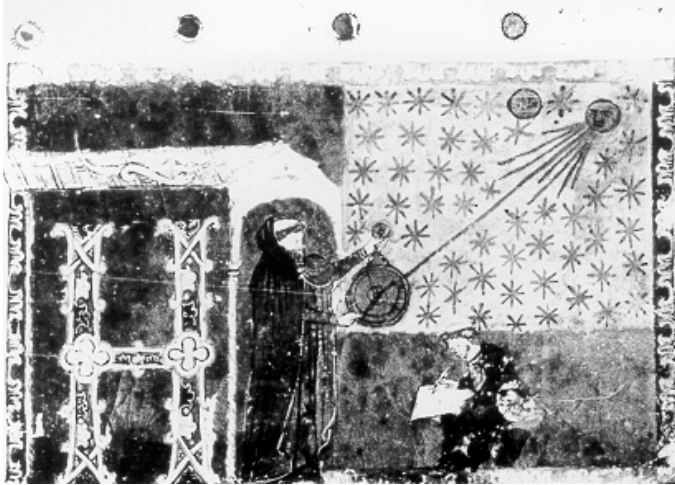


INTERNATIONAL
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OF
SCIENCE



CHAMA NEWSLETTER

Commission for History of Ancient and Medieval Astronomy
Editors: S.M. Razaullah Ansari, Anne Tihon

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Foreword

As the members will notice, this is the second issue of our Newsletter in the current year; the first was issued in May 2004.

Thus we have fulfilled our plan to present 2-issues/ year. Herein you will find information on five New Books on astronomy with short contents. A few words about one of them: *Galileo's Astrology*. This is a theme not widely known to-date. The whole issue of *Culture and Cosmos* (Eds. Nicholas Campion and Patrick Curry) is devoted to this theme; this collection of articles/chapters has been also published as a separate book. The journal is a bi-annual, devoted to the study of the history of astrology and cultural astronomy. By 'cultural astronomy' the editors understand " the broader use of astronomical beliefs and theories to regulate and inform society, politics, the arts and every aspect of human life". This view coincides exactly with one of the objectives of CHAMA, namely, the aim of this Commission is not confined alone to the study of "mathematical astronomy of the Orient and Occident, but it should encompass in its scope also the astronomical history, even star lore, astronomical iconography, archeo-astronomy; in fact all ramifications of astronomy in human society in general; cf. this Newsletter(Oct.2003), last paragraph, p.2. With 15 chapters on very interesting topics the aforementioned book is very useful for historians of astrology and astronomy and also for those who are interested in the relationship of astronomy and culture. The second book to which I wish to draw attention is: *Astronomical Instruments and Archives from the Asia-Pacific Region*. It deals with the instruments and archival material extant in China, Korea and Japan, along with that in South Asia. We find in it a multitude of astronomical instruments with illustrations (about 100), which indicates how rich the astronomical heritage of East Asia is. Apropos East Asia or Far East: We publish here also a Report of 5th International Conference on Oriental Astronomy (ICOA), held in Chiang Mai (Thailand), Oct. 2004. The scope of ICOA series is naturally not confined to East Asia alone, but it includes also the South Asia and Middle East--the Islamic cultural areas. Evidently these conferences attempt to highlight the substantial work carried out on the astronomical heritage of the Orient. In this vein I may point out that a couple of colleagues from Korea and China have become recently members of CHAMA, and notices of their recent works are being published for the first time in this issue. I hope that their number will swell in future. I solicit their cooperation and assistance.

As announced in the May issue, our preparation for holding the CHAMA Symposium in the 22nd International Congress of History of Science (ICHS) in Beijing, July 2005, has borne fruits. The International Programme Committee of ICHS has approved our Symposium, the title is " *Astronomy in the Oriental, Antique and Medieval World* ". The LOC has assigned to this Symposium the serial number SC3. This serial number is to be quoted when particularly a speaker of this Symposium sends his/her abstract to the LOC and/or by any CHAMA member who wishes to participate particularly in SC3. The organisers are S. M. Razauallah Ansari (India), Raymond Mercier (UK), and Anne Tihon (Belgium). The Consultants are Michio Yano (Japan) and Julio Samsó (Spain).

As for the programme of our Symposium, I may add in the first instance the following. The Commission for Science and Technology in the Islamic World (CSTIW) has agreed to have a joint session with CHAMA. Consequently our Symposium will comprise two parts: 1. *Astronomy in the Orient*, which has been organised jointly by CHAMA and CSTIW. 2. *Astronomy in the Antique and Medieval World*, organised by CHAMA alone. At present in the first part we have 11 invited talks for which 1-2 sessions may be required. In the second part there are 3 invited talks. Thus in all 14 oral presentations will be held in 1-3 sessions. The

break-up of the talks in the first part is: Chinese -4, Indian -2, Islamic -4, and Thai -1. In the next issue of the *Newsletter* we intend to publish the whole programme of our Symposium, after the finalisation of the titles and time schedule.

