



New Zealand Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Jim Bolger

NZ Prime Minister Reaffirms Regional Commitment

New Zealand Prime Minister, the Rt Hon. Jim Bolger, has stressed that the wider communities of Australia and New Zealand need to develop a greater understanding of their neighbours in the Asia region.

Mr Bolger was speaking at an informal dinner held in Melbourne on behalf of the AustralAsia Centre. The dinner was sponsored by Mr Don Argus, Chief Executive Officer of the National Australia Bank, and attended by twenty senior business executives of the Centre's Advisory Council.

The NZ Prime Minister said that it was enormously important for Australia and New Zealand to accept the realities of their geographic position.

...also important for the private sector to become involved.

He stressed that, while the New Zealand Government strongly supported such bodies as the Asia 2000 Foundation, it was also important for the private sector to become involved.

Private as well as public sector involvement, he said, would assist in establishing wider contacts and developing greater understanding with Asian countries.

Chinese Trade Ceramics East-West, West-East



ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

CHINESE TRADE CERAMICS

EAST-WEST, WEST-EAST

GALLERY 20.

UNTIL 3 NOV 1997

PORCELAIN BOWL, SWATOW,

SHANTOU WARE, CHINA 1700.

QING DYNASTY, KANXI REIGN

1662 - 1722. FUKIEN PROVINCE.

Asian trade ceramics highlight the richness of contacts between China and Europe, Europe and China, China and South-East Asia.

The Art Gallery of South Australia is currently exhibiting its extensive collection of Chinese trade blue and white porcelains and the beautiful copies they inspired.

The display features some striking fifteenth century Thai and Vietnamese pieces that reflect Chinese and Persian influences. Chinese wares influenced by Persian ceramics and glass and

European ceramics are also on display.

The walls of the gallery, in which the exhibition is displayed, are hung with late nineteenth century Chinese miniature paintings and eighteenth century engravings.

The exhibition shows why Chinese ceramics set the benchmark for porcelain production. Their delicate and translucent quality was the envy of the Europeans and unobtainable until the eighteenth century.

ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
NORTH TERRACE ADELAIDE 5000
GENERAL ENQUIRIES (08) 8207 7000

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- AustralAsia Centre Membership

The AustralAsia Centre has now moved to its permanent offices. Please update your database with the details below.

The Centre is grateful to Global Agenda Pty Ltd for sharing its facilities during the early establishment phase.

AustralAsia Centre ASIA SOCIETY

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asiasoc@asiasoc.aus.net



Mr Tan Soo Khoon, Speaker of the Singaporean Parliament, and leader of the Parliamentary Delegation.

Recently a Singaporean Parliamentary Delegation led by Mr Tan Soo Khoon, Speaker of the Parliament, visited Australia. The delegation included Mr Chew Heng Ching, Mr Yeo Guat Kwang, Mr Encick Ibrahim bin Othman, Mr R Sinnakaruppan and Mrs Ng Sheau Juian.

During the visit, the group focussed on areas of tourism, trade, investment, education and defence. They met with Commonwealth Ministers, academics and senior business people to discuss individual issues and shared concerns.

While in Melbourne, members of the delegation were guests of the AustralAsia Centre at a dinner which was held in their honour. Mr Michael Robinson, Executive Committee member of the Centre, and Partner of Founding Member firm Allens Arthur Robinson, was host at the dinner. The evening gave members and guests an opportunity to discuss matters of mutual interest in an informal setting.



Report of the 1997 Williamsburg Conference

HONG KONG

This is a year of historic change in Asia. Perhaps the most dramatic of these is Hong Kong's reversion to China. However, other momentous changes are underway in the region as it experiences slower economic growth and grapples with a new set of social, political and security challenges.

To understand these changes and their implications, the Williamsburg Conference brought together government, business, academic, and journalist leaders from 19 countries and economies on both sides of the Pacific in Hong Kong on May 16-19, 1997. Hosted by the Asia Society, the conference was convened by Tommy Koh of Singapore, Yoshio Okaware of Japan, and Nicholas Platt of the United States.

The conference examined five principal areas: Hong Kong and its relationship with China, regional security, prospects for reconciliation and growth in South Asia, Asia's economic outlook, and US policy towards Asia.

The conference participants were generally posi-

tive about Hong Kong's prospects. There was a consensus that everyone wants "one country, two systems" to succeed: China, which wants to show the world (including Taiwan) that the concept works; the Hong Kong people, who are deeply attached to their way of life; and other countries that share strong interests in the maintenance of Hong Kong's freedoms and prosperity. Participants expressed hope that Hong Kong would be allowed time to prove itself. In this context, the renewal of China's most-favoured nation trade status was seen as vital.

