

Report of the Lecture Tour Program

Lecture Tour of Prof. Om Prakash to Malaysia and Indonesia, 23 December 2003-12 January 2004

Prof. Om Prakash had arrived at the Kuala Lumpur Airport (KLIA) at 7.00 a.m, on Tuesday, 23th December 2003. He was at the airport and was brought to the University Malaya Guest House. He checked in at the University Malaya Guest House. He stayed there until 26th December because on 26th onwards there was an earlier booking for other group and started from 26th December until 29th December 2003 he had checked in at Singgahsana Hotel, Petaling Jaya. He continued to stay there on 5th January 2004- 8th January 2004 and 10th January -12 January 2004.

His timetable started on the first day itself. He had an informal meeting with our academic staff of the Department of History, University of Malaya whereby he has given a brief talk to the staff on his specialization as well as enhancing more understanding on the history of early modern period Southeast Asia. He also entertained question from young academic staff concerning their research as well as their specialization. The session began at 2.00 pm and ended at 5.00 pm. To enable him to do his work smoothly, the Head of department had agreed to provide him an office at the department.

On the 2nd day of his visit i.e 24th December 2004, Prof. Prakash accompanied by myself and another young staff of the Department of History, University Malaya, went to International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) in Gombak by my car. He was there for a talk to the Department of History staff and students. The session started at 11.30 a.m and chaired by Dr. Arsad Islam, an academic staff of the said department. The talk was on `Euro-Asian Encounter in the Early Modern Period'. He had discussed on the encounter between Europeans and Asian in the pre-modern period Southeast Asia in comparison to their encounter in the later period. The talk was successful and students had shown their interest in understanding more on the history of Southeast Asia in the pre-modern period. 100 copies of lecture booklets were distributed to academic staff and students. (Unfortunately photos for this session can not be provided since I have forgotten to bring the camera with me). The session had ended at 1.30 p.m. Another small discussion continued in the academic staff room before we adjourned for our lunch. The session with IIUM was actually to replace a session which should take place in Science University of Malaysia (USM) in Pulau Pinang which was cancelled in the last

minute by Dr. Anbalakan, a seminar coordinator for School of Humanities, USM upon unidentified reasons.

We reached University of Malaya from International Islamic University Malaysia at 3.30 p.m.

25th December was Christmas and a public holiday in Malaysia. The timetable resumed on the next day itself, i.e on Friday 26th 2003 whereby, each academic staff and post graduate students of the Department of History, University of Malaya were slotted to meet Prof. Prakash personally and discuss about their research as well as topics which are related to their lecture and their postgraduate programs. Two days were given for this academic consultation. Postgraduate students had shown their interest by taking part in this consultation session. This consultation session ended at 12.30 p.m on Saturday, 27th December, 2003.

Sunday, 28th December 2003, a public holiday, Prof. Prakash had visited KLCC and other places of interest in Kuala Lumpur.

On Monday, 29th December 2003, Prof. Prakash and myself had departed to Jakarta at 9.05 a.m We arrived at Sukarno-Hatta Airport at 10.15 a.m Indonesian time (WIB). The flight from Jakarta to Yogyakarta was at 1.30 p.m (WIB) and arrived at Yogyakarta Airport at 2.20 p.m (WIB). We were fetched by Mr. Rabani and Mr. Andry Nurcohooyo, academic staffs of the Department of History, Gadjah Mada University. We were brought to the Gadjah Mada University Guest House. We checked in at the Guest House.

Prof. Prakash's session at Gadjah Mada University started at 9.00 a.m (WIB), on Tuesday, 30th December 2003 (WIB). The first session was welcoming addresses by the Dean of the Faculty of Cultural Sciences and the Head of Department of History. The session continued with an informal discussion between Prof. Prakash and staff member of the Faculty of Cultural Sciences. The session ended at 2.00 p.m (WIB).

