

IASPER NEWS - NOUVELLES IASPER
N° 6

*International Association for the Study
of Prehistoric and Ethnologic Religions*

*Association Internationale pour l'étude
des Religions préhistoriques et ethnologiques*



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INTERDISCIPLINARY COOPERATION
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERS
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NEW MEMBERS 1977-1978
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STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION, 1978

Nearly two years have elapsed since the Calcutta Symposium of 1976 which was the second major meeting of the Association. The first one, the Symposium held in Valcamonica in 1972, had established the foundation of IASPER. The Indian meeting enlarged the scope of the Association through a direct involvement in Asia and a widening of contacts with Asian Colleagues. Since then some additional steps have been taken to further the Association. The Members, on December 30, 1978, are 182, a growth of 22 since 1976.

A few National Committees have come to life and hopefully they will soon become active.

The National Coordinators so far are:

Argentina: Dr. Juan SCHOBINGER (Mendoza)

Belgium: Prof. Julien RIES (Suarlee)

Germany BRD: Prof. Karl J. NARR (Münster)

United Kingdom: Prof. Andrew F. WALLS (Aberdeen)

Prof. Henri de WAËL (Paris) is acting as fund-raising secretary and together with him we shall plan a policy to further the financial matters of the Association.

Definition of Culture. Among the activities undertaken mention should be made on an inquiry concerning the "Definition of Culture" to which 16 members responded. In a recent meeting at Capo di Ponte we have started an analysis of the results which appear both interesting and problematic. It this inquiry both members of IASPER and members of the Centro have been involved. Nearly one hundred different definitions have been received so far. It has become clear that it is not easy to reach a univoke and universally accepted definition of culture. Various trends and scopes are involved in the word from approaches which are primarily influenced by the professional involvements and by the cultural background of each participant in the inquiry. A world wide confrontation on this matter may result into a remarkably stimulating intellectual event and this might well be one of the items to be considered in a forthcoming Congress of the Association.

Research Seminar to Spain and Portugal. A few members participated in the research seminar in Spain and Portugal which was devoted to the prehistoric intellectual expressions revealed by archaeology in the Iberian Peninsula.

Interdisciplinary Cooperation. Following the trend that emerged in both previous international meetings and especially at Calcutta, the development of interdisciplinary cooperation has been seen as one of the main goals of the Association. Several working themes have been suggested by members of the Association and they are listed in Appendix 1.

Each one of these subjects could be the goal of research works, seminars and scientific debates, both at the level of scholars or university departments and of the Association as a whole. It could also stimulate papers which future editorial plans may consider for publication.

Publications. The first edition of the IASPER "Almanac" *Who's Who in IASPER* has been published nearly one years ago: since then several colleagues have forwarded additions and corrections so that a second edition may have to be prepared.

Concerning the *IASPER News*, from various sides it has been proposed to develop, what so far has been no more than a "Newsletter", into a periodical of scientific information. No doubt this would be a good step forward should the financial situation allow us to progress on this line. So far the only possibility available is the printing of *IASPER News* as part of *Bollettino*. This assures a distribution of over 4,000 copies and enables a widening of range of information behind the limited frame of membership. On the other hand it creates difficulties in setting up an autonomous editorial board. Several papers have been received for publication by members of IASPER and it seems that the place to be devoted to History of Religions in the *Bollettino* is going to grow.

The publication of the *Proceedings of the Calcutta Symposium* is being taken care of by Dr. A.K. Ghosh and it is our hope that this colleague will succeed in collecting all the material necessary to forward the volume to the printer.

Other activities. Recently, two new activities have been started. *Research Reports* have been requested to members. By circulating them it will be possible to keep members informed on activities undertaken by other members and to stimulate cooperation.

New Positions available and wanted will render a service both to Institutions and to Members. The main concern is that Universities and Research Institutes will be able to get right people for new positions in the human sciences, and that good people will get adequate positions.

