SOUTHEAST ASIAN RESEARCH TOOLS

LAOS

by

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Southeast Asia is a critical area of the world, one in which the United States has had intensive involvement. Humanistic scholarship on Southeast Asia, recognized as integral to our understanding of and ability to deal with this area, depends to a large extent on the availability of appropriate research materials. To make these materials more easily accessible to the scholar, reference tools such as indexes, guides, bibliographies, and dictionaries are needed. For years the Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia (CORMOSEA) of the Association for Asian Studies had received requests for financial assistance for the production of research tools. The requests, amounting to much more than the limited CORMOSEA budget could support, clearly indicated a need for a systematic approach to the production of such tools. The Southeast Asian Research Tools Project was formed by CORMOSEA in 1977 to organize that approach. For the first time a national committee of Southeast Asian specialists attempted to establish a systematic and comprehensive plan for identifying and developing research tools crucial to the encouragement of scholarly research on Southeast Asia. The Project was conceived of in two phases: (1) evaluating the totality of existing tools available to the scholarly community in order to identify existing gaps and (2) filling those gaps. The first phase of the Project was funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities; funds are now being sought to conduct the second phase.

The evaluation of existing research tools, which was seen as a necessary first step in deciding what important tools were lacking, turned out to be a large project on its own. The evaluation resulted in the production of bibliographic surveys of considerable range and scope, up-to-date, useful to researchers and bibliographers, and worthy of publication. They comprise collectively a revision and expansion of Donald Clay Johnson's *A Guide to Reference Materials on Southeast Asia* (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1970). They are now published here in the series Southeast Asia Papers as Number 16, Parts I through IX.

These inventories of existing research tools were prepared by seven highly qualified Country Specialists, selected by CORMOSEA. They, and the countries of their responsibility, were:

- Dr. Michael Aung Thwin, University of Michigan, Burma
- Ms. Edita R. Baradi, Yale University Library, Philippines
- Mrs. Lan Hiang Char, University of Hawaii at Manoa Library, Indonesia
- Mr. Michael G. Cotter, East Carolina University Library, Vietnam
The bibliographic inventories to specific countries are all published here under the title Southeast Asian Research Tools. In addition, the general report, which summarizes the history of the Project and the various recommendations that emerged, is published as Part I of the series. Not issued in this series is the bibliographic survey of Southeast Asia as a region. This survey will be published separately by the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore.

Every effort has been made to bring this product of the first phase of the Southeast Asian Research Tools Project into published form as rapidly as possible. Our hope throughout has been to make accessible a timely inventory that will aid and encourage viable research in the Southeast Asian area. I am most grateful to Dr. Walter F. Vella, editor of the Southeast Asia Papers series, University of Hawaii at Manoa, for his vital role in editing and facilitating the publication of the reports of the Project.

Shiro Saito
Project Director
University of Hawaii at Manoa Library
I. BIBLIOGRAPHIC STATUS REPORT FOR LAOS

In an effort to identify needs for research tools for scholarly work on the cultures and societies of Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand, I have made a systematic search of the literature for these three countries. From this search, I have identified 271 sources for Cambodia, 311 sources for Laos, and 521 sources for Thailand which I have considered to be, in some way, research tools for use in the study of these countries. Since I am relatively at ease in using sources written in English, French, Thai, and Lao, I feel that I have identified many of the relevant sources in these languages. Sources in Khmer (Cambodian), Vietnamese, Chinese, Japanese, Russian and other European languages are most certainly underrepresented.

In addition to my own search of the sources, I have benefited greatly from the comments and suggestions for additions and revisions made by Professor David K. Wyatt of Cornell University. Professor Wyatt served as a consultant for the project. I also appreciate the suggestions offered by Mr. Michael Cotter, another of the participants in the project.

The questionnaires sent out through Khosana and directly to a number of "in-country" specialists elicited responses from a total of twenty scholars and librarians residing in the United States while seven (all in Thailand) in-country specialists responded. Most of the respondents concerned themselves with Thailand or with Southeast Asia in general. Only three people addressed themselves to needs for the study of Cambodia and five referred to Laos in their responses. These responses are indicative of the almost negligible scholarly attention given to Cambodia by English-speaking specialists and of the rather minimal attention given to Laos.
A. REFERENCE TOOLS BY FORM

Guides and Manuals

There are a number of guidebooks which have been issued for Laos, beginning with one by Baudenne, published in 1911. See also the following, which are listed in chronological order: About; Madroille's Indochine and his Indochine du Nord; and Indochina, French, Service Fédéral de l'Information. No recent guidebooks, other than one by Gagneux specifically for Luang Prabang were identified, although there probably are more recent general guidebooks. All other general guides are subsumed with other general works under Annuals, Handbooks, Directories.

Bibliography

There are a number of general bibliographies for Indochina or Southeast Asia which include items on Laos (Auvade; Boudet; Cabaton; Cordier; Embree; Harvard University, Widener Library; Indochina, French, Direction des Archives et des Bibliothèques; Johnson, Tregonning; Asian Bibliography; U.S. Library of Congress, Reference Dept.; and Nunn). However, these are not so useful as Lafont's Bibliographie du Laos, which is very comprehensive for Western-language materials through to the early 1960s. Lafont's bibliography is also better than a number of others which concern Laos, e.g., Kéne; McKinstry; Mogenet; and Laos (Kingdom), Ho Samut haeng Sat. Lafont's bibliography, again mainly for Western-language materials, was updated in 1973 by Mogenet. A national Lao bibliography has been published several times: Laos, Ministère de l'Education Nationale, Comité Littéraire; Laos (Kingdom), Bibliothèque Nationale; and Laos (Kingdom), Ho Samut haeng Sat. There is no bibliography which does justice to Thai sources about Laos.

There are a number of more specific bibliographies. Several exist which provide guides to literature on geographical, ecological, and scientific subjects (Anglemyer; Halpern and Hafner; Halpern, Hafner, and Haney; Noyer; Carlson). For Laos, the most useful of these are the ones connected with the Mekong River development project, i.e., by Anglemyer and by Halpern and Hafner. Bibliographic materials on the ethnic groups of Laos are contained in several general bibliographies for Southeast Asia (Embree and Thomas; Halpern; and LeBar, Hickey, and Musgrave). However, there is a need for one which specifically concerns the ethnic groups of Laos. There are two bibliographies which concern biographies and writers for Indochina (Barquissau; Brebion) and another which deals with travellers' accounts by Westerners in Indochina between the 9th and 19th centuries. These bibliographies have some utility for Laos, but most of the material in them is contained in Lafont's bibliography.
Periodicals and Newspapers

There are a number of guides to Lao periodical literature: Asia Library Services; U.S. Information Service, Vientiane; Nunn; and Yale University, Library, Southeast Asia Collection. Of these the most useful are the union list by Nunn et al. and the more recent compilation relating to the period from 1973 to 1976 issued by the Asia Library Services.

Encyclopedias

Teston's encyclopaedic account for the whole of Indochina, published in 1932, provides an administrative catalogue and economic overview of Laos. There does not appear to have been any subsequent encyclopaedia concerning Laos.

Annuals, Handbooks, Directories

There are a number of annuals, directories, almanacs, chronologies, and other compendia of information relating to Laos. There are a number of annuals and other general reports published during the period of French rule (see under Indochina, French: *Annuaire de l'Indo-Chine*, *Annuaire des Etats Associes*, *Annuaire general*, Institut d'Emission, and Résidence Supérieure au Laos), all of which concern Indochina generally. Among the first general compendia of information about Laos, de Reinach's *Le Laos*, still remains a valuable source (see also Gosselin and Picanon). Maspéro's *Un Empire Colonial français: l'Indochine* contains excellent sections about Laos for the late colonial period when they were written. The comprehensive survey of what was known of conditions in Indochina just prior to World War II made by the British Naval Intelligence Division contains much valuable material for Laos.

There have been a number of "handbooks" about Laos prepared in the United States (in chronological order: Hickey; LeBar and Suddard; Roberts, et al.; Whitaker, et al.). Each provides a general overview and compilation of data for the periods for which they apply, the early 1950s to 1970. All but the first of these have limited utility because they do not indicate sources other than in a bibliography at the end. The *Area Handbook for Laos*, by Whitaker, et al., the most recent handbook (published in 1971), was prepared under U.S. Army contract and like its immediate predecessor by Roberts, et al. is reported to have been associated with a classified part. The classified parts of these volumes were not available for examination.

Also of general use is a volume put out in French and Lao by the Comité Littéraire which gives official names for all government divisions. The volume in Thai by Bunchuai Sīsawat is particularly
useful for its detailed descriptions of the characteristics of each of the provinces of Laos.

There have been a number of background guides prepared by the Lao, United States, and British governments (U.S. Dept. of Defense, Military Assistance Institute; Laos, Embassy in Washington; Great Britain, British Information Service; U.S. Dept. of State, Bureau of Public Affairs, Office of Media Services). But these works are not of scholarly value in comparison to the handbooks and other sources.