The conference reaffirmed its strong support for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC), which has a major role in pursuing a rules-based, open market system. APEC's advocacy of open regionalism and its commitment to liberalised trade and investment were also endorsed. The conference called for the United States to maintain its commitment to APEC and acknowledged that it is an invaluable forum for informal talks among regional leaders.

To play its role in driving regional co-operation, APEC must make concrete progress, involve business in its policymaking process, and mobilise public support.

Participants stressed the need for the United States to remain engaged with the region, including the maintenance of a credible military presence. This applies even if reunification of the Korean peninsula is achieved. Concern was also voiced over friction in US-China relations. There was a consensus on the need for President Bill Clinton to show stronger leadership on Asia policy. China could also do more to address American concerns.

The conference participants also expressed their belief that the successful management of the dramatic changes taking place in Asia would require deft leadership buttressed by strong popular support.

This is an edited version of the Draft Statement which also addressed the issues of India-Pakistan relations; South East Asian economic growth; developments on the Korean peninsula; human rights.

The first Williamsburg Conference was convened in Williamsburg, Virginia in 1971 by John D. Rockefeller III, founder of the Asia Society, to look at ways in which the US could forge more substantial links with the developing Asian region.

The Williamsburg Conference is now regarded as one of the major international, non-government forums nurturing Asian relations. The conference, held annually in different Asia and Pacific Rim countries, brings together business, government and academic leaders from the region to discuss key trends and issues. The 1991 Conference was held in Sydney, Australia. It will be held in New Zealand in 1998.



Director of the AustralAsia Centre meets with Indonesian President and Ministers

The Director of the AustralAsia Centre visited Jakarta recently to chair a meeting of the Board of the Australia Indonesia Institute. The Board met with President Suharto, the co-ordinating Minister Hartarto, Foreign Minister Alatas, Minister for Education and Culture, Wardiman and the recently appointed Minister for Information, Hartono. During these meetings, Mr Woolcott briefed the Ministers on the establishment of the AustralAsia Centre.



The Director of the AustralAsia Centre, Mr Richard Woolcott, in Jakarta to chair a meeting of the Australia Indonesia Institute, meets with President Suharto of the Republic of Indonesia.

Linking Latitudes Symposium

The Director of the AustralAsia Centre, Richard Woolcott, represented the centre at the Linking Latitudes Symposium held in Bali, organised by the Asia Education Foundation.

In his keynote address, Mr Woolcott presented an overview of regional co-operation and the framework within which our growing social, cultural and education exchanges and contacts operate.

He stressed that APEC had become the pre-

eminent forum for economic consultations in the Asia Pacific region and the main stimulus for regional trade facilitation and liberalisation.

He noted that ASEAN, since its inception thirty years ago, has become a successful, stable and influential organisation of great

importance to Australia. Mr Woolcott said that Australia's own policy thrust into East Asia will always be influenced by the response of ASEAN member countries, collectively and individually.



DR VISHAKHAI N. DESAI OF THE ASIA SOCIETY – EXTENSIVE TOUR OF CAPITALS

Internationally renowned for her presentation of contemporary Asian art, and for bringing a new focus to traditional art, Dr Desai is responsible for the Rockefeller Collection and other art-related programs organised by the Asia Society.

Leading Art Curator from the Asia Society, New York, to discuss program partnership.

Dr Vishakhai N. Desai, Vice President for Cultural Programs and Director of the Asia Society Galleries, is currently visiting Australia to discuss future programming collaboration.

During her visit, Dr Desai will be visiting Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and Melbourne. In Perth she will be assisting with preparations for the "Traditions and Tensions" exhibition, the centrepiece

of the Perth Festival in February 1998. This exhibition is being organised by The Asia Society, New York City, and will be presented in Australia by AGWA and the AustralAsia Centre.

Briefs

Research Institute for Asia and the Pacific (RIAP) Seminar

The AustralAsia Centre, along with RIAP and the School of Asian Studies, the University of Sydney, presented a symposium at the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Sydney.

The Director spoke at the symposium which addressed the topic of Hong Kong's reversion to China.

AustralAsia Centre hosts Dinner for Hong Kong Financial Secretary

Chairman of the AustralAsia Centre, Mr Hugh Morgan, hosted a dinner for Donald Tsang, Financial Secretary for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on Friday 29 August in Melbourne. Guests included members of the Advisory Council of the AustralAsia Centre. The dinner was sponsored by Ansett Airlines.

