

LECTURES

The NSC Lecture Series presents research on intra-Asian interactions to the public. Some of the lectures and presentations featured include:

- “Recovering a Lost Myanmar Contemporary Account of the Fall of *Ayutthaya* in 1767”, by Thaw Kaung
- “Can there be People’s Invented Traditions? Some Evidence from the Sino-Vietnamese Imperial Romance: The Tale of a Prince”, by Chang Yufen
- “Art of the Pasisir: Foreign Imprint in Java’s North Coast Sculpture in the Early Islamisation period”, by Hélène Njoto
- “Mystery City: Field School and Archaeology at the 10th Century Angkorian Capital of Koh Ker”, by Kyle Latinis

PUBLICATIONS

The Nalanda–Sriwijaya Series publishes research related to the Centre’s interests. It also invites submissions which engage with historical connectivities that examine political, cultural, and linguistic interactions between Asian societies. See NSC website for more details.

In addition NSC publishes the NSC Working Paper Series and the NSC AU Archaeology Report Series. They provide avenues for the swift publication and dissemination of original research. These two series may be downloaded from the NSC website.

NEWSLETTER

NSC Highlights is a quarterly publication. It features articles and information regarding people, projects, and publications at NSC in an accessible manner. NSC Highlights can be downloaded from the NSC website.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

NSC promotes scholarship and intellectual exchange through the holding of regular conferences and workshops, both independently and in conjunction with other institutions. Some of NSC’s major events in the past years include:

- Traces of the Two Great Epics: Ramayana and Mahabharata in Javanese and Malay Literature
- Empires and Networks: Maritime Asian Experiences 9th to 19th Centuries
- The Heritage of Ancient and Urban Sites: Giving Voice to Local Priorities

VISITING FELLOWSHIP

NSC welcomes researchers from all over the world. The Centre offers opportunities for Visiting Fellowship and Visiting Senior Fellowship to scholars of all ranks who wish to undertake research and writing relevant to our key interests. The fellowships will be for a period of three months to 12 months.

NSC-NU INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

The NSC-Nalanda University Internship Programme is open to students from Nalanda University every year. Students must be enrolled as full-time students at Nalanda University at the time of application. The internship is based in NSC for a period of six to eight weeks. Interns will be required to work on a project related to their thesis, as well as engage and assist with NSC activities, including the Archaeology Unit.

NSC Inaugural Donors :
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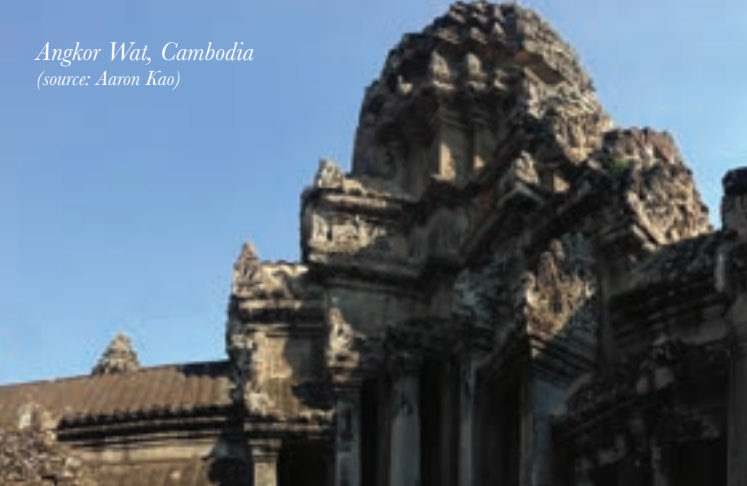
A : 30 Heng Mui Keng Terrace, Singapore 119614
T : +65 6870 4551 FAX: +65 6775 6264
E : nsc@iseas.edu.sg
W : <https://iseas.edu.sg/centres/nalanda-sriwijaya-centre>
F : www.facebook.com/nalandasriwijayacentre



Nalanda–Sriwijaya Centre



Angkor Wat, Cambodia
(source: Aaron Kao)



ABOUT NALANDA-SRIWIJAYA CENTRE

The Nalanda–Sriwijaya Centre (NSC) at the ISEAS - Yusof Ishak Institute was formed in 2009. It pursues research on historical interactions among Asian societies and civilisations. NSC’s main aims are:

1. To develop the “Nalanda idea” of fostering Asia connectivities and cross-cultural influences, as well as the “Sriwijaya idea” of Southeast Asia as a place of mediation and linkages among the great civilisations.
2. To promote and develop the research skills needed to understand the civilisations of Asia and their interrelationships.
3. To build regional research capabilities and infrastructure for the study of the historical interactions among the civilisations and societies of Asia.



Palm-leaf manuscript (lontar) from Bali, of a Sanskrit-Old Javanese Buddhist text entitled Sang Hyang Kamahayanikan. This manuscript is kept at the Leiden University Library (source: Andrea Acri)



Below: Cabinet, Ayutthaya, period 1650-1750, with Persians (or Indo-Persians) and Europeans, National Museum Bangkok (source: Christoph Marcinkowski)



Above: Mural at Tayoke Pyay temple, Bagan, circa. 13th century (source: Aaron Kao)



2015 rescue excavation, Empress Place, Singapore (source: Patrick Tan)

NSC ARCHAEOLOGY UNIT

The NSC Archaeology Unit (AU) is a part of NSC. It was formed in 2010 and inaugurated in August 2011 by the late President S R Nathan. AU pursues collaborative research through archaeology in Southeast Asia. AU also conducts excavations in Singapore, concentrating on the material culture of the period from 1300 to 1600 as well as that of the colonial period of the 19th and early 20th centuries.

NSC Archaeological Field School

The Field School provides archaeological training to selected students from East Asia Summit countries. With support from Singapore’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Field School contributes to the understanding of ancient links that have connected Asian civilisations. The Field School comprises lectures, fieldwork, laboratory analysis, as well as visits to archaeological sites and museums.

NSC Archaeology Unit Gallery

The NSC Archaeology Unit Gallery at the ISEAS Library showcases the work of the AU. Artefacts include those from excavations at Fort Canning Hill, Empress Place, and the National Gallery Singapore. From displayed ceramics dating back to the *Temasek* period to WWII artefacts, the Gallery seeks to underline the rich history and heritage of the city-state.

Below: Decorated earthenware potsherd excavated at National Gallery Singapore in 2010 (source: Archaeology Unit)



Above: An enthusiastic field school participant poses for the camera during the 2013 field school conducted at Cheung Ek, Cambodia (source: Foo Shu Teng)

NSC RESEARCH INTERESTS

1. *State and Social Formation in Southeast Asia:* NSC is interested in the formation of port-cities and polities in maritime Southeast Asia. Such research would include the analysis of urban genesis and forms; the nature of political centres; and the evolution of regional geopolitics.
2. *Premodern Economic Interaction within Southeast Asia:* NSC aims to understand economic interaction between communities in pre-modern Southeast Asia. Also important are new ways of framing and interpreting historical data on trade and goods.
3. *Southeast Asian Maritime Links with South and East Asia:* NSC encourages studies of maritime links from the region to the littoral states of the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea. Such studies would explore trade and commerce links as well as the circulation of commodities and their uses.
4. *Culture and Identity:* NSC seeks to explore cross-cultural phenomena such as the spread of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam, and the adoption of languages like Sanskrit and Pali. Also of interest are the co-existence of indigenous cultural markers, local languages, and cultural hybridisation in pre-modern Southeast Asia. Key research areas are religion, art history and visual culture, migration, language and literature.