By far the best general background work for the culture, history, language, literature, etc. of Laos is the volume, ed. by René de Berval, entitled Kingdom of Laos. This volume, which was first published in French, does not, however, treat in any adequate way with the transformations of the Lao tradition wrought by colonial rule and by the sociopolitical and socioeconomic changes since 1954. To some extent, this lack is rectified in the volume, Laos: War and Revolution, edited by Adams and McCoy.

The volume, Ethnic Groups of Mainland Southeast Asia, by LeBar, Hickey, and Musgrave provides sketches of each of the ethnic groups of Laos (as well as of ethnic groups elsewhere in mainland Southeast Asia) based on existing materials as of the early 1960s.

Of other general works, there is one by a Lao author, Ukham Phomvongsa, two by a Thai author, Uthai Thepsittha, and several others by Deydier, Marchand, and Nhoy Abhay which might be noted, although these are of less utility than other works listed above.

Dictionaries

There are a number of excellent dictionaries for Lao, those by Reinhorn for Lao-French and Kerr, et al. for Lao-English being extremely useful research tools. There is also a standard Lao-Lao dictionary: Laos (Kingdom), Kasuang Su'ksathikan haeng Sat replacing Laos, Ministère de l'Education Nationale, Comité Littéraire. Other dictionaries include an English-Lao dictionary by Boon Thom Boonyavong, an English-Lao-English dictionary by Marcus, a French-Lao, French dictionary by Nginn, and a Vietnamese-Lao dictionary by Le Duy Luong. There are also dictionaries, one in French and the other in English for Hmong (Meo) by Bertrais-Charrier and by Heimbach. Two useful specialized glossaries are those for plants in Laos by Vidal and for geographical terms by the U.S. Army Map Service.

Biography and Genealogy

Although there is a need for a general biographical index for Laos, there are a number of significant biographical and genealogical sources. There have been efforts to list and provide biographical
materials for members of Lao royal and princely families as well as provide genealogies of kings of Laos (Khamman Vongkotrattana; Pramuanwichaphun, Phraya; and three works by Yim Panthayangkun). There are two works which include biographical information for Laos for the late colonial period (Brebion; Indochina, French, *Souverains...*) and another general source on Indochina which provides some information on nationalist leaders who emerged during World War II (U.S. Dept. of State, Office of Intelligence and Research Analysis). For the post-World War II period, there are a number of sources by de Willemereuil (two works); Laos (Kingdom), Kasuang Kantangpathet, Kom Phithi Kanthut; Haight; Halpern; Laos, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Direction du Protocole; *Personnalités en Laotien Politiques*; Sithat Sithibourn; *Who's Who in Laos,* and Kittá Rataphong. The last work is best for current biography. Also worthy of note is "Who's Who in Laos," which was published in 1960 in *World Today* and was based on an earlier work published in Laos by Sithat Sithibourn.

**Statistics and Census Compendia**

There is no comprehensive guide to statistics about Laos and, thus, one must go to less general sources for what statistical data is available. There are a number of sources for Indochina as a whole, the one by Brenier, published in 1914, being the earliest. In addition there are statistical annuals for Indochina (Indochina, French, *Annuaire de l'Indochine* and *Annuaire général...*; Indochina, French, Service de la Statistique Générale; and Indochina, French, *Annuaire des États Associés*) and statistical retrospectives for the period between 1913 and 1940 (Indochina, French, Inspection Générale des Mines et de l'Industrie and Indochina, French, Direction des Services Économiques). All of the above sources are listed more or less chronologically. There are also periodical statistical reports issued by the Lao government (Laos, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération, Service national de la statistique, *Annuaire statistique du Laos* and *Bulletin de statistique*) from 1950 and an official Lao periodical publication of commercial statistics (Laos, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération, *Bulletin du Commerce extérieur*) from 1955. The United States Operations Mission to Laos issued periodical statistical reports on Laos from the late 1950s (see under U.S. Dept. of State, Agency for International Development). Economic statistics are contained in Lao government development plans (Laos, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération, *Plan de développement...*, *Plan Cadre 1969-1974*, and *Plan Cadre de Développement...*). There is also a compilation of statistics from the 1950s by Halpern.

Population data for Laos are notably unreliable. Pietrantoni has attempted to analyze population data for the colonial period between 1915 and 1945. The census of 1956-1959 (see the two population reports by Laos, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération, *Service de la statistique*) is the only systematic general census
for the post-World War II period. (See also Halpern's *Population Statistics...* and Haight for other presentations of population data based on this census.)

**Government Documents**

There is no adequate guide to the government documents of either the Indochinese government or of the Lao government. Some listing of Indochinese government documents relative to Laos are available (France, Ministère des Colonies, Bibliothèque; Indochina, Directions des Archives et des Bibliothèques; Indochina, French, Institut d'Emission; and Indochina, French, Résidence Supérieure au Laos, the latter specifically on Laos). (For other listings of Lao government documents, see Law and Political Science below.) There is also a listing of documents generated by the Mekong Committee of the U.N. Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East. There is no listing of U.S. government documents relevant to Laos.

**Dissertations**

There is no bibliography of dissertations which concern Laos specifically, but most of the dissertations on Laos have been listed in more general sources. The most comprehensive bibliography is that by Sardesai and Sardesai, but it is worth checking the specific bibliographies for the U.S. by The and van der Veur (updates and replaces the work by Stucki) and for the U.K. by Bloomfield. Updating of all these bibliographies has been undertaken by Shulman.

**Inventories of Archives**

There is no adequate general inventory of manuscripts or archival materials for Laos, although there are some specific inventories relevant to literature and religion (see below). Some materials relevant to Laos might be found in Great Britain as listed in Wainwright, et al., but this has not been checked out. There is a very great need for inventories of Lao archival and manuscript materials as they exist in Laos, in France, and the U.S.

**Atlases and Gazetteers**

Laos has been included in a number of atlases which were produced during the colonial period. Of these, those by Pavie, Chabert and Gallois (appears to be the same as by Gallois above), Brenier, and the Geographical Service of Indochina all remain of
value. A more recent atlas produced in conjunction with the Mekong River Development Project is a truly excellent resource (Engineering Agency for Resources Inventories and the Tennessee Valley Authority).

Several Gazetteers have been produced for Laos (Guide toponymique Zaotien; U.S. National Security Agency; U.S. Army Map Service; U.S. Office of Geography; U.S. Defense Mapping Agency, Topographic Center), of which one issued by the United States Defense Mapping Agency is the most recent and comprehensive. The U.S. Department of State has also issued a set of pamphlets on the boundaries of Laos which are of value.
B. REFERENCE TOOLS BY SUBJECT

Anthropology

The anthropological study of Laos is here construed to include studies of the ethnography of Laos, studies of ethnic groups (including tribal groups), and studies of Lao culture. Prehistory is included with History, and studies of aspects of society (including village studies) are included under Sociology. For cultural sources, also see Religion. There are several works which have reviewed the state of ethnographic or ethnological studies in Laos (Mansuy, published in 1931; Lévy, Lafont, and Wilder, given in chronological order). There is a need for a review which would cover all studies up to 1975 when the change in government effectively brought such studies to an end. The best bibliographical source on the ethnic groups of Laos remains that included in LeBar, Hickey, and Musgrave's Ethnic Groups of Mainland Southeast Asia, although the older bibliography by Embree and Thomas is still of some value (also see Halpern). An updated survey of ethnographic research should also include an updated bibliography.

There are a number of compendia which include information on the ethnic groups of Laos. These include the volumes of the Mission Pavie in the Géographie et voyages series as well as the more recent volumes by Kunstadter and others and the LeBar, Hickey, and Musgrave volume.

The best guide to Lao culture is to be found in the general volume edited by de Berval and in the works of Charles Archaimbault. Perhaps the two best studies of tribal groups in Laos are those by Izikowitz on the Mon-Khmer-speaking Lamet and Lemoine's study of the Green Hmong (Meo).

Archaeology

For the archaeology of Laos, there exists a rather dated guide to archaeological monuments in Indochina, including Laos (see L'Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient) and a more recent bibliographical guide on the archaeological researches carried out in Laos as well as elsewhere in Indochina by Bezacier. There also exists a brief survey of archaeological remains in the Vientiane Plain by Gagneux and Pfeiffer. There is no general compilation of the inscriptions of Laos although some are given in the Mission Pavie as well as in the Coedès compilation of the inscriptions of Cambodia. Clearly, there is a need for more adequate guides to the archaeological remains and inscriptions.
Arts

There do not appear to be comprehensive guides to the art of Laos, although there is a guidebook to art found at Vat Phra Keo in Vientiane by Gagneux. Parmentier's *L'Art du Laos* would appear to be the most general work on iconography and religious art in Laos (also see Deydier; Phou; and Gagneux). Again the articles on art (by Marchal and Karpeles) in de Berval's compendium are very useful. For the music of Laos, see the book by Danielou plus the article by Prince Souvanna Phouma in de Berval. There also exist catalogs of Indochinese stamps and coins which include those of Laos (see *Catalogue de timbre-post* and Daniler).