Melbourne welcomes Philippines Foreign Minister

The AustralAsia Centre, in association with the Committee for Melbourne and the Australia Philippines Business Council, conducted a luncheon in Melbourne on Monday 25 August. The Hon. Domingo Siazon Jr., Foreign Minister, The Philippines, was guest speaker.



Is Australia an Asian Country?

by Stephen FitzGerald
(Allen & Unwin)

Professor Stephen FitzGerald writes about Australia's future.

His immediate concern is that Australian cities are not dealing effectively with Asia and in particular, East Asia, and, at the same time, nurturing the traditions of our own society.

FitzGerald admits that many individuals have made a significant contribution

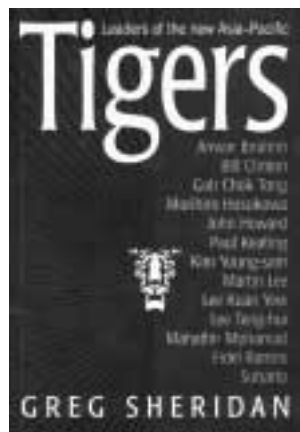
to improving Australia's response to Asia, but, overall, our performance has not secured a future in the region which will ensure the benefit and survival of our society. He offers some important insights into the way we can change things so that Australia can contribute as an equal partner within a community of Asian nations.

Tigers

by Greg Sheridan
(Allen & Unwin)

Journalist, commentator and widely travelled in the Asian region, Greg Sheridan studies the men who have shaped the course of Asian history. Based upon a large number of interviews he has personally conducted as well as other research, Sheridan considers the part played in regional development by such leaders as Taiwan's Lee Teng-hui, Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew, the Philippines' Fidel Ramos, Malaysia's Dr Mahatir as well as President Clinton.

Sheridan argues that the role of these leaders in guiding the Asian economic miracle has sometimes been underestimated. He suggests,



for example, that a key element underlying all the East Asian societies which have been successful is that each has had an extremely pragmatic leadership.

This lively book presents personal portraits of the men Sheridan calls "Tigers on the Prowl". It also provides some insights into the reasons why Asia has become the world's economic powerhouse.



IMPERIAL REGALIA
OF EKH DAGIN
DONDOGDULAM

HAT – SILK GAUZE,
SILK SATIN, SEED
PEARLS, RICKRACK
AND LACQUER

EARLY 20TH CENTURY.
BOGDO KHAN
PALACE MUSEUM

(reprinted from
Mongolia – The Legacy of
Chinggis Khan)

Mongolia: The Legacy of Chinggis Khan

by various writers
(Thames & Hudson)

This is the first book devoted to the art and culture of the Mongol renaissance period of the 16th and 17th centuries.

Following an introductory text describing the birth of the Mongol culture under Chinggis (Genghis) Khan, essays by leading scholars and art historians explore the rich historical background and examine the ways in which the various forms of art were used.

This wide-ranging and beautifully illustrated book is an important contribution to the understanding of



Mongol culture and will be an invaluable reference source for art historians, cultural historians or anyone interested in Asian art and culture.

MONGOLIA –
THE LEGACY OF CHINGGIS KHAN
IS AVAILABLE FROM ORIENTAL BOOKS
AT SOO TZE ORIENTAL ANTIQUES
46 COMMERCIAL ROAD, PRAHRAN 3181
TEL: 9529 5871.
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OF PRINT TITLES.



Regional Events Calendar

SYDNEY until 27 September

Exhibition:
MOBO MOGA / Modern Boy,
Modern Girl: Japanese Modern
Art 1910-1935

Venue:
The Art Gallery of
New South Wales, Sydney
Contact:
Tel (02) 9225-1700

BRISBANE until 5 October

Exhibition:
Contemporary Asian Art
from the Collection of the
Queensland Art Gallery

Venue:
Queensland Art Gallery
Contact:
Tel (07) 3840-7333

ADELAIDE until 3 November

Exhibition:
Chinese Trade Ceramics:
East-West, West-East

Venue:
Art Gallery of South Australia
Contact:
Tel (08) 8207-7000

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA September

**The 2nd South Asian Women's
Conference (SAWC)**

Write to:
Sangeeta Gupta
Director, SAWC
UCLA Department of History
6265 Bunche Hall, Box 951473
Los Angeles, California, USA
90095-1473