Financial situation. As you may recall from the financial report 1977, that year ended up with an overdraft of U.S. \$ 1,866.42. The financial report for 1978 shows an overdraft of U.S. \$ 1,931.28. The situation is unlikely to change drastically in the near future, without a joint effort. Member's participation is not as active as it should be. The only resources so far are the annual membership dues and a large number of members are not hasty in their duties. On November 1st, fees for 1978 had been received from 19, out of 182 members. Most members pay dues, but with disastrous delay. Should each member pay the fees in time (before April 1st of each year) incomes would be enough to cover ordinary expenses such as circular letters, mailing, and a minimum budget for secretarial work. But still, unless membership is substantially increased, it would not be sufficient for paying congresses or publications for which it is necessary to obtain grants or donations.

A possibility would be to start a scientific journal on a "commercial" basis. After two or three years, such an enterprise could well become rewarding; but it would require a starting investment which is beyond the present possibilities of the Association. Both for publications and for congresses and other meetings, we have to rely primarily on the good will of those members who are ready to devote their energies and who have the possibilities of involving their own institutes into specific enterprises.

Decisions of the Executive Council. At a recent meeting of the Executive Council in Paris, the following decisions have been taken:

By April 1st 1979, membership dues will be modified as follows:

- A) Individual members: from 30 Swiss F. to 50 Swiss F.
- B) Associations and Institutions: from 50 Swiss F. to 100 Swiss F.
- C) The category of "Promoting Members" is replaced by that of "Life Members". Each individual member may become a Life member by paying 10 annual fees. As mentioned, rates will change on April 1st 1979. Until then a member may become a "Life Member" by paying 300 Swiss F. After this date, Life Membership will cost 500 Swiss F.
- D) For Institutions, life membership cannot be established, but by paying at once the equivalent of 10 memberships a 15 year membership will be assured.
- E) Membership fees are accepted in every currency open to the free exchange, at the rate of the day of payment. Annual membership fees are paid before April 1st. At this date those members who have not paid will be canceled from the list of members.
- F) In countries having National Committees, membership may be paid to the National Coordinator. Part of the fees will remain to the National Committees for their activities (The regulation of National Committees is enclosed).
- G) Membership cards will be delivered to members.

Further, the Executive Council has decided to hold a IASPER International Seminar or Symposium in Italy, in July 1979. Members wishing to present papers or participate with debates, are requested to send a 15 to 30 line summary of their contribution to the General Secretary, before April 1st 1979. Those summaries will be distributed to participants.

This Association has a range of members geographically distributed in 42 countries as listed on Appendix 2. A wide range of humanistic disciplines and social sciences are represented, as shown on the chart of Appendix 3.

Programs. The immediate programs concern the organization of the Third International Congress which should be held in 1981 and of an international Symposium or seminar that should take place in July 1979. Further, the publication of the fifth issue of *IASPER News* and the new edition of the *Almanac* are being considered.

The promotion of research, of interdisciplinary studies, and of international cooperation, are goals stated in our Constitution, which we wish to further.

Possibly, International *IASPER Symposia* will be held annually. The first seminar will be held in Valcamonica, in July 1979. These Symposia could well be promoted and developed by National Committees. In fact, they could become a valuable contri-

bution to the life of the Association and an important means of interdisciplinary cooperation. They are a source of intellectual stimulation and enrichment. They will probably provide also important material for scientific publications.

Your comments on the various items mentioned and your suggestions, will be most welcome. Please do not hesitate in writing to us your ideas and proposals for furthering the Association. Especially, we would be grateful to hear from you as soon as possible about your participation in the forthcoming Symposium proposed for July 1979.

Prof. E. Anati
(General Secretary)