Business and Economics

Guides and bibliographies of studies relating to business and economics appear to be totally lacking. For the colonial period there were a few early studies (Vitrac; Malpuech), and some economic data on Laos can be found in annuals, bulletins, compendia, and other reports issued by the Indochinese government (see under Indochina, French (1) *Annuaire général*; (2) Direction des Service Economiques; (3) Résidence Supérieure au Laos; (4) *Bulletin de l'agence économique*; (5) Direction de l'Agriculture et du Commerce; (6) Institut d'Emission, *Statistique économiques...*, *Bulletin économique hebdomadaire*, and *Etudes et documents*; (7) Service de la Statistique Générale, *Bulletin économique* and *Indices économiques*). The six volumes of the catalog of Indochinese products produced by Crevost and others also contain data on Lao production during the colonial period. For the post-colonial period there are some government bulletins on economic topics (Laos, Ministère de l'Economie Nationale; Laos, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération, *Bulletin du commerce extérieur*) as well as economic development plans (Laos, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération, *Plan Cadre 1969-1974* and *Plan Cadre de Développement*...), which have some utility. The best general source is a volume by Halpern which is quite dated in that it applies only to the period of the late 1950s and early 1960s. Particularly needed for the period between 1954 and 1975 is a guide to U.S. government reports on foreign aid since Laos was a major recipient of such aid. I have only been able to identify a brief report on U.S. foreign aid to Laos (U.S. Dept. of State, *Agency for International Development*). Guides to foreign aid given by France, the U.N., Japan, and other countries would also be useful.

Education

There exist some basic sources on Lao education, including an annotated bibliography by Haney and several studies made during the colonial period (Indochina, French, *La pénétration scolaire*...), at
the outset of the period of an independent Laos (Bolideau), and a couple of studies made since 1954 (Laos, Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale; Wilder). For an overview of education, also see the articles in the de Berval volume.

**Geography**

For the geography of Laos, there are a number of bibliographies which list much of the relevant literature, although few of these are specific to Laos alone. The most comprehensive are those produced with reference to the Mekong River development project (by Anglemyer and by Halpern, Hafner, and Haney—the latter replacing the work by Halpern and Hafner). There is a specialized bibliography of scientific work carried out in Indochina in the period 1939-1941 by Noyer and a bibliography specifically dealing with the geology and mineralogy of Laos by Khantanh Chantala. There are several general geographical works produced during the colonial period which still are of considerable value. These include the early study by Pavie, a study by Bouault published in 1932, and of particular significance, the volume on Indochina produced by the Naval Intelligence Division of Great Britain. A couple of geographies of Laos have also been produced since independence in 1954 by Hugary and by L'École Espérance Mission Catholique, Vientiane. Also of value are studies of the climate and vegetation of Laos by Nuttonson and by Vidal, the latter being an excellent work in two volumes.

**History**

While there are no general guides to the history and historiography of Laos, there have been periodic state-of-the-art papers on Lao prehistory by Mansuy; Lévy; Malleret; and Saurin, with those by Malleret and Saurin subsuming much of the material in the previous papers. Useful as guides for those interested in the history of Laos are a rather dated listing of historical monuments in Indochina, including Laos (see L'École française d'Extrême-Orient), and an official Thai publication on the political-administrative structure of French Laos (Thailand, Krasuang Kalahom, Krom Yutthasakan Thahan Bok). There is no specific bibliography on the history of Laos, although most Western-language sources can be found in Lafont's general bibliography.

For historical chronologies, there is one for pre-modern Laos by Matheiu published in the de Berval volume and one for the period between 1945 and 1966 published by the British Central Office of Information.

For basic histories of Laos, the main sources include articles by Coedès and Katay in the de Berval collection, Lafont's
dated Histoire du Laos français, a rather brief volume by Lévy, and the somewhat traditional and rather uncritical studies by the Lao historians, Sila Viravong, Ukham Phonvongsa, and Khamman Vongkotrattana (also see Lafont; Manich; and Khamphae Phonekeo, which are of lesser value). There is a definite need for a general scholarly history of Laos.

There are some histories of specific periods which are of considerable utility: those by Pavie and Tournier for the colonial period, the latter being especially useful (also see Nguyen Van Que), and Thompson for the late colonial period. Sisouk na Champasak's Storm over Laos, although told from the perspective of the Lao right-wing, is still useful for the period between 1945 and 1961.

For historiography, the best general source is the compilation of the results of a seminar held in Laos in 1971 (Sammana pavatsat Lao...). There is a discussion of the terms Lao, Tai, etc. by Briggs and another on the ancient names of Luang Prabang by Coedès.

For biographical and genealogical sources, there are a number of works on Lao royalty and princely families (Indochina, French, Souverains...; Khamman Vongkotrattana; Pramuan wichaphun, Phraya; and three works by Yim Panthayangkun). Of value for those interested in the events of the 1940s and 1950s are the autobiographies of two Lao very much involved in these events, Cao Phetcharat and Oun Sananikone. For more recent biography of Lao political leaders see the volume by Kitti Ratsaphong. (Also see Sociology for other biographical sources).

There are a number of sources which bring together primary documents or provide guides to such documents. A volume by Raquez, published in 1902, is particularly good on unpublished manuscripts, and the Mission Pavie includes many traditional sources. There is a volume which has appeared in many bibliographies, Annales du Laos, but no copy of this exists, at least in American collections. For sources for more recent history, see the compilation by Adams and McCoy.

Language and Linguistics

For languages in Laos, there are discussions of the languages and language families of Laos contained in more general sources (Benedict; Savina). The bibliographies by Shorto, et al. and by Bounlieng provide good introductions to the sources on language in Laos.

A number of texts exist for the study of the Lao language, the two standard ones for English-speakers wishing to learn to
speak Lao being those by Roffe and Roffe and by Yates, et al.
For those interested in learning to read Lao, Reinhorn’s text is still quite useful. For the study of the ‘dhammic script’ (tua tham) in which traditional religious texts were written, there are a number of study guides in Lao (Khamphun Philavong; Luang Mahasena (Phui), Phanya; and Vajiranavanisuddhi). There is also a study guide in Lao for learning Hmong (Meo) (Khana Sasana Thut Khao Prasoet nai Prathet Lao).

Of grammars of the Lao language, that by Nginn appears to be the best (also see Hospitalier).

Law

For law in Laos, there are at least two works which provide some guidance to traditional and customary law (Laos, Ministère de l’Education Nationale, Comité Littéraire and Phouvong Phimmason), although considerably more work needs to be done in this field. For the transformation of Lao law in the early colonial period, see the works by Michel and Mongeot. The best guide to laws promulgated during the colonial period is a work published by the Indochinese government for the whole of Indochina (Indochina, French, Laws, Statutes, etc. (Indexes)). There are many other works in which laws are published, but these are not included here. Also for law during the colonial period, see work published under official Thai auspices in 1941 (Thailand, Krom Aiyakan). There is no adequate guide or compendium of Lao law since independence, although compilations of laws have been published (listed below under Laos, Laws, Statutes, etc.) as have the various constitutions (Laos, Laws, Statutes, etc.; France, Constitution du Royaume Laos; Laos, Laos). For an introduction to the transformation of law in Laos, see the brief article by Westermeyer. There needs to be a good index to the laws of Laos both for the colonial and post-colonial periods.

Libraries

Libraries in Laos have not been developed to any great extent. Traditionally, manuscripts were kept in temple-monasteries (vat) and only with the onset of colonialism did Western-style libraries begin to make an appearance. One of the earliest of these was the royal library at Luang Prabang, described in a 1913 article by Mélèr. A guide to the national library as it was in 1958 also exists (Keolouangkhot). Perhaps the best guide to library collections is still to be found in Finot’s study published in 1917. (Finot’s catalogue was republished in 1958 by Kéne.) There also exist two useful catalogues of collections in temple-monasteries by Lafont and by Kéne.
Literature

For Lao literature there exists a brief bibliography of major manuscripts of Lao literature (Ratsabandit Sapha Lao), and other bibliographies can be found in inventories of collections as well as in the index to Finot's study. For general introductions to Lao literature there are the articles in the de Berval volume, a brief overview by Bernard Thierry, and a study in Lao by Khamphaeng Ketvong. By far the best work on Lao literature, focusing primarily on religious literature, is the study by Finot. This superb work provides a systematic guide to the traditional literature of Laos, a summary of the contents of many of the works (together with translated extracts), and an analysis of the history and development of the Lao literary tradition. For other guides to traditional Lao religious literature, there are articles by Phovong Phimmason and Lafont, the latter dealing specifically with works in Pali. Lavong and Saveng Phinith have published good guides to more contemporary literature, with Lafont emphasizing political literature.

There are a number of guides to collections of Lao literature in manuscript form (Raquez; Finot; Coedès, Kéne; Lafont; and Wenk, given in chronological order). However, there needs to be a union list for such materials plus a guide to the archival collections in France. Some Lao literature has been translated, at least in part, beginning with those pieces appearing in the Mission Pavie collections and Leclère's compilation. (Also see Senny and Berval).

