

# South(east) Asian Art & Archaeology at Kediri

## Fifth ABIA Workshop

Report >  
General

25-26 July 2002  
Kediri, Indonesia

The annual conference of the Association of Indonesian Archaeologists at Kediri, in the heartland of the former East Javanese kingdom of Majapahit, proved to be a perfect setting for the fifth workshop of the ABIA Project. At this occasion the progress of the work on the online ABIA database on South and Southeast Asian art and archaeology ([www.abia.net](http://www.abia.net)) and the publication of the bibliography in print were discussed. The delegates found that the project is progressing well. In recognition of the ABIA's contribution to the advancement of mutual knowledge and understanding of peoples and to the free flow of ideas through word and image, the project has reached an Agreement on Cultural Cooperation with UNESCO.

By Ellen Raven

Meanwhile, the bibliographic network shows a gradual expansion and consolidation, e.g. through a new office in India represented by Dr Sudha Gopalakrishnan of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) in New Delhi. Establishing an office for ABIA in Jakarta under the guidance of professor Sedyawati was also discussed. With a firm foothold in Indonesia, the presence of Indonesian archaeology and arts in the ABIA database, already strong from the early days of the project onwards, will thus be guaranteed.

The ABIA project is eager to extend its bibliographic coverage to countries of South and Southeast Asia other than those already represented through an office and hopes to find support from scholars, from centres of expertise and funding institutions in that endeavour. Especially in Southeast Asia, with its many ongoing archaeological programmes, excavations, and publications on cultural heritage, the presence of ABIA is still underdeveloped. Ellen Raven reported on the final work on the second printed volume of *ABIA Index* con-

taining 2,050 records selected from the ABIA databases. By mid-September volume 2 has indeed been released. Its 1,145 pages (in two parts) present bibliographic data, keywords, and annotations disclosing recent publications (1997—2001) on arts and archaeology, material culture, inscriptions, coins and seals from the region. Alongside the actual business meeting, the ABIA delegates participated in an ABIA seminar focusing on the 'limits of interpretation'. ◀

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### Information >

The Fifth workshop of the ABIA Project on 25 and 26 July 2002 was hosted by professor Edi Sedyawati of the Research Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences, Jakarta. Delegates from Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India, participate in the conference and the Netherlands. See [www.abia.net](http://www.abia.net)

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