In this issue we are also publishing especially excerpts from the Congress Second Circular, which is also posted on its Web site: <http://2005bj.ihns.ac.cn>. One can get the printed version by sending a request to the Secretariat of the LOC, 2005@ihns.ac.cn. This Circular is important, since it contains all possible forms to be filled up and for submission to the LOC. For the information of our members, we are publishing the following: List of titles and speakers of 8 *Plenary Lectures*; titles of 9 symposia organised by various Commissions and titles of 6 symposia organised by other groups relevant to astronomy; list of topics of 8 Scientific Sections (SS); and finally list of *Important Dates or Deadlines*. It goes with out saying that any member of this Commission, or any historian of astronomy in general, can participate in this Congress by submitting the abstract of his/her paper (for oral or poster presentation) to LOC. One can choose for history of astronomy also sessions from SS 2-6, 8.2, as one may wish. Note the last date for the submission of the abstract to LOC is March 15, 2005.

Please note that every participant, *also an invited speaker*, has to register *individually* with the LOC of the Congress, and also to submit the abstract of his/her paper to the LOC. I request here the speakers of CHAMA Symposium (SC3) particularly and members of CHAMA generally to send me also a copy of their abstract as early as possible.

Since the next Newsletter will be the last before the Beijing Congress, may I solicit for the cooperation of the members and request them specifically to send us bibliographical details of their recent works, notices/reviews of new books and any other relevant information. It will be appreciated most.

Finally the editors utilise this opportunity to send to the members of CHAMA a very cordial and happy New Year.

S. M. Razaullah Ansari

22nd International Conference for History of Science, Beijing, July 24-30, 2005

The Second Circular of the Congress is now available on its website: <http://2005bj.ihns.ac.cn>

We present here some of the highlights of the preliminary program. For all information about organisation, registration, accommodation etc., please visit the afore-mentioned Website and

contact the LOC.

Preliminary Program

The general theme of the Congress is "*Globalisation and Diversity*". Discussions will focus on the diffusion of science and technology between different cultures in the past, and its impact on the world today, as well as its prospects for the future advance of human civilization. Symposia and Scientific Sections on various topics will also have their due place in the programme.

1. Plenary Lectures

- S. M. Razaullah Ansari (India): *Transmission of Islamic Exact Science to India and its Neighbours and Repercussions Thereof.*
- Christopher Cullen (UK): *Shifting Tectonic Plates in the History of Science: Some Reflections on the Work of Joseph Needham.*
- Peter Galison (USA): *Einstein and Poincaré: A Trace of Ink that Tore Space and Time.*
- Khalid Salim Ismael (Iraq): *The Development of Number System in Mathematics in Ancient Iraq.*
- Evelyn Fox Keller (USA): *Does the Globalization of Scientific Lexicons Have its Costs?*
- Eberhard Knobloch (Germany, IPC, IAHS): *Mathesis Perennis - Mathematics in Ancient, Renaissance, and Modern Times.*
- Xiaochun Sun (China): *Moral and Political Significances of Nature in Ancient China.*
- Chen Ning Yang (USA/China, Nobel laureate): *Modern Physics since Albert Einstein.*

2. Symposia

62 symposia have been approved by the International Programme Committee, to be held during the Congress. We present here the titles and names of organizer of a few symposia relevant to the History of Astronomy. For all others, please consult the Second Circular. The names of speakers, the titles of their talks and other details of all symposia will be available in the Third Circular of the Congress.

LOC also urges organisers of all symposia to inform their speakers of the need to register them **individually** with the Congress and to submit their abstracts before **15 March 2005**. The serial numbers of their abstracts should correspond with the following classification.

SYMPOSIA ORGANISED BY DHS COMMISSIONS

Joint Commission of the DHS and DLMPs- SC1. *History and Philosophy of Modern Cosmology*

Organisers: Helge Kragh (Denmark), Erwin Neuenschwander (Switzerland)

Bibliography & Documents (Chairperson Peter Harper)- SC2. *History of Science Online: new possibilities and new challenges*

Organisers: Juan José Saldaña (Mexico), Peter Harper (U.K.)

CHAMA: Ancient and Medieval Astronomy (Chairperson S. M. Razaullah Ansari)- SC3. *Astronomy in the Oriental, Antique and Medieval World*

Organisers: Razaullah Ansari (India), Raymond Mercier (UK), Anne Tihon (Belgium)

East Asia (Chairperson Dun Liu)- SC4. *Science under Louis XIV and under Kangxi: a comparative approach to state policies and exchanges*

Organisers: Catherine Jami (France), Qi Han (China)

- SC6. *Cultural Manifolds in the History of Chinese Science, Technology, and Medicine*

Organisers: Nathan Sivin (USA), Xiaochun Sun (China)

Science and Technology in Islamic Civilization (Chairperson Gül Russell)- SC7. *Science in Islam and Its Interactions with other Scientific Traditions*

Organisers: Mercé Comes (Spain), Gül A. Russell (USA), Jamil Ragep (USA), Camil Aydın (Turkey)

Mathematics (Chairperson Karen Parshall)- SC12. *Ten Classics of Ancient Chinese Mathematics*