Political Science

For the political scientific study of Laos there exist guides to political-administrative structure of both French Laos as of 1941 (Thailand, Krasuang Kalahom, Krom Yutthasuksa Thahan Bok) and of Laos in the 1950s and 1960s (Guerrini). Also useful as a guide is Lafont's review of the political literature of Laos since World War II. There is no general bibliography of works in Lao politics, but there is a specialized bibliography dealing with the period of the early 1970s by Cawley.

The British Central Office of Information has published a chronology of events in Laos (as well as in Cambodia and Vietnam) from 1945-1966. There is a need for an updated chronology covering the period between 1966 and 1975. For general background on Lao political structure and political processes for the period from World War II and 1970, the study by Halpern and the compilation of articles and documents edited by Adams and McCoy are the most useful. There are a number of sources of biographies of political leaders. For the late colonial
period there is an official publication by the Indochinese government (Indochina, French, Souverains et notabilités...) and a publication by the U.S. Department of State, Office of Intelligence and Research Analysis. Of the several sources for the post-colonial period (Sithat Sithibouru; "Who's Who in Laos;" "Personalities in Laotian Politics;" and Kittī Ratsaphong), that by Kittī Ratsaphong is the most current. There also exist sources on the members of the Lao National Assembly and the Lao diplomatic corps (two works by de Willemereuil and Laos (Kingdom), Kasuang Kantangpathet, Kom Phithi Kanthut), but there is no adequate guide to the membership in these Lao political and bureaucratic bodies or to those who have filled other official positions.

The autobiographies by Prince Phetcharat and of Oun Sanamikone are particularly useful as background sources for the period of the 1940s and 1950s since these two had important roles in the events of the period.

There is no general listing of Lao government publications, although a selection of documents has been published by the Australian Department of External Affairs along with documents generated by other states and international bodies on questions dealing with Laos. There is a need for a union list of all Lao official publications and of all other official documents dealing with Laos.

For guides to works on the events during the end of the colonial period, Lancaster's study, The Emancipation of French Indoahina still remains the best source (also see the works by Katay and Sisouk for discussions of events of this period). Roger Smith's article, "Laos," remains the best general source for the period between 1954 and mid-1960s (also see Modelski; Sisouk; Fall for other materials on this period). For political events up to 1970, Dommen's study, Conflict in Laos is the best background study (also see Gettleman; Toye; and Langer and Zasloff), while Stevenson's study, The End of Nowhere is particularly good for the same period regarding the American role in Laos. For discussion of events leading to the coming to power of the Pathet Lao, see the various works written or edited by Zasloff. There is no good source on Lao government and politics since 1975.

Religion

For Lao religion, or more specifically the religion of the Lao people (tribal religion has been subsumed under Anthropology), the best general source is Marcel Zago's Rites et cérémonies en milieu bouddhiste Lao. Also good as a basic source for religious practices are the articles contained in the de Berval volume. Condominas' study of popular religion in Laos and Archaimbault's focused studies of specific rites and practices also provide good guides to Lao religious beliefs and practices. For introduction to Buddhist
iconography, see Gagneux’s study of the Buddha image, and for guides to Buddhist literature there are the studies by Lafont and Phouvong Phimmasone.

Inventories of manuscripts containing Buddhist texts also exist (Kêne; Lafont; Coedès). However, the best guide to Buddhist literature and Buddhist texts remains Finot’s superb, “Recherches sur la littérature laotienne.” This work and Zago’s study provide the best guides to the Buddhist tradition as it is expressed in texts and rituals in Laos.

Sociology

For the sociology of Laos, the best general guides are the now rather dated studies by Halpern based on researches and published materials from the 1950s and early 1960s. To some extent the area handbooks on Laos (Whitaker’s being the most recent) have provided the updating of the Halpern studies. The demography of Laos is in a parlous state given the paucity and unreliability of population statistics (Laos, Ministère du Plan et de la Coopération, Service de la Statistique, Population officielle du Laos and Population statistiques). There is a brief study of the population of Laos for the period of 1915 to 1945 by Pietrantoni, and Halpern analyzed some population statistics from the 1950s. However, there is a need for a critical assessment of population statistics from Laos together with reference to reports (such as those made by U.S. officials in Laos) on population movements during the period of the 1960s and 1970s.

There have been no good studies of elites in Laos, although some biographical material exists (for example, Sithat Sithibourn; "Who's Who in Laos;" Haight; and Laos, Ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Direction du Protocole). Lao rural society, particularly in the Vientiane Plain, has been rather well studied, although there is no one single basic source nor any comprehensive village study (see Kaufman; Gaudillot and Condominas; and Condominas—works on tribal peoples are listed under Anthropology).

The study of health in Laos is best approached by first consulting the work by Breakey and Voulgaropoulos. (Also see U.S. Department of Defense, Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.)

For other works on Lao society, see under Anthropology, Economics, and Political Science.
II. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEEDED REFERENCE TOOLS TO BE PRODUCED

As with Cambodia, the production of new research tools for the study of Lao culture and society is particularly difficult given that little or no cooperation can be expected from scholars and librarians within Laos. (This situation is not quite so acute as for Cambodia and some cooperation might be effected if proper approaches were made.) Lao refugees could be particularly helpful in the production of such tools.

FIRST PRIORITY

1. Guide to archival and manuscript materials.

While there are some guides to archival and manuscript material, there is no composite listing which would make it possible to assess the range and type of Lao texts. It would be essential that materials in France, the U.S., the U.K., and Thailand, as well as those in Laos itself, be inventoried.

2. Union catalogue of Lao-language materials.

The need here is to identify all Lao government documents produced since Laos became an independent country to the present. It would be hoped that this project could include holdings in Laos as well as in collections outside Laos.


This tool should probably be created in conjunction with bibliographies of French (Indochinese) documents relating to Vietnam and Cambodia as well as Laos.


The intensive and massive U.S. involvement in Laos during the period from the late 1950s until 1975 generated a very large number of reports, evaluations, and assessments by American officials and contract personnel in Laos. There is a need for such documents to be systematically identified, declassified if not already available, and listed in a comprehensive bibliography.

5. Catalogs of censuses and statistical materials.

There is a need to combine in a single listing all references to statistical and census data for Laos, together with a critical evaluation of the utility of the data included in the compilations. Reference to U.S. official reports on population movements in Laos during the 1960s and 1970s should also
be included in this source.

6. Survey and bibliographical guide to ethnographic research in Laos.

There needs to be an updating of the materials given in LeBar, Hickey, and Musgrave, *Ethnic Groups in Southeast Asia*, specifically for Laos, together with a critical evaluation of the studies on ethnic groups in Laos which have been completed.

7. Basic history of Laos.

There is a need for a new basic history of Laos to supplant Le Boulanger's work. This work should include a critical analysis of the sources for Lao history.

SECOND PRIORITY

1. Historical atlas for Laos.

2. Bibliography of dictionaries and grammars about Tai languages, including those of Laos.

3. Bibliography of Thai sources about Laos.

4. Biographical listing of leaders in Laos from ca. 1939 to the present together with an index to all biographical sources available on Laos.

5. Comparative Tai dictionary and grammar. To be undertaken in conjunction with work on Thailand.

6. Compilation of political documents for Laos for the period between 1954 and 1975 and for the period since 1975.

7. Compilation of all constitutions of Laos. Perhaps to be undertaken in conjunction with a larger project on the constitutions of all of Southeast Asia.


10. Guide to religious beliefs and iconography of Laos. This is not so pressing as it is for Cambodia, but should be undertaken in conjunction with a comparative guide for all the Buddhist countries of Southeast Asia.

ABBREVIATIONS OF SOURCES IN ANNOTATIONS


WYATT: David K. Wyatt, member of the Evaluation Committee.
III. BIBLIOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF EXISTING REFERENCE TOOLS

A. REFERENCE TOOLS BY FORM

GUIDES AND MANUALS


THROMBLEY & SIFFIN: "Volume I deals with the Lower Mekong Basin region as a whole and with Thailand; volume II, with Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. These sections are, in turn, subdivided by subject matter: agriculture, climate, education, electric power, fisheries, forestry and vegetation, geology, health, industry, minerals, population, and soils. For the most part, the entries represent material available in the Washington, D.C. area. Entries are not annotated. (In English and French.)" p. 122.


THROMBLEY & SIFFIN: "Issued in June and December of each year since 1952, this is actually the accessions list of the ECAFE library. Indexed by area; items are classified by topic. Non-English titles are translated into English. The scope and relevance of the ECAFE library's collection make this a useful source." p. 123.


Bibliography


Alphabetical subject index with author index in section two of vols. 1-3. Each work listed under relevant subjects and is not restricted to one listing per title. Includes books and articles, government publications and periodical volumes, mostly in French or with French or Indochina imprints. Vol. I duplicates some of the books listed in Cordier's *Bibliotheca indosinica*, but includes periodical articles only if published after 1913. Some annotations. Vols. III and IV include publications in indigenous languages published in 1930 and later, particularly valuable for locating Vietnamese-language publications on Buddhism, Caodaism, "Langue annamite," "Littérature annamite," and "Périodiques." Entries in Vietnamese have titles translated into French. Vol. IV includes publications in Russian and some other European languages."


