"scheduled tribes," as the government calls the indigenous population. Widely known as adivasis or first dwellers, the indigenous peoples are from 450 separate tribes, twenty-one of which, in 1991, had populations of over 500,000. Although nearly 90% of adivasis identify themselves as Hindus, as is true of Native American Christians, many, if not most, retain some level of association with their own culture’s traditional myths and rituals.

**Narmada River**

Recently, adivasis and environmentalists have been linked in movements such as the Chipko or tree hugging coalition in the Himalayas. At Davidson, I gathered resources on the Chipko movement as well as the Narmada Bachao Andolan or Save the Narmada Movement. In western India, several states joined the central government and the World Bank to fund the building of dams on the Narmada River. Project planners claim that the dams are necessary to alleviate flooding and improve irrigation for agriculture. As currently designed, the project has required the relocation of thousands of people, including forest dwellers of the indigenous Bhilala culture. Bhilala villagers in the Narmada Valley region have developed a way of life in harmony with the surrounding forest.

However, the Narmada River project officials identified many of the Bhilala people of the forest as “oustees” and sought to move them from their ancestral homes. Social activists in the early 1980s organized the Bhilalas, using them largely as symbols to win public sympathy for the Narmada Bachao Andolan and to stop the construction of the largest dam on the Narmada. Subsequently, in 1993, the World Bank withdrew funding. However state and central government leaders pressed for completion of a project they maintain will benefit all the people of the region, and the relocation of Bhilala villagers has continued.

While in India this summer, I hope to arrange meetings with members of environmental groups such as the Narmada Bachao Andolan, indigenous leaders, and supportive scholars. Thanks to the ASIANetwork Ford South Asia Seminar, I have a unique opportunity to explore an area of special interest and gain knowledge and perspectives that will enhance my teaching.

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**EAST ASIAN STUDIES AT ST. MARY’S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND**

**Jing Li,** History, and **Jingqi Fu,** Chinese Language  
St. Mary’s College of Maryland

**The East Asian Studies Concentration**

St. Mary's College of Maryland is committed to maintaining the classical tradition of liberal arts study while also diversifying its curriculum to meet the needs of students of the 21st century. To this end, the college established an East Asian Studies Concentration in 1997 that provides Chinese language study and course offerings in the arts, economics, history, literature, and the philosophies and religions of East Asia. Students have the opportunity to study at Fudan University in Shanghai; internships in Shanghai will begin in the year 2000.

Students pursuing any major may participate in the Concentration. To complete the program, a student must satisfy the following requirements, designed to establish both breadth and depth of knowledge in the area.

1. The College General Education Program  
2. All requirements in a major discipline of study  
3. At least 24 semester hours in courses with an East Asian focus in the following areas:  
   A. Required courses (8 semester hours): Elementary Chinese I and Elementary Chinese II  
   B. Elective courses (16 semester hours):  
      **Art:** Arts of Asia, Arts of China, Arts of Japan, Buddhist Art  
      **Economics:** Chinese Economics, Economies of East Asia  
      **History:** History of Traditional China, History of Modern China, History of Japan, History of East Asian International Relations, Vietnam War and Revolution  
      **Language:** Intermediate Chinese I, Intermediate Chinese II, Advanced Chinese  
      **Literature:** Asian Literature in Comparative Perspective, The Tale of Genji and The Story of the Stone
The Fudan Program

St. Mary's College and Fudan University jointly sponsor this faculty/student exchange program. Fudan University faculty conduct research and tutor advanced Chinese language courses while in residence at the college. St. Mary's College students study at Fudan for a term or a full academic year. They strengthen their Chinese language skills and take courses in subjects such as history and philosophy, if proficiency in Chinese has been attained.

Program activities

During the past two years the East Asian Studies Program at St. Mary's College of Maryland sponsored or facilitated a multitude of events, among them an NEH Summer Institute for college faculty on teaching the Chinese classics; a lecture series, "China from the 19th Century to the 21st Century," featuring Hong Zhu, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Paul Cohen, Wellesley College; Roger Ames, University of Hawaii; Nancy Tucker, Georgetown University; and Bright Cheng, University of Michigan. The program also organized its first "China Day," a festival that culminated with a performance of Peking Opera by artists from Beijing and Shanghai. Playwright David Henry Hwang spoke at the college in conjunction with the staging of his Obie award-winning FOB.

During the summers of 1998 and 1999, the college, in cooperation with the municipal government of Shanghai, conducted seven-week institutes in "American Language and Civilization" for executives and managers from Shanghai.

Faculty

Marc Benamou, Assistant Professor of Music, holds a B.A. from Oberlin College (1979), M.A.'s in philosophy and ethnomusicology (1981 and 1989), and a Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from the University of Michigan (1998). He was a Fulbright Fellow in Indonesia, where he researched Javanese musical aesthetics and performed as a traditional vocalist from 1989-1992. Fluent in Indonesian and Javanese, he has worked as an interpreter for the U.S. State Department.

Rebecca M. Brown, Assistant Professor of Art, holds a B.A. from Pomona College, M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. Her dissertation was entitled, "The Presentations of Power: Architecture and Urban Form in Colonial Patna." She teaches the arts of South and East Asia.

Jingqi Fu, Assistant Professor of Chinese, received her B.A. in French language and literature from the Beijing Language Institute (1982), a Nouveau Doctorat in linguistics from Universite de Paris III (1986) and Ph.D. in linguistics from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst (1994). She teaches Chinese language, linguistics, and Chinese culture, and her research interests are in Chinese syntax, language comparison, and language pedagogy.

Jing Li, Assistant Professor of History, was formerly an Assistant Research Fellow at the Institute of Modern History, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing and earned a Ph.D. in history from Rice University. He is currently working on a manuscript entitled Their America: The Making of Chinese Images and Interpretations of the United States in the 20th Century.

Ho Nguyen, Professor of Economics, holds a B.A. from the University of California/Santa Cruz (1969), M.A. from the University of Calgary (1971), and Ph.D. from Dalhousie University (1976). His research interests are in East Asian and Southeast Asian economics and economies in transition.

Henry Rosemont, Jr., is George B. and Willma Reeves Distinguished Professor of the Liberal Arts and Professor of Philosophy. A specialist in early Chinese thought and contemporary Chinese politics, he founded the college's exchange program with Fudan University in 1981, where he has taught for four years as a Fulbright Senior Lecturer. He has written, edited, and/or translated eight books, the most recent of which, with Roger T. Ames, is The Analects of Confucius (Random House, 1998).

Bruce Wilson, Professor of English and Comparative Literature, holds a B.A. from Bates College and a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. He has lived and taught in China for several years, twice as a Fulbright Senior Lecturer, and co-translated 100 Tang Poems for the Commercial Press, Hong Kong Branch. He has directed the college's exchange program with Fudan University for many years.

Michael Ye, Associate Professor of Economics, teaches macroeconomics, microeconomics, econometrics, and the economy of modern China. His recent research interests are in the areas of transactional cost economics, educational economics, and environmental economics. He has authored/co-authored over twenty professional articles/books, and has lectured at universities in China and Ukraine.

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