Reorganization of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association, and the IXth Congress of the International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences

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The IXth Congress of the International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences (UISPP) was held in Nice, France from the 13th through the 18th of September 1976, and on the 19th of September we had a business meeting of the Far-Eastern Prehistory Association. When it became apparent late in 1974 that Henry de Lumley, the Secretary General of the Congress, and the Congress organizers were going to include East Asia and the Pacific in the program at a much higher level than had ever before been done we decided this presented a fine opportunity to hold a meeting of the FEPA in Europe. With the assistance of José Garanger, of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique of France, we addressed the Secretary General on this subject and he graciously invited us to join the Congress and have our meeting on the 19th. Garanger became our coordinator in France and made all arrangements for our meeting.

The Harrissons, Tom and his wife Christine, had a chateau near Nice. When I first wrote to Tom that we would be having a FEPA meeting at Nice he was delighted. He said that it did not take long to reach their chateau from Nice, they had a spectacular view, and they would invite the FEPA members to the chateau one evening during the Congress for a real bash. That would have been a party to remember.

The Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association Meeting

The previous meeting of the FEPA had been held on two days during and following the Orientalist Congress in Canberra, Australia in 1971. At these meetings
it had been decided to formalize FEPA with a constitution and elected officials. First organized in Batavia, Dutch East Indies in 1929 at the time of the 4th Pacific Science Congress, the first congress of our parent organization had been held in Hanoi, French Indochina, in 1932 (Solheim 1957). The organization was extremely informal and continued in this way when it was reorganized after the Second World War in Manila, Philippines in 1953, when we met in conjunction with the 8th Pacific Science Congress (Solheim 1954). At our meetings in Australia a committee was appointed to make up a draft constitution. This was to be circulated to the members before the following FEPA meeting and accepted as amended at that meeting if a quorum of 20% of the active members were present.

Our meeting of 19 September 1976 was called to order at 9:20 a.m. with myself as Chairman and 23 other members present. Five more members joined us shortly so that with an active membership of a bit over 100 we agreed that a quorum was present. Three minor amendments were made to the constitution and the name changed to the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association. With these changes the Constitution was accepted unanimously. There are portions of our Constitution which should be widely known so I quote them here (Solheim 1975):

The main objectives of the Association shall be:

A) To promote cooperation in the study of prehistory and related subjects of eastern Asia and the Pacific and prehistorically related areas.

B) To help maintain direct communication among scholars working in the field of east Asian and Pacific prehistory through periodic congresses, regional meetings, colloquia, and symposia, and the publication of a newsletter. East Asia here includes Pakistan and north from there roughly along the line of 70° longitude and to the east.

C) To uphold and improve legal and scientific methods of prehistorical and related research in the field and in the laboratory and to help the countries in the IPPA prevent illegal excavation and illegal trade in antiquities.

Membership is individual or institutional. Any person who was a member of FEPA prior to 1971 may continue to be a member by application to the Executive Committee. New members shall be professionally engaged or in some other way genuinely interested in work connected with the prehistory of some part of the area covered by IPPA and shall be nominated and seconded by members of IPPA. Students enrolled in a course of study leading to a professional specialty related to the prehistory of part of the area covered by IPPA may be nominated and seconded for student membership by members of IPPA. Institutional members shall be any institution actively involved in research in prehistory on any part of the area covered by the IPPA or educational institution including in their course offerings a specific course or courses on the prehistory of one or more parts of the said area.

Institutional membership shall be obtainable on application to the Executive Committee with documentation of one or both of the aforementioned requirements for membership.

I summarize other portions of the constitution. The basic governing body of IPPA will be a General Council made up by one representative from each member
country, which representative has been selected by the organization of that country which has an established relationship with the IPPA, plus the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee with ten members, including the President and Vice-President of IPPA, attends to the business of IPPA between meetings of the Council. The president serves for four years and is succeeded by the Vice-President who has been elected by the membership of IPPA. The other eight members of the Executive Committee are elected for eight-year terms by the IPPA membership, with two retiring and two elected every two years. "No more than two members shall be citizens of the same country. There shall be at least one member who is a citizen of, resident of, or specialist in each of the five general areas covered by IPPA. These areas are: Northeast Asia (USSR east of 70° longitude, Korea, Japan), Central Asia (China), Southeast Asia (including Madagascar), South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim), and Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific islands. Not more than half of the Executive Committee members shall be from countries not included in the area covered by IPPA" (Solheim 1975: 25-26).