Organisers: Joseph W. Dauben (USA), Shuchun Guo (China), Alexej Volkov (Russia/Canada)

- SC13. *Along the Silk Road-- mathematical and astronomical exchanges between East and West in ancient and medieval times*

Organisers: Wenlin Li (China), Anjing Qu (China), Benno van Dalen (The Netherlands/Germany)

- SC14. *Multicultural Transmission of Mathematical Knowledge*

Organisers: Chikara Sasaki (Japan), Roshdi Rashed (France)

SYMPOSIA ORGANISED BY OTHER GROUPS:

- S1. *In Commemoration of the Centennial Anniversary of the Creation of the Theory of Relativity (Tsinghua Forum)*

Organisers: Bing Liu (China), Jian Yang (China), Diana Buchwald (USA), Danian Hu (USA)

- S15. *Ethnoscience and Ethnomathematics*

Organisers: Ubiratan d'Ambrosio (Brazil), Paulus Gerdes (Africa)

- S22. *Diffusions of Science and Technology: Ottoman Empire and National States*

Organisers: Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu (Turkey), E. Nicolaidis (Greece), M. Kacar (Turkey)

- S23. *Sharing the Celestial Sphere*

Organisers: Rajesh Kochhar (India), Alex Gurshtein (Russia/USA)

- S26. *Mathematical Practitioners and the Transformation of Natural Knowledge in Early Modern Europe*

Organisers: Lesley Cormack (Canada), Steven Pumfrey (UK)

- S35. *The Beginning of Mathematical Astronomy*

Organisers: Michio Yano (Japan), Tadashi Yoshida (Japan), Christopher Cullen (UK)

3. Scientific Sections

23 scientific sections (SS) are listed in the Second Circular. We give here the titles of a few sections, which may be of interest to our members. They are arranged according to their serial numbers in the circular.

2. Classical and Oriental Antiquity, 3. Islamic Civilization, 4. South Asia and India, 5. The Far East and China, 6. Other Non-Western Civilizations

8. Science, Technology and Medicine in the Classical Period (1543-1800)

8.1 Mathematics and Mechanics, 8.2 Physics and Astronomy

9. Science, Technology and Medicine in the Contemporary Period

9.1 Mathematics, 9.2 Physics and Astronomy

21. Trans-cultural Diffusion of Science

Whereas the symposia comprise invited talks only, the programme of SS is open and not fixed. Any historian of science intended to participate in the Congress may submit the abstract of his paper to the LOC and can select his section himself. The deadline for the submission of the abstract is March 15, 2005. For more details consult the Second Circular posted on the Congress Web site.

Important Dates

Deadline for grant applications: 15th December 2004

Deadline for the LOC confirmation of grant applications: February 2005

Deadline for regular registration: 15th March 2005

Deadline for acceptance of abstracts: 15th March 2005

Deadline for hotel reservations: 15th March 2005

Third Circular: May 2005

Deadline for 50% refund for cancelled registration: 15th May 2005

Opening of the Congress: 24th July 2005

For further information about the conference and access to the registration forms, see <http://2005bj.ihns.ac.cn>

New Books

ROCHBERG, FRANCESCA, *The Heavenly Writing. Divination, Horoscopy, and Astronomy in Mesopotamian Culture*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004. pp. 360.

Presentation by the Publisher:

In antiquity, the expertise of the Babylonians in matters of the heavens was legendary and the

roots of both western astronomy and astrology are traceable in cuneiform tablets going back to the second and first millennia BC. The Heavenly Writing discusses the place of Babylonian celestial divination, horoscopy, and astronomy in Mesopotamian intellectual culture. Focusing chiefly on celestial divination and horoscopes, it traces the emergence of personal astrology from the tradition of celestial divination and the use of astronomical methods in horoscopes. It further takes up the historiographical and philosophical issue of the nature of these Mesopotamian 'celestial sciences' by examining elements traditionally of concern to the philosophy of science, without sacrificing the ancient methods, goals, and interests to a modern image of science. This book will be of particular interest to those concerned with the early history of science.

Contents

1. The historiography of Mesopotamian science; 2. Celestial divination in context; 3. Mesopotamian genethliology: the Babylonian horoscopes; 4. Sources for horoscopes in Babylonian astronomical texts; 5. Sources for horoscopes in the early astrological tradition; 6. The scribes and scholars of Mesopotamian celestial science; 7. The classification of Mesopotamian celestial inquiry as science.

LINTON, C.M., *From Eudoxus to Einstein, a History of Mathematical Astronomy*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004, pp. 516.

Presentation by the Publisher:

Since man first looked towards the heavens, a great deal of effort has been put into trying to predict and explain the motions of the sun, moon, and planets. Developments in man's understanding have been closely linked to progress in the mathematical sciences. Whole new areas of mathematics, such as trigonometry, were developed to aid astronomical calculations, and on numerous occasions throughout history, breakthroughs in astronomy have only been possible because of progress in mathematics. This book describes the theories of planetary motion that have been developed through the ages, beginning with the homocentric spheres of Eudoxus and ending with Einstein's general theory of relativity. It emphasises the interaction between progress in astronomy and in mathematics, showing how the two have been inextricably linked since Babylonian times. This valuable text is accessible to a wide audience, from amateur astronomers to professional historians of astronomy.

