist, contact in the process).
- 6) **Vernacular terms to express prostitution and sex in SEA** (with definition of the semantic grounds) in the wider languages of SEA (scientific adviser: Linguist, contact in the process).
- 7) **The private debt in SEA** (scientific adviser to be confirmed: Dr Alexandre Freire, Sociologist, Univ. of Geneva).

Provisional schedule

15 October 2005	Launching of the original research themes: 6 proposed problematic topics
October/December 2005	*Development of a network of specialists (local and international) that work on the regions and themes concerned in the research centres of the whole world, following a multidisciplinary approach
15-16 December 2005	*First workshop in Phnom Penh - define the retained themes - identify the scientific advisers and collaborators for each of the research themes that will form the core workgroup - establish a common research methodology - define a 2 year action plan
2006-2007	* Publishing of the work realised under the form of a compilation of research articles completed by a general and constructive synthesis of the field data by the scientific advisers of each work group. * The objective is to publish a reference document on each of the research themes.
2007-	* The situation and the field data being in constant evolution, the research will continue depending on the understanding keys of the phenomenon that would have been previously designated. * Publishing of a general synthesis work that will become the reference for a fair approach to the human trade in South-East Asia. * The scientific validity brought forward by this work will allow to reflect on an action plan, concrete proposals formulated by political recommendations, submitted to the authorities within the framework of the fight against human trafficking.

ATLAS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN TRADE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Pierre Le Roux and Pierre Legros (Eds)

(Bangkok & Paris : IRASEC / Phnom Penh : Observatory / Madrid : ANESVAD)

During 2005, IRASEC has proposed to the Research Unit of AFESIP and to the Observatory on Human Trade in Southeast Asia, that accepted it, to coordinate a collective research programme, for three years, consisting of an *Atlas of Human Trade in Continental Southeast Asia*.

Each of the contributors that will come to feed the collective research on the seven themes presented above will thus also be welcomed within the programme of the *Atlas of Human Trade in Continental Southeast Asia* managed by Pierre Le Roux and Pierre Legros. This Atlas project will be announced officially during the opening ceremony of the workshop scheduled for December 2005.

PROCESS

Multidisciplinary and international opening

The research themes proposed here by AFESIP International are open to the international scientific community.

Alone, the members of the AFESIP research unit, even taking into account its external collaborators, can not pretend to animate alone simultaneously seven researches of the magnitude of the ones proposed here. Each of these themes need, because of the cultural complexity and the geographical immensity considered, the collection of a too large amount of data for a team that is restricted in time and number of people.

A close collaboration/synergy with other research centres is thus mandatory, for example with the *Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale (Collège de France, Centre national de la Recherche Scientifique, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales de Paris)* or the Institute of Research on Contemporary Southeast Asia (IRASEC-Bangkok, organisation created with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

A work group—driven by the Research Unit of AFESIP, its external collaborators, its scientific advise, and researchers of an associated or collaborating research centre—will undertake a general thinking process, starting from the data presented by the contributors, following the directives proposed

collectively. It will also manage the research operations by ensuring an academic and editorial framing as well as the technical and intellectual coordination of the whole.

The complexity of the theme tackled, the fact that it touches quite some aspects of the human nature (physiological, medical, social, political, legal, cultural and psychological) impose to call on many disciplines of social and human sciences, like ethnology, cognitive social or cultural anthropology, sociology, psychology, economy, law, history, geography, linguistics, demography as well as medical sciences.

Why such fundamental research operations?

To bring light in a realistic way to the complex issue of human trade in Southeast Asia, one can use two approaches.

The first concerns directly the traffickers, and the human traffic as such, meaning the point of view of the “fisherman”.

This implies a synchronic approach and a quantitative approach with the development of a database. This essential approach will for the major part be sufficient if it is well coupled to additional qualitative surveys; complementary surveys allowing to notice facts in a situation and from there erect the operational typologies, basis of descriptions and subsequent analysis.

Well prepared, a systematic survey a little detailed on the geographic, ethno-linguistic, religious plans, must allow quite easily bringing out the roads, places, techniques, and operators of the human traffic, in particular from interviews of the victims. The latter, as principal actors and first witnesses, bring enormous light on the subject, reliable information from the point of view of the quality and, given the number of people questioned, an amount allowing the correction of the unavoidable bias: if a particular trajectory can eventually be badly related or expressed without sufficient sincerity, bending the facts, the whole of the trajectories, by its density and amplex, relate quite rightly the reality.

The second approach concerns the victims themselves, or if one prefers, the “point of view of the fish” very often hidden, if not neglected in favour of a direct study of the traffic and the traffickers.

It is however probably thanks to this approach centred around the victim, already privileged by AFESIP in its direct help to the victims, that one could envisage to bring forward precise causes, reasons, explanations to the question: Why so many young women and girls from Southeast Asia, in addition to those that are kidnapped or forced, succumb in such large numbers and apparently so easily to the siren songs of the traffickers and fall so often in the trap of sexual exploitation and prostitution, in addition to the economical explanation alone, very insufficient?

These reasons, explanations, causes, brought forward partially or totally thanks to investigations being a matter of only fundamental research, would allow later to propose, suggest, present to the official non governmental organisations, the international organisations, the governments, political, pedagogic, sanitary, social, medical recommendations, relevant, useful, efficient and adapted to the various cases found, mid and long term, meaning here in the field of research applied to the development and humanitarian or social action.

In other words, it is a matter of practically identify very upstream from the human traffic itself, a certain number of ways, places of investigation and research themes useful to the activities of AFESIP and at the service of the victims in the short, medium and long term, with investigations essentially qualitative. This in order to try to understand the economical, historical, psychological, social and cultural causes of the traffic and prostitution, being it as a victim or as a pimp or trafficker and then propose eventual preventive measures.

The whole implies an approach extending largely from the strict themes of human trade, prostitution and sexual slavery to include questions as diverse as, for example, the relationships of the Vietnamese, Thai, Lao, Malay or Chinese from the Diaspora to their bodies, to voluntary slavery, to sacrifice and slavery for debt; this includes the themes of family relationships, extended family and neighbourhood, the role played by the intermediaries, the study of the analysis of the village spaces and the research of wholes coherent with the economical, cultural, and social plans within the various considered countries of Southeast Asia.

Collective response attempt

To allow the collection of a maximum of data in a reasonable amount of time (two years), it was thus decided by the research unit of AFESIP and IRASEC (Bangkok) with the support of the Spanish foundation ANESVAD, the *Laboratoire d'Anthropologie Sociale (Collège de France, EHESS, CNRS)* and French

Cultural Centre of Phnom Penh (CCF), The organisation of a thematic workshop in Phnom Penh in mid-December.

This workshop will serve essentially to the official launch of the seven research themes. Each of these themes will have to end up with the publication of a final collective work, in French or in English, at the end of the research done by the voluntary contributors, identified by their participation to this workshop. The methodology, the work calendar, the selection of the underlying themes to be selected, the creation of a core of animators for each theme (that will be in charge of the scientific and editorial framing as well as the writing of a comparative synthesis per theme) will be presented and selected during the workshop that will thus serve as the “zero basis” for the seven themes.

The operation will start by a first work: the acts of the workshop of December 2005. Then, at the end of the first research year, the work of the various contributors will start to be assembled in volumes with the aim of seven collective works, meaning the publication of a work that will present for each of the themes a whole of the original contributions preceded or followed by a general synthesis.

The workshop of December 2005 is thus not destined to valorise the results of work already done, but on the contrary, to launch new researches, that were decided collective and in a multidisciplinary approach.