PERTH 3 Sept - 14 December

Exhibition:
The Japan Inspiration:
Influence in Crafts

Venue:
Art Gallery of Western Australia
Organised by:
School of Architecture and
Fine Arts, University of
Western Australia. Art Gallery
of Western Australia

Contact:
(08) 9492-6600

MELBOURNE 4 Sept - 11 Oct

Exhibition:
Paintings and Drawings by
Japanese Artist, Rjeko Hidaka

Venue:
Monash University Gallery
Contact:
Tel (03) 9905-4217,
Fax (03) 9905-4345

SYDNEY 12-14 September

Conference:
South Asian Development
in 1997 and Beyond:
Its Relevance for Australia

Venue:
Merewether Building, Faculty of
Economics, University of Sydney
Organised by:
The Centre for South Asian
Studies, University of Sydney
The Department of Economics,
University of Sydney

Contact:
A/Prof. Debesh Bhattacharya -
Tel (02) 9351-2052

NEW YORK 13 September

**Concert at Carnegie Hall:
Music Festival of India**

Presented by:
Asia Society, New York
World Music Institute
Contact:
Tel (1-212) 545-7536

NEW YORK 17 Sept - 7 Nov

Concerts:
Festival of Song: Vocal Music
of India and Pakistan

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

HONG KONG 19 September

Luncheon and Lecture:
Address by James D Wolfensohn,
President of the World Bank

Venue:
The Ballroom of the
JW Marriott Hotel
Organised by:
The Asia Society, Hong Kong

Contact:
Tel (852) 2868-6765

CANBERRA 19-20 September

Conference:
Indonesia Update 1997

Venue:
The Coombs Lecture Theatre,
Australian National University
Organised by:
Indonesia Project, Division of
Economics, Department of
Political and Social Change
Research School of Pacific and
Asian Studies, The Australian
National University

Contact:
Tel (06) 6249-3794
Fax (06) 6249-3700

HONG KONG 23 September

Panel Discussion:
The Outlook for World
Financial Markets and China's
Global Role: New Proposals
from the Institute for
International Economics

Venue:
The Regent Hotel

Featuring:
Paul A. Volcker (former Chairman,
US Federal Reserve System)
C. Fred Bergsten (Director,
Institute for International
Economics, Washington, D.C.)
Morris Goldstein (Senior Fellow,
Institute for International
Economics, Washington, D.C.)
Professor Richard N. Cooper
(International Economics,
Harvard University)

Organised by:
The Asia Society, Hong Kong
The Institute for International
Economics, Washington, D.C.

Contact:
Tel (852) 2868-6765

HANOI, VIETNAM late Sept

Exhibition:
Confluence (Curator - Ian
Were, Crafts Council of NSW)

Venue:
The Australian Embassy

Organised by:
Asialink

Contact:
Tel (03) 9349-1899

NEW YORK 24 Sept - 4 Jan 98

Exhibition:
Mandala: The Architecture
of Enlightenment

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York
Tibet House

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

NEW YORK 25 September

Panel Discussion:
The Pacific Islands

Moderated by:
Evelyn Colbert
(Author of *The Pacific Islands:
Paths to the Present*)

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

HONG KONG 27-29 November

Conference:
International Conference
on Gender and Development
in Asia

Venue:
The Chinese University of
Hong Kong

Write to:
Organizing Committee
International Conference on
Gender and Development in
Asia. Gender Research
Programme. Hong Kong Institute
of Asia-Pacific Studies
Chinese University of Hong
Kong. Shatin, NT, Hong Kong

SYDNEY 3-5 October

**The 5th Women In Asia
Conference**

Themes:
Women in the Arts and Culture
Women Travellers
Women and Participation in
Public Life
Women and Family

Organised by:
ASAA Women's Caucus
School of History, University of
New South Wales

Contact:
Heather Barker -
Fax (02) 9358-1566
Jan Elliott - Fax (02) 9385-1566

MELBOURNE 16 Oct - 8 Nov

**12th Melbourne Festival
Photography Exhibition:**
Duration of Sense: Kyung-Hee
Shin and Ki-Won Park

Venue:
The Centre for
Contemporary Photography

Sponsored by:
Arts Victoria
Asialink
Australia Council for the Arts
Australia Korea Foundation

Contact:
Centre for Contemporary
Photography -
Tel (03) 9417-1549

NEW YORK 22 October

**Asia Society's Annual Dinner
at the Waldorf Astoria**

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

NEW YORK 24 October

Lecture and Luncheon:
A Tale of Two Cities:
Hong Kong's First 100 Days
into the Handover