Contents

Preface; 1. Introduction; 2. Spheres and circles; 3. The Ptolemaic universe; 4. Developments in geocentric astronomy; 5. The heliocentric universe; 6. Tycho Brahe, Kepler and the ellipse; 7. Galileo, the telescope, and Keplerian astronomy; 8. The universal theory of gravitation; 9. Celestial mechanics; 10. The asteroids and the outer planets; 11. New methods; 12. Mercury and Relativity.

CHABERLOT, FREDERIC, *La Voie lactée. Histoire des conceptions et des modèles de notre Galaxie des temps anciens aux années 1930,*

CNRS, Paris, 2003, 448 pages.

Presentation by the Publisher:

Comment les hommes ont-ils peu à peu imaginé, compris la structure, puis étudié en détail le système stellaire dans lequel nous vivons ? L'auteur retrace les développements historiques de notre compréhension de la Voie lactée, avec ses périodes de latence et ses ruptures épistémologiques, de l'Antiquité aux découvertes fondamentales du début du XXe siècle (rotation galactique et extinction interstellaire). Orné d'une riche iconographie, d'une chronologie détaillée des faits et des conceptions ainsi que d'une bibliographie exhaustive, cet ouvrage présente la première synthèse en langue française sur ce sujet fascinant.

CAMPION, N., KOLLERSTORM, N., *Galileo's Astrology, a special issue of Culture & Cosmos* (vol. 7, 1-2), 2003, 160 p. Also published separately by Cinnabar Books (ISBN-1-898485-09-07, as a paperback. Price £17.50.

Presentation by the Publisher:

The great Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) is widely regarded as the father of modern physics. As the first astronomer to both use a telescope and publicise his findings, he revolutionised the early modern European view of the cosmos, demolishing the two thousand year old model of Plato and Aristotle. In the scientific imagination he has become the icon of the enlightened scholar battling the forces of superstition in the form of the Church. Less familiar is his work as an astrologer. Along with his friend and colleague Johannes Kepler, Galileo was the last of the long line of distinguished astronomer-astrologers to flourish in the courts of Europe before the two disciplines parted company in the western world in the mid seventeenth-century. This unique collection brings together writings on Galileo's use of astrology, some previously published, others published here for the first time.

Contents

1. Foreword: Galileo as Believer; 2. Introduction: Galileo's Life and Work; 3. Galileo as Astrologer (1); 4. Astrology and Prophecy in Campanella and Galileo; 5. Galileo as an Astrologer (2) ; 6. Galileo Faces the Inquisition: Tried by the Holy Office at Padua - for Astral Fatalism; 7. Galileo's Horoscope for Cosimo II de Medici; 8. An Astrologico-Dynastic Encounter ; 9. Galileo's Correspondence; 10. Galileo's Letter to Piero Dini, Rome 21 May 1611; 11. On the Character of Sagredo: An English translation of Galileo's judgements upon his nativity of Giovanni Sagredo; 12. Galileo's Horoscopes for his Daughters Serena Foglia; 13. Galileo, Rome, 1630; 14. Four Galilean Horoscopes: An Analysis of Galileo's Astrological Techniques; 15. A Sonnet by Galileo

For more information on this volume: <http://www.cultureandcosmos.com/galileoastrology.htm>

ORCHISTON W., STEPHENSON, F.R., DÉBARBAT, S. and NHA, IL SEONG, *Astronomical Instruments and Archives from the Asia-Pacific Region*, Yonsei University Press, Seoul (Korea), 2004, 204 pages, ISBN 89-7141-656-4(93440)

Reviewed by S. M. Razaullah Ansari

The book is actually the Proceedings of an International Conference, held in Cheongju(South Korea) in July 2-5, 2002. The Conference was organised under the auspices of IAU Commission 41(History of Astronomy). The Scientific Organising Committee comprised historians of astronomy from 11 countries, with Il-Seong Nha (Korea) as its Chairman and F.R. Stephenson (UK) as its Deputy-Chairman. According to the organisers about '70 participants attended the Conference, mainly from Asia and Pacific, but also from Europe and South Africa'.

The Conference papers were grouped into seven categories, namely, Archives and Historiography, Astronomers and History, Exchange and Development of Astronomical Knowledge, Observational Records and Modern Scientific Development, Early and Recent Astronomical Instrumentations, Calendar and Star Charts. To note are the two Commemorative Lectures: 1. ' Korean Observations of the Supernova of AD 1604', by F.R. Stephenson (UK), and 2. ' King Sejong's Sundial, Angbu Il-gui ', by Il-Seong Nha (Korea). Although the Conference papers were spread over astronomical instruments and archives mainly in China, Japan and Korea, yet astronomical instrumentation in India and Indonesia were also included. However, an important lapse on the part of the organisers was the instrumentation and archival material from the Islamic cultural areas, on which there was no contribution, although enormous work has been done in the last few decades. We know today that Islamic practical astronomy was even transmitted to the Far East (China and from there to Korea particularly) before the advent of Jusuits' transfer of European astronomy there. On this problem of transfer and following the pioneering work of late Kiyoshi Yabuuchi, Michio Yano, Benno van Dalen and Yunli Shi have produced rather very significant researches recently. We hope that in any future meeting, this aspect of knowledge transfer will not be disregarded.