INTERDISCIPLINARY COOPERATION WORKING GROUPS PROPOSED IN 1977-1978

Subject:	Disciplines Involved:	Proposed by:
A. Rock Art of North & Central Africa and of Arabia.	History of Religions, Archaeology, Egyptology, Ethnology, African Studies.	Pavel Cérvicék, West Germany.
B. Human Sacrifices	Ethnology, Archaeology, History of Religions.	Cyr Descamps, Senegal.
C. Prehistoric Mediterranean Religions.	Prehistory, Classical Archaeology, History of Religions.	Bernard C. Dietrich, S. Africa.
D. History of Tribal Religions.	Ethnology, Anthropology, History of Religions, Linguistics.	Arild Hvidtfeldt, Denmark.
E. Ethnolinguistics	Ethnology, Linguistics.	Aarne Koskinen, Finland.
F. Problems of Common interest to Archaeologists and Etnologists.	Archaeology, Prehistory, Ethnology.	A. and J.P. Lebeuf, France.
G. Relationship between Art, Religion and Social Structure.	Art History, History of Religions, Archaeology, Social Sciences.	Angela Tamvaki, Greece.
H. "Primal and Universal Religions"	History of Religions, Prehistory, Ethnology.	Andrew Walls, Scotland.
I. "Ecology of Religion"	Anthropology, Archaeology, Ethnology, History of Religions and Social Sciences.	Asok Ghosh, India.
J. "Definition of Culture"	Anthropology, Archaeology, History, Philosophy, Sociology.	Emmanuel Anati, Italy.

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF MEMBERS

AFRICA: 21	ASIA: 25	Italy - 17
Egypt - 3	Hong-Kong - 1	Netherlands - 2
Ghana - 3	India - 5	Norway - 1
Nigeria - 1	Jordan - 1	Poland - 1
Senegal - 1	Philippines - 6	Portugal - 1
Sierra Leone - 2	Sri-Lanka - 1	Romania - 1
South Africa - 9	Taiwan - 10	Scotland - 1
Zaire - 2	Thailand - 1	Spain - 2
		Sweedeen - 2
AMERICA: 55	EUROPE: 72	Yugoslavia - 2
Argentina - 1	Belgium - 7	
Barbados - 1	Denmark - 2	OCEANIA: 8
Brazil - 3	England - 6	Australia - 6
Canada - 10	Finland - 5	Fiji - 1
Colombia - 1	France - 17	New Guinea - 1
Mexico - 5	Germany - 3	
U.S.A. - 34	Greece - 2	TOTAL: 182

DISCIPLINES REPRESENTED IN 1976 AND 1978

DISCIPLINES	Nr. of Members	
	1976	1978
History of Religions:	61	78
Pre and Protohistory:	47	55
Ethnology:	39	40
Anthropology:	32	35
Archaeology:	15	25
Sociology:	15	15
Museology:	13	13
Philology and Linguistics:	11	13
Philosophy:	12	13
History:	7	7
Art History:	5	5
Anatomy:	2	2
Psychology:	1	1
Economy:	1	1
Ethnomusicology:	1	1

NEW MEMBERS 1977-1978

Dr. Tushar CHATTOPADHYAY
1 B, Rani Shankari Lane
CALCUTTA 700026 (India)

Professor at the University of Calcutta.
Interest: Anthropology and History of Religion.

Dr. Francis CLARK
Faculty of Arts, Walton Hall
The Open University
MILTON KEYNES MK7 6AA (England)

Reader in religious studies, Faculty of Arts,
The Open University.
Interest: Archaeology and Prehistory,
History of Religions.

Prof. Robert COOLEY
Department of Religious Studies
S.W. Missouri State University
SPRINGFIELD, Mo 65802 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Religious Studies and Anthro-
pology.
Interest: Archaeology and Prehistory,
History of Religions.

Prof. Manuel FARINHA DOS SANTOS
Rua Latino Coelho 61 r/c
LISBOA (Portugal)

Professor of Archaeology.
Interest: Archaeology and Prehistory,
History of Religions.

Prof. Silvana FASCE
Via Casata Centuriona 3/17
16100 GENOVA (Italy)

Professor of Classical Religion.
Interest: History of Classical Religion.

Prof. Sam D. GILL
204 Dixie Gammage Hall
Arizona State University
TEMPE, Arizona 85281 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Religious Studies.
Interest: History of Religions.

Dr. Juan A. HASLER
Apartado aereo 872
POPAYAN (Colombia)

Professor Ordinarious,
University San Buenaventure
Interest: Anthropology and Ethnology,
Linguistics.

Dr. Richard D. HECHT
Department of Religious Studies
University of California
SANTA BARBARA, Ca. 93106 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Religious Studies.
Interest: History of Religions.