On Wednesday 31st December 2003, a talk titled 'Trade, Traders and Commodities: India and Southeast Asian Trade Relation Revisited' had been delivered by Prof. Prakash to academic staff and students of the Department of History. Despite their one week study leave, students' participation was very good. They have shown their interest on the topic discussed. More than 150 students attended which mainly were undergraduate students as for postgraduate students there was another special session programmed for them on the next day. The talk was held at Studium Generale, a faculty seminar hall and Prof. Joko Suryo had acted as moderator as well as translator. 40 lecture booklets were distributed to students and staff member. (I brought only 60 copies of lecture booklet since I was told by the Head of Department before hand that the number is

enough. The remaining numbers of the students got photocopied copies which prepared by the staff member of the Department of History)

Thursday, 1st January 2004, was a public holiday. We were brought for exciting excursions by the Head of Department of History and his staff members to several places. The excursion started at 8.30 a.m. The places visited were Vredeburg Fort, Royal Palace of Sultan Hamengkubuwono, Prambanan and Borobudur. We reached guest house at 6.30 p.m (WIB).

Another session took place on Friday 2nd January 2004. It was Prof. Prakash's discussion session with postgraduate student of the Department of History. About 25 students attended the session. Topics of discussion were wide. It ranges from the pre-modern Southeast Asian trade patterns up to the period of the Europeans in Southeast Asia. There were also questions on Indian History which was also entertained by Prof. Prakash. The session ended at about 12.00 p.m (WIB). The session was chaired by Dr. Bambang Purwanto whom also acted as moderator. 20 copies of lecture booklets were distributed to students.

The last session at Gadjah Mada University took place on Saturday, 3rd January 2004. It was a session with staff member of the Department of History which ended with a farewell lunch at 12.30 p.m (WIB). After 3.00 p.m Prof. Prakash and I were brought by Margono and Mutiah, two young lecturers of the History Department, for a sightseeing at Yogyakarta city.

Our flight back to Jakarta was at 8.20 a.m (WIB), Sunday 4th January, 2004. We arrived at Sukarno-Hatta Airport at 9.00 a.m (WIB). We put up at Kartika Chandra Hotel at Jalan Gatot Subroto. In Jakarta we visited several places of interest.

On Sunday, 5th January 2004, we departed for Kuala Lumpur at 3.10 p.m (WIB) and reached KLIA at 6.30 p.m (Malaysian time). Prof. Prakash had checked in at Singgahsana Hotel, Petaling Jaya.

Prof. Prakash's session at the Department of History, University of Malaya resumed on Tuesday, 6th January 2004 with a talk on 'Euro-Asian Encounter in the Early Modern Period'. The session began at 2.30 p.m which around 40 students attended. The session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Loh Wei Leng, a professor in the Department of History. We were also honored with the attendance of Mr. Peter Noordermeer, a Deputy Head of Mission of the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Kuala Lumpur. The audience had shown their interest and posed questions relevance to the topics discussed. The talk was held at Lecture Theatre B, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. The talk lasted for two hours which included Q & A session. Lecture booklets were distributed to the audience for their better

understanding to the topics discussed. The session was later continued at the library of the department which ended around 5.00 p.m.

On Wednesday, 7th January-8th January 2004, Prof. Prakash had informal sessions with History Department postgraduate students and staff member whom did not have time to meet him in the first consultation session in December 2003.

Prof. Prakash's session at National University of Malaysia (UKM), Bangi, Selangor, had started at 2.00 p.m on Thursday 8th January 2004. We were welcome by the Head of the Department of History, Dr. Mohd. Khazin Thamrin. An informal meeting with the staff member of the department took place and lasted around two hours. Later, Prof. Prakash was brought to the UKM Guest House, Puri Pujangga. He put up the re from 8th January-10th January 2004.

Prof. Prakash's talk in UKM began at 11.00 a.m, Friday 9th January 2004. 60 copies of lecture booklets were distributed. The lecture lasted for two and a half hours.

The second session with UKM was on Saturday, 10th January 2004. It was a session with postgraduate students of the Department of History, UKM. The session finished at 12.30 p.m. Around 20 students attended and lecture booklets were distributed to them. The session ended with a farewell lunch by the Head of the department, Dr. Mohamad Khazin Thamrin. Later, Prof. Prakash was fetched at 2.30 p.m and he then checked in at Singgahsana Hotel.

On Sunday 11 January 2004, Prof. Prakash was brought for a sightseeing around Kuala Lumpur.

At 3.00 p.m on Monday 12 January 2004, Prof. Prakash had flown to Los Angeles.

This is all the report which I can furnish you. As for photos taken during this Lecture Tour Program and all original receipts on our disbursement will be sent by mail next week because this week is public holiday for the Chinese New Year so post office as well as other private courier companies are closed.