Apart from the fact that this volume is a storehouse of knowledge on the afore-mentioned topics, the production and printing of this volume is technically superb. It comprises excellently printed photographs, especially of many interesting instruments. It shows clearly how much painstaking work has been put in editing these Proceedings. It is not an exaggeration, if this reviewer has all praise for Prof. Nha who must have supervised its production locally and he congratulates honestly the Yonsei University Press for publishing this not-easy-to- print volume, especially with 130 illustrations and 59 photographs of conference participants. Was it humbleness on the part of the publisher not to list separately this data of illustrations? Finally, this reviewer ought to express his misfortune not to participate in that excellent International Conference despite Prof Nha's friendly and generous invitation.

Report of the Fifth International Conference on Oriental Astronomy

The Conference was held during Oct. 3-8, 2004 in Chiang Mai (Thailand). Actually it belonged to a series of International

Conferences on Oriental Astronomy (ICOA), the First of which was held in Seoul during Oct. 6-11 1993; the others in Yingtan (China), Fukuoka (Japan) and the last one in Nanyang (China). ICOA-5 was sponsored by a number of organisations, particularly the Chiang Mai University and the Science Society of Thailand (Patron: His Majesty the King). The Chairman of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) was Prof. Boonraksar Soonthornthum, Dean of the Faculty of Science of Chiang Mai University. The Scientific Organising Committee (SOC) comprised well-known historians of astronomy from 11 countries, such as India (S. M. R. Ansari), South Korea (Il-Seong Nha), Iran (Farhad Rahimi), USA (Kwan-Yu Chen, Chairman), to name just a few.

The Conference was inaugurated by Prof. Amnat Yousukh - the Vice-President of Chiang Mai University.

In his inaugural address he stressed the importance of astronomy in Thailand and mentioned specifically the establishment of the national facility, the Sirindhorn Observatory. He expressed also his appreciation that the ICOA-5 was being held to mark the commemoration of the 200th Birth Anniversary of His Majesty King Mongkut (Rama IV), 40th Anniversary of the Chiang Mai University and 400th Anniversary of the sighting of Kepler Supernova in 1604. Two commemorative lectures were then delivered at the opening ceremony: 1. "King Mongkut - The Father of Thai Science", by Mr. Nibondh Saibejra (Astronomer and Fellow of the Royal Institution of Science, Bangkok, Thailand), and 2. "Early Australian Observations of Historical Supernova Remnants at Radio Wavelengths", by Dr. Wayne Orchiston (Australia).

The programme of the Conference was arranged under 7 different topics, namely, Supernova, Historical Record and

Observations; History and Astronomers; Early Instrumentation; Ancient Observatory; Atlases, Star Catalogues and Calendrical Works; Exchange and Development of Astronomical Knowledge; Present and Future Work, Teaching of Astronomy and Poster Paper.

In all there were 11 sessions and 29 talks were delivered therein. Some of the highlights of the oral presentations are given below, arranged session-wise.

- J.R. Dickel (USA), "Current Observations of the Remnants of Kepler's SN of 1604 and other Historical Supernova Remnants".
- Busuba Kramer and Michael Kramer (Thailand, UK.), "King Rama V, Total Solar Eclipse of 1875 and Schuster's Expedition to Siam".
- Kaige Chen (China), Gilsun Oh (Korea) and Il-Seong Nha (Korea), "Xinanxiuyu - A City of Chinese Sundials and Compasses".
- M. Arian, F. Rahimi, J. Kezemian and A. Adjabshirzadeh, "Radhkan Tower or The Old Solar Observatory of 1261".
- Yukio Ôhashi (Japan), "The Riddle of the Cycle of Intercalation and the Sidereal Year - An Aspect of the Mainland Southeast Asian Calendars"
- B. Soonthornthum (Thailand), "Lanna Map of Lunar Mansions".

- Yunli Shi (China), "Newtonian Astronomy for Chinese Use: Jesuit Predictive Astronomy in China".
- S.M.R. Ansari (India), "The First Book in Indo-Persian on Modern Mathematical Astronomy - A Case Study for the Genuine Reception of Modern Astronomy in the 19th Century India".
- Eun Lee (Korea), Young-Sook Ahn (Korea) and Kwan-Yu Chen (USA), "An Observation of the 1868 Solar Eclipse in India".