Index to the bibliography compiled by Henri Cordier.

COTTER: "Subject arrangement of over 1300 books, articles, reports, and unpublished masters' and doctoral theses in English, of which about 90 are on Indochina. Scope includes human geography, agriculture, medical geography and physical geography. Contents are limited to English-language publications, therefore omits basic bibliographies for Vietnamese studies.... Also omits *Area Handbooks* on North and South Vietnam...."


- v. 1 Western language monographs: Cambodia
- v. 2 Western language monographs: Laos
- v. 3 Western language monographs: Thailand
- v. 5 Vernacular monographs: Thailand, Laos
- v. 6 Vernacular monographs: Cambodia
- v. 7 Serials, Newspapers, Maps


Still an important reference for ethnographic and cultural research.

THROMBLEY & SIFFIN: "Pages 461-558 of this monumental compilation deal with Thailand and the Thai people. 'No attempt is made to include political history, economics or welfare although all of these fields are partially included in various contexts. Human geography is largely included in the ethnology sections and some material on education is included under cultural history' (p. xiv). A valuable tool for social and cultural research." p. 125.
Bibliography


Although has been superseded by LeBar, Hickey, and Musgrave's *Ethnic Groups of Mainland Southeast Asia*, this work still provides a useful guide to the literature prior to 1950 on the ethnic groups of Laos and northern Thailand.


A very short bibliography, including publications in America and by Americans.


Replaced by publication of 1974.


COTTER: "Contains the publications printed in Indochina and sent to the Dépot légal. Includes periodical and non-periodical publications; entry includes full bibliographical description. Subject and author indexes are in each issue. From 1923 to 1935 provided the basis for Boudet and Bourgeois' *Bibliographie de l'Indochine française*.


A major reference tool for anyone wishing to carry out any kind of research on Thailand, Laos, or Cambodia.


A compilation of Western (basically French) sources. Not nearly as useful as Lafont's *Bibliographie du Laos*.


Lists by title in Lao and in Romanized form 553 texts or segments of the Buddhist canon which are found in manuscript form in the libraries of Luang Phrabang, Vientiane, Savannakhet, Pakse and Champasak. Each title is identified as to which of these libraries contains a copy.

NUNN: "Includes 1867 books and periodical articles published from 1800 to 1962, mostly in French. There are, however, a few English and German titles, and a short section with Laotian, Vietnamese, Thai and Russian entries. 39 periodicals were surveyed. The bibliography is arranged by broad subjects, and one sixth of the entries are annotated. This bibliography is much more comprehensive than Thao Kene *Bibliographie du Laos* (Vientiane, 1958. 68 p.) and John McKinstry *Bibliography of Laos and Ethnically Related Areas* (Berkeley, 1962, 89 p.) both of which are arranged alphabetically by author and title and have a much smaller number of entries." p. 77.

"This is a superior bibliography compiled by a French anthropologist and delegate de l'Ecole Francaise d'Extreme Orient. Not only is it comprehensive for Western languages, but also it includes sources in Russian, Thai, Japanese, Chinese, and Lao. It is well indexed and the breakdown of categories are very logical and usable so that it is easy to find all the references on a single topic. Contains 1867 sources, of which 48 are in Lao, 6 in Thai (Siamese), 48 in Vietnamese, 78 in Russian and a few in Chinese. The remainder are mainly in French, with some English and German sources."

Very poor coverage of Lao and Thai sources.


NUNN: "The first volume published by the National Library, but the third sponsored by the Asia Foundation. Separate sections for subject, author and title. Dewey Decimal Classification numbers given. 360 titles are noted. In Lao." p. 77.

68 pp. AMS Z3228 L2L29.


This work provides a comprehensive survey of the ethnic groups found in Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand and includes a basic bibliography for those interested in making studies of these groups.


LAFONT: Very incomplete for those publications in languages other than English.


wyatt: Updating of Lafont's bibliography. Provides coverage of Lao and Thai materials.
Bibliography


Not a very useful reference source except as a supplement to other bibliographies.

COTTER: "Arranged by country, then by era or by subject, with a section on Southeast Asia in general. Mostly English-language books, with some periodical articles. Short descriptive annotations, omits pagination of books. Inconsistent in entries...."

PERIODICALS AND NEWSPAPERS


A combination guide and catalogue of available materials in microform and other forms prepared by Asia Library Services. Mainly concerned with newspapers and periodical literature published in Thailand and Laos from 1973 to 1976. Contains articles on newspapers in Thailand and newspapers in Laos and bibliographic guides to some journal articles published in the same period, to a selected number of unpublished papers and reports, to dissertations on Thailand, to a selection of books published in Asia on Thailand and (to a lesser extent) Laos, to a selection of books recently published in the West on Thailand and Laos, a guide to publishers in Asia, etc. Useful primarily for its guide to periodical literature in Thailand and Laos.


"Compiled under the auspices of the South-East Asia Library Group, this catalogue lists periodical publications published in, or relating to, the countries of South-East Asia. Periodicals of all frequencies are listed, including daily newspapers, and both current and extinct publications are included. Entries give place of publication, dates of first and last appearance, alternative titles and locations in contributing libraries in the United Kingdom and Europe." (from prospectus).


"Listing some 26,000 publications, this catalogue provides a single reference source for periodicals published in Southeast Asia from the beginning of the nineteenth century until early 1975. Serial publications of all frequencies are listed, although newspapers are excluded. Entries give information on added titles, place of publication, publisher, date of first issue and frequency. 100,000 library locations are listed by country, grouped into three categories: Western Europe, United States and Southeast Asia." (from prospectus).
Periodicals and Newspapers

COTTER: "List of 948 newspapers in 21 libraries--including four in Saigon--most of which are in Japan, France, or the United States. ...List is retrospective; therefore includes many no longer published. Includes official administrative newspapers as well as non-official publications. Does not report any holdings of libraries in Hanoi.

Critically reviewed by P.B. Lafont in BEFEO 62 (1975), 514-515 for its inaccuracies and omissions about Vietnamese newspapers in Cambodia from the 1930's to the 1960's."


COTTER: "Alphabetical listing by author or title of 3,748 serials in the Yale University Library, of which over 100 are on Vietnam. Includes many references to government publications, society publications, and limited editions of materials published before 1945 in all languages. Includes serials on microform as well as printed works. ...Some Russian periodicals on Asia are included in the bibliography, but are not listed in the "Index by country of origin." Lists individual titles of monograph series and holdings in the library of most series."

LAFONT: Gives an administrative catalogue and economic overview of Laos.
ANNUALS, HANDBOOKS, DIRECTORIES


This is clearly the best introduction to the culture and history of Laos. A translation from the French *Présence du Royaume Laos*, published in 1956.

NUNN: An encyclopedic survey of the geography, history, arts, ethnography, religion, language and literature, folklore, education economy and external relations of Laos, with many illustrations and a bibliography of some 500 books and articles, almost entirely in French. No index." p. 76.


A book written for the literate Thai public. Contains general information about the country and discussion of ethnic groups, history, (including mythical/legendary origins, traditional history, history during the French period, and history of events since World War II to 1959), politico-administrative organization during the French period and after independence, the Lao constitution, and post-independence economics. Of particular use is the information given on each of the provinces of Laos. (Lafont has listed the author as B.X.S. Savat, a confusing designation.)


An excellent work on the character of Laos (geography, history, ethnography, religion, administrative organization) as was known at the beginning of the French period. Still an excellent general source.


A general introduction covering geography, history, religion, ethnography, and archaeology.


A most important reference source for the pre-World War II period.


The first of the American handbooks on Laos. Still useful for information concerning Laos at the time of independence.


HRAF: "This is a basic source for relatively recent information on all aspects of Indochinese life. While particularly useful regarding political structure and economy, it is somewhat shallow in the cultural sphere."

Indochina, French. Institut d'Emission. Études et documents.

LAFONT: Irregular publication which presents economic studies and financial documents.


Gives official names, in Lao and French, for all government divisions.


This book has, until quite recently, been the most commonly used general introduction to Laos available in English. It has been replaced by subsequent army handbooks edited by Roberts and Whitaker respectively. This work, while useful, is seriously marred insofar as scholars are concerned in that it provides no indications of the sources of information save for a general bibliography at the end.

See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


An excellent source for both general ethnographic background on Laos and Cambodia, for introductions to the traditional cultures and histories of these societies, and for descriptions of various aspects of the society and economy of these societies at the high point of French colonial rule.


Contains articles on Lao customs, religion, and literature. Not as useful as the *Kingdom of Laos*, ed. by Berval, or as the works of Archaimbault as an introduction to Lao culture; but, still remains a good introduction.


This book, prepared under U.S. Army contract by Foreign Area Studies of the American University, supersedes the handbook on Laos ed. by LeBar and Suddard. Its main utility is in surveying changes which had occurred in Laos between the late 1950s and the mid-1960s. Like its predecessor it contains no indications of sources other than a bibliography at the end.