A Newsletter covering news of research and bibliography on the prehistory of the IPPA area is published in mimeograph or other convenient form. Only individual and institutional members receive the Newsletter; it is not available by subscription. The Editor's term of office is determined by the Executive Committee and both the Editor and location of publication are not permanent. The only requirement on this at present is that the Editor and publication of the Newsletter shall not be at the same institution as the President of IPPA. The present Editor of *The Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association Newsletter* is Mr. R. J. Lampert, Department of Prehistory, Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, P. O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600, Australia. He is assisted for Southeast Asia by Dr. H. E. Loofs, Department of Asian Civilizations, School of General Studies, Australian National University.

Elected as officers of IPPA at the Nice meeting were: Professor W. G. Solheim II—President (U.S.A.), Professor J. Golson—First Vice-President (Australia), and Executive Committee members Dr. J. Garanger (France) and Mr. R. J. Lampert (Australia) for two years, Dr. V. N. Misra (India) and Professor C. Serizawa (Japan) for four years, Professor P-K. Sohn (South Korea) and Dr. R. P. Soejono (Indonesia) for six years, and Dr. Y. Sinoto (for the Pacific) and a member to be nominated by the Academica Sinica of China (Peking) for eight years.

The next general meeting of IPPA is to be held in New Delhi, India in December 1978, with V. N. Misra as the organizer. Symposia under consideration for this meeting are:

1. Implications of recent discoveries in Thailand for the antiquity of rice cultivation and metallurgy in South and East Asia.
2. Origins of horticulture in South and East Asia.
3. The distribution and antiquity of microlithic and other small tool industries.
4. Technological and cultural implications of pebble tool industries.

The Chairman of the Membership Committee of IPPA is Professor Wilhelm G. Solheim II (Department of Anthropology, University of Hawai, 2424 Maile Way,
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, U.S.A.). Any individual or institution wishing to belong and qualified—according to the Constitution—for membership should write to me, including the documentation of qualification, and the process of becoming a member will be started. This process may take up to eight months, depending on the timing of the letter of application, so send in your application as soon as possible.

**THE IXTH UISPP CONGRESS**

Previous congresses of the UISPP have always been very weak in their coverage of East Asia and the Pacific. One congress I had attended before in Rome in 1962 had one session for contributed (uninvited) papers for Asia and the Pacific. There were seven papers presented and we had an audience of around fourteen, including the authors of the presented papers (Solheim 1962: 2). At this congress there were three special colloquia, including one sponsored by the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) of France. Besides these three colloquia with 42 announced papers, there were 58 papers announced that were concerned with East Asia and the Pacific, in twelve different sections. As in all large congresses a considerable number of the authors of announced papers did not manage to attend. Compared to the earlier congresses, however, this was a magnitude jump in the number of papers.

Abstracts and the full papers for presentation had been requested to be sent to the Secretary General of the Congress by a year before the congress took place. These were published as “Prétrirage” in paperback, by colloquia. Each author of a paper received a copy of the volume in which his or her paper appeared, several weeks before the congress. On arrival and check-in to the congress each member received a full set of these volumes.

The first of the East Asian colloquia was “Le Paléolithique Inférieur et Moyen en Inde, en Asie Centrale, en Chine et dans le Sud-Est Asiatique,” which was organized by Asok K. Ghosh of the University of Calcutta, India. Papers appearing in full or in abstract in the “Prétrirage” were:

1. H. D. Sankalia (Poona, India): The Early and Middle Palaeolithic cultures in India and Pakistan.
5. Vadin A. Ranov (Dushanbe, USSR): The Palaeolithic industries of central Asia: a revision.


11. Asok K. Ghosh (Calcutta, India): Pleistocene man and his cultures in Central, East, South and Southeast Asia; an appraisal.