In the meeting of the Working Committee of ICOA and of the General Body (Concluding Session), it was resolved that

- i. The Proceedings of this Conference would be published shortly under the editorship of B. Soonthornthum (Thailand), R.G. Strom (The Netherlands) and W. Orchiston (Australia).
- ii. The Working Committee of ICOA was renamed as Executive Committee (EC), with 12 members, for instance, S.M.R. Ansari (India) was re-elected along with new entrants: F. Rahimi (Iran), Shun Li (China) and Y. Ôhashi (Japan) , among others. Prof. Il-Seong Nha was elected as the Chairman of the EC.
- iii. The Proposal to forge a close future collaboration of ICOA and CHAMA, moved by S. M. R. Ansari, would be further discussed in order to concretise its logistics.
- iv. The Executive Committee of ICOA was authorised to explore the possibilities of holding ICOA-6 in Europe, Iran or India and efforts for that might begin already in the following year. S.M.R. Ansari then suggested that if the proposal to host ICOA in India could come from the EC, he could approach the Indian National Commission for History of Science, which functions under the auspices of Indian National Science Academy (New Delhi), so that the latter could get from the Indian Government the official clearance, which is required for such an international meeting.

The Conference and the Concluding Session was then announced as closed after a vote of thanks, which was moved by Mr. Visanu Euarchukiati, member executive committee of the Thai Astronomical Society, Bangkok.

Finally it must be put on record that ICOA-5 was extremely well organised. Prof. B. Soonthornthum (Chairman of LOC) took great pains to make all of us very comfortable. The participants enjoyed a couple of excursions particularly to the Intanon Mountain - the highest peak of Thailand - and also the conference banquet at the Salatham Hall, where a Kan-toke dinner (typical northern style) along with beautiful northern performances was offered.

S. M. Razaullah Ansari (Aligarh/India)

Recent Publications and Projects of our Members

ANSARI, S. M. RAZAULLAH

- 'Review of Astronomical Instruments in the Rampur Raza Library', compiled by S. R. Sarma and published by W.H. Siddiqui (Raza Library, Rampur/India, 2003), *Indian J. History of Science*, Vol. 39/1(2004), pp.121-128.
- 'Transmission of Islamic Astronomy in India and Acquisition of Indian Siddhântic Astronomy by Perso-Arabic Scholars of Medieval India', *Encyclopaedia of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine in Non-Western Cultures*, Ed. Helaine Selin (Kluwer, Dordrecht, The Netherlands), second edition, expected in 2005.

NHA, SARAH

- 'A Progress Report on the C41/ICHA Historical Instruments Working Group Web Site', in *Astronomical Instruments and Archives from the Asia-Pacific Regions*, edited by Wayne Orchiston, Richard Stephenson, Suzanne Débarbat and Il-Seong Nha, Yonsei University Press: Seoul, 2004, pp. 29-34

NHA, IL-SEONG

- 'Three Star Maps: Results of the Impact of Western Astronomy on Korean Tradition in the 18th Century', *History of Oriental Astronomy*, edited by S.M.R. Ansari, Kluwer Academic Publishers: Dordrecht/Boston/London, 2002, pp. 45-57.
- 'A New Museum of Astronomy in Korea', *History of Oriental Astronomy*, edited by S.M.R. Ansari, Kluwer Academic Publishers: Dordrecht/Boston/London, 2002, pp. 203-207.
- 'King Sejong's Sundial, Angbu Ilgui', in *Astronomical Instruments and Archives from the Asia-Pacific Regions*, edited by Wayne Orchiston, Richard Stephenson, Suzanne Débarbat and Il-Seong Nha, Yonsei University Press: Seoul, 2004, pp. 21-26.
- (with LEE Jung-Bok) 'Long-term Project of Astronomical Archives in Korean Histories', in *Astronomical Instruments and Archives from the Asia-Pacific Regions*, edited by Wayne Orchiston, Richard Stephenson, Suzanne Débarbat and Il-Seong Nha, Yonsei University Press: Seoul, 2004, pp. 35-39.
- 'Astronomy in Korea (a revised version)', in *Developing Basic Space Science World-Wide, A Decade of UN/ESU Workshops*, edited by William Wamsteker, Rudolf Albrecht and Hans J. Haubold, Kluwer Academic Publishers: Dordrecht/Boston/London, 2004, pp. 95-97.

LEE, JUNG BOK

- (with NHA Il-Seong) 'Long-term Project of Astronomical Archives in Korean Histories', in *Astronomical Instruments and Archives from the Asia-Pacific Regions*, edited by Wayne Orchiston, Richard Stephenson, Suzanne Débarbat and Il-Seong Nha, Yonsei University Press: Seoul, 2004, pp. 35-39.

RAGHAVAN, NIRUPAMA

- Star Positions and Iconography of Siva Nataraja , under preparation.
Scientific Project : Search for Astronomical Observations in ancient and medieval South India

from non-conventional sources. It is well known that a large number of festivals in India celebrated even today have astronomical origins. It has been shown over the last decade that astronomical data has been coded into the architecture of Hindu Temples like the Angkor Vat in Cambodia. This project is directed in assessing if there are other non conventional ways of recording and preserving astronomical observations in the cultural practices of South India.