The latest in the series of handbooks which was initiated by the volume edited by Hickey in 1955. This volume updates and replaces the volume by Roberts *et al.* published in 1967. This volume contains information on events through to the early part of 1971. This volume, like its predecessor, was prepared under U.S. Army contract by Foreign Area Studies of the American University. Also like its predecessor, it contains no indications of sources other than a bibliography at the end.
Dictionaries

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DICTIONARIES


This work was prepared primarily for Lao who study English and it still has some utility for that purpose.

NUNN: "Nearly 6,000 words with Lao equivalents. No examples of usage." p. 76.


NUNN: "16,000 words in Laotian script, followed by romanization and translation into French with no examples of usage. There is a seventy-page introduction to Laotian." p. 76.


By far the most comprehensive of Lao-English dictionaries. Together with Reinhorn's *Dictionnaire Laotien-Français* the standard reference source.

Supersedes following entry.


The major Lao-Lao dictionary. See preceding entry for later edition in one volume.


A rather limited dictionary in comparison to those by Kerr and Reinhorn.


This is a monumental work which is a basic reference tool for anyone working with Lao materials.


Gives names in Lao, Kha, and Meo.
BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY


LAFONT: "Comporte aussi la liste des députés des trois premières législatures." p. 95.


The body of this monograph treats Lao society and polity primarily from the vantage of field experiences in 1957 and 1959. Contains a number of brief biographies of Lao leaders and others whom Halpern interviewed in 1959. Also includes statistics on religion, education, bureaucracy and elections of 1955 and 1958.

TREGONNING: "An analysis of Lao society and government with useful statistical data, and with insights into the lives, careers and thoughts of various Laos."
Biography and Genealogy


On viceroyal family.


Best source for current biography.


Biography and Genealogy


*Wyatt:* Especially good on unpublished literary manuscripts.


*Lafont:* "Biographies of ministers, former ministers, councillors of the King, members of Parliament. Has been used for "Who's Who in Laos" in *World Today.*"


Based on work by Sithat Sithibourn.

Yim Panthayangkun, "Lamdap ratchawong kasat haeng prathet Lao" ('The Genealogical Table of the Kings of Laos'), *Sinlapakorn* (Bangkok), 5:6 (1962), supplement.

On royal genealogy.

Yim Panthayangkun, "Lamdap ratchawong na Champasak" ('The Genealogical Table of the Royal Family of Champasakdi'), *Sinlapakorn* (Bangkok), 5:6 (1962), supplement.
STATISTICS AND CENSUS COMPENDIA


LAFONT: "Compilation of published statistics by the Direction of Statistics of Laos, by the United States Operations Mission to Laos, by the U.N. Subject to caution."


HRAF: "This is a basic source for relatively recent information on all aspects of Indochinese life. While particularly useful regarding political structure and economy, it is somewhat shallow in the cultural sphere."


Indochina, French. Service de la Statistique Générale. Annuaire statistique de l'Indochine. Hanoi, 1927-1948. (Vol. 1 "Recueil de statistiques" and supplement cover the years 1913 to 1926.)

Superseded by Annuaire statistique du Laos and Annuaire statistique du Cambodge.


Indochina, French. Service de la Statistique Générale. Indices économiques indochinois. Hanoi, 1932-.


Also listed under Laos. Direction des Douanes et Régies.

LAFONT: Irregular publication. The statistical facts which are presented are subject to caution.


Also listed under Laos. Commissariat au plan.


Issues also noted for 1970.


Includes the population census figures of 1956-1959.


GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS


LAFONT: Irregular publication which presents economic studies and financial documents.


COTTER: "Contains the publications printed in Indochina and sent to the dépôt légal. Includes periodical and non-periodical publications; entry includes full bibliographical description. Subject and author indexes are in each issue. From 1923 to 1935 provided the basis for Boudet and Bourgeois' Bibliographie de l'Indochine française."

COTTER: "Bibliography of reports on the Lower Mekong Project: Committee sessions, annual and semi-annual reports, executive agent reports, programme reports, notes by the Secretariat and miscellaneous reports, seminar and sub-committee reports, and reports by other U.N. agencies and countries outside the Mekong area."


"This volume represents a gleaning from the indexes to the British Parliamentary Papers to identify entries directly relevant to Southeast Asia. This index should serve to unlock this massive volume of materials for Southeast Asia scholars. Although the preponderance of information deals with the former British territories, users will be surprised at the quantity of material treating other parts of Southeast Asia as well." (from prospectus).


COTTER: "Subject listing of 2,814 doctoral dissertations presented in the U.S., U.S.S.R., British Isles, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines, the Netherlands, Czechoslovakia, and Japan, and to a lesser extent, in France, Germany, Thailand, India, and Canada. Includes Masters' theses from American University, the University of Chicago, the University of California, and Cornell and Columbia universities. Includes about 284 entries for Vietnam and Indochina. Author index. Russian language dissertations are listed in both Russian and in English. ... According to the introductory note, the publisher will provide a microfiche copy of any dissertation listed in the bibliography."


An attempt is made in this publication to include dissertations written at Universities in Europe, Australia and Asia as well as in North America. Listings for Cambodia and Laos are classified under "Indochina."


Covers the gap between the The and Van der Veur survey and the semiannual publication begun by Shulman.

Includes appendix of master's theses at Cornell University, 1933-June 1968.

A very useful source for identifying dissertations written in America during the period concerning Thailand, Laos and Cambodia.

Superseded by *Treasures and Trivia* by The and van der Veur.


THROMBLEY & SIFFIN: "Lists doctoral dissertations on Southeast Asia done in American universities, 136 of them on Thailand. The earliest entries are dated prior to the 1930's, and the most recent, mid-1968. Items are not annotated." p. 129.
INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES


HART: "Descriptions of 23 manuscripts in Pali language written in Lao script, 82 manuscripts in Yuan (dialect spoken in northern Thai provinces) and 10 manuscripts in Thai. Earliest manuscript is dated 1688 and the latest in 1906." p. 22.


Basic collection of Khmer and particularly Angkorean inscriptions.

Also includes inscriptions found in Laos.


This classic and still unsurpassed study both describes the various types of traditional literature found in Laos (almost all religious in nature) and provides a catalogue of Lao manuscripts as they existed in various collections in Laos and in the possession of the l'Ecole française d'Extrême-Orient.

This catalogue is basically a reprinting of the catalogue contained in an appendix/index to Finot's study, *Recherches sur la Littérature Laotienne*. This catalogue has no additional value.

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See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.

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In this article, Lafont (delegue de l'Ecole F.E.O.), lists all of the manuscripts by language (Pali, Lao) in the wats in Luang Prabang, Vientiane, Savannakhet, and Champassac. The interesting thing is the relatively minimal overlapping of holdings in the four towns.

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Catalogue of Lao manuscripts found in Germany.
ATLASES AND GAZETTEERS


Most recent gazetteer.


COTTER: "Derived from Army Map Service 1:100,000-scale maps.--Gazetteer 79."


NUNN: "15,300 place and feature names, together with their classification and longitude and latitude." p. 76.

Superseded by U.S. Defense Mapping Agency, Topographic Center, Laos....
B. REFERENCE TOOLS BY SUBJECT

ANTHROPOLOGY


Although the topic of this monograph would appear to be rather narrow, this study provides an excellent and detailed introduction to the elements of Lao ritual. Of particular value is the glossary of ritual terms.


This work, containing 10 of Archaimbault's articles, provides a detailed guide to the ritual elements of Lao religion and to the relationships between Lao mythology, rituals, and social life. Whereas Zago's book provides a general and systematic overview of Lao religion, this work provides the specialist with an excellent groundwork for research into almost any aspect of traditional Lao religion.


Barney, George L. The Meo of Xieng Khouang Province. Los Angeles, 1961-. (Dept. of Anthropology, UCLA. Laos project paper no. 13.)


See under HANDBOOKS, ANNUALS, DIRECTORIES.


See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Halpern, Joel M. *An Annotated bibliography on the peoples of Laos and Northern Thailand*. Los Angeles, 1961-. (Dept. of Anthropology, UCLA. Laos project paper no. 5.) 6 p.

A very short bibliography, including publications in America and by Americans.

Halpern, Joel Martin. *Aspects of Village Life and Culture Change in Laos*. N.Y., Council on Economic and Cultural Affairs, 1958; 143 p., illus., map. UN DAGL 308 (598.2) H195.

Study made in the vicinity of Luang Phrabang.

Halpern, Joel M. *Geographic, demographic and ethnic background on Laos*. Los Angeles, 1961-. (Dept. of Anthropology, UCLA. Laos project paper no. 4.)

Subsumes the same information included in Laos Project Paper No. 3.


Still a classic study of a non-Lao group, in this case a Mon-Khmer group. A basic source not only for an understanding of Mon-Khmer tribal groups in Laos, but also for similar groups in northern Thailand.


Still a basic source for rural society in Laos prior to 1975. However, the work of Condominas has superseded this work.