12. Per Sørensen (Copenhagen, Denmark): Preliminary note on the relative and absolute chronology of two early palaeolithic sites from North Thailand.

Four more papers were listed but the authors of three of these were not present. R. P. Soejono presented a paper on Indonesia. While Russians were present for some colloquia, none of those indicated for the East Asian colloquia were present nor were there any of the Chinese or Vietnamese archaeologists in attendance at the Asian colloquia.

The second colloquium was “Le Premier Peuplement de l’Archipel Nippon et des Iles du Pacifique: Chronologie, Paléogeographie, Industries,” organized by Chosuke Serizawa of Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan. Papers appearing in full or in abstract in the “Pretirage” were:


4. Tom Harrisson* (Ithaca, New York, U.S.A.): The upper Palaeolithic in Malaysia (Malaya and Borneo) and adjacent areas: gateways to the Pacific?

5. D. J. Mulvaney (Canberra, Australia): The Pleistocene occupation of Australia.


8. Pow-Key Sohn (Seoul, Korea): The Upper Palaeolithic of Korea.


10. C. Serizawa (Sendai, Japan) and Masakazu Yoshizaki (Sapporo, Japan): The Palaeolithic of the Japanese archipelago.

11. R. J. Lampert (Canberra, Australia): Variation in Australia’s Pleistocene stone industries.

* Died in January 1976.
Several of those listed were not in attendance or did not present a paper.

The third colloquium was “La Préhistoire Océanienne,” organized by José Garanger of CNRS, Paris, France. This colloquium was supported by CNRS, which paid transportation, board, and room for all invited participants. I would here like to express our heartfelt appreciation to CNRS for this support. As a result of this support all sixteen papers in the “Prétirage” volume were presented plus four additional papers which were transferred from Section VI of the contributed papers section. Although the session was originally scheduled for Saturday morning, the last day of the congress, Garanger was able to arrange with the Congress officials for a full-day with use of the auditorium and its audio-visual equipment and the French-English and English-French translation service which was a well-working part of the Congress facilities. In spite of the fact that the closing ceremonies of the Congress were taking place on Saturday afternoon, we had a good audience. The papers presented at this expanded colloquium were as follows:

1. Peter S. Bellwood (Canberra, Australia): Indonesia, the Philippines and Oceanic Prehistory.
2. Wilhelm G. Solheim II (Honolulu, Hawaii): Prehistory of Southeast Asia with reference to Oceania.
7. Michel Lorblanchet (Canberra, Australia): Quelques considerations sur l’art rupestre australien et paléolithique.
10. Janet Davidson (Auckland, New Zealand): The prehistory of Western Polynesia.
19. Alan J. Mortlock (Canberra, Australia): Thermoluminescence dating of objects and materials from the South Pacific region.

The usual frustrations of a big congress in trying to hear papers scheduled at the same time in different locations and the many authors not known to be absent until called up to present their papers were a part of this Congress. The last three days, however, with the last two Asian and Pacific colloquia and the IPPA meeting, were very satisfying to most of us with an East Asian and/or Pacific interest. Those specially interested in the Palaeolithic of East Asia did have a final conflict, as on Sunday there was also a meeting of The International Union for Quaternary Studies (INQUA) at the same time as the IPPA meeting, and members of both of these organizations had to make a choice. On Wednesday no meetings were scheduled and several all-day tours were scheduled. The tour I was on to Grimaldi and other very interesting sites east of Nice along or near the Mediterranean coast was delightful, with beautiful weather. Receptions at the openings of new museums or exhibits were numerous. The most memorable of these was that given on Friday evening by Jacques Medecin, the Secretary of State for Tourism and the Mayor of Nice, and the Municipal Council of Nice, in the Park of Arènes de Cimiez. Entertainment was provided by a large number of folksingers and dancers, the food was delicious and plentiful, the champagne flowed like water, and the total atmosphere of the park was delightful. It all left a very good feeling. On behalf of the Indo-Pacific Prehistory Association and its members I would like to express our gratitude to Secretary General Henry de Lumley and all the officials of the Congress, and to the Ville de Nice and its people for making the Congress in Nice so memorable in all ways.

References

Solheim II, Wilhelm G.