ÔHASHI, YÛKIO

- 'Originality and Dependence of Traditional Astronomies in the East', in *Historical Perspectives on East Asian Science, Technology and Medicine*, Eds. Alan K.N. Chan, Gregory K. Clancey and Hui-Chieh Loy, World Scientific, Singapore, 2002, pp.394-405.

- 'On the History of Mainland South-East Asian Astronomy', paper read at the *10th International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia*, Shanghai, 2002 (to be published).

- 'Dai Astronomy and Thai Astronomy' (in Chinese), paper read at the *7th International Conference on the History of Science and Technology of Minority Nationalities*, Chengdu, 2004 (to be published) .

SHI, YUNLI

- 'A Note on the Islamic Influence on the Astronomical Instrumentation of the Chosôn Dynasty', *Historia Scientiarum*, Vol.13-1(2003), pp. 33-41.

- 'The Korean Adaptation of the Chinese-Islamic Astronomical Tables', *Arch. Hist. Exact Sci.* (Springer), Vol.57 (2003), pp. 25-60.

News and Announcement

EVENTS

- **Time and astronomy in past cultures", in memory of Professor Andrzej Wiercinski (1930-2003)**, Torun, March 30th - April 1st, 2005

Main topics: Our aim is to provoke an interdisciplinary discussion about the time reckoning and astronomical tools of time measuring and calendars in past cultures, with special focus on ancient civilizations of Old and New World. Proposed (but not obligatory) topics are: 1) calendars and calendar festivals, 2) solar vs. lunar calendars and their arranging, 3) time reckoning and historical perspective. The symposium will be dedicated to the memory of Professor Andrzej Wiercinski, pioneer Polish researcher of astronomy in culture.

Submission of papers. The symposium languages will be English, German, French, Spanish,

and Russian. Each lecture should not exceed 20 minutes (+10 minutes for discussion). Proposals should be sent before November 1st, 2004 including an abstract in English (up to 1500 characters + bibliography). The final acceptance will be based on reviews of the abstracts and the results will be returned in November.

The location. The symposium will be held in Torun, the city where Nikolaus Copernicus was born (cf. www.um.torun.pl/torun/baza/pierwsza_en.php). The symposium events will take place in the Old Town: the planetarium, Copernicus' House and the City Hall. The map of all locations will be sent later, together with symposium program and travel information.

Organizing Committee. Mariusz S. Ziolkowski (Department of Historical Anthropology, Warsaw University), Lucjan Broniewicz (Torun Planetarium), Arkadiusz Soltysiak (Department of Historical Anthropology, Warsaw University). The correspondence should be sent to Arkadiusz Soltysiak, Department of Historical Anthropology, Institute of Archaeology, Warsaw University, ul. Krakowskie Przedmiescie 26/28, 00-927 Warszawa, Poland, phone (48 22) 5520129, fax (48 22) 826 90 30, e-mail A.Soltysiak@uw.edu.pl.

- [African Astronomical History, 8-9 November 2005, South African Astronomical Observatory, Cape Town, South Africa](#)

Topic: history of main-line, archaeo and ethno-astronomy on the continent of Africa

Scientific Committee: Prof Brian Warner, Dr Ian S Glass, Prof Keith Snedegar, Ms Anne Rogers

For further information: <http://www.sao.ac.za/assa/aahs/html/main.html>

- [11th International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia, 15-20 August 2005, München, Germany](#)

In August 2005 the 11th International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia will take place in Munich, Germany. Continuing the tradition of the previous conferences, this meeting will offer a forum to present and discuss research and research findings, views and controversies related to the history of science, technology, and medicine in East Asia. As the venue of the Munich conference will be the Deutsches Museum, housing one of the world's largest collections and research institutes of the history of science and technology in Europe, one of the general subjects permeating the conference may be East-West comparisons, and mutual influences between East and West in the fields of science, medicine, and technology. The conference will also offer a platform to discuss issues associated with the historical legacies of ethical perspectives on science, technology, and medicine in East Asia.

Scientific Sessions include presentations of individual papers by registered participants grouped by the organizers, panels grouped and organized by registered participants in advance of the conference, and symposia suggested and organized by registered participants in advance of the conference (symposia, in contrast with panels, are plenary events). Suggestions for panels with a minimal participation of three colleagues, and for symposia with a minimal participation of five colleagues, should be submitted together with the registration or submission of papers.

Papers may be presented in languages other than English (except for Plenary Lectures, Panels, and Symposia), if a full translation in English is prepared in advance of the conference to be distributed on paper among the participants of a given session.

The organizers plan to publish the proceedings as a conference volume. Information:

<http://www.igm.med.lmu.de/aktuell/call.html>

- **The 1st International Conference on the History of Exact Sciences along the Silk Road, July 31-August 3 2005, Dept of Mathematics, Northwest University, Xian, China**

Topic: This series of conferences will provide a platform for those who are interested in the comparative study of history of mathematics and astronomy in the old civilizations along the Silk Road, from China to Greece, including Japan, Korea, India, Arabic/Islamic countries, Mesopotamia, Egypt and Medieval Europe. It is hoped that every 2 or 3 years a conference will be organized in different countries. Each time the conference will focus on one or two special topics, and about 10 invited speakers coming from all the fields mentioned above will offer plenary talks on the main topics. The main topics at the 1st conference are: Mathematical methods in astronomy At the same time, contributions related to other topics in the history of mathematics and astronomy along the Silk Road are also welcome.