Featuring:
Simon Elegant
(Arts and Society Editor,
Far Eastern Economic Review)

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

NEW YORK 25 October

Symposium:
Mandala: Spaces and Symbols
of Enlightenment

Opening Address by:
Robert A. F. Thurman
(Columbia University)

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

NEW YORK 28 October

Viewpoints:
A Culture of Awakening:
Buddhism and Creativity

Featuring:
Philip Glass (Composer)
Stephen Batchelor (Sharpham
College for Buddhist Studies and
Contemporary Enquiry)

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

MELBOURNE 30 October

12th Melbourne Festival

Performance:
"Aura Korea" performance
spectacular - a journey across
Korea's cultural landscape in
music, song and dance

Venue:
The Melbourne Concert Hall,
Victorian Arts Centre

Contact:
Ticketmaster BASS -
Tel 11-566, or 1-800-338-998

MELBOURNE 11 November

**Annual Sir Edward "Weary"
Dunlop Asialink Lecture**

Featuring:
The Hon. John Howard,
Prime Minister of Australia

Venue:
The Plaza Ballroom,
The Regent Theatre

Contact:
Tel (03) 9349-1899

NEW YORK 18 November

Panel Discussion:
That's So Zen!

Featuring:
Milton Glaser (Designer)
Pico Iyer (Author of Tropical
Classical and Video Night in
Kathmandu)
Melissa Mathison (Screenwriter
of E.T. and Kundun)

Moderated by:
Helen Tworok (Editor-in-Chief,
Tricycle: The Buddhist Review)

Organised by:
Asia Society, New York

Contact:
Tel (1-212) 288-6400

CANBERRA 19-21 November

**1st Australia-Malaysia Conference:
Malaysia and 2020:
The Dynamics of Change**

Venue:
The Coombs Lecture Theatre,
Australian National University

Organised by:
The Australian National
University

Contact:
Tel (06) 6249-2184
Fax (06) 6249-3700

CANBERRA 22-23 November

**The Malaysia Society
Biennial Colloquium:
Changing Malaysia: Past
Perceptions, New Horizons**

Organised by:
The Malaysia Society, The
Australian National University

Contact:
Tel (06) 6249-2184
Fax (06) 6249-3700

SYDNEY 25 June 1997- May 1998

Exhibition:
Evolution and Revolution:
Chinese Dress 1700s to Now

Venue:
The Asian Gallery of the
Powerhouse Museum

Contact:
Claire Roberts - (02) 9217-0186
Mandy Crook - (02) 9217-0591

HONG KONG May 6-8 1998

**9th Annual Asia Society
Corporate Conference in Asia
Engines of Growth: Asia and
the Future of World Business**

Venue:
The Hong Kong Convention
and Exhibition Centre
Organised by:
The Asia Society
Dow Jones & Company, Inc.
Hong Kong Trade Development
Council

Contact:
The Asia Society, New York -
Tel (1-212) 288-6400, ext. 304

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*New member



THE ASIA SOCIETY AUSTRALASIA CENTRE IS A NON-PROFIT, PRIVATELY-FUNDED ORGANISATION DEDICATED TO FURTHERING UNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE COUNTRIES AND CULTURES OF ASIA.

NZ Prime Minister Reaffirms Regional Commitment

In introducing Mr Bolger, the Director of the AustralAsia Centre, Mr Richard Woolcott, said that, in his view, no two countries were closer than Australia and New Zealand.

"We undoubtedly share a common interest in the security, political stability, economic growth and social progress of the countries of East Asia and the South West Pacific. No two countries – somewhat isolated geographically as we are and with different cultural heritages from those of our neighbours – have greater need to develop mutual understanding with, and greater knowledge of, our neighbours in East Asia and the South Western Pacific. These are the countries with which we will always share this part of the globe," Mr Woolcott said.

Mr Woolcott added that the AustralAsia Centre,

wanted to co-operate very closely with New Zealand institutions, especially the Asia 2000 Foundation of New Zealand which will host the Asia Society's next Williamsburg Conference in 1998.

Australia and New Zealand must accept the realities of their geographic position

Mr Woolcott said that while the Centre's role was primarily cultural and educational, Advisory Council members were hopeful that the AustralAsia Centre would be able to make a constructive contribution to the injection of Australian and New Zealand views and perspectives into Asia Society thinking on the region's major issues and relationships.

Asia Society International Centres

ASIA SOCIETY

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 (1-212) 517 8315 fax

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