Provides introductions to the ethnic groups of Laos (by Joel Halpern and Peter Kunstadter) and Thailand (by Peter Kunstadter) with useful summarized statistical data. Also contains more specialized articles on Laos and Thailand. A good supplement to, but not substitute for, LeBar, Hickey, and Musgrave's *Ethnic Groups of Mainland Southeast Asia*.


See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


A basic ethnographic study of the "Green Meo" of Sayaboury Province. Together with Izikowitz' study of the Lamet, this is the best study of a non-Lao group.


LAFONT: "These volumes are entirely concerned with Laos." p. 23.
I. & II. Exposé des travaux de la mission.
III. Voyage au Laos et chez les sauvages du sud-est de l'Indochine.
IV. Voyage au centre de l'Annam et du Laos et dans les régions sauvages du centre de l'Indochine.
V. Voyage dans le Haut Laos et sur les frontières de Chine et de Birmanie.
VI. Passage du Mekong au Tonkin.
A major source for information regarding the conditions in what became Laos in the late 1880s and early 1890s. Of considerable ethnographic value. Also concerns the formation of French Laos.


LAFONT: "An excellent study and the only reference source on the subject. Indicates the various modes for using plants and the most utilized plants in the Lao pharmacopia."


Basic collection of Khmer and particularly Angkorean inscriptions. Also includes inscriptions found in Laos.


For Laos, see pp. 99-104.


I. *Recherches sur la littérature du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.*
II. *Recherches sur l'histoire du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.*
III. *Recherches sur l'histoire naturelle de l'Indochine orientale.*

Still remains one of the major sources for studies of the literature and cultural history of Laos and to a lesser extent of Cambodia and Thailand (particularly northeastern Thailand). Also contains material of geographic interest. Vol. II. contains inscriptions transcribed and translated by M. Schmitt.


This article anticipates archaeological work which Solheim was to undertake, together with a number of students and colleagues from Thailand, in northeastern Thailand. The value of this article is that it stresses the importance of the need for research on both archaeological and ethnographic topics in area of the Mekong Valley project.

See under HANDBOOKS, ANNUALS, DIRECTORIES.


Vol. 1. treats iconography.


LAFONT: Summary of the projects of the Mission française d'Aide Économique et Technique in Laos.

Halpern, Joel M. *Economy and society of Laos*. New Haven, Yale University, 1964. (Southeast Asia Studies, Monograph Series, No. 5.)

In this work, Halpern attempts to integrate both his own researches on Lao society and economy, based on field work in 1957 and 1959, and those of others in providing an introduction to the ethnography, types of economic activities, and socioeconomic changes in Laos. Includes considerable statistical data and tabular information.

TREGONNING: "Integrates earlier work on northern and central Laos of a socioeconomic nature with additional material on various aspects of the economy and the people. One of the most useful of the few detailed surveys available."


LAFONT: "Repeats some of the same facts and previous publications."


LAFONT: Irregular publication which presents economic studies and financial documents.


Also listed as Institut d'Emission des États du Cambodge, du Laos, et du Vietnam. Service des Études Économiques et Financières.


Indochina, French. Service de la Statistique Générale. *Indices économiques indochinois*. Hanoi, 1932-.


Also listed under Laos. Direction des Douanes et Régies.

LAFONT: Irregular publication. The statistical facts which are presented are subject to caution.


LAFONT: Concerns agriculture and commerce.

Contains article by Somlith Pathammavong on "Compulsory Education in Laos."


See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


Fascicule 4, 72 pages, treats Laos and Cambodia.


See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


A school text.


A most important reference source for the pre-World War II period.


I. *Recherches sur la littérature du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.*
II. *Recherches sur l'histoire du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.*
III. *Recherches sur l'histoire naturelle de l'Indochine orientale.*

See under ARCHAEOLOGY.


LAFONT: An excellent study.

Although produced as a brief for the anti-war movement, this collection of essays contains much valuable information and analysis of contemporary Lao society. After three articles on "The Land and Its People," there are 9 articles which discuss modern Lao history from early part of the 19th-century through to the War in Indochina as of 1970. The third part deals with aspects of American involvement in Laos. Part four includes several official American statements regarding Laos. Part five contains 6 articles on the Pathet Lao. The selected bibliography is much too brief to be of any great use.

*Annales du Laos (Luang Prabang, Vientiane, Tran Ninh, Bassac)*. Hanoi, 1926.

LAFONT: Partial translation of the annals of the four regions.

WYATT: Although listed in several bibliographies, no one has ever found a copy.


See under HANDBOOKS, ANNUALS, DIRECTORIES.


(A translation into English by C.A. Messner can be found in the HRAF files.)

The standard political history of Laos which badly needs to be replaced by a study which makes use of considerable additional researches and which gives greater emphasis to socioeconomic and sociocultural history.

Although dated, this article still is a useful baseline source for the study of the history of Tai-speaking peoples in Southeast Asia.

Cao Phetcharat: *burut lek hāeng rātcha-ānāak lāo* ['Prince Pethsarath: Iron Man of the Kingdom of Laos']. "3349" [Sam sam sī kao] (pseud.), Bangkok: Ruam Mit Thai, 2499 [1956].

Biography of the man who served as Viceroy of Laos during World War II, who became the leader of the Lao Nationalist movement, and who promoted relationships between Laos and Thailand. Also includes a discussion of his political ideas. An excellent source for the history of Laos during the period at the end of French rule until the beginning of an independent Laos. Since much of the narrative of this biography is told in the first person, one may assume that the author is Prince Pethsarath himself. This work is good complement to the *Memoirs* of Oun Sananikone.


For Laos, see pp. 99-104.


On vice royal family.


WYATT: Not bad, but still much like Maha Sila's.

Best source for current biography.


Although brief, this work provides a good summary of the basic features of Lao geography, ethnology (including a listing of the names of all ethnic groups), history (including a chronology of major events from the 16th century to 1959), religion (including a listing of all major rituals).


See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


History


An unscholarly and 'popular' history of both northern Thailand and Laos. Repeats many conventional myths about the origins of the Tai people and gives a perspective on the history of these people which is "nationalist" from a Bangkok Thai point of view. Not of much value for scholarly work.


A text used in the Collèges and Écoles Normales in Indochina.


An account of the events of 1943-1946 as seen by a man who was later associated with the Lao right-wing. Together with Prince Phetsarath's memoirs (written under the pseudonym of "3349"), this work provides a valuable first-hand insight into the efforts to create a Lao nationalist movement and to bring about the creation of an independent Laos. These memoirs were written
in the late 1960s in serial form in the Lao newspaper, Siang Seri. The Lao originals are available on microfilm at Cornell University.


I. Recherches sur la littérature du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.
II. Recherches sur l'histoire du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.
III. Recherches sur l'histoire naturelle de l'Indochine orientale.

See under ARCHAEOLOGY.


See under ANTHROPOLOGY.


First published in French under the title, "Le That Luang de Vientiane," in *France-Asie* 82 (19?), 142-152.
LAFONT: "Historical and archaeological study of the most venerated Buddhist reliquary in Laos."

Pramuanwichaphun, Phraya, comp. Phongsawadan myang Lân Chāng Lào
lāmdap sakūn Sitthisāribut, rāchatrakūn Lân Chāng, Wîngchan
['Chronicles of Lân Chāng and List of the Line of Sitthisāribut,
Royal Line of Lân Chāng and Vientiane']. Bangkok, 1941. 90 p.
(in Thai).

Raquez, A. Pages laottiennes: le Haut-Laos, le Moyen-Laos, le Bas-
Laos. Hanoi: Scheider, 1902.

WKATT: Especially good on unpublished literary manuscripts.

Sammanā pavatsat Lào, Vîngchan, 25 kannyā-2 tuld 1971 ['Seminar on
202, 24 p.

Saurin, E. "Les recherches préhistoriques au Cambodge, Laos et

Sila Viravong, Maha. History of Laos. (Tr. from the Laotian by
the U.S. Joint Publications Research Service) New York:
Paragon Reprint Corp., 1964.

Maha Sīla's history is very much within the chronicle tradition
and contains much legend and myth--particularly for the period
prior to about the 16th century--as well as historical facts.
Chronology does not agree entirely with that given in le Boulanger.
This work can best be used when other historical data exist to
corroborate events reported here.

TREGONNING: "Translated from Lao, this history becomes factual from the 16th century onwards. It concludes with Siamese supremacy and then French control in the 19th century."


Politico-economic structure of French Laos.


TREGONNING: "Forty pages (pp. 321-362) are devoted to Cambodia's social and political organization, its economy, administration, and French-Khmer relations."


HYATT: Especially useful.
A standard Lao history of Laos. For the pre-modern history does not add much and is of the same character as Maha Sila's history. The second edition of this book, however, does provide a useful listing of the names of Lao who have participated in post-independence governments and have been members of the National Assembly.

Yim Panthayangkūn. "Lamdap rāchawong kasat haēng prathēt Lāo" ['The Genealogical Table of the Kings of Laos'], Sinlapākṣṇ (Bangkok) 5, 6 (1962), supplement.

On royal genealogy.