Organization: Chairman: Wu Wentsun (CAS, Beijing); Vice-Chairman: Li Wenlin (CAS, Beijing & NWU, Xian); Executive Vice-Chairman: Qu Anjing (NWU, Xian)

Academic Committee: Charles Burnett: Warburg Institute, London, UK; Karine Chemla: University of Paris, France; Christopher Cullen: Needham Research Institute, Cambridge, UK ; Liu Dun: Chinese Academy of Science, China; Owen Gingerich: Harvard University, US ; Qu Anjing: Northwest University, Xi'an, China; Jamil Ragep: University of Oklahoma, US; S. R. Sarma: Aligarh Muslim University (formerly), India; Benno van Dalen: Institut für Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften, Germany

Important dates: - July 1, 2004: Sending out the first circular

- March 1, 2005: Deadline for returning the first receipt

- April 1, 2005: Sending out the second circular

- June 15, 2005: Deadline for the abstract and returning the second receipt

-July 31, 2005: Registration

Contact: All communications should be addressed to: Anjing Qu and/or Baoshan Yang, Center for the History of Mathematics and Sciences Northwest University, Xi'an 710069, China; Tel: +86-29-8303334; Fax: +86-29-8303908; E-mail: hs@nwu.edu.cn.

For more information : <http://facstaff.uindy.edu/~oaks/Biblio/1-2005-Xian.doc>

- **Astro-Medicine and Astrology, East and West, Warburg Institute, 14-15 May 2005**, Organised by Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim and Charles Burnett (Warburg Institute). For further information, please contact Charles Burnett (e-mail: Charles.Burnett@sas.ac.uk).

Speakers will include: Guy Attewell, Charles Burnett, Danielle Jacquart, Vivienne Lo, Vivian Nutton, Concetta Pennuto, Steven vanden Broecke and Ronit Yoeli-Tlalim.

NEWS

- The Contents of the May 2004 Issue of *The Journal of History of Astronomy* is available at the following address: <http://www.shpltd.co.uk/jha.html>
- **Chasing Venus**: Observing the transit of Venus, 1631-2004: an exhibition at the Smithsonian Library: Periodically the planet Venus passes directly between Earth and the Sun, appearing as a small black dot on the Sun's disk. Since astronomers first became aware of them in 1631, these "transits of Venus" have fascinated astronomers because of their rarity and their potential to help scientists measure the solar system. The expeditions that set out to observe transits from remote locations paved the way for a new era of scientific exploration - yet never managed to unlock the transits' secrets. "Chasing Venus" tells the story of astronomers' pursuit of this phenomenon, through rare books and articles written on the subject over the last four centuries. For further information: <http://www.sil.si.edu/exhibitions/chasing-venus/>
- **Epact**: *Epact* is an electronic catalogue of medieval and renaissance scientific instruments from four European museums: the Museum of the History of Science, Oxford, the Istituto e Museo di Storia della Scienza, Florence, the British Museum, London, and the Museum Boerhaave, Leiden. Together, these museums house the finest collections of early scientific instruments in the world. *Epact* consists of 520 catalogue entries and a variety of supporting material. All European instruments from the four museums by makers who were active before 1600 have been entered in the catalogue. They include astrolabes, armillary spheres, sundials, quadrants, nocturnals, compendia, surveying instruments, and so on. Examples range from ordinary instruments for everyday use to more extravagant and often lavish pieces destined for the cabinets of princes. To consult *Epact*: <http://www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/epact/>
- **The Starry Messenger** is Phase I of the Electronic History of Astronomy developed in the Whipple Museum of the History of Science and the Department of History and Philosophy of Science. This phase was directed by Dr Sachiko Kusukawa and Dr Liba Taub, and supported by funding from Trinity College, Cambridge. Dr David Chart was the Project Manager. The aim of this project is to make available electronically some aspects of the early history of astronomy for the use of students studying the History and Philosophy of Science in the University. The Starry messenger is available at <http://www.hps.cam.ac.uk/starry/starrymessenger.html>

- **The Digital Collection at the Warburg Institute:** The aim of these digital collections is to make out-of-print source material on Medieval and Renaissance studies freely available online. Books are scanned, printed out on archival paper, bound and placed on the shelves. The originals are kept in the Reserve Books Room. A low resolution version of the pdf file is placed on the web and made available through the catalogue of the School of Advanced Study. Among these Books, a lot of work are devoted to the history of Astrology:
<http://www.sas.ac.uk/warburg/mnemosyne/DigitalCollections.htm>

Registration form

To become a member of CHAMA, please, fill the [registration form](#) and send it as an attachment to tihon@ori.ucl.ac.be