Mr. René LEBRUN
Avenue des Hêtres Rouges, 65
B-1970 WEZEMBEEK-OPPEM (Belgium)

Interest: History of Religions, Linguistics.

Dr. Jung Young LEE
P.O. Box 8241
North Dakota State University
University Station
GRAND FORKS, N.D. 58202 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Religious Studies.
Interest: History of Religions.

Prof. Charles H. LONG
Department of History of Religions
101 Saunders Hall
University of North Carolina
CHAPEL HILL, N.C. 27514 (U.S.A.)

Professor of History of Religions.
Interest: History of Religions.

Dr. George F. MacDONALD
National Museum of Man
National Museum of Canada
OTTAWA, Ontario K1A 0MA (Canada)

Senior Archaeologist.
Interest: Archaeology and Prehistory.

Prof. Pedro Augusto MENTZ RIBEIRO
Rua Cap. Pedro Werlang, 139
Caixa Postal, 180
96800 SANTA CRUZ DO SUL, RS (Brazil)

Assistant Professor of Anthropology.
Interest: Archaeology and Prehistory.

Dr. Jacob NEEDLEMAN
Department of Philosophy
San Francisco State University
SAN FRANCISCO, Ca 94132 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Philosophy.
Interest: Philosophy, History of Religions.

Dr. Thomas PUCELIK
Bradley University
PEORIA, Ill. 61606 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Religion
Interest: History of Religions.

Dr. Stephen Jerome RENO
Department of Religion
University of Leicester
LEICESTER (England)

Lecturer in Phenomenology and History of Religions, Senior tutor.
Interest: History of Religions.

Dr. Benson SALER
Department of Anthropology
Brandeis University
WALTHAM, Ma. 02154 (U.S.A.)

Professor in the Dept. of Anthropology
Interest: Anthropology, History of Religions.

Dr. Delwin Byron SCHNEIDER
Department of Religious Studies
University of San Diego
SAN DIEGO, Ca. 92110 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Asian Religions
Interest: History of Religions, Archaeology.

Dr. Clyde Curry SMITH
Department of History
University of Wisconsin
RIVERS FALLS, Wi. 54022 (U.S.A.)

Professor of Ancient History
Interest: History of Religions, Archaeology.

Prof. Dr. Günter SMOLLA
Seminar Für- und Frühgeschichte,
Arndstrasse 11
6000 FRANKFURT/MAIN (Germany BRD)

Professor of Prehistory.
Interest: Prehistory.

Prof. Andrew F. WALLS
Department of Religious Studies
University of Aberdeen
ABERDEEN AB9203 (Scotland)

Head of the Department of Religious Studies.

Interest: History of Religions.

Mr. Henryk ZIMON
ul. Jagiellonsk 14 skr. p. 1110
20-950 LUBLIN 8 (Poland)

Assistant Professor at the Catholic University of Lublin.

Interest: Archaeology and Prehistory.

PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Every national group of more than 12 members can form its own "National Committee of IASPER". Each Committee will be directed by a Council of three people who will fill the duties of Coordinator, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively, of the National Committee. Each National Committee should hold at least one annual general meeting.

In countries where there is no National Committee, members should send their dues directly to the General Secretary of the Association by April 1st of each year. Where there is a National Committee, it should collect the dues, retaining 40% of the total amount received, for its work, and sending the remaining 60% to the General Secretary by March 31st of each year. This remittance should be accompanied by: 1 - a list of members; 2 - a financial report; 3 - a report on activities; and 4 - a program for future activities.

Each National Committee should be free to establish its own rules, programs and sources of funds which must conform to the Statutes of the Association and be approved by the Executive Committee of the Association.

To the General Secretary
I.A.S.P.E.R.
Centro Camuno di Studi Preistorici
25044 CAPO DI PONTE (Bs), Italia

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

I am ready to try to form a National Committee of IASPER for the country:

..... Within one month I shall let you know the names of at least 12 members and candidates to membership, from this country, who are ready to create a National Committee.

Name

Address

Date Signature