

Editorial Letter

As many readers will note, the publication of the two parts of our third volume has been a little unusual. Part 1, as you may remember, was published far earlier than scheduled. This was due to my own absence during my sabbatical leave in Southeast Asia, including six months in the land we all love to study, Burma/Myanmar. While this has not meant a delay in the case of any of the issues, publishing part 1 early and part 2 on time has meant a gap of over a year. Hopefully, the articles and documents provided in the current issue will help make up for the long wait.

Some things have changed over the course of the past year. Two eminent Burmese historians, U Toe Hla (Director, UHRC) and U Thaw Kaung (UHRC), have joined our international advisory board and we welcome both of them on board. Dr. Kennon Breazeale, East-West Center, a SOAS alumnus, has moved from our international advisory board to the editorial board. William Womack (Now Dr. Womack), our book review editor, has completed his PhD programme and returned to the United States. We wish him the best of luck. Will will remain on the editorial board, although responsibilities for book reviews will be passed on to someone else within SOAS. During the year we also issued our first, annual bibliographic supplement. Much of the new material to be added to the bibliography will be included in a bibliographic update section at the end of each issue, although material added from older journals, such as the *JBRS*, will be inserted directly into the supplement. Finally, we are beginning to include among our book reviews, publications whose geographic or thematic scope goes beyond the borders of Burma. These reviews, however, will attempt to draw comparisons between scholarship on other, but related areas, and that on Burma, thus indicating possible new avenues for research.

One change to expect down the road will relate to the size of the journal. The *SBBR* has grown in size from roughly one hundred pages to the present 950+ pages per issue. Since we publish two regular issues per year and a bibliographic supplement, we have gone beyond the thirteen hundred page mark per volume, which is becoming a little unwieldy. Several options are available, such as increasing the number of issues per year. Another possibility is to issue large documents, such as Crawford's diary of his journey to Ava in 1826-1827, included in the present issue, as separate, special publications. Any suggestions would be sincerely welcome.

We would also like to express our continued gratitude to our readers, especially those who have sent us information on their recent publications, provided advice on various issues, submitted articles, and served as referees. Without your support and cooperation, the production of the journal would not be possible.

Thank you for your support!

Mike Charney
General Editor, *SBBR*

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