Yim Panthayangkūn. "Lamdap rāchawong Kasat haēng prathēt Lāo," ['List of the Kings of Laos'], Sinlapākṣṇ (Bangkok) 6, 3 (1962), appendix.
LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS


Thirty-seven references, classified according to language or language-grouping. Useful guide.


THROMBLEY & SIFFIN: "An informative survey essay that notes and comments on descriptive, historical, comparative, and dialectic studies of Thai. Includes a nonannotated bibliography of more than one hundred selected items." p. 109.


Although this work is out-of-date, it still provides a useful introduction for those who wish to learn Lao.

Khamphun Philavong. Baep sorn 'an 'akkhara tua tham san pathom
['Elementary Text for Reading the 'Dhammic' Script']. Vientiane,

On tham ('Dhammic') script.

Khana Sasana Thut Khao Prasoet nai Prathet Lao. Baep sorn 'an phasa
Maeo ['Text for Reading Hmong Language']. Vientiane, 1968. 5 vol.

On tham ('Dhammic') script.

Luang Mahasena (Phui), Phanya. Baep rian vai, rian 'an nangsu' tham
khian pen phasa Lao. ['Text for Learning to Read 'Dhammic' Texts
and Writing Them in Lao']. Vientiane: Hong Phim haeng Sat,
n.d. 2 vol.

On tham ('Dhammic') script.

Nginn, P.S. Eléments de grammaire laotienne. 2nd ed., Vientiane:

LAFONT: "A very good work."

Reinhorn, M. Eléments de lecture et d'écriture laotienne. Vientiane,
1952.

Roffe, G. Edward, and Thelma W. Roffe. Spoken Lao: Books I and II.

This text is based on the work by Mary Haas and Heng R. Subhanka,
Spoken Thai. As a consequence, the lessons tend to have an urban
bias. The tonal transcription used in the text is based upon
Luang Prabang dialect.


THROMBLEY & SIFFIN: "The Mon-Khmer bibliography lists all known works on languages of the group published up to 1961. The Tai bibliography covers work through 1959, with some later entries. Section II of the Tai bibliography contains 223 citations to general works, dictionaries, grammars, readers, and specialized linguistic studies." p. 128.


On tham ('Dhammic') script.

LAW


Remained in force until replaced by Laotian Civil Code established in 1958.


Remained in force, with some revisions in 1940, until replaced by Lao Penal Code of 1958. Published in Lao and French.

Remained in force, with some revisions in 1940, until replaced by a law of 1950.

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Laos. Laos. 154 p., illus. (Bilingue: français et lao).


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LAFONT: "Text in Lao and French. Carries a few amendments to the Code of 1928."


Text revised and adopted by the National Congress in the meeting of September 29, 1956.


LAFONT: "Comprend les amendements de 1957." p. 82.


LAFONT: Collection of traditional Lao juridical rules.


First compendium of laws applicable to Laos under French rule.


LAFONT: Replaced the compendium by Michel and remained in force until 1927.


See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.


See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.


See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.


This is important listing - I've never seen it.

See under HANDBOOKS, ANNUALS, DIRECTORIES.


See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.

See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.

See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.


Discussion of the evolution of political literature in the post-World War II period. Analyzes this literature into following groupings: (a) literature by Lao written in French; (b) political literature written in the national language; (c) the "patriotic" literature of the Lao Patriotic Front (Neo Lao Huk Sat).


Literature


I. *Recherches sur la littérature du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.*
II. *Recherches sur l'histoire du Cambodge, du Laos et du Siam.*
III. *Recherches sur l'histoire naturelle de l'Indochine orientale.*

See under ARCHAEOLOGY.


Depends upon and adds little to Finot's classic study.


*Wyatt:* Especially good on unpublished literary manuscripts.


*Wyatt:* Bibliography of major manuscripts of Lao literature.


A general overview of Lao literature, mostly as written in Lao. Complements article by Lafont on political literature in Laos.

COTTER: "Described by the compiler as an exhaustive bibliography of French translations of oriental literatures."


Catalogue of Lao manuscripts found in Germany.

See under HISTORY.


Cao Phethparat: *burat lek naeng rathna-anacak lao* ['Prince Pethsarath: Iron Man of the Kingdom of Laos']. "3349" [Sam sam si kao] (pseud.), Bangkok: Ruam Mit Thai, 2499 [1956].

See under HISTORY.


LAFONT: "Comporte aussi la liste des députés des trois premières législatures." p. 98.

The most comprehensive survey of political events from World War II through 1970. Includes listing of Prime Ministers during period, appendices consisting of several relevant documents, and a comprehensive bibliography. Dommen provides a particularly useful listing of "Official Sources," including a selection of agreements and decrees prior to 1954, documents resulting from the 1954 and the 1961-1962 Geneva Conferences, documents produced by the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos, documents issued by the U.S. Congress and U.S. Department of State, and publications issued by the governments of Great Britain, France, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the Peoples Republic of China, Laos, the Republic of Vietnam, Thailand, and Australia.


TREGONNING: "A study of the communist Pathet Lao in which references to ancient ethnic differences and hatreds are made, as well as an outlet of communist organizational moves from the Lao Issara of 1945 to the near communist control of 1965."


This "work of committed, radical, scholarship" contains a collection of articles and documents relating to the history of Cambodia and Laos and the origins and development of the American involvement in the political struggles of these countries.


Reports published annually.


Halpern, Joel M. *American policy in Laos*. Los Angeles, 1961- . (Dept. of Anthropology, UCLA. Laos project paper no. 6.)


See under BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY.


Laos History (1945-1953).

Best source for current biography.


See under LITERATURE.


This is an excellent source for materials relating to both Lao and Cambodian history for the period from the end of World War II until the Geneva Conference in 1954. The book also provides a background on the pre-French period and the period of French colonial domination. While the book gives greater attention to events in Vietnam, it also gives detailed attention to events in both Laos and Cambodia.


LAFONT: "Le Neo Lao Hak Sat est le parti politique issu du mouvement de résistance armée, Pathet Lao." p. 83.


TREGONNING: "An outline of the Geneva Conference, together with the texts of the agreements "reached on Laos's" neutrality."


See under HISTORY.


See under BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY.

This is a good overview of Lao political history from about World War II (with an excellent background to this time) to the early 1960s.

TREGONNING: "The historical background, the contemporary setting, the political process and minor problems. Again, as with other states in Southeast Asia, a most valuable contribution."


Politico-economic structure of French Laos.


This book is concerned primarily with the period between 1940 and 1964. It covers, thus, much the same material as does Dommen's *Conflict in Laos*. While Dommen's work is rather more comprehensive, this work adds additional materials based on the author's experience as a British officer stationed in Laos in 1960-1962.


Based on work by Sithat Sithibourn.


A good background to the political movement which came to dominance in Laos in 1975.


RELIGION


See under ANTHROPOLOGY.


See under ANTHROPOLOGY.


See under ANNUALS, HANDBOOKS, DIRECTORIES.


An excellent overview of popular religion among the Lao rural population. Together with Zago provides the best introduction to Lao popular Buddhism in its social context.


See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.

Izikowitz, Karl Gustav. *Fastening the soul: some religious traits among the Lamet*. Goteborg, Elanders Boktryckeri aktiebolag, 1941.


See under BIBLIOGRAPHY.


See under INVENTORIES OF ARCHIVES.


A very brief and not very useful introduction in comparison to those provided in De Berval, by Lafont, by Condominas, and by Zago.
Religion


Depends upon and adds little to Finot's classic study.


First published in French under the title, "Le That Luang de Vientiane," in France-Asie, 82 (19?), 142-152.

LAFONT: "Historical and archaeological study of the most venerated Buddhist reliquary in Laos."


An encyclopaedic study of Lao religion which surveys beliefs, rituals, history, and social implications. A basic reference work for those interested not only in religion in Laos but also religion in northeastern and northern Thailand.

See under ANNUALS, HANDBOOKS, DIRECTORIES.


Based on a survey conducted under the auspices of the Lao government, the School of Public Health, University of Hawaii, and the Thomas A. Dooley Foundation. The survey resulted in the compilation of data on 15 villages chosen to "be representative of certain geographical areas, of specific cultural groups, and of both rural and urban areas." Probably the most systematic survey of health conditions in Laos, although does not apply to areas under Pathet Lao control or areas where security was inadequate due to the war.


A report prepared for the Lao Planning Commission. A good survey of socioeconomic conditions in the Vientiane plain in the late 1950s.

Halpern, Joel M. *Economy and society of Laos*. New Haven, Yale University, 1964. (Southeast Asia Studies, Monograph Series, No. 5.)

See under BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS.


See under BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY.


Superseded by *Government, Politics and Social Structure in Laos.*

LAFONT: Treats only those personalities having an official role.


See under STATISTICS AND CENSUS COMPENDIA.


See under ANTHROPOLOGY.

Liste des Personnalités Lao, Vientiane.


Includes the population census figures of 1956-1959.


See under BIOGRAPHY AND GENEALOGY.


See under ANNUALS, HANDBOOKS, DIRECTORIES.

Based on work by Sithat Sithibourn.

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