

Issue 6, November 15, 2016



News

Lecture: The Clash between Global Buddhism and Burmese Orthodoxy: the trial of the monk Shin Ukkattha

Dr. Kate Crosby, King's College, London

Wednesday, November 16, 1:45 – 3:15PM, Coor 6615

Westerners often regard Buddhism as an easy going, laissez-faire religion, where one can choose which beliefs and rules to follow. In Burma, by contrast, there are Buddhist courts at which monks and lay people can be sentenced to prison for heresy and malpractice. Set up under the head of the military junta, General Ne Win, in 1980 in a bid to control monks and Buddhism as potential sources of political dissent, the Sangha court system is based on earlier monastic models concerned that the true Buddhist teachings would disappear. Burmese monk Shin Ukkattha straddled both types of Buddhism. Although a leading proponent of Buddhist nationalism he was convicted in 1981 – three years after his death – of 21 separate counts of heresy at the second of the Sangha court trials under Ne Win. This talk will examine how the global Buddhism that emerged in the 19th century came into conflict with Burmese orthodoxy in this trial, which set the tone for the subsequent control of Buddhist expression and practice in Burma. Dr. Crosby is Professor of Buddhist Studies in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at King's College, London.

Singapore and Malaysia: Study Abroad Information Session

Thursday, November 17, 4:30-5:30PM, Coor 6607

ASU political science faculty members Drs. Sarah Shair-Rosenfield and Reed Wood will be leading a study abroad program for undergraduates to Singapore and Malaysia in the summer of 2017. The program counts for six credits in political science, and costs \$6,385 – the fee covers most costs incurred. On Thursday, the School of Politics and Global Studies will host a one-hour information session on this program (and others) from 4:30-5:30 in Coor 6607. For more information go to: https://studyabroad.asu.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=programs.ViewProgram&Program_ID=10002.

Lecture: How sudden censorship can increase access to information
Dr. Margaret Roberts, UCSD
Friday, November 18, 1:30-3PM, Coor 6761

Professor Roberts uses large-scale text analysis to uncover the real time effects of censorship on social media websites in China. Margaret Roberts is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of California, San Diego.

2017 Florence Tan Moeson Fellowship Announcement

The Asian Division Florence Tan Moeson Research Fellowship Program is made possible by the generous donation of Florence Tan Moeson, who served as a cataloger at the Library of Congress for 43 years until she retired in 2001. Mrs. Moeson passed away on November 15, 2008. The purpose of the fellowship is to provide individuals with the opportunity to pursue research in the area of Asian studies, using the unparalleled collections of the Asian Division and the Library of Congress in Washington, DC. The fellowships are for a minimum of five business days of research at the Library of Congress. The grants may vary from \$300 to \$3,000 and are to be used to cover travel to and from Washington, overnight accommodations, as well as other research expenses. Graduate students, independent scholars, researchers, and librarians with a need for fellowship support are especially encouraged to apply. The fellowship application is accepted only via email submission. In order to apply, the applicant must download the application form here (<http://www.loc.gov/rr/asian/2017-ftm-application.pdf>) and follow the enclosed instructions. The deadline for the 2017 application season is January 13, 2017.

Blakemore Freeman Asian Language Fellowships Available

Graduate students interested in a one-year, intensive language study program in China, Japan, Korea, Thai, Vietnam, Indonesia, Cambodia or Burma may apply for a Blakemore Freeman fellowship for funding. Applicants must be US citizens and at an advanced level in their language of study. The deadline is late December, and more information can be found at <http://www.blakemorefoundation.org/language.html>

American Institute of Indian Studies Language Programs

The American Institute of Indian Studies is accepting applications to its 2017 summer and a 2017-18 academic year language programs. Languages to be offered include Hindi, Bengali, Punjabi, Tamil, Marathi, Urdu, Telugu, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Mughal Persian, Sanskrit and Pali/Prakrit and other Indian languages upon request. The application deadline is December 31, 2016, and funding is available. More information and applications are at the AIIS web site at www.indiastudies.org.